

purchased by calmly considering what should now be done to ensure happiness to mankind.

A copy of my last letter to you was transmitted to the Duke of Wellington, as a copy of this shall be; and all that I now beg, is to be informed if he will send for and hear me.

You will have the goodness to return Dr. Chalmers' letter; and if denied a hearing, enclose it in a blank cover, to give least trouble to yourself.—I have the honour to be, sir, yours faithfully,

ROBT. GOURLAY

*Sir George Murray.*

No. 10.

*Pratis, Fifeshire, October 2, 1829.*

SIR—While you and the Duke of Wellington may be perusing my letter of 30th ultimo, I am seated in a house, built and occupied by me two-and-twenty years ago, when I was perhaps, without exception, the most fortunate man in this county. My father then stood pre-eminent for public spirit, and as a gentleman, was without stain. I and my family were provided for to our utmost wish, and beyond risk, as was then thought. Out of doors I was well with all ranks; in retirement, blessed with the society of a most amiable wife, and her friend, the lady of the late Sir Henry Torrens. An accident at a county meeting touched my feelings, and biased my fate. I left this place for England, not because of that accident, but to follow out studies of the poor law system, and I will dare to say, have encountered in continued succession, during the last one-and-twenty years, more vexation than any man alive. At this moment I am deprived of all property, abandoned by relations, unhoused, separated from my children, and can assist them only by putting an end to my existence, which I shall not do while reason and hope remain. At this moment, Sir, I do not despair even of making good what is stated in my letter to the king, returned to me in the blank cover of the Duke of Wellington. His Grace may send for and hear me; or, let me be examined in Edinburgh during the present month, by three university professors, who have known me from boyhood, viz. Dr. Chalmers, Dr. James Brown, and Mr. Leslie, with any other the Duke of Wellington may name, and I shall answer every question they may put, either as to the assertions made, or conduct at home and abroad. If I have injured any human being, or offended against any law, I shall make any proper amends: if I have erred in conduct, I shall submit to rebuke.

This letter, and a copy, shall be dispatched without cover, to you and the Duke of Wellington, that if you refuse my offers, it may be in your power to oblige me by returning it to me in Leith, bearing the post-marks, that I may exhibit it to the public, and leave it as an inheritance to my children.—I have the honour to be, sir, most faithfully and sincerely yours,

ROBT. GOURLAY.

*Sir George Murray.*