

Admiralty, July 3. 1828. —

My dear William

I must take advantage of a sheet of this Majesty
keep from the ^{to this} paper, to write you a return of my best thanks for your
2 letters received a few days ago - which I have over and over again
intended answering, but have always found something to prevent me -
Your last was put into my hands by Mr. Atkinson at Leith on Sunday,
and was followed shortly afterwards by the white trunk of linen, which
arrived quite safe by Hobbs's waffon - and proves a seasonable supply,
as I was very nearly aground - The tea Caddy also arrived safe, and
with be of nature - for what with quadrupeds and bipeds, I lose all
my sugar - Last night I repacked the trunk with as much as I could
find to fill it, according to the accompanying list, but had not time to
write a letter or it should have gone to the Elephant here this morning -
I hope you will receive it by tomorrow's waffon - and that the cocoa pack
has not been urgently required - it has been kept as cool as I could manage,
& the Bilt accompanies it - Tell dear Sophy I feel greatly obliged to
her for the nice order in which every thing arrives - and for the
attention she has bestowed upon them has been rather a heavy tax upon
her

her time - but I have now got a supply that will last a long while,
and by way of filling up the trunk. for the safety of the pair, I have returned
a few warm things - which are better remaining quiet at the Rectory, than
in my hopeless travelling about London. - I am very happy to hear she
is getting so much better since breathing the pure air of the higher land about
Newbury, I hope it will prove effectual in restoring her to perfect health -
By Miss M. A. Barnes. whose arrival in town you led me to expect today,
I shall hope to receive an acceptance of my proposal for Sophia to come here
for a short time, by way of a farther change - though from what she said
in her last letter about preparing for Anne Bumbury's wedding, it appears likely
that event may fully occupy her present time and thoughts - I hope the
occurrence will prove such as to give no cause of regret hereafter to
any party concerned - You have never yet told me what is to be the name
Miss B. will receive in exchange for the one she has so long ago been tired
of - therefore do not forget it in your next - something "strikes me very
forcibly" it must be Whyte. - Give my warmest congratulations to our
dear parents on their continued enjoyment of good health, which it always
gives me so much pleasure to hear, and I hope will long continue to do so -
You appear to have been uncommonly gay since your return into Berkshire,
though I cannot say much for the choice of weather that has been fixed upon
for giving dances - it is very oppressive in smoky (and now dusty) London,

and sometimes proves quite a relief to me when I can breathe a little of
the fresh air of the Parks. — I called on the Harpers in Bryanstone Square
on Sunday, and explained the reason of your not taking leave of them previous to
quitting Town. — Mrs. H. is again laid up — and from my not seeing the eldest
daughter or Augusta I suppose they were giving her their attendance. — I forgot
to mention in my last that Carter of Regent Street, has declined being the
purchaser of the boxes — but has undertaken to try and dispose of them at 3 guineas
each — He wanted much lower terms, but I gave him that as the positive
limit, and will call occasionally to hear if he has had any offers — He has
the same story as the others — about ladies preferring to cover the plain boxes themselves,
and thinks if you were to vary the pattern a little, by working from a
center, they would stand a much better chance. — He remarks that the work box
has the appearance of having been in use, from some of the black being scratched
off from the inner rim. — I do not know whether I mentioned having called
on Mott about your ring from the square chain, and found him very short & flippant
upon the occasion — he said it was a remarkably cheap job, that the workman
had kept the ring of course, and that if you were not satisfied with it, you might
return him the swivel and he would refund the money. — I did not think it worth
while arguing the point with such a fellow, therefore told him it certainly
did appear to be a job as he called it, in every sense of the word, and such a one as
would decidedly prevent his being troubled again in any way, either by you
or any friend who might be made acquainted with the circumstance. —

