

83 Collins St West, Melbourne
28th February 1877

My dear Andrew

I have this evening written to Wilton & from him you can learn what I have said more at length concerning yourself, - but ^{first} permit me to, in fancy, grasp your hand in congratulation - Indeed, indeed, I feel prouder than ever of my leader, - not only proud but self-complacent at finding that our confidence in your ability has received such a complete and speedy vindication - Lord! I felt happier than I have done for some time past at hearing of your success - How the "IBs" and other cacklers must feel "sat on"! But why did I have to learn of your success from an outsider? I should have thought that in the hour of your triumph you might have remembered the erring

chied on this side of the water
Please send me a newspaper that
I may keep it amongst the
'links that bind me to the past -'
and let me know all about it -
oh why the devil why wasn't I
there?

As for the exam. that's nothing.
Of course we all knew that you
would pass well but I did not
think that you would come out
at the top of the tree, because
I knew that you would not descend
to the little artifices that are
necessary to secure very high marks;
Still I used to wriggle about
uncomfortably when I used to think
how I could 'put you on to' to
some 'winkles'. However, accept
my warmest congratulations - I
'liquored up' on receiving the news
& drank with you in ^{the} spirit.
I was astonished when I heard
of your success - It will be the making

of you. Lucky dog! but then
you deserve it, so I won't begin
to moan just yet. The best
of it is that you will not
have to wait the twenty years
that others have. Please let
me know all about it—

I have no news to tell
you beyond what I have written
to Kitson. I have moved my
lodging. The new place is
pretty good but I think I
shall be moving again before
long. As usual, too, I am
intriguing for another situation
but I don't suppose I shall be
lucky enough to get it. Things
are going very quietly at the
office, — the re-action after the
storm. I had a long interview
with Boyd who called in the other
day to see me. I have also written

up to Hay respecting a good
situation half-offered me up
there - I have still got my
eye on Tasmania & in case of
a vacancy shall be 'about' Walter
Thomson who went up to Hay is doing
pretty well up there - at least so I
heard from 2 chints from there who
called in the other day - I guesped as
much as the beggar had not
written to me since he left Melb, -
had there been ^{nothing} doing I
suppose I should have heard from him.
I had a letter tother day
from W. Morris at Dead Dunolly
in which he asked me to get
him some situation in Melb. I
Am afraid he's going down-hill.
I hear he drinks hard -

I must conclude now. I want
to write to Frodoham. Don't forget
the newspaper. With kind regards to
all old friends
Museum Hill