

one of the worst seasons on
record, but the influx of
foreign stuff into the English
market will bring the
proud aristocracy of this
country to consider at any
rate it must affect them very
much indirectly. I never
saw such fine apples as
the American were this time
in Manchester. This country
cannot touch them. I
bought a splendid barrel
of Newtown pippins at Xmas
in a shop in town for £2.10
(grown in the States) the same
kind was offered at £2 a barrel
Canadian grown but they were
not so fine as those from the States.

The Gardens
Abney Hall
Chesham
Manchester
27 May - 1880.

Dear Professor Patterson
I duly rec^d your
very interesting letter of the
26 Dec. last. It is now
a good way into another
year but I hope neverthe-
less & wish that it may
be a prosperous one to
you and yours. I have
not rec^d this day the
Edinburgh Daily News copy
from you with the special
description of Texas there in

It is striking the publicity
in that (newspaper, line the
Americans give in such an
instance & no doubt it will
bear some fruit (in any
case it can bear no evil
fruit). I don't know whether
I mentioned it to you in a former
letter but our village clergy-
man when Judge at a dog
show in New York had a
trip to Texas & he told me
he bought 6000 acres
of land. He gave a lecture
describing his journey all
through & illustrated it by
photos shown by magic
lantern which were very

good indeed, many of them.
Some of the falls of Niagara,
some of a public park in
New York, & some of Texas
were to me the most interesting.
In some of the latter in
wooded places I should con-
clude that the climate was
very humid as moss was very
much grown upon the
stems of the trees. This
was on the borders of
the San Antonio Railway.
In England now times
are getting rather better
& many business men report
very favourably, still for
the landed people it has been

I notice that you have made²
a purchase of land in Texas.
I hope it will be a good
one, by & bye. It certainly would
be the wisest plan for one to
see the land before purchasing
& it ought to be so if one was
making largely. I was
telling my brother in South
Africa about the great reports
about Texas & if he could
not make a good start when
he is on account of war
& such like it might be
worth his while to even
try Texas; because in the
next twenty years it is bound
to make great progress.
What would you think? There
is plenty of work in time

for such as he is adapted
& if the climate was not too
cold for his chest affection.
I think he would be a most
useful man there. I
will just have read you a
portion of his last letter to me.
I would not recommend him how-
ever to start himself just yet
but he might do very well
along with another or two &
perhaps being a man who has
had a very good education,
much better than me, he ought
to have intelligence enough for
any society.

Of late we have had
some very large political
meetings in Manchester, I
am sure you would have been
^ & he says he would like stock or sheepfarming, for outdoor
employment a healthy.

greatly pleased to have
seen them, you, without
but ^{seeing them} can almost scarcely
credit the number of people
assembled at them. I went
to both the great Liberal
& Conservative meetings.
I quite believe the former
have not the good leaders
just now; but for a mag-
nificent demonstration nothing
could have surpassed that accorded
to Mr. Bright & the Marquis
of Hartington some time ago
at the Pomona palace here.
I happened with Mr. Swan
to be just under the marquis
when he came out to see the

great assembly; as soon as
he appeared I could recognize
the Devonish features in his
countenance being my-self once
employed at Chalfont. He
stood & viewed calmly the great
sea of faces, till I could see
his eyes fill with emotion,
& then he began to address
the company, observing that
he had never seen such a meeting
before. Mr. Bright also spoke, he is
an old & to use a vulgar expression
it may be said "done man" still
he speaks well. I thought Mr.
Waddy who has since got "in" for
Sheffield the best man the Liberals had
at Manchester lately. But I think
the Marquis of Salisbury on the other
side was the best man of the lot.

for South it would not
be too cold at any rate.

I should like very much
to have a trip to America
but my means is not sufficient
to afford that yet. However
I may even yet in the future
be able to manage it.

I think the principle of
having a few aristocrats
in this country is a mistake
people who deserve titles themselves
I am in favour of but the same
descending to degenerate stock I am
not at all sure about.

Trusting this may reach you
Mr. Palkton & William in the
best of health; & if I can
be of any service to you here
please to let me know
Yours sincerely
Alfred Mackellar.

I think the Liberals will get
into office the coming election
and a change may be the
best for all parties. Beaconsfield
& Co. could do well with a little
rest now after a few years
close application to work.