Return my best thanks to Sophy for the kettle-holder she sent me, but had no
idea

idea of giving her the trouble of making one, as a thick piece of old
carpet would have answered a bachelor very well — Thank Harriet Barnes
also — with a kiss if you like — for her kindness in taking so much trouble
about my shade, which now answers much better than before — and will
prove a very good "stand-by" — I must also return my best acknowledgments for
the beautiful new shirt just received, which I have not yet tried, but think
they will do extremely well — I do not however see any risk for making
them, and fancy my washerwoman must also by this time be considerably
in the back ground — therefore by the next opportunity, please send these
accounts — and they shall be settled as soon as possible — I fear Sophy must
have an awaking deal of trouble about all these things — and think she will
be glad when I pack off to sea again, to give her a little respite. — I
am getting on tolerably well with my sailing directions, but have a great deal of
unnecessary work with the Printers, who, according to custom, are endeavouring
to make a job of the business, by putting us off with a very disreputable
performance — but times have altered a little lately — tradespeople in the
employ of government are obliged to do their work as well and as reasonably
as for individuals — or the Finance Committee are busy to know the reason why —
It occupies one third of our time correcting for prep — that is, pointing out their
careless mistakes, mis-spelling, bad letters, &c. &c. &c. — but since Capt. Parry has
written them a letter about it, and got the Chief Clerk to write another, there
appear symptoms of improvement — The Duke took us completely by surprise
yesterday

Yesterday morning at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10 - by walking into our room with
 H. D. Owen / the member of his council who superintends the Hydrographical
 Department / Capt. Parry - and a few more - on a reconnoitring trip -
 Fortunately DePion and I were at our stations, though neither of us very hard at
 work on account of the heat, which had induced us to take off our coats. - My
 occupation at the moment was adjusting the point of my compass & whistling "God
 Save the King" - but H. D. Highness took it all in good part, begged we would not
 resume our coats - as he was aware it was very warm - and after asking a
 few questions about our work & the arrangements in the Room - "moved on".

So much for his early movements and activity after having returned the
 same morning from Woolwich - and it was perhaps lucky for us we were
 not found wanting. - I called to attend the Linnean Meeting last Tuesday
 I was surprised to hear the ^{members} meetings had discontinued their sittings for the
 season, & that Mr. Lambert had left town for Boston - the last meeting
 was held on the evening we contemplated going. - I have no news
 for you my dear William. and hope you have by this time begun to
 feel settled after your visit to town - the business of the Museum must have
 accumulated a little during your absence, and such long visitations can
 by no means tend to expedite it - you are however, never aware to visit
 from pretty girls, whose admiration and pretty prattle, are doubtless amply
 remuneration for loss of time. - Do not forget to send me a few snail boxes when
 you have opportunity - as they will be very useful here - Give my kindest love
 to our dear Parents, & Sophy. & with best regards to all friends, believe

believe me to be my dear William -

Your affectionate Brother

John Leptimer Roe

P.S. Enclose Sophia Lavin's letter for perusal, & must request it
being returned by next conveyance, with the particulars already asked
for, respecting part of its contents - that I may answer it with
as little delay as possible. -

563 A/2D
Okeendon Street - 11 July 1828.

My dear Father -

So many days have elapsed since I last had the pleasure of writing, that I cannot wait so long as Tuesday, when Mr. Harper this little Augusta propose visiting Bucklebury, without addressing you a line, and expressing my hope that you are all quite well. - The last amounts of dear Sophy's gradual improvement were certainly satisfactory, but I should be better pleased to hear she had completely recovered. I hope you received the cocoa paste safe by my last trunk through probity - and that the soda water which I ordered of Schweppé on the 4th, and paid for /18/- for 3 dozen / has also arrived safe. - The bill for it, and the change, &c. &c. I will send by Mr. Harper - You will no doubt be glad to hear that I have at last /now the warm weather is nearly over/ fixed upon new lodgings - not at ~~the~~ Limbo, as at first intended, on account of the inconvenience that would have resulted from the hour of closing the Park gates - but at Lambeth - at 22 Walnut tree walk, Walcot Place, where on Tuesday afternoon I take full possession of my new quarters, and think there is a prospect of being very comfortable - at all events. I shall not be in such a despicable pigsty as that in which I have been hanging my hat for the last 3 months, and which I could enumerate at least a dozen reasons for considering it time to quit. A few of these William can explain, from his own personal observation; and by the longer walk I shall now be obliged to take, as well as the earlier hour at which it will compel me to rise in the morning, I indulge in the hope of being in every way benefited. I have got a snug little bed-room on the first floor, looking out upon a collection of beautiful little gardens attached to my own and the neighbouring houses - and make use of the same sitting room as the people of the house, who appear very pleasant and accommodating, and have hung it all round with a collection of very good paintings /principally his own/ elegantly framed. -
when

