

Draft to the E. of Holdernipe  
New Britain

16022

15837-9

Lord Holdernipe, I should have answered your letter of the 30<sup>th</sup> of Augt. much sooner had not the account of the last severe Operation made me judge it more proper to be deferred until I should hear you had nearly regained that ground which it naturally must have made you lose.

The Accounts of my two eldest Sons I see with great truth give as favourably as in former letters; except that I doubt whether they entirely speak French with the same degree of fluency. But Mr. Smith whose attention is ever on the watch has promised that during the Winter the Conversations in their Walks shall be entirely directed by that most valuable Man Mr. Salgas who will not only assist them in their useful language but ripen their judgement which you very justly prefer to whetting their imagination.

The two young Men have according to the opinion of the above Gentlemen so thoroughly acquired this Summer the writing the Greek Characters that they seem to think and

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I believe with reason that the deferring the learning  
the German Characters will be no inconvenience.

I shall certainly take opportunities in the winter of  
having my Sons to dinner, which I have as yet offered  
from seeing that the common ruin of private education  
have uniformly arisen from the <sup>indulgence</sup> of the Parents, and  
therefore I have rather kept them contrary to my  
feelings at a distance lest I should fall into the same  
error.

New Oct 21<sup>st</sup> 1774