A few weeks ago I spent
a Sunday & Monday at my
home (Chesham Road). Father
Mother & Sister were tolerably
well though I am now very
glad I am not so far away
from them as years hear
round. Father had a mag-
nificent lot of choice flowers
for the garden, fine asparagus
for use forced upon dining beds
in frames, with glass covers,
fine mushroom grown in cellar
in rotten dung beds covered with hay
Of course the beds are a little under

from the decomposing manure
before the spawn is put in.
Then after that a coating
of soil is put on the top
of the bed which is about
all that is done in the matter.

This is about the severest
winter we have had in England
which I remember, the cold
a fortnight or two has been
than last winter, though the
hard frost was not of long
duration. Last year again
we have more frost about
12° of frost per night, & plenty
of skating can be had for
them who want it.

I must not forget to
thank you for requesting
Langworthy & Co to pay taxes

on my land I told Brown
Canada to pay them & last
letter I had from him he said
he had sent the amount
but I have not since heard
from him but expect every
day to hear. However I
will arrange with you this
matter in due course
And must again thank you
for bearing my care in
mind.

I hope your brother and
party will succeed in
their for what they
want. My idea is if
the summer should not be
too hot & dry, it ought
to be a good field, as being

In this district now the
aspect of affairs is very
fair. Many reporting
very busy. Though I think
the Iron trade is the best.

A Mr. Mitchell whom I introduced
you to in Bannerman's warehouse
told me a week ago that the
export trade was now great
to America from so much
corn having been sent over
so that they could buy more
cheaply of manufacturers.

I am going on here very
quietly as usual.

Trusting all things are
prosperous with you & yours
& with kind regards
I remain Yours faithfully
D. W. Blackwell

The Gardens
Abney Hall
Chesham
March 6
1 March 1880

Dear Professor Patterson

Last this morning
I am in receipt of tidings
from Al^x Brown, Canada
to the effect that as you
had told Daugherty & Co.
to pay taxes on my plot
or tract - he went no
further. He had rec^d some
Schedules from the Land Office
& was going to send the same
when he rec^d my letter.

So if I can pay the
Amount for you in
London ^{or to your order} I shall be very
glad. or if I could
pay another year in
advance it would suit
me very well.

Mr. Brown says it has
been dreadfully cold in
Canada & he has had
his ears frosted which
he says makes him tingle
with them it was 30° below
zero, & at Manitoba he
says it went down as low as
60° below zero.

We have had a favour-
able spring in England
so far; but the effects
of the last bad year have
not fully showed themselves
— in such as had seeds
— of all kinds. A seedman
in Manchester the other day
told me there was a great
demand for good seed.

Last this morning I
had a letter from my
sister in which she
wished her kindest regards
sent to you and Mr.
Rathbone

Monday last as I was returning home here
from my holiday at Stockport a good
sized train full of emigrants passed on
to Liverpool to ship there. They were from
Germany via Hull, a porter at the
Station told me as many as 6 train
loads in a day had passed that way
of emigrants, so what will America
be like & bye. I should very much
like a trip there but for some little
time at any rate I could not spare
so long time as would be required.

My brother is again about all
night from fever in Natal & I
think it looks as if he might now
stick to the banking for good then.

For sometimes he was unsettled but it
may be best for him to be at some
occupation like what he was brought
up to. Sheep farming however nice
to speak about may require a good
deal of rough knocking about life
to succeed with it, what the more
intelligent class of people have not been
brought up to & the same words
apply to cattle farming.

Abney Hall
Cheddle
Manchester
3 July 1880

Dear Professor Patterson

I have your of
the 15th March last with Land
the receipts. May I state to
you that on the day I recd.
your letter I sent the amount
£22-3-4 per p-o order to
Crosby & Co. London as you
directed. I trust the same
has appeared in their account
with you to your credit.

I will here again enclose
the receipts for you to hold
in case of mistakes by officials
as you request. Though I am
sorry to give you any
more trouble in the matter
still on this point if you
as it were place me in

Communication with Messrs. Daugherty
I will be glad to do the work
required myself only I leave the
matter with you being only
too pleased to treat with you being
willing to give too much trouble

I have just returned from about
a week holiday in the South of
the County making calls in Bedford
Herts. Staffs & London. When at
Colworth Bed's mother especially was
inquiring how you Mrs. Nelson & William
were & that if you come again to
this country to make their house
your home. Colworth was looking
very nice & I never saw my father
in better spirits though for many
things were under consideration during
the time, which was rather short.

