

Dorchester July 13. 1869.

My dear A,

Many thanks for your
long & kind letter. I am getting
on well with my painting, I care
on July & I shall have nearly
as many more to put ab. for
which the materials are nearly
ready. Still the Kirchner plants
are not nearly dry - I have just
been up looking at them. If I cannot
remove them soon to being some
misted down with me they will
be spoiled.

Your letter is a very good one indeed
too. I thank you for me, not
for my wishes for indeed I shall
never be grateful enough if you
can only drive some thoughts
into my cold head. It is a
study to which I should become perpetually
fond had I time & paper to do.

The care is wholly different - your
Instrument, & the arithmetic powers
are all brought into play, but hardly
your head any further. It is no thanks
to the observer that his instrument is perhaps
very little that it is well adjusted. The
calculations require no proficiency of
learning, nor if they did do they give
any play to the mental powers. If
ever the cause must be in the instrument
or observer. I give me no pain or trouble
my Barometric error does, for it is due
to almost all causes to atmospheric
fluctuations, which I seek to approximate.
Boiling water is hence a bore, but
Barometer a real pleasure, for every
one worked (if by the head & not by rote)
teaches something. The boiling point
nearly in this respect with the Bar; but
unfortunately the instrumental errors
are so great. The ~~time~~ laws regulating
its use is vaguely defined, & the conditions
under which it must be observed so
difficult of fulfillment; that you
never can tell whether the observer's instrument
or philosopher are in fault. - We have

which would be pronounced
by myself as a very good instrument.
They give diverging elevations
varying 300 ft. ~~three~~ ^{thousands} feet.
The three best were made by
Newman for me, with extreme
care. I agree perfectly; the third
only 300 feet from the others. & an
error due to the Barometer being
lower when the ^{last} ~~barometer~~ ^{thermometer} was
made. The height of the Barom.
is registered on all three ~~feet~~
The time they were ~~made~~ ^{made} & by this
I reduce the error from 300 to 100 ft.

Provided Thacker's Thermometer really
did boil (it requires a deal of
boiling for good results - Sykes says
1/4 hour at least) & that he is
material error in his instrument
you may assume his elevations
as too low; for which I can
give intelligible reasons, whether
the true or no. Gerard's positions
I will go over with you - if there

be not 500 ft. between
them scilicet cut mind - for
it is of no consequence for us
to know the elevation higher
(though it is necessary for me
with whom the Barometer is
an index of Atmospheric Pressure,
to work out any obs. clues.

What can Thomson know
of the country by the Lakes?
Except the other Strachey has
been there too - all the
Strachey papers describe the
Plateau as a Plain with Mts
rising from it, as Land from
Sea & I doubt not it is so.

However much many parts
may be continuously rugged &
uninhabited however, one case
do not exist
in which we, as Thomson, do
not recognize our meaning of

plain. Any extended surface
from which Mts ranges rise,
these dividing areas of nearly
equal elevation & tolerably flat,
must be philosophically regarded
as a plain, however great the
predominance of the Mt. masses be.
What is the Plain of Luito - of
Patagonia - of the country ^W E of the
North Mts. of Australia? As you
say it may become a dispute of
words, as I still think that dispute
of the Snow line is
against Humboldt's term "Alimalay"
vi - If not a plateau what is it?
certainly not a valley, equally surely
not a Mt. chain - The very fact
of Thomson's getting on a plain at
17000 is conclusive of the country
being "steppe". I therefore quite
add my humble testimony to
your conclusion. No observations

of Thumru's on the lower
part of Thibet (10000 ft.) & where
mount cut up by rivers of great
volume, are to compare with
Strawber's, made toward the Saltes
on all our information collected
here. & in Nepal. - The country
N of Kinchin to H. Sultana is a
stead level - R. rises out of a
plain - The top of Jannu is
just seen from Dapti over a
land horizon. The Thibetan
accounts, telescopic to see objects
just rising above the horizon;
he thinks it raises the object
which really is below the horizon above it. He
cannot see the head of a man on the
horizon with naked eye. but
can with telescope: this is not
done by says to H. J. magnifying,
but to its raising a man's head
which should be below the
horizon above it!

I used the term "height reached"

by way of trying to be
explicit - not seeing (as I do
now) its ambiguity. It refers
to H. Kanyashem, the top of which
I did not reach but towards
which top I ascended, 15,746 ft.
& was then still 2 hours from
the top (fid. the guide): it opens
to East. & as at Waleen shown
when on top you see enough ^{but} ~~facts~~
a terrible valley in front they say,
& you cross 2 other ridges before
debouching on the Maridan of
Thibet. The ridges ^{beyond} both passes
are oblique spurs from the Great
Range. I was on top of Waleen when
16,643 ft. - a "fine view" I much
underestimated the height of there
at the time.

13700
Gangma Sillan is ~~the~~
inhabited all the year round
Cosmos was my only authority
which says cult. of grain on S. side
9700 ft (English) or North 13200 ft

I speak with great hesitation
about the P.S. I was ever fearful
of exaggerating my elevations
& give too little to the papers.
I do not think myself
200 ft out in giving 14000 ft as
the lower limit. - I certainly
there is no Dale or other trace of
any kind above 11000 ft. - I have
seen ^{or at it} no Dale above 10000, & yet
in N.W. state dales reach 11300,
there are heaps of anomalies -
mud & grain going ^{up} here, & the
snow coming down to meet
them. Still there are only
marvellous local phenom.
& in no way whatever affect
our arrangement of Himal
Regions meridional or Latitudinal
As I now on Kishini-tok
requires much modification. I
wonder of brown study with

Sejus & Teat match. I said
little or no snow unadvisedly
- there are not the bed & the
accumulations I expected: but
thruely hangs a long inquiry - into
the fall at above 20,000 ft: which
must be very trifling indeed if
my theory is good, of the mech
phenom. of the Siberian Season. &
wind

I must have the sea all
over Vuh to the P.S. - nothing
else will do & the glacial bed
of Yangma prove it - were there
no Tibet & Falena to back it,
or rather be backed by it.

I saw no traces of Vole rocks.
Granite has been the agent &
strong enough for ten times more

I will not forget the
Kishi: winter. I see the
Baboo going up; (meet him
or overtake him) I have no idea

The care is wholly different - open
Instruments etc & arithmetic houses

that he resides in the house
remains not there this morning
I will see about it. Barnes
writes triumphantly about Stephens,
he has to ~~sell~~^{sold} all his stock
the wind & Perry is gone on a tour
I write to the latter next 'day

Shall I speak to the Baboo?

I will have a splendid watch
dog at the house, & a Lulu
Lirdan if you think proper, or
tell Bishop to send by Chest
Birkenhead -

25/10. Your house is well guarded
tho' I see such good watch - walking
in turns ^{all night}. The Baboo certainly
never enters the house - The Hind
write says without being asked that
he is to go down with me, & I pretend
I know nothing - I do hope to be
down much week for certain.
Raining unrelieved weather.

Ever to affectionate

Jos. Hooper