Reserved

Buenos Ayres 16th June 1834

G. J. Whittington Esq
London

Sir I had the pleasure of writing you on the 31st ult. and 2nd inst, of the first enclosed goes a copy of the latter I send, no copy intending to repeat the substance in the present letter, and to enlarge upon it, hoping the information may be of use to you in the execution of your plans.

I much regret that your letters were not sent per the Brazil Packets, because this is by far the safest conveyance, and they would have reached me about two months sooner than they did. A Packet arrived the day before yesterday and brought London date to the 2nd of April, but received no farther letters from you, & presume that you will have written to me direct to the Falklands thinking me to be there, but such letters are not likely to reach me soon, there being no direct sure communication between this and the Islands at present.

I am happy to see by your letters that you have given to the projected colonization of the East Falklands the importance that it deserves and although I have not fully understood the postscript of your letter of 30th Jany which I hope you will have the goodness to explain by first opportunity - yet I have no doubt as far as I can comprehend that you have probably taken the most conducive preliminary measures for enabling you to carry on the business to mutual advantage -

head men of the Gauchos (cattle catchers) & one more of my most faithful servants, the remainder of them escaped with great difficulty upon a small Island in the harbour, where they remained suffering great wants until the arrival of the Challenger ——

The murderers escaped to the interior with all my most valuable horses so that the settlement & the gauchos can not even be supplied with cattle for beef. Capt Fitzroy writes under date of 19th March from Port Louis that the assassins are all taken but they it does not say whether the horses are again in the hands of the gauchos of the settlement — However be this as it may, the horses are now much reduced in number and are growing so, so that if even the horses are regained, they are not sufficient to supply a good settlement with cattle, & in order to carry on the colonisation on an advantageous footing it is absolutely necessary, to send more horses from here to the Island. — But my resources are now the most reduced for such an undertaking, having only a sufficiency to maintain myself and family decently in this city. —

I am therefore under the necessity either to wait till the satisfaction of my claims puts me in funds, or to seek assistance

from friends, by giving them a share in the cattle of the Island — I must hasten to take measures because the longer it is delayed the more difficult will be the restablishment of the cattle business upon its former footing — Unfortunately nothing can be done in winter & I shall have to wait till October or November.

However this delay may be for the better as it gives me time to communicate with you on this subject & to await your answer to see if it will suit your views to join with me also in the cattle business. — It has hitherto been the most profitable business to me, & had in the years 1829, 30, & 31 contributed about fifteen thousand Spanish dollars annually to the maintenance of the colony. — And if the business had not been interrupted by the attack of the Lexington, & subsequent wanton shooting of many ~~of the~~ horses by some sealers, a much greater revenue would now be obtained than before — About £4000 sterling would be necessary to replace the business on its former advantageous footing.

The time shall be exact equitable and in doubt much to your satisfaction will no doubt arise when you understand of colonization in a far more advantageous situation than it otherwise would be and consequently more substantially our joint concern, it will be very agreeable to me if you will in case my proposal meets your view

and with one of your brothers as soon as possible
with the means of varnish the Bishop at Chile
no doubt would be willing to satisfy and
am willing to sacrifice a great deal for the
sake of getting upon a proper footing
the cause bespoke obliges us I am to furnish
the necessary cattle to all settlers, the
assistance of your brother in the particular business
(I mean the direct and aunt) and other business
also would be very acceptable remuneration, he
would either work a share in profit or with
a good salary, as the business can very well
afford the presence & assistance of your
brother will in any other respect be very
useful, particularly if he should be in
station with power for you as would save
many delays attend upon correspondence
at such a distance and may be also
useful to you under the N. D. Land
as you might order your supplies (if
they have right in land) to land at
the new place, where a good sale they
offer we have had cargo of wheat for
the mutiny in Hollo and Equal
which has sometimes sold very well
I have here also a young brother who is
well acquainted with the D. A. & M. trades
and will probably establish himself in the Country
bespoke

I have another circumstance to mention
with no doubt wide from the enterprise
of colonists by the enterprises of Colonel the
F — a fort of nine ~~and~~ this Colony
and holdes of one of the sec of the
Pl. prospects have about 200.00 laborers
these will be ~~intitled to transport to the~~
Pl. provided he can get a spirit for the
P. by allowing her men of war
~~to board~~ round Cape Horn to carry the
~~to the Sidon~~ and he is willing to
sell have the Sheep cheaper than what
they are in England. he would be against
saving expence of time — my next
will inform you of his particular
~~this subject~~ for yr. Good and
I shall matter you acquainted
with said Prind correspondence in order
in order to support the ~~[illegible]~~ yr. view
or endorsing over to your authorization
of an older date — His authorities
time are pressing to the Br. Protect
7 1829 — I have much to communicate
to you of ~~general~~ interesting matters that
are connected with my Political concerns; but the
letter is already almost too long and must
therefore close and shall only here repeat
that you may depend upon hearing receiving by