I had a look round the Margins of
Salisbury's place Hatfield, the gardens
being an old pupil of father's. It is
a very large place but not so well
& nicely kept. I had also a look
round the Duke of Bedford at
Woburn

The gardens are small but the park
large & magnificent. The Duke is a
liberal in politics & we saw there a
tree that was cut down last year by
Mr. Gladstone the Premier & the Gardens
Mrs. Mackay who you may guess also
must be a "Liberal" as he had the
Chipp from the cutting down of
the tree. Pictures ~~came~~ & I had
society together & made picture
frames of enclosing the photo
of Mr. Gladstone.

The Liberals at the late Election
were more successful than they at
first expected. I hope they will
make better progress by & by as
not much has been done this session.

I see by the last paper from you
that election of President is again
an important public work. I hope
the best man will get the place
of honour. Then things will not
be very far wrong.

Immigration is still a good item
of the "trade" with America, on

This evening as I was going up to the village
a main load of rails passed on for River-
pool probably to ship for America for
making rail road.

I naturally feel a little interested
in the subject, though perhaps I
shall now remain in the old
Country - there is always room
for people here though at certain
ages the desire to emigrate is strong
- in the ardent push of youth.

I am going on here in the mean-
time quietly & comfortably, so I have
not looked out for anything else
out of our small place I have this
year realised about £200 of surplus
and I have the grapes & other items
yet to come. Indeed I have been getting
a little experience that before was
new to me - trading in garden produce

Mr Hughes often enquires
about you

My sister is looking
very well when I saw her
of course I might say she never
mentioned Mr. Duncan's name to me

It will be some year ago ^{when}
that when she was so feeble or
ill that she said to me he
never wrote or enquired how she
was but perhaps the less that
is said on this matter the better
now

I hope this will reach you
Mrs. Patterson & William well
& I shall be happy to
be a good turn for you in
England if I can.

Yours sincerely

Robt MacTeller

P.S. If the amount £2 - 3 - 4 does
not appear to your credit with Crosby
Logkwood & Co about 31st March please
to let me know - For this year's taxes
I am ready to pay to the same party
if you kindly pay for me on your side

A. M.

order as before, for
last year's taxes, so
as if possible to keep
matters square.

My father, mother & sister
are much as usual,
my brother at "the Cape"
is no doubt in better
condition but wars & such
like make him more unhappy
& so far he reports but
little progress in enterprise.

With best wishes

I remain your faithfully
Wm. Mackellar

Abney Hall Gard.
Cheadle
n Manchester
25 Jan. 1871

Dear Professor Patterson
I can scarcely now
begin by wishing you
a Happy New Year
as a good item of
it has now elapsed
Never the less I hope
it may be so to you
and your house -
we are having a very

Severe winter in England
we have had three successive
frosts, Keen now & I
think this is about as
sharp as any of them
But now our thermometer
registers 22 degrees of frost

Need I here say that
I conformed to your
wishes in your last
letter by paying amt.
for taxes on my
Texas plot, to your

Your Credit in London
with Crosby, & Co

I posted you again
"the receipt" in case
of a recharge by Govt.
Officials by mistake
which you remarked
might happen, I
hope you recd. them
again. I will here
take the liberty to
say that I am ready
again to pay to you

I think England is now
in a rather better state
for business than it has
been for some years.

I had a cousin calling
here who travels about
& so he reported to me.
He has just been over
to Ireland, & he said one
would hardly know that
there was much discontent
or disturbance in the land
camp, of course he mainly
spoke of the chief towns.

My brother James reports
progress I think he is
now managing a Bank
at Newcastle. He told

Abney: Cheshire
Manchester
25 July 1881

Dear Professor Patterson
I recd your
letter of the 17 Feb last
and was glad to see
that you were all going
on pretty well with
standing in very
cold winter but we had
now we are in the midst
of the frost season in England
& upon the whole I think
we have a good year, after
the month of May came
in the season since then
has been good & steady.

Last week I had a few
days out when I went as
far as Blount-Be.

