My dear Andrew,

I was much concerned to hear in your last letter to Walter that times have laid you in a sick-bed. It is satisfactory to find that you were able to write at the date of the letter that your health and spirits were restored.

I got back in safety from the Mother Colony after a trip in which I found much to interest and attract me. I will not now elaborate upon this as I am going to write a letter to my Black brother-my Sydney experiences, and those of the circle who may honor me with an interest in the subject will be able no doubt to see my letter. I may mention here however, that I attended the evening service of the Unitarian Church in Sydney. The present preacher is the
Read the Grant, a stout Muckel
dark man with full black beard
mustaches. He preached from the
head of the question which severely
interfered with Adam's digestion
in the Garden of Eden — "Adam,
where art thou?" His sermon was
blunt, plain, practical & optimistic
a very great improvement on
Bann's clumsy pamphlets. I
interviewed him after the service.
He received me very cordially and
gave me some particulars of the
prospects of the Church. The evening
service was at present poorly attended
as it is our innovation started by
himself. There is a good attendance
in the morning. He informed me
a number who were not strictly speaking
Methodists had left, but the offerory
had doubled. I noticed that
the book used for the Church
singing was "Hymns of the
Liberal Faith" — a great advance
upon the collection of hymns edited
by James Martineau which is
still used at the Melbourne Church — On my return I saw Waeters who is away now on a holiday. He told me that the increase in the offering at Sydney was due to the fact that on his suggestion the practice of taking the plate round was introduced. Previously there was a box at the entrance and it was left to the churchgoers to remember the box or not as he passed into the tabernacle. There used to be much absence of mind at this juncture. A plate pushed under your nose is much more effective. Hence, although many spiritualists and freethinkers have left the Sydney shrine the Luce has been more abundant. During Waeters absence the pulpit will be occupied by various Shining Lights — James Smith conducted the service last Sunday morning and preached on the
Kingdom of Heaven — Sammy Whistle was there. Herbert Reeve the actor occupied the pulpit in the evening and gave an address entitled "Excelsior". I did not go. On Sunday next Mr. Tye, the Editor of the Reader will occupy the pulpit morning and evening, and H.G. Turner will do the same the following Sunday. So there's plenty of variety for them at present. Turner's address will be on Unitarianism while the morning, and in the evening he's going to pull Hell-fire jack over the coals — I mean poor old Labour.

I am in very fair health at present although the weather is consumed hot, and I trust your health continues to keep up as also that of Mr. Crack and the Kuchnies to whom I beg you to remember me in the customary fashion.

With paternal regards to the boys believe me always affectionately yours.
By the way, Walter referred to the cessation of "Modern Thought," this he tells me is due to his inability to follow the necessary work upon it in consequence of his other labors. Contributions were many and good, and the circulation was increasing. Publication has been stopped simply for the reason indicated. Walter says it is not improbable that it will be revived in Sydney on the same lines. You will be surprised to hear (perhaps that I have heard one good authority the "Melbourne Review" is to cease and the "Vicenarian Review" will follow suit! There is a fine theme for the moralist here - moralist did I say? Perhaps it should be satirist. There is a lot of social materialism in this
I am not acquainted with intellectual rebel...