To
G. F. Whitington
June 25th 1834
Eng. Pkt Packet
2d via Cowes

1st 4th Packet
2d 4th Amphytride via Cowes (Despatches by Lizzie Brothers)
Received

Buenos Ayres 16th June 1834.

81

G. F. Ellington Esqre London

I had the pleasure of writing to you on the 31st Octr & 2d Nov. by the first enclosed to you.

I send no copy of this to repeat the substance as in the prior letter, and to [illegible] it, I trust the information may be of use to you in the execution of your plans.

I trust my [illegible] letters are not [illegible] frequent packets, because this is by far the cheapest mode, and they must have reached me about the 12th month after they are. A packet arrived the day before yesterday, brought letters dated to the 2d April, but no mention of the letter from you, I presume therefore, that your letters written to me direct to the Falklands, thinking me to be there, but such letters are not likely to reach me sooner, than by direct conveyance between this and the Islands at present.

I am happy to see by your letter that you have given to the projected colonization of the East Falklands the importance that it deserves, and altho I have not fully understood the principle of your letter of 30th July last I hope will have the goodness to explain it more fully, yet I have no doubt as far as I can comprehend that you have probably taken the most conducive preliminary measures for enabling you to carry on the business to mutual advantage. The loss of your Pet

[illegible] I cannot be believe that your intention was to carry
on a correspondence on a long period; and that you had therefore
the almost use of the fourth or the [illegible] confined by an [illegible]
Lengthen out [illegible] by you, for the [illegible] of other heads
of land in other [illegible], in addition of this not being here [illegible]
[illegible] of, [illegible] of [illegible].

[illegible] of the [illegible] of [illegible] of your [illegible] is
[illegible] that you have [illegible] the almost use of the fourth or
the fifth, [illegible] you have at same time [illegible] the [illegible]
[illegible] and [illegible] you [illegible], [illegible] [illegible], the
[illegible] difficulty [illegible] in the [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] I have [illegible] the best [illegible] [illegible] have [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]. It will however be well to [illegible]
[illegible] of all the [illegible] [illegible] that [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

increase of the value of the lands as the population increased, an event, the prospect of which in our infancy I ought to be as well entitled to claim as any other, as first settler, I conceived that the lands would be the best guarantee for the expenditure rendered by my friends, and with that view I mortgaged to them one half of all the lands to which I might in right be entitled, this was done in December 1826 and renewed in 1829 (in May). Neither with this mortgage have any debts been paid, because on paying the amount mortgaged, the lands are responsible. But if a time for ofcing mortgage shall not your view, it can be done, the real small trust the lands have been granted by me to my children of the era of little importance comparatively speaking, or may be free hand of mortgage. Thus you see, that if you shall, in some company for an extensive colonization, which might require the disposal on the part of the company of all the lands, it can be easily arranged. I must however inform you that any bonnets land you should require, if any, you will be well entitled [illegible] as that [illegible] any [illegible] and [illegible] any [illegible] a difference, or cause great delays if they should have to be sent back. Thus for instance many parcels of pottery sent here to England by different individuals, have been sent back as unfit, and had to be made out in a different manner from what is custom here.

The part of your postscript which says "it is a hallow as private property" is an expression the meaning of which I do not well understand, because I have always looked upon it as my private property for the day I took possession with the design of letting it as my own, because a change of sovereignty doesnot

The tenor of said postscript leads me to believe that your intention was to carry on colonization on a large scale, & that you had therefore made the utmost use of the fourth authorization conferred by me on Captain Langdon and endorsed by him to you, for the disposal of large tracts of land in other sections, on condition of their not having been previously disposed of, obliging myself to abide by such sales.

If my construction of the meaning of your postscript is correct, that you have made the utmost use of said fourth authorization, and you have at the same time made the necessary clauses and arrangements for securing previous disposals, then I see no difficulty whatever in the carrying on of your plans, neither have I the least doubt but what you have arranged every thing properly. It will however be well to inform me of all the particulars, in order that I may take the necessary measures, if required, for recalling other agencies, and inform you of what disposals may have been made by them, whereby you will be enabled to avoid any doubts or difficulties for the future.

