

24/C340
2 Balmoral Terrace
St Vincent Place S.
S Melbourne.
28th Sept 1884

My dear Andrew,

I have been
posted up pretty well in your
late election fight. It is needless
to say I took a good deal of
interest in the fray both because
you were one of the candidates
and because there were certain
principles at issue, the sustentation
of which I am no little
concerned for - I am rejoiced
to think that some impression is
at last being made on that
Old man of the Sea who has
sat athwart my native land so
long. There is a spirit being
shown at last. It must not
be permitted to languish.

I think you did quite right
to emphasise those principles
by opposing Dodds. Your speeches
seem to be very good ones,
Your utterances, and the enthusiasm
of those who supported you
will live beyond the Election
day, and ~~make~~ make themselves felt
in a not distant day. I am
glad you regard your present
defeat in the same way.

It is wise, and will be
justified by the sequel -
What a triumph a defeat of
this character is contrasted
with a victory which puts
a J. G. Davies into the House!
Would that poor old Buller
stood still on the tribune
to wither these pines and
ordures in armor, who egged

on by the promptness of their own
absurd vanity and the crafty
body of selfishness and sordidness
in the background which pulls
their miserable puppet limbs,
are thrust upon the country
as do law makers - God save
the mark!

I met Matt Summons in
Melbourne. He came to see
me at the office - I met
him and his little wife
several times - I went to
one of Massey's lectures with
them one night - "The Sea-
kings" - I went another night
with them to "Romeo & Juliet".
The youthful Benedict and his
blushing bride appeared to have
relished their trip to Victoria.
I had an interview with
Gerald Massey after his lecture

on Charles Lamb. Massey is
a man with plenty of intellectual
energy and a vein of humour.
He has the poetic head, and
restless luminous dark eyes.
His physical health is bad.
He cannot face a cold climate
because of his chest weakness.
He is a small man of a
quick nervous temperament. As
a lecturer he has been more
popular here than Conway,
both because he has a more
distinct voice and his subjects
are more interesting to the
general public. I am
favorably impressed with Massey
as a lecturer, and also by
his manner in social intercourse.
I think he would find favor
with the circle. From the
nature of my conversation with
him I believe there is every

probably that he will visit
 Tasmania - I did my best to
 make it attractive to him
 without of course hunting at
 any pecuniary inducement - I told
 him I thought his visit was
 not so much a business one
 as a health seeking one.
 He admitted this but said he
 should like to combine a
 little of the former with his
 travels - He is now in the
 interior of Victoria lecturing
 and travelling - He is not
 likely to leave Victoria for
 some time; and it is his
 intention on his return to
 Melbourne, to lecture on
 Spiritualism. I am in
 communication with Jerry the
 Bookseller his agent and will
 be acquainted with his movements
 and intentions, of which more anon.

Walter informs me that
he has made up his mind
to visit Gasman at
Omas, and that I am
to come with him - You
may therefore expect your
two worthy chickens at
the plumpudding period.

Please give my kindest
regards to Mrs C & thanks
for her last interesting letter.
Give some big kisses also
to the Kuchins, and a
double one to Johnny for
his admirable letter. Tell
him I'm going to pack
up my clothes and come
and see the Charade and

the Xmas Tree and all the
nice things.

I understand from Mrs. C's
letter that you are pretty
certain to visit Melbourne
before Xmas and will bring
Vettie with you. I hope
she will keep you up to
this intention.

I was at the Church
last Sunday when Walters
preached very well indeed
on the text about worshipping
God in the beauty of holiness.
I got hold of the ex Pucstess
afterwards and came home
in the train with her. I have
nothing particular to report of
our conversation. It may
interest you to learn that
they are going to start a

social and literary union in
connection with the congregation.
Mrs Webster is anxious that I
should join this, and give some
little assistance. I think I
woud you I am a member
of the Scots Literary Association,
but I only visited the place
once, when Miss Gill read
her paper on Ritualism. To
say the truth I have lost the
taste for this now - not because
I esteem literature less, but
because when I next enter
that arena it must be for
money motives.

Affectionate regards to Gorg.
What a lot of lovers you have
around you ~~now~~ now! What a
lot of the blissful, borderland you
must contemplate.
With best regards to Bobbie Hector
Erny & Ivey, I am
Ever yours affectionately
A. G. W. H. W.