when I mention his own, I mean the man of the house (Mr. Wate) who is a painter of landscapes and figures by profession, and has a sister or wife. I don't know which, keeping house for him. She is certainly no beauty, about 26 or 28, and keeps every thing awfully clean and orderly - the house has only recently been furnished, carpeted, &c. and looks as comfortable as possible. I am to pay at the rate of half a guinea a week, or something less if taken by the quarter, which I shall see about after the first week is over - To give me plain tea & breakfast, they would charge 9/- a week more, which, being about half a crown more than it now costs me, I shall prefer finding those things myself. - They have a very good pair of rooms on the ground floor, which I could have for 10/- a week; but besides being much better than I want, and flaring so with splendid gilt frames, they are lower than I wish to reside, & from this circumstance of being at same time too high & too low, they form one of those analogies resembling more than any thing else perhaps, the drummer in the act of flopping his comrade, who could not please him by striking high, low, or where he would. But this is quite enough for one subject - and I must conclude it by observing that any thing which is to reach me after Monday next (14th) had better be addressed to 22 Walnut tree walk, Wakest Place, Lambeth. I will tell you more about the place when I get into it. - I have to return my best thanks to Sophy for her kind letter received by Miss Barnes, which was duly received on the same afternoon, with the parcel, and in the evening I hunted for the bearer in Fleet Street, &c. and found her in Francis Street. She ^{was} looking quite blooming but very thin, and I believe is to spend next week between her brother John and sister Mrs. A. - I must continue to see her before she returns, and trouble her with a letter. - I had just delivered her safely in Fleet Street again, when the storm came on which must have been felt at Newbury as elsewhere. - My room during the night, leaked like a sieve, but I escaped by decamping occasionally from one corner to another. - It was the same room William occupied while staying with me. - Before I forget, I must request you to (or ask William) to send me by coach as soon as possible, my log book for the Dick - it is the one with so many pretty pictures in it, and something like a tombstone for a Routispiece. - It must be addressed (not to me, but) "On His Majesty's Service, to Capt. W. P. Parry, R.N. - Hydrographer, Admiralty, London" and on no consideration to go by Post - as he received one a few days ago from Chatham in that way, which cost the trifling postage of £4.13.4. - Tell Wm. to wrap it many times in brown paper, & caution the Coachman

