

Melbourne 17th April 1883

My dear Andrew, I arrived safely at the Wharf at noon yesterday. The trip across was an exceptionally fine one. With the exception of some rolling off the southern part of the Island, the water all the way was quite smooth. We would have been up at the Wharf earlier but there was a detention at Williamstown. We lay along side the Orient Steamer "Saronne" for about 3 hours and discharged a quantity of cargo into her, amongst which were 319 cases apples for London shipped by P. G. Gyles and Macfarlane. I saw Humphries the Immigration Agent on board the Mail Steamer. I went all over her. What fine ships they are! I felt the weather rather warm when we commenced the navigation of the famous water muds and stinks of the Harve ditch. Walter met me at the Wharf, and accompanied me here, where I occupy Room No 121. I pay 15/- a week, not including meals. What an immense place it is! Its appointments also appear very perfect. I went with Walter to his office and afterwards had lunch with him at the Temple Court Hotel.

He then showed me over the
new buildings called Selborne Chambers
where he has his office, and also
over Bank Place and Temple Court
and other "dusty purlieus of the law".
After this we visited the Courts in
Chancery St. Williams was presiding
in the Criminal and Chomley the
Crown Prosecutor was speaking. -
Also the S. J. Holyrod and
Higginbotham were on the bench in
the ~~Dun~~ another Court sitting in
Chancery and Admiralty. - The S. J.
has a very good face and of course
I was prepared to find Higginbotham
what he appears, a gentlemanly and
refined looking man. He looks very
much the portrait in Stöttinger, but
of course older. Holyrod appeared to
have a perpetual peevish pasty
kind of amused grin all over
his face. What coal holes these
Courts are! They smother through
long tropical days in these stuffy and
dingy places where Judge and Counsel
and jury and witnesses and spectators
appear to be all jammed together à la
sardine. - After this we paid a flying

visited to the Public Library, just to
gain an idea of the extent of the
place with its magnificent reading
room and galleries &c. - We then
trotted round a few of the Streets,
doing the block, en route, in Collins
St at 4 p.m. Walter lives in
Forth St Prahran about 7 or 8 miles
out. We went down by train at
5.30 p.m., and I spent a very pleasant
evening with him and his people -
They all look very well, but the
unfortunate trip to Sydney pulled them
down considerably, and Walter tells me
they are not nearly so well as they were
before that event. I returned to town
by the 10.20 train and with the aid
of a plan which Walter prepared for
me I piloted my way to the tower.
This is better than picking up Cobbes &c
and it is painful to ask where Bourke
St is. It makes one feel mean.
I am going this morning by myself to
St Kilda and in the afternoon do some
more town and law counts. Walter is
engaged in Court to-day on some appeal
case. On picking him up I go to his
house again this evening. This Melbourne
is certainly a caution. It exceeds my
anticipations. This Brobdnagian place

I am staying in is enough by
itself to occupy one's attention for
some time. Such wildernesses of
corridors and doors and bath
rooms &c, and stairs and more
stairs and lifts, and roommen with
white caps and black gowns on
and more stairs - and 'colossal'
dining rooms, and not content with
^{many sloped} the wilderness above, they seem to
carry it down to impenetrable ^{and vast} regions
below the street level. Truly, I wonder.
The weather I believe is considered
pretty warm, but I am little affected
by it.

Walter is just the same old sort,
and appears in fair health; but his
health is uncertain, and he takes medicine
every 3 hours during the day. He
seems much pleased at my arrival.
I will write you again directly. I feel
very well both mentally and bodily.

Give my kind regards to Mrs G, and
the Misses M. I saw the farewell flutter
of handkerchiefs at Rosebank. I felt very
weak just then - Kiss the Kitchins for
me. My love to Willie, and Edard and
George and to yourself my dear Padre.

Your affectionate family
G. H. A. H.

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