

My Dear Son

Auckland 2^d April 1845

Enclosed is a letter which came to me for you. I am happy to inform you that my good friends have contributed \$24,750 towards my relief, which has been applied to the payment of my debt. The whole of that to the N. Bank is paid, and \$5000 have been deducted to the payment of so much of the Astor debt. I learn indirectly that a further sum is coming to my assistance; but if no more come, the remnant of my debt will occasion me no solicitude.

I regret to inform you that John is becoming more and more deranged, and, painful as it will be, I fear there will be no alternative but the hospital. Thus providence mixes afflictions and blessings! Our duty is that of perfect submission to his will.

We are all well, except Martin Donalde, who continues in a situation creating apprehension. Your children are quite well and appear contented and happy.

Mr. H. Clay Junr.

Your aff. father

H. Clay