to keep it quite dry. — I dined with L. Rick. Lady Keats on Sunday at Finsbury, and met there Mrs. Moore and Miss Hunt, (sisters of her ladyship) Miss Moore, about 14 or 15, daughter of the former, and a famous fortune, and the Rev. R. Keats from Somersetshire. — The latter arrived by the ^{Bath} mail on Wednesday evening, & following morning, & lay on the coach stopping at Newbury. a gentleman alighted from the outside, and he heard him give his name as "Mr. Roe" — but did not see him — I must leave you to judge who it could be. — It would perhaps have done him no harm to have made himself known — but he is as proud as a dog with 2 dozen tails, and not one quarter the great man at the government house that he is in his own family. — The Lord High Admiral has just paid L. Rick. the highest possible compliment, by having a superb gold medal struck, bearing the Royal arms, the Duke's bust, and appropriate ~~beaux~~ inscriptions round each, &c. &c. and sent it to L. Rick. with a very handsome letter in which he calls him his dearest, best, and most valued friend — to whom, and to his early guidance of him, he does not scruple to acknowledge, that he owes his elevation to the dignified and important situation of guiding the affairs of his Majesty's fleets, &c. &c. I have not seen either, and only heard of it by calling on Taylor just before dinner, and in a walk I had after dinner, with the clergyman — What is to prevent such a man asking promotion for his own relatives, my dear Father? and how many times would he have to ask, without his request being granted? — but I have ~~heard~~ ^{seen} he is shackled by some promise to his sister at Brydon — to get her on promotion first — ~~which~~ ^{which} shall see on the return of the sons to England. — the point cannot be discussed here, and you will see the necessity of keeping these observations from going without the walls of the Rutony — I am obliged to hurry to a conclusion, as I have been interrupted, and have only a very few minutes to finish — will say more in my next. — They enquired after all — and desired to be remembered — were sorry to hear of Sophy having been unwell. Mrs. M. daughter, with Miss Hunt gone into Derbyshire — another of her sisters married very lately — The Taylors enquired very kindly after you all — Wm. gave me a broad hint that his Father retained his fondness for fishing as much as ever — John was remarkably cool — Mary Anne said something about having she feared got into quarrels by not writing to Sophy, but I would not hear her — and should recommend no farther notice being taken by Sophy. They had found out, somehow or other, that Wm. had been in town, & said he was seen by some one whose sight was not very keen, but who was close to him at the India house. — It must have been when we went to Blackwall for shells, & I rather suspect must have been John P. — Said ^{Wm.} you would have called, & that we had made a day for that purpose, but y^t. he had been obliged to leave town much earlier than expected — So bless you all. Give kindest love to D. Mother, Sophy, & William — I with kind remembrance to all friends —

My dear Father, Your ever affectionate son J. Stan.

The Rev. James Roe

Rector of Newbury

Wethers

1828

the happiness of once more
 seeing you - I am afraid
 by asking for more than
 a fortnight that they would
 not let me go at all. for
 we are more than
 busy here apparent,
 and one of the duties is
 just commenced his jubilee
 of a month - the other
 has returned only 2 days.
 but they have both
 been in the office
 2 and 3 years - and
 are called
 fixtures.

The Bishops go to you on the 20th. I hope
 the earlier I make my appearance the better.
 or I will wait till afterwards, just as you please.
 I will write -

July 29. 1828. Lambeth -
 My dear Father
 Opportunities by private hands not having been very
 abundant of late, I must take advantage of the Post to enquire how you are all getting
 on at the Rectory, and to say how anxious I am to hear that you and my dear mother have
 not been sufferers from the wetting you got on returning last from Mouseshoune. I have
 been watching for an opportunity of writing, for the last several days, to prevent William sending
 the bottles he threatened me with, for Bladen to exchange - as the people at that shop have
 refused to do so - and I have in consequence discharged his bill - Mr. Bladen said "the bottles
 had been made exactly to order, and he considered it a very unreasonable request - especially
 as the bill had been so long standing over" - Finding nothing was to be made of him, and
 that he would not take back even half a dozen, I told him his behaviour appeared to me
 very unaccommodating, and that in future we should go to some other person who would be
 more willing to please and suit the views of his customers. I will send his Bill & receipt
 by the earliest good opportunity - You will I am sure be glad to hear that I have got into very
 comfortable quarters since leaving the neighbourhood of the Haymarket, which, as William knows
 was much too confined for a summer residence, besides being any thing but clean & wholesome. I
 now wonder how I continued to remain so long there; but having a great aversion to moving about
 from one house to another, I had become accustomed to it, and only found out the actual difference
 by contrast. I make use of the same sitting room with the landlord & his wife, whose names are
 Wate, and have breakfast and tea with them - for which I pay 9s. a week - beside 19s. for
 the lodging - the former item is about half a crown a week more than it cost me while finding
 everything myself - but considering the superior degree of comfort and cleanliness, this is not worth
 looking at. The greatest inconvenience is their keeping no servant, which prevents my being so
 perfectly at ease as I otherwise should be, as they are very respectable people, and Mr. W. a very

good artist - having had several pieces in all the exhibitions and galleries which have recently closed. - If I find I can afford it, advantage must be taken of this opportunity, to impregnate my brush and pencil with a few correct ideas - but living in Town, although with strict economy, is so expensive that as yet I cannot indulge myself. - I regret not being able to give William a favorable amount of his tulip boxes - as I called 2 or 3 days ago, on Carter, to enquire about them - and found they were still on hand - He had not received any offer for them, but they had been often looked at, were very much admired, and on the return of the parties, they had again been enquired after - He does not however think they will sell for the price put upon them / 3 guineas each / - Private sale is therefore likely to be the most advantageous, and that also amongst immediate friends and acquaintances -

