

St Andrews Hotel, Nicholson St
Fitzroy, Melbourne. 19 July 1877

My dear Andrew,

I have just read your letter & sit down to answer it at once - This letter will be short, but to the point I trust.

I cannot sufficiently thank you for this last act of kindness & interest in my welfare - Believe me, my dear friend, that my affection for you is unchanged & unchangeable - You have already placed me under obligations which are so heavy that a lifetime of gratitude can hardly repay you - But, as I have often said before, I trust that if I live I shall repay you in some slight degree - I have reason to congratulate myself for ever making your acquaintance, but surely you know enough of me to know that, although my failings are numerous that enough, I do not, waver in my loyalty - Never mind my not writing - Many & many are the letters & mental improve I have

Sent you but troubles overcome
a nature not very resolute & at
the pinch I die away. As for
Equette "Etiquette" in letter writing
I never thought of such a thing -
I am always glad of the excuse
for not writing for it is always
a sore point with me - You
know the reason - Will this suffice!

Before the Frodshams left I
had several conversations with them
on the main subject of your letter
& I resolved to do them that I
would become a candidate for
the opening now apparently
visible in Tasmania - Frankly
however, though most grateful to
you & my other friends, I am not
very eager in the matter - I only
act from a sense of duty - My
Melbourne prospects at the
present time are not of not
at all bad - I have just been
offered & have accepted the
management of the largest
Com. Law Office in Town at a
salary of £250 p. a. & there

is a movement now on foot for
rendering admission to the bar here
less difficult - I can't help reproaching
you for saying that I am "emancipated
of Melbourne" - I am not &
never was but it is a splendid
place for a disappointed man to
conceal a failure & in this it
has answered my expectations -
When I think of the difficulties
I have surmounted I am proud
of the position I have gained -
Nothing could be more pleasant
than my relations with my employers.
I have absolute & uncontrolled command
of the office & am treated almost
as a principal - My Melbourne
experience has been most valuable.
I have gained a control of the law
& its practical working & a knowledge
of the world I could never have
acquired in any other place - That
I am dissatisfied I admit, but
perhaps without reason - for I own
I am unreasonably impatient -
As for work, I am in splendid "form"
& have done more in my present quarters
(which are most comfortable) than in any
other quarters in my department however

fully occupied my time & I really have
not time to write a proper letter—

I shall immediately write to Mr
Moriarty as suggested & I trust with
success— My reasons are to advance
the interests of my relations (for my
brother does not improve) & to please
my friends— It may be a wrong
move, but I shall do my best to make
it a success— <sup>not my wife's separate property & I must necessarily only estimate that £300 as a part
of a success—</sup> Whatever comes of it if

I do settle down in Tasmania I shall
at least be brought nearer to you &
perhaps have the opportunity of returning
your kindness in material form—
But imagine, dear friend, that I
have lost any interest in Tasmania &
the friends of other years— They live
as green in my memory as if I'd
never seen this place— Every mark
of progress they make finds a place
in my heart & tho' perhaps not un-
misted with Envy, is hailed with pleasure.

As to your own advancement I am
delighted— tho' I never expected otherwise—
You are on the right track & mind you
keep to it— your proper position is
that of the advocate & you must make
the Solicitor's work subordinate to that
but not neglect it until the proper
time comes to shake it off altogether—
I read with great interest the Libel
case you were engaged in & though
the report was badly managed I was

would to find you were not short of
the expectations I & your other adherents
It had formed of you - Don't take
this for flattery - you are made of
sterner stuff than some people give
you credit for & you will most un-
doubtedly find your proper position as
one day head of the bar - For myself
(here I go again!) I have no ambition
& am content with a lower place
& occupied in the "rosate" dreams of
my youth - but I am content, so
others need not complain -

Don't be hard on C.P. - (a fellow
feeling &c) - We can't all come up to
your level & I really do think that
in the main he is a good hearted
fellow & seemed to have worked up
his way "right manfully" - I shall
always like him & you can tell him
so, - in less Ekeberant terms - As for
Tom & the "old man" I like them better
than I ever & was most pleased to
meet them - Tom has married a nice
girl - I do hope you will meet her -
She is clever & accomplished in the best
sense of the term. Her above him in
mental vigour - The family is one of
the most pleasant & intellectual I ever
Entered - I enjoy visiting there very much

You know this is not much in
my line— Don't forget to call on
them—

Really I must stop for if I do
not a weeks hard writing will not
Exhaust half the themes I would fain
touch upon— I must leave them
till next we meet, will not
now be long, for in any event I am
determined to see Tasmania again at
Kmas—

Returning to the Launceston topic
I might as well say that, if it does
not turn out a success, that I do
not care about returning to Hobart.
Taken for private reasons which I will
not now enter upon, but reserve for
your private ear—

I will conclude by saying that
this is hardly intended for a letter— it
is written too hurriedly for that— but
Equally "Etriquette" will not prevent my
writing you at the first opportunity—
I will now pen a letter to the Marquis as
suggested & of course that will require
some consideration— I will also try
hard to finish two uncompleted letters
to Wilson (to whom affectionate regards)
& to Gray— You see that my

Time is fully taken up for I have
other correspondence that must be
attended to & I am nearly smothered
with work - I have 3 cases for
Trial at the Civil Sittings, which
Commence on 1 Aug next & I have
barely time to prepare for Trial -
Did you hear anything of our great
Case of Robertson & McCalloch - I
got great praise for my share in
it and - but oh, I must stop -

Now good bye & God speed you -
& thanking you over & over again
for your thoughtful kindness
believe me still to be

Your affectionate friend

W. S. Gill

A. Inglis Clark Esq

P.S. I return you Morison's
letter - it is just in his old
style -