On the way I called at
Derby & had a look through
the Great Agricultural Show
that was being held. The
weather was very fine all
the time of the Show so
it proved a great success.
So much depends upon the
weather to make these shows
pay their way. I saw
the prince of Wales several
times as he was at the
Show - a nice pleasant -
very ordinary man.

I thank you for attending to

or requesting the Land Agent
Mr. Dougherty to see to
my small taxes, which I
was sorry to trouble you
about, only I was anxious
that if the time was up
the debt should be paid
by me - May I ask
do you know of the place
the Section you kindly bought
for me - would now it be
one to go upon, should
I ever hear of anyone
wishing to go out there
to try their fortune in
the farming line? I
might just hear of one
who might want to go?

He in a recent letter that
he had an occasional paper
from you, though not correctly
addressed, it came all right.
His address is the Natal
Bank, Newcastle, Natal.

They have had a good deal
of disorder out there for some
time now but I hope he
& the rest of them will
go on all right now.

When I was home our
people - father, mother & sister
were pretty well, only
from the owner keeping
so much company it is
a very hard place and I
woud like if I could see
my way to get it easier
for them, which is rather

the fact he may bring of the old style (when I do not care
as much for) or president the elect of the people (who may be called
with respect regard I remember)

difficult thing I hope it
may be accomplished.

I hope you & Mr Patterson
& William are in the enjoy-
ment of health & happiness.

A comparatively small share
of the goods of this world
will suffice if these items
are ones privilege to have.

I need not say that I
can be of any service
to you in England I shall
be glad to do my best, & I
was sorry that I did not
manage to do better for you
when you were here.

What a shame the late attempt
on the life of your president. It
seems that all parties at the top in
authority are liable to such cowardly

but the fact of a fine
young lady having eloped
on the 22nd of last month
by the vessel Trojan to
get married to him shows
that he goes on fairly well
with his mother & you
Mr. S. Pattison & William

I remain
Yours truly
Robert Mather

Thank you very much
for paying my taxes.

The Gardens
Albany Hall
Chester
Manchester
10 Nov. 1881

Dear Professor Pattison

I recd. your
letter of the 18th Oct., with sub-
I forwarded as you wished
£1-1-4 to Crosby, Lockwood &
& the card I sent herewith
will show you the receipt
for it. The letter you sent
to me I will return as it
may be useful as it is almost
as good as a receipt for
taxes paid. The Tax receipt
I will retain.

I have now the pleasure
of having father, mother & sister

staying with me in the meantime
They left their situation near
Bedford about a month ago
I am glad to say they are
all well, & father is in very
good spirits notwithstanding
regretting on in years.

Mother has handed me two
necktie ends of Bedfordshire
lace which she wishes me
to send to you for Mrs.
Patterson's acceptance.

We have had another (the
third) bad year in England
for farmers & just now I
think matters look rather
gloomy in that way. Farmers
cannot pay their rents, the
landlords, are affected in
consequence & it is serious

for the country. But it will
be no worse for the country
ultimately though something is
soon done to reduce the power
of landlords as a class - or as
the present class goes.

Ireland certainly has been
rough we had a cousin staying
with us two days ago, who
said his experiences in Dublin
were such as that
he did not care strongly he
never went back to Ireland
— referring to mobs in the
streets in the evenings, in
Dublin.

My brother Stuart goes
along pretty well in
South Africa, he reports
being very hard worked

the other. As I quoted
near that figure to Mr.
Dangherly, who is a high
figure than you name in
your of Saturday, however
I shall be guided by your
advice in the matter.

We have had a very mild
winter in England, & if it
was not for the result of
so many (3) had year in
England to effect the home
trade, I think the country
would be very prosperous.

Father was much pleased
with your address & interested
especially about the flag that had
been borne at Borthwick Bridge -
with our kindest regards to Mr. Mackillop.

Abney Heath
Manchester
20 Feb 1882

Dear Professor Halliwell
Your letter & enclosure,
of Mr. Dangherly, reached
me on Saturday evening.

We are all pleased to
see that you, Mrs. Halli-
well & Willie are well.

I hope you will manage
to carry your point
in your College difficulty
& however the Committee
may decide I am

But it may be in
your favour in every
way.

