

Launceston, March 6<sup>th</sup> 1885-

Dear Paase

I have not been unmindful of your request to find out something of the Political Reform Club here; but I have been too busy some days to look into the matter and many of my enquiries led to nothing as very many people had never heard of any such association. Last Monday, however, I asked Stewart the Editor of the Daily Telegraph who directed me to Mr & Robinson of Dodgson & Co Merchants in Launceston and the next day I called on Robinson and had a long chat with him. I gathered from him that there had been some such a association here but that it was now extinct some time. It was principally set going to influence the last Municipal election and the Hartnoll Jacobson election but the interest in the questions raised was insufficient here to keep it alive. I gave him an outline of the platform of the Hobart Association and he thinks it possible to get up a similar one here to work in co-operation with it if a few good men can be got to take part in it. He will consider the matter and in the meantime I have promised to obtain the printed slips containing your programme, and any other information that is available, so please send me these and we will see if anything can be done though I am not sanguine of it as most of the live men here are at present mainly interested in the reciprocity business and there is every appearance of a growing political party in favour of protection.

I have to thank you for your photo. It is a very fine likeness and I cannot conceive a better one whatever the ladies may say of any other. I am now a householder though in a somewhat rough

and rounded table and I have you hung up in my bedroom.  
Mr. Jarman is living with me and he is as comfortable as  
the old bachelors can be.

If I can manage it I intend going to Hobart on the  
14th of this month (Saturday) returning on the Sunday  
morning's train, and I will endeavour to get over to  
the Point to see you & Mrs. Clark, and the boys if they  
still pay their Saturday night visits, about supper time  
for I must go somewhere else first.

Everyone here has given up all hope of ever getting  
anything out of the Mercury & Co. I have given  
up my Co. shares and will follow suit with the  
Mercuries if they want a single penny more - in fact  
I am only holding them in the hope that they may sell  
the machinery for something that will bring a trifle  
to the shareholders. A curious end to our little business  
of regular dividends. Praxis, or imports! With  
health, love, friendship, and enough to eat drink and  
wear in a world full of intricate changes of  
both good and bad luck it does not matter much to

Yours ever truly  
J. S. Edwards

P.S. Kind regards to Mrs. Clark and all of the old circle not  
forgetting the little nice ones J.S.E.