Some of the agents date their appointment to their respective sections as far back as the beginning of 1829, and although the long civil war and continual political disturbances that have occurred here since, and also the unsettled state of the question between Government respecting the sovereignty of the Falklands has probably prevented them from doing any thing of much importance except the granting of small lots of ground according to the 2. authorization, and what belongs particularly to themselves; however it may be that they have done things that cannot be undone. This however is not probable, as I believe you have gained the lead of all. - I therefore anxiously

[illegible]

the Government a grant of all the waste lands of the Islands, on condition of establishing a colony within three years, which engagement I fulfilled in the 2d year. The Govt of B. A. considered that the benefit accruing thereby to the rest of the Islands and neighbouring coast could not be better compensated than by such grant. Since which my establishment has been the first to convince the world that the Falkland Islands were fit for colonization, having formerly been looked upon as almost uninhabitable, & [illegible] but I not [illegible] upon them, mine had been [illegible] in [illegible] & consequently of no value whatever. The benefit done to those Islands is a benefit to whoever may be their sovereign.

If the Islands did not belong to B. A. the [illegible] the settlement was carrying on without a right there being a doubt I think [illegible] in [illegible] [illegible] of any more expenses made on settlement, [illegible] over the whole Islands for the purpose of founding settlements. I [illegible] [illegible] generally [illegible] and especially on the British [illegible] of this city, [illegible] and [illegible] affected and remain affected to [illegible] happened [illegible], being desirous that my [illegible] by the [illegible] of foreign vessels, [illegible] settlement, [illegible] with the [illegible] the legitimacy of my [illegible].

Whatever all that I have said in this letter [illegible] only to make you acquainted with the nature of my rights and consequently of your Consul's rights, you will not [illegible] [illegible] [illegible], [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] out and [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
but much time in waiting for the [illegible] of the
minister for the United States.

Meantime I had to neglect [illegible] my own
affairs at the Falklands, where, notwithstanding the
[illegible] alluded to, I still preferred the idea of
continuing the settlement and having [illegible] to [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] with a good stock of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of
[illegible] for [illegible] and abundance of [illegible] [illegible],
not being able to go myself in [illegible] of the [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible], I left the [illegible] in charge of my
[illegible].

Captain Onslow [illegible] on my representation
to keep things at least in status quo, (Capt. Onslow of
the Clio took possession in Jany 1833) offered protection
to [illegible] to all who might be inclined to stay under the
British flag, but most of my people [illegible] [illegible]
ed. & the day after taking possession, [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] without leaving any [illegible].

He however left one of my [illegible] in charge of
the flag (William Dickson of Dublin). Some months after
this the British Capt. [illegible] [illegible] there, and Capt.
Brisbane who had returned to the Islands [illegible]
at my [illegible] in charge of the flag & [illegible]
also left no [illegible], but it was [illegible] [illegible] that
the H.M.S. Challenger left a [illegible] [illegible] and
a [illegible]. But [illegible] unfortunately [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] indians, [illegible] [illegible] murdered my
[illegible] Brisbane, young Dickson, [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] and the [illegible] of the [illegible] ([illegible]
[illegible]) and [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

wait to hear the particulars in order to see the extent of your plans, and if advantageous, then I shall lose no time in clearing as much as lays in my power any inconveniencies that may fall in the way, and in any way interfere with your plans. —

As I said before I dont think that the other agencies have been materially acted upon, & if you see any advantage in the appointment of older date I can get one of the oldest transferred to you —

I do not recollect whether Capt Langdon received from me a map of the Eastern Falkland, with divisions, (of sections) with the names of formerly unnamed bays, harbors, inlets &c. &c., in order to send you a copy if you have it not. The map is not exact, but it is far more exact than any that has hitherto been published, it was drawn from a rough survey which was to serve as a base for a better one —

My first grant was in 1823, in August, & comprised all the live stock which was at the time upon the Island. You will probably know that the cattle & horses which were originally put upon the Island, were sent there from Buenos Ayres between the years 1764 and 1774. In December 1823 I obtained a grant of thirty square leagues of land in partnership with another person (this land can not be disposed of at present but may probably soon be disposable also) two thirds of this land lays on the seacoast between Choiseul Bay & Berkport or Port William, immediately South of your section. The other third lays on the western side of Maraville or Salvador Bay

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [

offer. We have had copies of which have from the Mediterranean, from Holland, England &c, which have sold very well. I also have a younger brother here, who is well acquainted with the Br. & our manners here, and will probably establish himself in the Commission business.

