

St Andrews Hotel, Victoria St  
Melbourne 28 May 1878

Dear Andrew,

I received your last letter of the 25<sup>th</sup> a moment ago & proceed to answer it at once. As it is very urgent to me both from your own letters & those of Jey that you suspect me of lack of faithfulness to your wishes ~~in the matter~~, I'll give you an idea of what I have done in the matter:— I have written at least 6 letters to Marking, I have called on Jey here at the Post Office & other places about a dozen times I have called on Jey his friend & Coadjutor Mr. A. M. Lopp more than that number— Jey's business has also given me a lot of trouble & I wrote to him on the matter of this post— All this has been done at the greatest personal inconvenience & very often when I could ill afford the time, for my duties are now of a most onerous nature

# We have just completed a very  
heavy nisi print sitting, having  
had 7 Melb & Circuit Cases, some  
- of them of great importance; in  
fact my time now from 9 am to  
dark is fully occupied & anything  
else has to take its chance after  
that time. Well I've got the  
~~got the~~ "basis of morality" yesterday  
(<sup>at the court</sup>)  
afternoon & called again for the other  
M.S. <sup>this</sup> afternoon at 5<sup>o</sup> to meet with the old  
copy, that Mr. Martin seemed to  
have forgotten it. Of course I'll  
send it as soon as I get it. I  
should have liked to have read the  
"true basis" but have not had time  
to ~~submit~~ <sup>open</sup> it. Of course, I only  
mention what I have done in this  
matter to excuse myself from the  
suspicion I lie under, not from any  
desire to complain of any "trouble"

(As you & Ivey both rather unkindly  
term it) I have had. You ought to  
both know that it affords me great  
pleasure to do either of you any  
service.

I have no news of importance.  
We are very busy & I am doing,  
as I told you I would, reading  
hard. Luckily my health keeps  
good. I was offered the  
management of the largest firm in  
Melb. <sup>(Messrs Taylor Buckland & Gately)</sup> a few weeks back, much  
to my surprise, as I had not  
solicited it in any way. The negotiations  
resulted in my remaining where I was  
at an increased salary (£300 p.a) & my  
giving Messrs K C & D an undertaking  
not to leave their service for that of any  
other firm in Victoria, but I told them  
when I did so that I had hopes of  
the future of Tasmania that might

at any time bring my services to birth  
them to a close after a month's notice  
(so much for my being 'Encumbered' of Melb)

These projected changes did double good. I  
got my increase & succeeded in getting 'whiting'  
the coveted title (after his first application  
had been previously rejected). He desires as  
do I, to be very kindly remembered both to  
you & Mrs. Clark - By the way the net  
profit of my department after deducting  
my salary, Counsel's fees, & pretty cash &c  
& arising from my unassisted exertions,  
for the last 9 months of my service was  
found by the Accountant to be £1670!

I have I believe succeeded in getting  
freed from the Entanglement I mentioned  
when you were last here, but have not  
succeeded in my other plan, which is  
a source of much unhappiness to me.

One word before closing - I wish you  
would send me any papers containing legal  
news in Tasmania, especially as regards your  
own cases. How is it you did not send me  
the report of the capital case you were  
retained in, for the successful termination of  
which, accept my warmest congratulations -  
I must now say good bye with affectionate  
regards to yourself & Mrs. Clark believe me to be  
ever affectionately yours W. G. P.

the Melbourne Review of 1840  
I suppose you got