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## Transcript - D 6518(L)

### Letter from Reverend Thomas Quinton Stow, 1839

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Adelaide Dec<sup>r</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> 1839

My very dear Sir

Your kind and welcome letters have all regularly come to hand, in/c the last, which was brought by Mr Hodges (?). I expected to answer them sooner, but have waited from day to day, with the hope of something additional to communicate. We have at length begun with out new chapel. On Monday next, I am to lay the first stone. In the meanwhile it has been found necessary to enlarge our present chapel, which has been done solely by my own hands, and is now capable of holding 300 people, though I cannot say that we have so many as that present at one time. We are however so far increasing as to render it probable that our place will not long be too large. The particulars of the new building I will give more fully to Mr Binney. – Our church numbers about eighty members. It requires ~~these~~ a little time for these christian strangers \to each other/ to acquire that degree of love and confidence which may be looked for under ordinary circumstances. But this growth may be certainly calculated upon. We are looking forward with pleasure to the 19<sup>th</sup> instant, when we purpose celebrating the anniversary of the formation of the

[page 2]

church, in the same manner as last year. I trust it will be a season \of/ spiritual refreshment.

You will remember what I have written formerly of Hindmarsh. It has proved a most interesting spot. The Sabbath school flourishes and the services are well attended. The Chapel is open all day on the Sunday; in the morning for the school, and in the

afternoon & evening for preaching. It is supplied by Mr Giles, (who has left Kangaroo Is<sup>d</sup>) Mr Webb, Mr Quaife, and in the afternoon sometimes by myself. The last time I was there, more than eighty persons were present including children. They have also ~~prayer~~ meetings for prayer on the Sabbath morning, and Wednesday evening. Several persons are thought to be under serious impressions (?). With these favourable appearances, Mr Webb stands connected in a pleasant and promising way.

The Port is a different soil; but we must not despair. The Sabbath services there, w<sup>h</sup> are morning and afternoon, also fall on us. Good I trust will be done.

Mr Webb and myself go once a month each; The rest of the labour is borne by Mr Giles and Mr Barclay.

[page 3]

In my late communications, I spoke sanguinely of Port Lincoln. I went with \the/ stream upon that subject. Our views how ever have been modified. Exploratory parties have decided the great want of good land to the west. Good land there is, but too limited to allow Port Lincoln to rise as rapidly as was anticipated. It will not be long before it will be desirable to have a Minister there. Already Mr Kemp, member of our church who is now there with his large family has written to me on the subject. There is no minister of any kind there. Are [ ] thinking of New Zealand I am [ ] of to urge this matter before you. Some of my hearers and members are gone there, and would rejoice to welcome a Minister. A respectable \man/ who has resource there \and who is about to return thither/ assures me that there are many who would most gladly rally round a congregational Minister. Multitudes are crowding thither from Sydney and the other colonies. After my doleful tales of the experience of a new colony you would perhaps shrink from sending

a Missionary to N.Z – but the truth  
is, New Zealand has been feeding us !  
Living is said to be very cheap there

[page 4]

The natives are cultivators which will secure [?]  
supplies. The Missionaries to the natives cannot  
attend to the English. The field therefore is quite  
open. A Minister would not be long upon your  
hands. Two parties have separately told me that  
they would get [?] upon a place of worship.  
Mr Quaife I have put into my school, which

leaves me free for my pastoral duties. It  
lessens, however my pecuniary resources. Added  
to wh provisions have been still(?) very high, though  
beginning now to come down. I must therefore in  
a few days again draw for £50 – But these  
drafts are fast ~~drawing~~ coming to an end. The opening  
of our chapel I hope will close them entirely.  
I hope to write again soon. Yours affectionately Thos Q. Stow

[ There is also an address panel as follows ]

4<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 1839  
Rev<sup>d</sup> T.Q.Stowe

9/ Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr Wells  
Congregational Library  
Finsbury Circus  
London