I have another circumstance to mention which we think will favor the enterprise of establishing the Fisheries. A friend of mine in this city and brother of one of the Aldermen of the Island, proposes here about twenty thousand dollars worth, which he intends to transport to the Island provided he can get a pass from the British Government by allowing him one of my boats good equipped, to carry the stuff to the Island and he is willing to sell him the stuff upon the credit they are in England, which would be a great saving of expence and time. My next will inform you of more particulars on this subject of your fishery, and I shall make you acquainted with other friends connections in London, in order to support the better your views in endeavoring to make your establishments of the other the other cultivations are foreign to the British fishery of Wales.

I have much to communicate to you on my real in treating on Wales concerning with my Field but I remember, but the letter is already almost too long, I shall therefore close this, and will only have respect to you, you depend upon the most perfect reciprocity on my part, in any thing you choose to do to our mutual advantage.

Yours sincerely

Sir, your most obt. Hble

Yours Clement

in order to see the result of your plans, with a view to [illegible]
that I should have no hesitation in allowing my name to be [illegible]
in my power any inconveniences that may fall in the
way, and in any way [illegible] for your [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] letter [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] of [illegible]

[illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] to grant.

I do not recollect whether copy has been
[illegible] from me a map of the Eastern Peninsula, but
that is the district, with the names of formerly [illegible]
[illegible], [illegible] in order to [illegible] you [illegible]
if you have it not.

The map is not exact, but is far more
[illegible] than any which has as yet been published, it was
drawn from a rough survey which was done at a
time for a better one.

My first grant was in 1823, in August,
and comprised all the land which lies at the [illegible]
in the district, you will probably know that the [illegible]
which were originally [illegible] upon the district, are
[illegible] from [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
in 1824. I December 1828 obtained a grant of [illegible]
square leagues of land in partnership with another person
(the land can not be disposed of yet, however, but may
probably soon be disposable also) two thirds of this land
lays in the district between Chesnut Bay and Cape
Foot or Foot section, immediately south of your [illegible]
the other 1/3 lays on the western side of Macquarie Harbour
the [illegible] Bay. It was not until the latter part of
1825 that I began to think seriously of colonizing the
Island. But the undertaking being hazardous, and requiring
powerful aid from friends, and calculating upon the natural

It was not until towards the latter part of 1825 that I began to think seriously of colonising the Island. But the undertaking being hazardous and requiring powerful aid from friends, & calculating upon the natural increase of the value of the lands as the population would increase the property of which no one could be better entitled to than myself as first settler, I conceived that the lands would be the best guarantee for the assistance rendered by my friends, and with that view I mortgaged to them one half of all the lands to which I might in right be entitled to, this was done in December 1825 and confirmed in 1829 (in May). This mortgage will form no obstacle to your plans, because in paying the amount mortgaged, the lands are disposable. Now if a transfer of said mortgage should suit your views, it can be done. Several small tracts of lands have been granted by me to my settlers, but these are of little ~~consequence~~ importance comparatively speaking, and may be purchased if necessary. Thus you see, that if you should form some Company for an extensive colonisation, which might require the disposal or the use for the Company of all the lands, it can be agreeably arranged. I must however inform you that any documents which you should require from me, you will do well to send me the sketch or form of them, because I see your English documents are always very abundant in expressions & clauses, which if any are left out may make a difference, or cause great delays if they should have to be sent back. Thus for instance many powers of Attorney sent hence to England by different individuals, have been sent back as useless, & had to be made out in a different manner from what is the custom here.

The part of your postscript which says "it is actually as private property" is an expression which I do not well understand, because I have always looked upon it, and do look upon it as my private property from the day I took possession with the design of holding it as my own, because a change of sovereignty does not affect private property. Therefore when the Captain of H.B.M. Sloop Clio took possession in the name of the King of Great Britain, he expressly stated to my servants who were in charge of my property (myself being absent) that my private property would be respected, and that I was at liberty to carry on my business on the Island as formerly, which it was well known consisted principally in salting the Island and domesticating the wild cattle, to supply the wants of the Colonists. I am explicit on this point because you having derived your right from me, it is proper that you should know fully upon what principles my right rested. My right holds good whether Great Britain maintains the sovereignty, or whether she gives it up again to Buenos Ayres, though upon different principles in the former case my right is that of occupation, in the latter my right is derivative. The property of the cattle remains of course derivative in both cases, being formerly undoubtedly the property of the former Vice Royalty of Buenos Ayres. The first grant of land took place three years after the Buenos Ayres Government sent an officer to

