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Archives  
of  
British Columbia

Fort Victoria January 11<sup>th</sup> 1844

Env. 332

My dear Volume

N.B. The "fair haired Chief" will perhaps write you himself - if not he is doing well and is a very fine young fellow. A Mr. Ginn has written me about the Social Steam Company you speak of - but says not the least doubt is entertained of its practicability - What an age in him!

We are in momentary expectation of the arrival of the Indian, Snowden, according to appointment, to convey some of our people whose times are out, - as likewise, our Agents & letters to you place for transmission to Vancouver. Hence you may see there are busy times with us, as I don't say is the case with yourself. I must not however pass over the opportunity thus about to offer without acknowledging your kind favors per Steamer, as well as by Madam Finlay. I heartily say amen to your hope that, whatever our religious differences, our social intercourse may not be affected thereby. I am no fine realist, nor I trust a Pharisee - but I am of the religion of my father, & thus intend to stick. If reason were given us for an infallible guide, I might have my doubts; but as

Matters

- Jan



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quite <sup>as good</sup> as any new fangled doctrine attempted  
to be put in its place!! We man can  
arrive at certainty by any one System what-  
ever without Revelation. Of this we have  
had many proofs. Why then act like  
the Dog in the fable - let go the substance  
for the shadow? But I am no logician  
and would be sorry to stake my salvation  
on my skill in that science! I do true  
with what may be sheer nonsense after all  
- only it is well meant. Nothing has oc-  
curred with us of late, in the least worth  
transmitting to you. What remains of my  
family enjoys tolerable health - but as to  
myself I am but so do. My ailings I believe  
to be occasioned by the old complaint - ~~A~~  
coldness & irregularity of the Bowels - Pray  
can you do any thing for me? Exercise I  
know is one of your favorite prescriptions, as I  
found at Vancouver. But of that I got short  
I have enough here - some dear friends that  
won't do - you must propose some thing else  
- such as early rising - temperance &c. You see  
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Charles Ross C.B.  
11<sup>th</sup> Jan'y 1844

Private

Mr. F. Tolmie Esq.

His Excellency

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