

Melbourne 5th Augt 1886

My dear Padre,

Walter & I were very sorry to hear of your reverse in the S^t election. We had been lead to believe that your prospects were so sure that it was only a question whether you or the worthy Dodds would head the poll - Our disappointed however, is blended with the assurance that these reverses appear to be such more upon the surface than when the matter is analysed - Be hopeful. Have trust in the people though they appear fickle, and adhesive to ~~the~~ old forms and names.

They will reward your faith
in time - Merit like yours
is not recognized and appreciated
at first by the mass - It
takes some time to filter -
Your motto must be "Unhastening
unresting" - I am sure you
will take your defeat in a
manly and philosophical way
and I do not think of
offering you any hysterical
consolation -

I was surprised to hear
that you were coming over
en famille this month - This
is not the best time to come
over I think although I should
be pleased to see you all
at any time. It will not,
however, be cold although the
weather may be dull and
possibly rainy, having regard
to the exceptionally dry season

that has hitherto prevailed -
I consulted Walter re your
enquiries about Hotels - As he
knew Wimpole the Host of
the George, he 'undertook to
see him last night - It was
thought better that he should
do this as he knows him
well, and is ^{Wimpole} under certain
obligations ^{to} him, and Walter
is therefore likely to make better
terms for these reasons - Just
before posting this I have
received a note from Walter
in which he says he is
writing you fully on this subject
by the present mail - His
letter therefore will answer
your enquiries -

Thanks very much for
the programme of the 4th and
the papers you forwarded to
me - I followed the incidents
of the election with great interest,

and am pleased with the
good impression you evidently
made manure your defeat.
The 4th gathering was very
limited in point of number
but if the quality made up
for it it must be regarded
as on a par with previous
meetings and I feel very
glad to think so.

I have suffered for 3
weeks with a distressing
and unconquerable diarrhoea.
I feel very worn, and
depressed but make head
against my mental and
physical anaesthetics as much as
I can - As Mark Tappley
said there is some credit
in being jolly under some
circumstances, and when you
have your opportunity it is
best to try and come out strong.
Looking forward to a near
personal meeting and with affectionate
regards to you & her and the King's
of the camp Ever yours
G. W.