the Falklands to take possession, as no objection had been started by any nation against that act, which was then very public, I had no reason whatever to doubt the right of Buenos Ayres. I remained under this impression a number of years after this, and it was not until my last return from the Falklands in Nov. 1831 that I was informed that the British Government had protested against the Bs. Ayres sovereignty over the Islands, which protest was presented here in Nov. 1829, say one year & ten months ~~before~~ after I had obtained from this government a grant of all the rest of the waste lands of the Island, on condition of establishing a colony within three years, which engagement I fulfilled in the 2d year. The Govt of B.A. considered that the benefit accruing thereby to the rest of the Islands and neighboring coasts could not be better compensated than by said grant. And certainly my establishment has been the first to convince the world that the Falklands were fit for colonisation, having formerly been looked upon as almost uninhabitable, & would therefore had I not settled upon them, remained buried in oblivion & consequently of no value whatever. — This benefit done to these Islands, is a benefit to whoever may be their sovereign. ——

If the Islands did not belong to B.A. then I found them without an owner without a single human being on them; I took possession in due form, took people there at my own expence, made a settlement, disposed freely over the whole Island for the purpose of promoting settlement. — Did

Did all these acts openly & publicly, they were therefore generally known, and especially so to the British Consulate of this City, whose seal & signature was affixed & remains affixed to all my grants. This happened accidentally, being desirous that my titles be respected by the ministers of foreign capitals touching at the Establishment I signified my wish to the Consulate, who then attested the legitimacy of my documents. However all that I have said in this letter is merely to make you acquainted with the nature of my rights & consequently of your derived rights. You will act as you think most advantageous, & you can depend upon the most perfect reciprocity on my part; all I wish is to have my rights as much as possible confirmed & shall by no means be scrupulously inquiring upon points which may be at variance with the general regulations & laws of your country —

When my establishment had been wantonly attacked & in a great measure destroyed by the American Sloop of war Lexington, and when as a pretext for this outrage, the American Chargé d'Affaires asserted that Mr. No. had no right to the Islands, I then said all I knew in support of the Mr. No. title. I was then in the employ of this government, which employment I have since given up, & am therefore now perfectly independent. However having supplied [illegible] the commander

of the Lexington, the satisfaction of which I have to claim through the Government of B.A. who have offered to assist me in my claims against the American Government, by sending a minister to the U.S. the particulars of which you will find in a pamphlet published here & of which I shall send you a copy by a direct opportunity: my time has since February 1832 been wholly taken up, first in vindicating my proceeding in the defence I made of the rights of my Colonists to the seal fishery on their own beaches, by detaining & bringing to trial three American sealing vessels, who had wantonly persisted in destroying the seal fishery at the Falklands; & by my time was taken up in substantiating my claim of damages done to my establishment, which being private property ought not to have been injured, whether the Islands belonged to B.A. or not; especially as there existed a recognised Government whose orders I had followed & who could & must answer for me, & lastly I have lost much time in waiting for the departure of this Minister for the United States ——

Meanwhile I had to neglect greatly my affairs at the Falklands, where, notwithstanding the damages alluded to, I still pursued the means of domesticating the wild cattle & horses, & to furnish new settlers with a good

3 stock of cows for dairies, & bullocks for tillage & abundance of fresh beef.- And not being able to go myself on account of the before named occupations, I left the place in charge of my servants. Capt. Brisbane acted there as my representative to keep things at least in Status Quo. Capt Onslow of the Clio took possession in July 1833, offered a passage to Br. Subs to all who might not wish to stop under the British flag, but most of my people cheerfully remained. A few days after taking possession, Capt Onslow sailed without leaving any garrison. He however left one of my clerks in charge of the flag, (William Dickson of Dublin) - three month after this the Beagle Capt. Fitzroy touched there, and Capt. Brisbane who had returned to the Island after a short absence, was put in charge of the flag. - The Beagle also left no garrison, & it was not till January 1834 that H.M.S. Challenger left a small garrison & a Governor. - But this was unfortunately too late, eight bretches mostly indians had barbarously murdered my representative Brisbane, young Dickson, Don Ventura a relative of mine & the