

"Analen"

argue &

Moonee Ponds

6 March 1894

My dear Pacho,

I received the Xian registers &c, and am obliged, and was glad to see their old faces again so redolent of Göttingen and the years ago.

I have not commenced this year very well inasmuch as my wife has been ill all the year, and is not yet able to leave her bed, to which she has been confined all that time. I think I may predict she will be up shortly, but even then she will not be herself for some time to come, and will not be able to move about much or do anything. To add to my trouble I have had since before Xmas up to about 10 days ago severe toothache and

neuralgic troubles in the course
of which I had two teeth out
suffering much and prolonged
pain afterwards. The children
have kept their health but all
this trouble and the expense
attendant upon it do not make
one cheerful, and put things back

Walter Burn wrote me about
some time he intended coming over
here in January. I presume he
has abandoned the idea. I trust
he is now quite free from his
ailment -

Walter Hill is still with H.S.
Danell at Ballarat. I wrote two
letters to him last year but he
answered neither - He has not
written to me since Amos before
last - M.G. saw me a little while
back and seems to have acquired
a much needed cheerfulness compared
with her former repinings - She says
Walter never writes to his mother
or to anybody, so I have
no reason to complain of his
want of consistency.

There is a matter, dear Andrew,
I am reluctant enough to write you
about, as I have ever sought
to make our friendship free from
any seeking by me any material
benefits in its name - Since my
mother's death, however, and before
that, my brother 'Dave' and those at
home have found it harder and
harder, to obtain any remunerative
employment - Two of my sisters have
been unable to do anything for a
long time past, and Dave has
hardly earned anything since Omas,
when he was reappointed from
the Tasmanian News office. You
will understand what all this means,
and how it adds to my troubles,
I am quite persuaded that Dave is
going straight and he has evinced the
best of dispositions to keep them at home
and keep things together, when he
can earn anything - I have touched
upon these matters because I know
from the papers the present Tasmanian
Government must speedily fall, and
it is equally certain you must be in
the new Cabinet - If then there
is any possibility of your getting Dave

some billet, or influencing something
in that direction. I should feel much
relief. The present state of affairs
is a constant source of anxiety
to me, and I would not like
to see the family broken up and
scattered for want of means to tide
over present difficulties - It would
be much better, too, for Dave
in many ways if he could
live with his sisters and have
something of home influence, although
for the matter of that, he keeps
steady enough. As between ourselves
I am sure I need say no more!

Please present my kindest
regards and well-wishes to Madie,
& Esma, and remember Joe to all
the others - Wm & Helen are keeping
well - Wm is going to school now
and already repeats lines and
makes some show with pot-hooks and
hangings on his little slate - So we
ripe and ripe and then we rot and rot
and surely hangs a tale" - 24th ult, &
I thought of you on many happy returns
of the men of '48 - Ever affectly yours
A. G. N.