I have written a few
lines to Mr. Doughty
which I have enclosed
which you can read
& if you please to
send on to him will
much oblige. Regarding
the year tax 3 dollars
40 cents which includes
fee. if you will kindly

pay him. Now I can
pay to your order in
London as before, or
as you wish it. if
this is not asking too
much.

Perhaps I may here
say that a week or
so ago I came upon
an old letter of yours
in which you say
regarding the section
of land that "are 5-
year I might make
sale of same at 5 dollars

produce come into the
English market. The
apple crop has been
especially good in
England this year.

I hope you keep well
in health & also Mrs.
Pattison & William.
The latter will have
passed quite a man
by now.

We have not heard
from my brother James
for some months; but
he is getting on very
well. For some time

The Earl Abney
Chuzzle
Manchester
30 Oct. 1883

Dear Professor Pattison
Respecting my
section of land in
Texas. I am not in
want of the money
at present & since
you & Mr. Danforth
advise me not to
sell at this time I
will wait a little
& should I require to

realise it can be done
then. perhaps you will
kindly pay the Taxes
when you are paying
your in the adjoining
County & I will
on hearing from you
pay to you in London
as before or as you
wish.

we are going on
at Abney much as
heretofore. Mr.
Walter has not been
well in health & if
anything happened to him

no doubt it would
make great changes
here.

It has been a fine
season in England
but trade has not
generally got up
to its full pitch
The last few years have
been bad ones for most
of the landed people
in England. But if
we have a few years
more like this they
will soon get better
But the rapid communi-
cation with foreign
parts brings different

he was managing the
branch Bank of the
Natal Co. at Newcastle
on the border of the
Transvaal. Last Spring
he was sent for to
take charge for a
time at any rate of
the General Managers
Office at Pietermaritzburg
where I think he is
still as he has got on
very well.

politically. England
is quiet just now
I don't think they can
delay the County Franchise

Much longer, But I
think the liberals have
still a good majority
in the Country & Mr.
Cladstone has a good
power with him - Now
that Beconsfield is away!

If I can do anything
for you in England I
shall be glad to do it.

We are all pretty
well. Father, Mother
& I send you all
our kind regards
& I remain

Yours Sincerely
Robt MacKellar.

I have not yet lost hope
of paying America a visit
but I cannot say when as
it will take more time
than I can see any way
for for some little time.

I hope too that our little
year venture will turn
out as well as you wish
I have some idea it just
depends upon whether we
can wait long enough.

We occasionally hear from
James but he has so much to
do & being General manager
of the Company in troublous times
he does not find time for private
correspondence. The Bacons are
a queer lot to deal with.

A few days ago I posted
Mrs. Patterson a few choice
flower notes, small because

Abney
Cheadle

Manchester
4 No. 885

Dear professor Patterson
Your post-card
came the other day to
which I attended as you
desired accurately. & I
have just had the enclosed
receipt from E. E. Dand.

I have to thank you for
a letter received some time
ago. We are going
on here much as usual
getting to the close of
another season, which when

reckoned as an average
with hardly shown so
well as was anticipated
for Culturists at any rate.

To begin with it was several
weeks late & since
about the end of August
we have had but few
any days so you can
understand how that would
tell in many directions.

Trade in Manchester for
some time has not been
brisk on account of heavy
strikes amongst mill operatives.

perhaps the most important
event for this neighbourhood
is passing of the Ship Canal Bill

which has given a good deal
of interest in the neighbourhood
No doubt it will be good for
the town & district but it
will take a great deal of
money to make it, & many
are of opinion that it is a
very doubtful thing to put
any money in to pay a
return. It will not come
on our side of the town
except they take a branch
up the Mersey to Stockport
as instead of following the
Mersey all the way it
takes up the Irwell where
it meets the Mersey.

I hope you are keeping
well also Mrs. Patterson &
William

with this I send "Yacht" with a prospectus of the
m - ship Club enclosed

our neighborhood is
just full at the present
time of electioneering
& it is almost sickening
so much of it. I am
rather inclined to be Conser-
vative only I should
like to see a few of the
laws repealed which uphold
unworthy members of the Aristoc-
racy. When a tradesman gets
into difficulties he is soon sold
up; but if a "landed gent"
gambles away his money
they can't sell his estates to pay
his debts.

