

Rank place Melbourne  
10 July 1882

My dear Andrew,

I make no Excuse for my delay in answering your last kind letter, for from the time of its receipt up to the moment of writing I have been incessantly busy with official duties or domestic affairs,

I had all my arrangements completed to arrive in Sydney on 1<sup>st</sup> inst & have already taken lodgings (for which I am paying 30/- per week) engaged for me at Darlinghurst from that date, but as my stay drew to a close so great a profusion of work, which I alone could attend

to, came in that K. & D were  
obliged to write to Sydney  
for an extension of my stay. To  
this Messrs Allen & Allen readily  
consented & by dint of working  
double time I have managed  
to clear off the most pressing  
matters. Mr. Jackson is very anxious  
that I should stop longer but  
I am equally anxious to be gone &  
in all probability I shall leave  
here next Saturday (13<sup>th</sup> inst) &  
go overland. It would make  
your heart, dear friend, glad  
to see the many presents, letters  
& tokens of esteem which I have  
received.

Looking back on my Victorian  
Career I plainly perceive that  
that in the main it has been  
a mistake - I have made  
a good many friends &  
strengthened my legal knowledge  
& experience, but that is all -  
I am no nearer to the goal  
of my ambition & have still a  
heavy task to perform - I  
never was, and never will be  
en rapport with the Victorians  
& I ought to have <sup>had</sup> a clearer  
vision & more decided purpose  
years ago. I leave Victoria  
with but little regret & in  
"the sure & certain hope" of

finding a wider & more  
Congregational field of labor in  
N. S. Wales. Thither my  
hopes if not my heart have  
always turned & I shall  
be bitterly disappointed if  
my hopes of success are not  
realized there.

So much, at present, for  
myself. And now, dear Andrew,  
my heart turns again to you,  
the best, most sincere, warm  
hearted & pure of friends -  
How I was ever~~xx~~ fortunate  
enough to secure your regard  
& how I can repay the  
many material & mental

~~The~~ obligations I owe you I  
cannot say, but can only again  
again assure you of my  
unfaltering affection & trust  
that the coming years will  
find me more & more worthy  
of your Esteem. You know  
my faults & I am assured  
can recognise something of good  
in me or you would long  
since have wearied of me.

I have suffered much &  
labored much but I emerge  
from my difficulties a purer  
& a better man. Much of this  
I owe to your teaching & to  
the fact that I have

Steadfastly Endeavored to follow  
in your footsteps & have ever  
set you up in my heart as  
my ideal of love honor &  
virtue - I cannot, I never  
could say what power you  
possessed over me, but I know  
that you have exerted a most  
beneficial sway over my some-  
-what fickle & turbulent nature.

It may be long before  
I see Tasmania again but my  
heart still turns to the  
friendly faces & loyal hearts  
from which I have been so  
long an exile.

I was very sorry

To see that you lost your seat  
in the recent Election but con-  
-fidently trust that your absence  
is only a temporary one. I suppose  
it's the old, old story of local  
influence over worth. You have  
many parallels for such conduct  
of the "many-headed" - Gladstone,  
Stuart Mill (in Victoria) & Whitwell.

I sincerely trust that  
in other matters you are  
happy & prosperous & that your  
future will be Equal to your  
merits.

I am much surprised &  
grieved at Milton's silence & am  
quite at a loss to account  
for it. Give him my love.



own to my sisters  
Please give my most affectionate  
regards to your wife & remember  
me as of old to Ivey, Burns &c  
I shall write you soon  
from Sydney & relate my experiences.  
I am afraid it will be long  
before I can secure a home there  
for my mother & family in the  
mean time I shall have an  
expensive duty in supporting them  
in Melbourne - At present they  
are all well & happy & I  
myself am enjoying better  
health than I have had for  
years -

I hope I shall be of  
some use to you in Sydney. Can  
you think of anything?

With every wish that  
affection & esteem can inspire I  
bid you farewell remain  
your ever affectionate  
Augustus Clark Esq