I have met Miss Barker 2 or 3 times since she came to "rub the rust off" in Town, and last Thursday spent the evening in company with her & Mr. W. Atkinson Sr., at her brother William's in Camberwell - John B. gives a little party on Tuesday next, before M. A. returns to Newbury, and I am going there - but hope the thermometer will not be down to the freezing point - as it is by no means pleasant to be frost-bitten at any time - and the least so, in the middle of summer, when the blood usually circulates with more warmth and freedom. - I suppose you have seen Mr. & Miss Augusta Barker by this time, and received from them an account of my being very well - they were the bearers of my last letter, & a parcel to Sophy, which I hope passed through the fingers of Mr. A. without its contents being discovered - The next good opportunity shall be taken advantage of, to send another. Miss B. leaves Town on Tuesday the 5th of August, but by her I shall only send a letter, although she has offered to be the bearer of any thing else - Your last joint letter, for which I think I have been so remiss as never once to thank you, did not mention who that could have been who got down from the Bath mail, which it stopped at Newbury on its way eastward, and was heard by the Rev. W. Keats, to give his name Roe - As Mr. L. H. Roe had just entered Charter of Trinity College Oxford about that time, I conclude it was likely to have been him, though a mistake probably of W. Keats's. I have just despatched Mr. Roe's new butler, who appears a very steady respectable young man, and

I think is one who will suit any gentleman that will behave towards him with liberality. -
I am sorry to say that the settlement we were at so much trouble in forming at Melville Island
is likely to be given up - as another has been formed at Raffles Bay, about 120 miles farther to
the eastward, to which the former has been decided to be removed, as soon as it is known whether
the new one will answer. - The principal reason for this change is stated to be the decided hostility
of the natives, who have killed at least 12 of the new colonists since we left them, and amongst
have recently arrived of 2 officers having shared the same fate, by numerous spears having been
driven through their bodies. - My own opinion is certainly against Raffles Bay, but I know
not whose choice it is - nor does it signify much - as I have nothing to do with it, and had therefore
better be silent. - From all quarters I hear of Captain King's having expected to be sent to that
coast again, on his return from S. America - which is so totally at variance with what he
told me previous to my embarking in the Samar, that I know not what to think about it. -
His not answering my letter, certainly looks like a confirmation of the report, and would
seem to imply he had in view the same employment, for which I was requesting
his recommendation. - His Mother has been very ill since I last saw her several weeks ago,
with a severe bilious attack, which has reduced her so much & turned her so yellow that I
scarcely knew her again. - Eliza is her nurse, and has by no means improved her appearance
by close attendance upon her mother - When I saw them about a week ago, the 2 Miss
MacArthur from Plymouth were staying with them for a short time, besides a Miss Lethbridge
(I know not of what family, but I rather think a cousin of Mr. P. P. King's) and another lady name
unknown. - They enquired particularly after all at the Rectory, & desired I would not fail to
give them kind regards. - As this is now the 31st, on which I am writing, not having been able
to close my letter before, I will keep it open till I have seen Miss Barnes tomorrow, in hopes of
being able to send it by a private hand. - I hope my dear Mother, Pophy, & William are quite well. -
I with kindest love to all, & every good wish, remain. my dear Father. Your affectionate Son
John. Roe.

Aberty: 2 Aug. 1828.