With our united kind
regards I am yours very truly
Robt Mackellar

I saw some beautiful
apples today in Manchester
market from Canada.
The prettiest was called
Graevenstein.

They are having better
times in South Africa
now I believe James
& his Bank is going
on all right again.
& it seems it takes up
all his time. Jeanie
& Daniel are all right
so far as we know, &
here we are quite well
& cozy at this present
Fath & Mother join me
in kindest regards to you
all & I remain your truly
Robt. MacKellar.

Abney Cheadle
Manchester
17 Oct. 1911

Dear Professor Patterson
I was glad to
receive your letter some
little time since & we
were all pleased to know
that you Mrs. Patterson &
Mr. William had got safe
home. And as William
gets a little older we
hope he will get stronger
& have better health.

I thank you for attending
to my taxes for this year
& if you do not get a
settlement of them soon

it would be well to try
again some other party
as it would not do to
run the risk of Confes-
sion - and you can
please let me know the
result as to foreigners
holding land? when
you tell me the amount
due I will pay as you
desire.

we have dreadful
weather in England just
now - it gets almost
worse instead of better.
It must have injured a
good deal of harvest stuff
but crops were good &
those who got them safe
were lucky - we noticed

by the paper that you had
large harvests in America.

I still hold my Ohio Ist &
& I don't know whether to
let them go soon or keep
a bit. They have gained
a little since I bought.

We are going to have
a fine fruit show in
Manchester next week
we propose to show about
50 dishes of apples &
pears together. But
our district in England is
not a good one for
fine fruit not like
Kent & some other Counties

Don't account from James was good. He was very busy, & the bank was doing up Country for 2 weeks. He was going up Country for 2 weeks. He was going up Country for 2 weeks.

We trust you are all quite well & that you have not had so hot a summer relative as we have had. I could enjoy a trip very well to see you but it is out of the question to think of it at present.

When you are paying your taxes by & bye you might please pay mine for Section of land in Hale County Texas for this year & when you let me know I will repay you the amount. As long as I am not in want of the cash I would prefer to keep it for a time at least or till you advise me.

If you were here just now we could at least treat you to plenty of peaches, & gooseberries with our united kind regards to all
I remain your truly
Robt MacKellar

Abney Cheadle
20 July/93

Dear Professor Patterson
I thank you for your letter of 27th March. My nephew is still in California but is going to see his brother at the Worlds Fair in Chicago in Autumn. Dan (his brother) whom you met here is going across, but with a trip party, so he will have to go along with them. I cannot think of going anywhere this year as I have been losing a little money. I still hold my New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio I Mortgage Bonds &

they have gone down more than one half. When you are communicating with your financial adviser you might ask his opinion any information would be appreciated if they are sound. if the cause of fall is panic or what? I see by the papers trade & finance have not been in good form in America of late. I hope you have steered clear of any unfortunate case, as it is trying to lose carefully, rather savings.

We have had a very hot summer in England the hottest I think since 1868. In this part however only the pasture has suffered greatly as other crops are good both fruit & grain as well as root produce.

In parliament they have had work at the Home Rule Bill but in the provinces matters are very quiet I think, and but for such as the said Victoria ship blunder we would be fair in England, as I think that trade is better than it was. If your American cotton was to get scarcer it would be better for the mills as overproduction at times causes a great glut.

We have my brother-in-law staying with us for a week or so. He is quite well; he is in Liverpool today being come of his customers. Last week

I went with a party of gardeners & others to see the Duke of Westminster's place, Eaton Hall in this County. He has a grand place for extent & well kept grounds. Though for quality of grapes, peaches, & specimen pot plants we have quite as good.

but will be coming this
way in a week or two

He will be sorry too
when he hear of your
loss. It reminds us
that we are only here
for a limited time
& that time should be
well spent.

