

23. Duke Street

11. April.

1840.

Dear Mr. Manning,

It is a long time ago that I thought of writing to you, and less long, that I began a letter which never came to an end, because of an uninteresting gap that would have taken place as to date; - we heard of your health, from Mr. Johnson not long ago, and we trust that Spring weather will revive you, (I wish it would bring you to London) It is not elegant I suppose to quote Pope, that "Ladies will talk of what runs in their head" - but it will be as good a beginning of a dry subject as any I can think of, but then I tell you that "the Education of the People" is my strong incentive & action, just now, you will be inclined to say, there is something of Vanity, ^{in my head at least} lack of Self-Knowledge

Richardson

and all that train of modest inactivity, & that
I had better go to school again - but now let me try
and put you in a good humor with me again, by
telling you what I really am about.

B. Bell was a good man, but the world began
to think his National System of Education, is not
perfect. & the Society are willing to reform the
errors - they have found a Mrs. Tuckfield, who
comes from Devonshire, a very clever, & reasonable
person. She began by writing a Book (of course)
called "the Education of the People" It is not large. I
wish you would read it - she is requested to open
a School, in their Parish - & do just what she likes
in private for 4 Months, & then it will be decided
how much of her plan to adopt for the National
Schools. - The Committee have appointed two
of the Ladies who superintend the National School
to follow Mrs. Tuckfield, & learn her plan
so as to see it hereafter - & I am very

glad the one of these. as the intercourse with
Mrs. J. is in itself very improving - & that time I have
at command from the other items of life, I
devote to this School work. and you shall see,
that you shall see them be emerge!

It is trying for one's friends I know to have a
subject, for the delusion that they must all
feel the same interest, is always companion
to it - But surely it is a very important subject!
but enough.....

Have you seen Lord Dudley's Letters to B^{ps} Glandoff
there is a buoyancy of intellect in many of his
descriptions, which makes them entertaining -

I think "Law & Lawyers" also would entertain
you - recollections of the chief men at the Bar.

I have made up my mind that the New
Quarterly is dull - tho' in fact I have read
but one article, the one I suppose that every

body turns & first. Socialism. - I was at a Meeting
of the Preparation of the Gospel last week - & was
charmed with the eloquence, & sprightliness of
manner, which seemed the overflow of a
Christian sincerity - in the Bishop of Nova Scotia -
did you ever see him, many years I fancy,
if not all his life resident in N. America.

Archdeacon Wilbyforce, is curiously eloquent, it
is like a full swelled stream, that probably will
never dry - & how it is he ever stops, I know
not; breath seems not one of the necessities of
life to him.

My Brother has lighted his Taper in the Isle of
Wight, & is now gone to visit my Sister, before he
leaves at home - She promises us a visit in
May, with her 3 Children. -

No improved account of Mr. Lathley. Bertha has
a Daughter. Pape continues hoarse, but in
very good spirits. China did have Angpl go
up to us last week. Believe me always
yrs with much respect affectionate
friend