

48 Temple Court  
Melbourne

25 June 1885

My dear Andrew,

I have been hoping  
against hope to find time to  
write you a long letter but so  
many causes (principally  
business ones) have operated to  
prevent me that it is only at this  
late period that I can send a  
few hurried lines. As I write in  
great haste I must ask you to  
excuse scribbles & misprints—

I duly recd all the  
newspapers you sent me & read  
them with keen interest, especially  
those relating to Paine. These  
form a valuable acquisition to  
my stock of knowledge & I have

read them to my friends & discussed  
them at length. It is delightful  
to read such vigorous & scholarly  
productions & I am proud to be the  
recipient of them. Please send me  
another copy of the last one. I  
lent mine to McKenzie the mislaid it.

As to your letter of 12<sup>th</sup> April:-  
I think I have complied with all  
the directions & advice contained  
in same. Of course you got the  
photos, pamphlets & reference to  
the contracts of piano-hiring. I  
rec<sup>d</sup> the photographic views you  
sent me for which I thank you  
but an error or two seems to have  
crept into my letter of w<sup>h</sup> yours  
was a reply. What I wanted was  
a copy of the views of Mount  
Wellington from the New Stearn  
Road (not New Town Road). As

there is a balance of 5/- to me on  
an<sup>d</sup>. paid for your photos perhaps  
You can send me the one desired.

Again, the article <sup>on Gambetta</sup> I intended to  
refer to, was by Fred. Harrison in  
The Contemporary for March 1883.

In addition to the above I'd  
like to call your attention to the  
following fine articles (if you have  
not already seen them):—

Freeman on House of Lords - Contemp<sup>y</sup>. 648

Roderick - Tennison " Feb 85

Geo. Elliot - by Morley Macmillan " "

- Johnson - in Quarterly - Feb - " "

Shakespeare, Frothingham. Century, etc., "

I noted what you said about  
legal amalgamation (Did you  
see that C. S. Mein, a Job, was  
appted to last vacancy in Sup<sup>r</sup> Ct  
Bench of Queensland?)

You will be glad to hear that

owing to the steps I took, my health is quite restored-

I like my new situation immensely- I am kept very busy but like the work far too much to feel the strain that kept me anxious & unhappy at K.C.D.'s.

I left my last situation at the end of April. My fellow Clerks made me a present of Books which form a handsome and useful addition to my library- Amongst others I secured copies of Milton, Browning, Tennyson, Lewis Morris, Mrs King, Motley, Dondou, Cooper, Conington's Virgil &c &c &c.

I have not been able to do very much in the way of reading

lately, my studies being con-  
-sined to a careful & systematic  
perusal of the Bible, <sup>Plato</sup> Homer, &  
Milton & Virgil. In fact I have  
been <sup>re-</sup>smitten with <sup>my</sup> all consuming  
love of the classics & am delighted  
to find I have all the old  
headlong enthusiasm for the  
old Greek & Roman master-  
pieces I had when I was  
studying for my degree & I feel  
sure that your own ardent en-  
-thusiasm for whatever is good  
& true will sympathise with  
my Confession that *Agnosco  
~~sed~~ veteris vestigia flammae.*  
I am going to commence at the

bottom ("as it were") to read  
upwards. I am very happy &  
altho' poor feel that I have  
at last fallen on happier days.

You see that the reciprocal  
rule has at length been passed.

Four of us, including H. O. Church,  
have given in our notices & will  
apply for admission on 1 Sept.

The amalgam Bill will be  
again brought in this Session  
& will pass.

Mr. Smith will probably  
offer me a partnership when I  
am admitted.

I have only recd £5 from my  
Brother this year & have  
several times been so hardly

pushed that I have nearly been obliged to ask you to send me a small loan. However, I manage to struggle on, I am almost free from my mining difficulties & do not intend to enter into any more "spec".

Alas for the Mercury! I suppose it is defunct. I am truly sorry for all your sakes that the result was so unfortunate.

I read Fisher's little book & was delighted with it. I have a good deal of arrears to make up in my service reading.

I send you a paper containing report of a decisive

"Win" (my first in my new office) I had yesterday. My people were much pleased at the result.

I am writing this at home at the close of an exhausting day's work & with much office work to prepare for the morrow, but would fain continue. However I trust you will take the word for the deed & be content to know that I am steadily following the good & true & doing my best to cultivate those virtues of life & conduct which you as my Est. Exemplar would wish to see me to observe.

With love to Mrs Clark & the children & kindest remembrances to the club especially I say, I am  
Ever their affectionate  
A. L. Clark