From Miss Barnes I had the pleasure of receiving William's long & kind letter of the 30th July, and am truly sorry to hear he has been
so great a sufferer. I that you are all so far from being well. - May appearances speedily take a favorable turn, and every thing proceed as
we could wish. - I was sadly afraid your watery trip from Moulshelborne would have done some mischief. - but hope by this time

563 A/25
Lambeth. August 4. 1828.

My dear William

Many thanks for your 2 last letters - which I have
been remiss in not answering before - but must beg you to take a letter addressed to one
of the members of the Rectory, as if written individually to every member - Although very
happy to hear from you again, I was truly sorry to receive so bad an account of your own
health, and of the state of matters in that respect generally at the Rectory - which I am in
hopes has by this time very materially improved - Yours appear to have been a most formidable
assault, in which the outworks were completely surprised and taken - but it is pleasing to
find that by the aid of the strong reinforcement you brought so timely into the field, your
antagonist has been beaten, and is likely to have been so completely mauled by your
sortie as to be incapable again of "coming to the scratch" with any chance of meeting
with any thing like equal success - indeed, it is to be hoped he will not dare again to
show his nose under the walls of a fortress so well prepared with ammunition and means of
defence - I shall be glad to have it in my power to arrive at so desirable a period, and
spend a few days at Newbury before the summer entirely wears away - for at the rate the
thermometer now travels, I fully expect to be quite frost-bitten long before the regular time -
The weather is extremely unpleasant in the neighbourhood of Town at this time, so much rain
causing some of the much-frequented streets to be quite like mud carts - it is much to be
wished that this is the extent of the mischief which so much wet weather will occasion;
for the accounts from all parts of the country - and indeed from most parts of Europe, unite
in their lamentations on the failure of the crops - Much of this language, may however be only
the tone of those who are interested in raising the price of corn, and who never fail to
cry out in very good time. - In my last, which was written to our dear Father, and

and forwarded by Post on Saturday last (1st Aug.) I had just time and room to allude
to the bottles you had sent for exchanging, and which I suppose Blades will send back
again if he still adheres to his determination of not changing any of them. I wrote him a
note to him on Saturday, explaining that they had been sent to Town before you were aware
of his unwillingness to take them ~~at~~ back, & of my having settled the bill - therefore unless he
would relax a little in his original resolution and change a few, I should thank him to
send back the box by Probert's man, addressed to you at Newbury - I have not heard from
him since - therefore am ignorant of his determination. - I now enclose you his Bill & Receipt -
as also a copy of my Memorial, which I promised to send Father long ago - and had partly written it
I think, before I left Newbury - the other papers connected with it shall also be sent soon - I
went down to Greenwich yesterday afternoon, and dined with Mr. Taylor according to promise - but
previously called on S. Rich^d. & Lady Keats - I found them remarkably well - they received me as usual
very kindly, pressed me to stay dinner, and repeated they should always be very happy to see me - all
this is very well - exceedingly kind - and very pleasant - but - it is not quite what I want - Little
polly I think is becoming much more reconciled to his situation - and during the whole of a long and
loud conversation between S. Rich^d, and Burton. &c. &c. he kept up a continued chain of whistling,
sipping & chattering - I was much disposed to think, from what the man in the Commercial Road
told us, that the much-wished-for ring would not appear round its neck, and that it was a female -
but I was quite surprised, and agreeably so, yesterday, to find he was most decidedly molting, and was
getting a very beautiful ring round the neck, exactly like that of Ann's bird at Plymouth - Lady
Keats is much pleased at the circumstance, and more particularly as it comes unexpectedly - for
I had expressed my doubts about it in consequence of what I heard, and had actually persuaded her
Ladyship to believe the bird was a female - The next time we meet, I shall hope to see the little favorite
in full feather - The government house looks quite deserted now that little Miss Kent has quitted
it - and I think she is very much missed by both S. R. & Lady K. - they have no one staying with
them at present - except 2 or 3 visitors of the day - The Taylors enquired particularly after all
hands at the Putney, and desired their kind remembrance - Mr. T. appeared to have recovered from the
curious mood he was in when last we met - and Will^m is with a friend on a trip of a few weeks
into Scotland - Mr. T. & Mary Ann are very well & the latter as usual principally with her "loovyer" - I

