

5. Douglas Terrace  
 Montague St  
 Albert Park  
 4. June 1883

My dear Andrew,

I received to-day a letter, sent on to me by my people, which proves to be a communication from England relative to Miss Witton's Estate. I enclose a copy of the letter which speaks for itself. I should not be indisposed to part with the reversionary interest, supposing it vests in me and I have power to assign it, but I have not the faintest idea what the worth of it would be. It is desirable, of course, that you should be made acquainted with this offer, and I should be very glad if you would write me a line or two on the subject. I do not know whether you are in possession of further information from England. Anyhow, you might give me some hints to guide me in replying. I have seen Edwin Witton since I have been in Melbourne, but

when I last saw him, he did not appear to know anything more of the suit than I did - in fact, not so much - I will see him again some time this week, and see what I can pump out of him - He lives at Northcote, a suburb very remote from where I lodge - So much for business, de la present.

I send a letter to Dobbie by this post from which you will gather various particulars as to my humble self and which need not therefore be touched on here. I send you last week's "Australasian" in which you can unearth J.G.'s last. I think she is vastly improving. I have only seen J.M. once since I last wrote and during our brief interview he <sup>said he</sup> was going to prepare and give me a testimonial before he left Melbourne. This gracious assurance was quite unsolicited on my part, as I did not in any way advert to the matter, and I shall be very curious to see this document after its lengthy incubation. Walter's health I am extremely glad to say, is steadily improving although he is

still weak and nervously depressed.  
As I have mentioned in my letter to Dobbin,  
he has come into Klunqender's office again,  
having taken the management of the  
Equity and Ecclesiastical Department.  
I have made further enquires as to  
Courtney's Studies in Philosophy and  
they inform me at Robertson's that  
they have ordered 3 or 4 copies of the  
book which they expect to have  
in 3 1/2 months from now. I will  
bespeak a copy to be sent to you  
via Hood if you so desire.

The weather here has been  
superlatively dreadful for a week  
past - Nothing but rain, cloud shrouded  
skies, fog, mud, cold winds, and  
general dismalness. In consequence  
of the disgusting climatic performances,  
and my office work, I have done  
next door to nothing in extending  
my acquaintance with this octopus  
city. I deeply regret to say that Dr.  
Beardie is seriously ill with enlargement  
and inflammation of the liver. Dr. Barrett  
and Mason are attending him, and his  
condition is giving his family much  
concern. He is a fine old fellow, and  
I pray that he will rally.

I received a kind letter from George. Tell me if he is in Sydney. He believed he was on the eve of going there when he wrote 'Another defection from the circle!' Alas! how different Saturday night is to me now. Tell me also (and please don't forget this) whether the 4th will be kept up as usual. Separation Day (2nd prox) is observed as a holiday here and on that day Bert Clarke (who is a client of ours) gives a kick up at Sunbury, to which he invites all our staff. About 300 in all go by special train including all the bigwigs. I shall avail myself of this opportunity (to V) to see some of the notabilities and also as I am informed 'schools' of gluttony and hard drinking.

My warmest regards to Mrs Clarke and kisses for the olive branches with one kiss more to Emmy as tribute to her seniority. Give Willie my paternal salutation and the assurance that he shall see some of my calligraphy soon; and finally dear Radio receive as not unworthy of your regard the affectionate wishes of your rather lonely but on the whole cheerful and hopeful chicken.

J. G. M. Non