With my best sym-
pathy which will be
shared in by all my
family when they know
I am yours sincerely
Rohr Mackiller

Abney

Cheadle

Manchester

7 July.

[1895]

Dear Professor Patterson

It was quite
unexpected that I noticed
the sad intimation in
the "Leader" newspaper of
the death of your son
William. It is a great
loss to you & Mrs. Patterson
whose cares & hopes were
so much given, in the
expectancy, that he would
always be near to look
to. But it seems to be

not an infrequent
occurrence that what
we hoped for is other-
wise ordered. I trust
that you & Mrs. Patti-
son will be able to
bear up under your
bereavement. You
will be sorry to hear
that my sister is not
expected to survive
very long, though
while life remains there
is hope. After influenza
in the last spring she
has never regained her

usual strength & with
a delicate frame naturally
she has been very poorly for
some time. But father from
whom I had a note this
morning as he is staying
with her reports her getting
better, but she has to be
very tenderly dealt with.

We have beautiful
weather in England
just now; & as regards
crops of garden & farm
produce I think this
will prove a good year.

I have not seen
my brother James yet
he is still about
London

Atney.

Cheadle

Manchester

15 Jan. 97

Dear Professor Patterson

Your letter of

the 10th Dec. I duly recd. The
Tax receipt came all right.
Thanks.

The result of your
late presidential election no
doubt is much the best.
I would like to hear of
such as your Country people
paying much less for their
clothing - as there is such a
duty on that I would say
is quite unnecessary - to en-
rich the few at the expense
of the many

I sent you 2 days ago a
small box. In it is a
5^{lb}. box of Orange Pekoe
that we were about to use

ourselves & if you will be
pleased to accept of it as a
present I will be very glad.

There are 3^{lbs} Ceylon
Tea & 2^{lbs} Nagawatte Tea
at 2/4 = 11/8. The latter

I obtained from our Grocer.
I sometimes get a box of orange
peels from India & a few friends
get a portion but we are now
quite out of it. If a few of you
would join together & would like
it, & you send me word I might
ask my friend on the Himalayan
hill to send you a 50^{lb} box straight
from the plantation. also in

the box are a few Japanese Chrys-
anthemums which are very fashionable
white flowers in England. If your
gardener grocer or friend will they will please
Mr. Patterson -

I herewith send you a bank
statement of a new or comparatively
recent started one in Manchester in which
I have some shares. It looks to be
doing all right.

I hope this will reach you &
Mr. Patterson quite well. Father
& I are much as usual. So are the
folks at Stroud. I remain Yours sincerely
Edw. M. M. M.

Abney

Cheadle

m. Manchester

2 Oct 99

Dear Professor Ballou

It is some weeks
since I recd. duly your letter
after your long trip to the
Pacific & round by Canada.
Any travelling that we can do
in our little England is nothing
compared to such a sketch.
Lately I was out for a few
days but I got no further
than Gloucestershire & London.
I took father out & left him
at Strand & then I went
towards the great City.

Father has been poorly twice
this year. In spring he had
influenza but got round, then
he was inticed to go to the village

howling Green. He in summer for
a time went every evening,
was like one of the youngest-
men there, but he got heated
& then a chill & it was
hard work to get him round
but I am glad to say he is
now fairly well. & the change
of air he says is making
him stronger. My sister
who was so often poorly
succumbed last spring to pneu-
monia after influenza -
we looked for her recovery, but
it was not to be.

In England here we are more
stirred about the Transvaal
business than has been the
case for some time. Opin-
~~ions~~ ions are very mixed but
the great majority I think
favour the Government & if
peace is to be the Boers must
give up

play - & the outlanders.
Till now they seem to be
dreaming nearer & nearer to
hostilities - & if it does come
it may change the Government
of both the Transvaal & the
Transvaal. A letter came
from James wife, from
Natal today. They are
both well. She says the
soldiers are passing every
day. I think it is a great
pity if the Boers had had a
good leader so as to bring
about a pushion with the
English people more it would
have been far better, as it must
come to that at the finish.
We have had a very poor
fruit year in England & in

the south the country is much
burnt up for want of rain.
we have had it dry too but
not to injure things so much.
I suppose times are rather
better in America now than
they were. When you are
paying your taxes again
perhaps you will kindly
pay mine also & I will
arrange with you.
I thought we might
have been favoured with
a visit from you this year
untill your letter came.

Hope this will reach
you & Mrs Patterson quite
well with kind regards
I am yours truly
John Mackellar

Land S -

Robt McKellar

Abstr ^{pt} no	Certified no.	Survey no	original grantee	no. Acres
120	150	25-	C & M R. R.	640

Robt McKellar

Land in Hale Co. Tex.