

Calais 22 March 1848.

My Lord,

I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of despatch No 6 of the 18th Inst.
I saw sending off tonight by the General
Stam Navigation Company's Packet to
London (D1) eighty one distressed subjects
including children. I have written to the
Company to request a reduction in the
charge for passage, and I do not yet
know what it will amount to. I have
also received despatch No 7 of 20th Inst.
transmitting to me copy of a letter from
Lord Ashley, Chairman of the Committee
established to relieve British workmen,
refugees from France & communicating
Right Honourable

to me that a certain sum will be placed at
my disposal for the purposes contemplated
by the Committee, and of which I have
already, to a small amount availed myself
in anticipation. For this aid as well as
for that afforded in the granting of
free passages by Her Majesty's Government
I can assure your Lordship that not only
those who receive the benefit, but those
who are aware as I and many others
are of the great misery which it
contributes to alleviate, are deeply
grateful.

With reference to my despatch no 17 of
yesterday's date I have the satisfaction
to report that a large meeting of English
workmen ^{being over} being held last night regarding
their proposed scheme of emigration to

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Australia, was waited on by a deputation
from a numerous and influential club
of French workmen (named Odd Fellows
being a branch or affiliation of the English
clubs of that name) who came to request
them not to think of leaving in consequence
of the cries and conduct of a few gamins
and ruffians, and stated that they would
never allow them to be driven from the
Country if they wished to remain, and
that so long as there was any bread to be
got in the trade they would share it
with them. It is so far gratifying that
the outcries of the last few days should
have called forth this expression of
good feeling & fellowship on the part
of some of their fellow workmen, but
how far the support of these parties

may be sufficient to secure from outrage
such English workmen as wish, and are
from their circumstances able to remain
or indeed how far it could be relied on at all
in difficult circumstances, are points
which remain to be proved, and probably
will be ere long.

I have the honor to be, My Lord,
with the highest respect,

Your Lordship's most obedient

humble servant

Edw Waterhouse