I am not certain of their being engaged to each other - but have every reason to think they are, and that it will be productive of any thing but comfort and happiness to either party - The 2 youngest sisters are to return from Devonshire in about 5 weeks - after a visitation of more than 12 months. - I called at the Sakers on Sunday, but would not go in, on hearing that they were all engaged about their mother, who does not appear to improve in the least. - I took the house of Dr. Latham in my way - in hopes of seeing & consulting him - but found he had been a week in the country, at his son's, I forget where, and was likely to remain out of town a week longer - I wish to have his opinion now, before the winter approaches, that I may meet it after so long an absence, with due respect and deference. - I also called on Stancliffe yesterday - and never saw so curious an object in my life - but that is enough to say in a letter - though I cannot help reflecting with regret, upon what must have been the situation of poor Henry. - Now do you mean to act upon the invitation you received from John B. to visit them this month & return with some of the family in Sept. ? I hear they are living at Balla shaka house in the Isle of Man - that Matilda will visit Newbury in September - I wrote to Lou a short time ago - but could give him no news of the little ones - I hope favorable amounts have been received. - Sophia's short trip to Marlton, with Strutt have a beneficial effect in improving her health, and that I shall shortly hear of her being quite recovered - as also of our dear Parents being quite well - I am in hopes Sophia's visit is not to make final arrangements about an event that is ~~to have~~ likely to bring any thing but happiness on a pretty girl, and that the latter will have reflected a little on the steps she is taking, and be able to pause ere it will be too late - a girl in love, may be a difficult person to persuade into what will appear so great a sacrifice as giving up her lover - and I am therefore disposed to think matters must proceed in the train which they have followed from the first. - I am glad to hear you have received news from the West Indies, although in an indirect way - and must continue shortly to tip Charles a stove, and forward it through the Admiralty. - My Sailing Directions are proceeding apace - they have printed nearly 100 pages (1000 copies each) and have got as much more to do - so I think myself fairly entitled to ask a respite, when it is considered how what a heap of folios, dust, and oblivion, a great portion of the materials for them have been extricated - There is now ^{great}

great talk of their being about to take possession of the western coast of Australia, and
to form a settlement at the entrance of Swan River, / opposite to Kottarut Island of the charts /
where a fine sound has recently been discovered, and is said to be in the neighbourhood of very
good land. — As it will considerably shorten the voyage of the convicts outward bound — it will of
course lessen the expense of transporting them — and on that account alone the Government are likely to
give the place and proposal due consideration — As there is said to be much want of some person there
to effect a closer examination of the coasts and country, I should have no objection to being sent
upon that service, though there appears not much likelihood of their taking me off from my present
work, which is not yet half finished. — Considering that I wrote only 2 days ago, I think you
must allow I have now produced you a long stove — which, however, I could wish was more
worthy of your perusal — but such as it is, I must now launch it — as it grows late — and my
landlord is sitting up purely out of compliment — My quarters are very comfortable — and the owners
very respectable pleasant people — who do all they can to make things comfortable — Should you now
re-visit the metropolis, I promise not to put you into so complete a dog-hole, as that in which
you used to retreat in Abendon Street. — My comparison with my present quarters alone are
sufficient to hold the former ones in their proper degree of estimation — and I cannot say the contrast
has as yet occasioned me many sighs to return. — As I enquired in my last, about room
for accommodating me, should I be able to make my number at the Rectory, you will perhaps
be induced to do something about the tulip boxes — therefore should you be desirous of regaining
possession of them, mention your wishes, and they shall be attended to. — It is quite an
age since I heard how the darling Cockatoo gets on — and Sophy's little children — as I have
heard of no deaths among the latter, I conclude the summer is opening with them. — Am glad your
boy got round again after the benefit he received, and hope he will not again be exposed
to a similar trial. — Give my warmest affectionate love and kindest good wishes to our dear Parents
and Sophy — with best regards to all friends — and with every hope that you will speedily be quite well
believe me to remain, my dear William, ever your affectionate Brother
Wm. Septimus Roe.

should an opportunity offer, I am bound off for heavy and, white cotton stockings,
night caps, white hosiery, &c. but do not send many just yet, till I know what will be my movements.