

Below are Daniel Pells comments on  
the Dam affair  
which probably is what he was entitled  
to; I should think from the first he was  
not worthy of Mr. Varnes notice -  
The original cause of quarrel was  
an insult made on fr. a hand  
when one remembers his father's  
military history and as to duel  
fighting also - there is a story as I  
remember where his Father actually  
went out of his way to insult his  
brother when the meeting took place  
he asked for a postponement on the  
ground of not having made the needful  
family arrangements. His Father was said  
to be willing to grant the delay, but Col. Braddell  
who was Sir Fredericks friend informed him  
that upon the next occasion he must  
get some other gentleman to accompany him.

I think in politics you are quieter in  
Canada than you were here on one side  
the agricultural interest are trying hard to get

Liverpool 14 December 1849

Dear Robert

I do not remember the date of my last letter to you, but several packets have sailed since it was written. In the interval I have not had the pleasure to receive any of yours, but have had the regular file of the Gazette & Sunday occasional papers from yourself also the two small pamphlets on the affair of honour between Capt<sup>m</sup> Vane & Major M<sup>c</sup>Donaghal. one issued by each party. I have no experience in these matters fortunately - as far as I can judge I think say Capt. Vane was wrong to repeat the affront the following day - but after the correspondence commenced the other party put themselves wrong, & the Major certainly showed himself but an indifferent adviser. Mr Baxter seems to have been altogether lost-sight of poor man

been informed of all that has happened  
to George, but and all that has been  
done for him by Mr Sinclair and  
yourself but she is very grateful to  
you & desired me to thank you most  
earnestly.

There is some improvement in trade  
the Cotton trade is good. so is Flax  
indeed all manufactures are doing  
well. as yet there has been no rally  
in share property. but the funds are  
close to 98 and discounts are  
done at 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 percent. The  
Importers and speculators in cotton  
must have realised large profits.  
Such a state of things does not extend  
into our trade, but we have less  
difficulty in obtaining a fair  
retail profit than before.

I hope this will find you well  
wishing you many happy returns  
of the season, some of which I hope we  
may before long spend together.

Remain your truly  
Darius Bell

Liverpool 11 Jan 1850

Dear Robert

The last letter of yours which I have  
received bears date the 1 Dec. but  
your letter to my wife has come since  
also a few lines respecting Miller  
which I sent to Uncle Joseph. The  
adv. in Mr. Sinclair's favour has not  
been presented to me for the money  
he had laid out. - your letter of the 1st  
was chiefly respecting the "Name affair"  
I am glad to see that it has now  
had its day. Miss W. Name may be

and no doubt is worthy of your trouble  
but the family have not so good a  
reputation for temper & judgment that  
they are apt to be suspected  
of being in the wrong wherever there is  
a disturbance. I got to Whitehaven to  
spend New Year's day & another there &  
saw many of your friends, their idea of  
the Name was as I have described it above.

Mr Perry was very to see you mixed up with  
them in any way. he adverted to your treatise  
in "Francis's notaries" and expressed a  
very high opinion of it & a hope that its  
publication would benefit you.

I found my own friends very well  
my mother strong active & vigorous  
Ic very much better in every respect  
very stout, but able to move about  
and can read remember & converse  
as well as formerly. John much  
better than the last time I saw him  
but still very lame and as he cannot  
or will not lay up or do be absolutely  
under a doctor I do not see how he is to be  
cured. Your old housekeeper Jane  
Botham is with him still & looking  
well. She keeps his house beautifully  
it always appears to me one of the  
very cleanest & neatest places I enter  
and whatever is served comes up so  
neat. She has the reputation of the  
best bread baker in Whitehaven.

I did not see much of Perry as he was  
going to Carlisle. Dr. Fulem is settled at  
Cheltenham. Mrs. Jos. Dixon is quite well  
again, she quite recovered under medical  
treatment in London. Isabella I suppose is to  
marry a cousin Postlethwaite who since Perry's

death assists Mr Perry & I suppose will  
become his partner. I dined with  
A. Steward who now lives at Chapel House  
he is as little changed as many can be.  
his chief occupation is improving his  
house which he is doing gradually.  
W. Randsen was one of A. Steward's  
party. Ralph Foster's death I think I  
named. John Gibson in his Post Office  
is as busy & chatty as ever & I see no  
change in him. I did not see Mrs. Thompson  
or of Harrison. I had many enquiries  
after you, all were pleased to hear you  
were well & would have been glad if  
I could have told them that you had  
got fairly launched in a new career  
at Waverley. The ladies are suffering from  
the cold of the season, and are having it  
very severe for this part of the world.  
Otherwise much as usual. Ann was very  
much obliged by your letter, the parcel  
had come safely before, it was a coincidence  
which they had pleasure in noticing that  
your letter bore date of one of their birth days.  
I had a tearful interview with poor Mrs. Isaac  
Miller. I am very sorry for her poor lady  
she is a delicate woman, in your youth was  
well off, but now she & her daughter are  
absolutely dependent upon relatives. She has

Re Ware affair

Liverpool 9 Feb 1850

Dear Robert

It is a month since I wrote you last  
time then I have had your letter  
which gave an acct of the judgment  
passed at Head Quarters in the Ware  
& Mc-Dougall dispute and was glad to  
see it was so entirely satisfactory -  
and I hope it has settled the matter  
effectually.

I enclose a note from your sister  
& one from Ann who thanks you  
for herself for your seeds - She will  
have told you how they all are - colds  
have been rather severe with them -  
Mrs. Mathews takes a very gloomy view  
of her own state of health, more so than  
I think is justified, but undoubtedly she  
is very weak & delicate and if she had  
any attack, even a slight one, of an  
acute disease she would have  
but little strength to oppose to it.  
There has been an enquiry in open Court

upon the Water Question, before Mr  
S. Stephenson, an arbitrator, he is  
the great Railway Engineer - no  
indication has been given by him  
of what his decision may be -  
The Anti-Pikeers profess great  
confidence, but I think they reckon  
too fast. The evidence which was  
given before parliament when the  
Bill was being carried was given  
in as the evidence of the Pike party -  
while the other side gave all their  
evidence in this course - the effect  
consequently is that the public  
is but half informed after all  
of the real merits.

Business not very active but  
steady & with a small profit in it.  
The advance in Cotton puts some  
uncertainty into that trade, the Spinners