

83 Collins St West, Melbourne  
28th February 1877

My dear Andrew

I have this evening written to Wilton & from him you can learn what I have said more at length concerning yourself, - but <sup>first</sup> permit me to, in fancy, grasp your hand in congratulation - Indeed, indeed, I feel prouder than ever of my leader, - not only proud but self-complacent at finding that our confidence in your ability has received such a complete and speedy vindication - Lord! I felt happier than I have done for some time past at hearing of your success - How the "IBs" and other cacklers must feel "sat on"! But why did I have to learn of your success from an outsider? I should have thought that in the hour of your triumph you might have remembered the erring

chied on this side of the water  
Please send me a newspaper that  
I may keep it amongst the  
'links that bind me to the past -'  
and let me know all about it -  
oh why the devil why wasn't I  
there?

As for the exam. that's nothing.  
Of course we all knew that you  
would pass well but I did not  
think that you would come out  
at the top of the tree, because  
I knew that you would not descend  
to the little artifices that are  
necessary to secure very high marks;  
Still I used to wriggle about  
uncomfortably when I used to think  
how I could 'put you on to' to  
some 'winkles'. However, accept  
my warmest congratulations - I  
'liquored up' on receiving the news  
& drank with you in <sup>the</sup> spirit.  
I was astonished when I heard  
of your success - It will be the making

of you. Lucky dog! but then  
you deserve it, so I won't begin  
to moan just yet. The best  
of it is that you will not  
have to wait the twenty years  
that others have. Please let  
me know all about it—

I have no news to tell  
you beyond what I have written  
to Kitson. I have moved my  
lodging. The new place is  
pretty good but I think I  
shall be moving again before  
long. As usual, too, I am  
intriguing for another situation  
but I don't suppose I shall be  
lucky enough to get it. Things  
are going very quietly at the  
office, — the re-action after the  
Storm. I had a long interview  
with Boyd who called in the other  
day to see me. I have also written

up to Hay respecting a good  
situation half-offered me up  
there - I have still got my  
eye on Tasmania & in case of  
a vacancy shall be 'about' Walter  
Thomson who went up to Hay is doing  
pretty well up there - at least so I  
heard from 2 chints from there who  
called in the other day - I guesped as  
much as the beggar had not  
written to me since he left Melb, -  
had there been <sup>nothing</sup> doing I  
suppose I should have heard from him.  
I had a letter tother day  
from W. Morris at Dead Dunolly  
in which he asked me to get  
him some situation in Melb. I  
Am afraid he's going down-hill.  
I hear he drinks hard -

I must conclude now. I want  
to write to Frodoham. Don't forget  
the newspaper. With kind regards to  
all old friends  
Museum Hill