

107 William St  
Melb.

11 Oct 1905

My dear Andrew,

Respecting your enquiry as to the Oriental Hotel, I should think it was in every way a desirable place for Madie and you to take up your abode in for a while -

As you say, it was until not long ago, run by one who now runs Kelly's in Sydney - Mr Cubitt this was. I knew something of the place a number of years ago, and it was then a good place. In those days it was frequented by actors and actresses of the top-notch variety, but they do not go there now, although (as I happen to know of) Liqueoralli, the great Equilibrist,

stayed there - I had a talk  
with a barmaid there the  
other day, and also had a  
talk with the proprietor - Mr.  
Messenger, who seems a very  
nice and respectable old soul.  
At present the place is about  
full up, and unless accommodation  
were applied for now, it is  
unlikely it could be obtained  
until after Melbourne Cup Week.  
- Shortly after that there will  
be no lack of it - Yes, I  
feel safe in telling you it  
will be all right.

I am looking forward to  
having that good talk with you  
which has been so long deferred,  
and it will give me much pleasure  
to see your *compagnon de voyage*  
once more -

With all kind regards to Madie  
yourself and the *family crew*  
always affly yours  
John How