

rather would save millions by the scheme.

P. S. Sir A. has repeatedly told, that if any place should be vacant, he would give it me, if his offer was the salary of the under secretary being here likewise, which may be about 2 months including his maintenance & other charges in the house & during the 2 months' salary - that is to say, 1,500 £. but this I do not value.

July 5, 1804. Malta.

My dear Sir I hope, that Mr Laing who returns to England with young Ball, will find you out. Mr L is a truly amiable well informed young clergyman who has been first to Sir Alexander Secretary as well as tutor of his son. From him you will hear every thing of Malta - and as soon as I get to bed, I shall write to you. Your letter, to Sir A. B. and General Villette produced every effect that letters happily could do - my extreme low spirits of Langton has prevented me from better embourning the General's acquaintance or much I ought I wished to have done for he was very attentive & polite, I should no doubt would do any thing to serve a man so introduced by you. I have better to love with Mr Stodart, but tomorrow shall take up my residence at the Palace, in a suite of delightfully cool & commanding rooms. Smith Sir Alexander has so kind as not merely to offer me but to make me feel that he wished me to accept the offer. I have been writing for him to the last moment in excuse for this brief formal than Smith there might be a hundred worse. I am sure in your opinion. I had from Schultz to Malta a most distressing paper of almost continual illness & at one time expected to die - & God be praised, that has your pen strength from the most unhappy, I have lately had some very anxious & hard news had then



London

Mr. Laing

Mr. Laing

A. T.

To be forwarded, if Mr. Laing be out of town.



sharp strokes, I used to have in England - & since I have
revolutionized my system, that is to say, forced myself to
cut my meals of to take a few glasses of Port wine after
dinner, bathed regularly at or before sun rise, read
very little, brooded less, & tried not to be idle a moment,
but always either to be actually writing, or taking
exercise, or in company. I have been perceptibly
better - my breathing less distressed - if I ~~have~~ ^{am} left able
to sink it over into nervous downings, with hiccups &c.
I cannot expect that greatly as ^{something or other}
within me, stomach, or liver, or nervous system,
is deranged, I can establish my health ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~way~~
than very slowly, but it is greatly in my favor
that the very hot weather (the thermometer 86 in
the shade) agrees with me - I am not at all oppressed
or discomforted by it. If I believe, I am the only
Englishman in the Island that can say this
When I write from Sicily, I hope I shall be
able to send a yet more cheerful account,
& to tell you not only how I am, but likewise
what I have done. Mean time remember with
respectful affection to Mrs. Sotheby, and Miss
Moly, and believe me, my dear ^{friend}
whether you are in Malta ~~or~~ in
England I remember you kindly with
pleasure as well as gratitude for I feel that I am
not unworthy of them and with very affectionate
shew your obliged & attached friend J. T. Colveridge

Mr. St. Paul is a very extraordinary man - indeed
a great man. And he is really the abstract idea
of a wise & good Governor. The Ministers were
in luck. Heavens! what wretches
they send out as Consuls to the States of
Marsala - the seat of lustre - place of ~~the~~
Marsala - & the like they send to check
the picked Agents of the French Government
- a Mr. Langford - whose Bravos with
his wife & numerous families drove every
servant out of his house - a man, the
Laughing-stock of all Malta! - "He is
only a Marsala Consul." - These "milies" wretches
are counting terribly, my dear Sir! and if you
have any influence with any persons about Government,
you would not be hard of a time to put in a paper
on them the necessity of sending out men of talents &
character through the Coast of the Mediterranean - Fools that are
to be punished for their faults be punished at once; the