

42 Darling St South Yarra

10 May 86

My dear Andrew,

Many thanks for your charming letter (wh I have not unfortunately by use now) respecting Mr Adams's Epays. I will answer it in detail shortly, for there are some things in it with wh I don't altogether agree. I was delighted to find you writing in the dear old strain.

I have been living in such a whirl of business (official & private) lately that I am afraid this effusion will be somewhat chaotic.

First as to Adams - He is at present at Brisbane. ~~xxx~~ I don't know his address, but am daily expecting to hear from him. To day I rec<sup>d</sup> from some unknown source <sup>a</sup> long M.S. from him but no letter. I am grateful for the interest & energy - characteristic of you - wh you displayed in the matter of the Epays - I have communicated the result to J. & H. & they wd. like you to retain for the present any further copies you cannot dispose of - I have sold apt 20 - I will send his poems - with his M.S. <sup>correcting</sup> copies in them - in a day or 2 - He borrowed my copy of Leicester having sent his own to America - but I expect it daily & will send it on - You will find it deeply interesting but I know you will chafe horribly at some parts.

2  
I do not think Adams will ever make a great poet, but he is very young & may alter. He is however an excellent critic - not only of books, but of life, but I doubt his creativity. Of course it makes a great difference when you know the man & my admiration for him is almost boundless, but then you know I always run to extremes - I shall have much more to say to you on this subject shortly.

The enclosed letter from me speaks for itself. Herald called twice for you but not finding you in, brought it back.

I have been unable to find anything about Kilner, but have a man on the ~~to~~ look out. Will write again as soon as I hear anything.

I read the "Mercury" extract & am glad to notice that you have scored (practically) another win.

I am glad to hear of Jove's recovery - Give him my love & say I & will write to him shortly.

Reverting for a moment to Adams, - What did you think of the <sup>2</sup>poems I sent you? I am collecting some of his critical contributions to the Victorian Review & will send them in a parcel with Leicester the Poems - I especially commend those on Rossetti & Arnold to your notice.

With this I send you all the copies of the Herald I have been able to get respecting

3  
Walters's, Sermon<sup>n</sup> Prayer. I hope to get the  
first in a day or 2, but it is difficult to obtain  
the back numbers. I am trying to do so tonight.

I wish I had you here to discuss this  
most vital question with you. My own  
ideas on the subject are not quite formulated  
but it seems to me that Walters - tho' not a  
bad compiler - has no original powers of mind  
that he is only half-educated & that the whole  
tendency of his ministrations is calculated to  
impede rather than advance the progress of  
the Unitarian cause, - in a word that it is  
mischievous, *ad captandum* stuff

Prayer - or rather the object of it - is not  
mendacity, but an effort - or reaching <sup>forth</sup> of the soul  
to bring itself into harmony with the Creator &  
His laws. It seems to me that the whole purpose  
of prayer is summed up in the idea underlying  
the quotation from the Gospel by James, - "ye have  
not, because ye ask not." i.e. ye either do not  
rightly ask; or ye ask for the wrong things. We  
should, so it seems to me, bend all our energies  
to understand the real teaching of Jesus; - to establish  
the Kingdom of God. Where? Not in Heaven  
but in Heaven - on - Earth. "seek ye first ~~the~~  
the Kingdom of God & His righteousness, & all these

4 "Things" - (i.e. all things that you do really require - eternally need) "will be added unto you". If, as I firmly believe, "our wills are ours to make them Thine" & we earnestly seek to bring ~~us~~ ourselves into unison with the Divine Spirit; to attain to the Kingdom of God on Earth, to find that our real & abiding interests consist therein - in so doing - then & then only we attain "the peace that passeth understanding." And really, in effect, - not in form - is not ~~that~~ <sup>this</sup> what all prayer - <sup>essentially</sup> real prayer, orthodox or other, expresses?

I feel that I have very confusedly expressed myself but I have only to ~~be~~ <sup>listen</sup> to "the voice of my own soul, heard in the calm of thought" to know not only what I really want, but what I ought to ask for.

If I am right you will see why I strongly condemn Walters when he says that "Orthodox prayer is chiefly begging" & so forth. Again he is surely wrong when he supports his view by quoting the words of Jesus (whom he nearly always alludes to as "Christ," apparently not seeing the huge error he, as a Unitarian, is falling into when he does so) "Oh, let this cup pass from me" for surely, surely, Tennison is right when <sup>alluding to this part of the famous Sermon</sup> he says "that Spirit keeps him wholly true to that ideal which he bears" &c.

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5

The whole object of my life, & my  
 reading & reflection, is to find out & ~~to~~ observe  
 the purpose of God <sup>in creating us</sup>, & to act accordingly, & I  
 humbly pick up anything that helps to  
 fortify my soul, whether in the Scriptures or  
 Elsewhere, so that I may "make my  
 life a true poem". And this is my test  
 of genius; does it strengthen me; does it  
 (you remember Channing's ~~fine~~ fine Essay on  
 Milton?) ~~not only~~ "call forth power in my  
 "soul & not merely give knowledge, but breathe  
 "Energy"?

I shall be glad to sit at the feet  
 of you - my Samahel - & have my errors  
 corrected & the truth taught & I doubt not  
 I hear from you <sup>very</sup> before long on this subject.

I suppose you will be angry when I  
 tell you that what little time I have to  
 spare for reading is almost entirely devoted to  
 my old love, Carlyle. My love, which was <sup>was</sup> <sup>late</sup> revived by reading Nichol's  
 recent ~~pro~~ brochure on the man, who  
 has <sup>the</sup> strongest originality of any Englishman  
 - Briton, I should say - since Dr. Johnson, & whom  
 also I provel

6

I will write again soon & allude  
anything I have omitted.

Please give my love to the Madre  
& Children & the brethren & believe me,  
if there be any need to say it, none I for ever  
affectionately thine

Wm Lloyd Garrison

Thy friend  
Solr Hobart

P.S. Am I to regard your silence  
with regard to my reference to writing  
a paper on Milton as a snub?