

to ride about 40 miles & what was more he talked me over till he got it I do not think we have anything to fear from them. . . . The N.Z. Co.² with whom we have been at war for some time has at last offered us terms which I think are fair enough & so I think all will again prosper now I am more than ever persuaded of the good it would do a number of idle young men who hang about at home doing nothing to emigrate It is a capital school if nothing else & when Harry³ grows up to be a young man I shall never try to dissuade him from such a step if he should fancy it At the same time I would never take the responsibility of advising any particular individual to do so as I have seen several who were totally unfit for such a life & who were very miserable & useless members of a small community where everyone ought to be more or less of some utility In your last letter you mention your going to Ireland with Charles and Lydia⁴ We are anxious to hear from you after your experience of the state of the country All I see in the papers & hear from other people is perfectly awful I hope the distress is exaggerated—

JUNE 28 I resume my pen to finish this letter as a vessel is expected every hour on her way to Sidney. . . . & now my dear Lou I have a commission for you if you will undertake it . . . which is as I do not know for certain how soon I may be home & that I have read almost every book in the settlement & also some I have borrowed from Wellington I wish to have sent out to me every year £5 worth of books but send good standard works that will do to keep for years I dare say that many will be cheap that have been published some years. I have seen Guizot's history of the Revolution It is books of that kind I want I am now going through a course of Bentham which I have borrowed from Mr. Chapman the judge of the Supreme Court so you see we even send to Wellington for food for the mind. . . . I cannot conceive people staying in England when they can get on so splendidly as working people can here a labourer who has been with me four years has just left me to set up for himself he landed here literally without any property but his clothes not one copper he worked with a person for six months who cheated him & only got his victuals for that time he then staid with us four years during a short period he had £1 a week from me but most of time only 12/ & latterly I found him such a good servant that I gave him 15/ yet upon these wages this man has managed to save money to buy cows & he now has a herd of 15 head of cattle of all ages he keeps a small dairy also some land under tillage about 10 acres a good house a wife & 2 children carts ploughs && in fact he is a farmer he can neither read nor write but is steady sober & industrious there is the secret He can be taken as one of a large class for there are *many* such in the same position as he is My Shepherd to whom I give £40 a year & his rent has about 15 cows of his own his wife makes cheese & upon the produce of that alone they can live comfortably & have almost all their