My dear niece,

Who I do not hesitate to comply

with your request that I will state what took
place at the opening of the Will of your uncle
Sir John Franklin, yet I do hope that nothing
will occur which will render the production
of my explanation of the matter necessary.

In December 1857 Sir John Franklin asked me
if I knew who were Sir John’s Executors, as she had
been recommended to obtain their sanction to a
request she was about to make to the Admiralty
for a grant of a small portion of Sir J. Franklin’s
property, amounting to $200. As I was able to
tell her what she considered a duty of honor
to Sir John Richardson, who had performed an insu-
ance in his life to that amount when he
was in the Opposition of the U.S. for her husband,
I felt which but only recently came to her
knowledge. She told me she felt no scruple
whatever to ask for this money, in truth the
sanction of the Executors, since she was aware
she could do nothing which she would be more en-
able to her husband than defraying this debt of
friendship honor, but on Sir John’s many urging
he suggested this form. Of a sanction, she
thought it right to apply to me thinking I was
probably one of the Executors, determining that I
was to choose good trustee for her. At this juncture
which would render on her to her father re-
cess.

I did not know that I was an
Expectation rested in Sir John Franklin's wife, but I agreed with the suggestion of the Army Surgeon that the name of the Creator would probably be found on the cover of the Bible.

Lady Franklin had been under a severe train of illness by her Pastor, that in which Sir John Franklin was in his custody, but the Griffin was then lying in a state of helpless and helpless of the King of a chest, in which his body was kept, was in the hands of his Guardian, Sir W. Thompson; who was lying, as well as Lady Franklin, in the Griffin house.

The Griffin house, on being agitated, resolved that a messenger be sent to the Griffin, who being no objection to the chest being opened, for the purpose explained; the Griffin came, put the man from under a window, a soldier holding the ladder, where in the presence of Lady Franklin he saw the name.

The name of the Creator was being inserted, I opened the Bible, as returning that I was the sole surviving Creator. I said this in the presence of my own discretion, as illustrated from the support of Lady Franklin. The writing hand to me, and the Bible was in the hands of any questions respecting its contents, it was from my own discretion, unless that the hand was on the first, continued on it. The Griffin was present the whole time. The Bible was restored to its place, the cover
being sealed with 3 seals, one of which is I believe
the T. Simpson's, and a memorandum inserted
by me that I had opened it in the presence
of Lady T. to the T. S.

The Wills was afterwards delivered to me to rem-
ain in my own possession. I told Lady Franklin
that I was, operation, had no objection to an
application to the Advisory. She afterwards in-
formed me that she had observed to her nephew
that she had heard as well as herself more than
they had anticipated, she was sure that he would
not find with her that was for, these facts, were
concerned to her life and safety of those, to
which he referred. Lady T. further assured
me that she referred from giving any injurious
view of secrecy towards the Deli to the Wills
having been opened for the purpose alone to
explain. I did not see no communication
with Lady Franklin in 2 or 3 days after the
Wills was opened, in the mean time I had
thought it desirable to communicate it to
her, for the same part, as to the contents
of the Wills, which had been hastily written
by me in the presence of Lady Franklin.

From letters received from Lady Franklin
as well as from what passed on the above
occasion I can positively affirm that she
desired Sir John's Wills to be in my keeping
according to the decided opinion I had expressed
to her, and I have no reason to believe that she entertained the smallest desire or thought of hearing it in her own person. nor can I conceive for what purpose she could
decide it. I don't know that I can say any thing farther on this subject.
Remember me very kindly to Lady Franklin.

[Signature] — Henry Selwood