

This had
been by my
address for some
time

43 Bank St E. Emerald Hill
9 August 1896

Dear Andrew.

Herewith a Post Office order for £2,
the amt you so kindly advanced, with
many grateful thanks - It has grieved &
pained me much & made me feel very
mean not to have repd you before but
it has been entirely without any blame
that co be attached to me - Indeed, dear
friend, I have had a very trying time
of it lately & stand more than ever
in need of your sympathy than ever -
altho' I am "further than ever from" going
to the deid", I have had much to put
me out - My health has been very
bad - I recovered from a bad attack of
influenza only to be subjected to three
consecutive colds, - the last of which is
just leaving me - My affairs have been
perplexing lately & the reports I get from
home makes very miserable, & dependent
to a degree - Besides, I have private
troubles of a domestic or social nature

which have certainly not tended to raise
my spirits. However I have ^{reced} a set off
for the last 3 days, so you can, as I
know you will, joy into me.

I have gone into a new situation,
much better one in every sense but
a pecuniary one - I am now managing
books to Mr J. G. Saffell of 83 Collins St
Aed. Perhaps I am premature in or
overcautious but I begin to believe that
at last I have been lucky - My chief
is I would believe one of the best of-
fellows - He is kind & even attached
to me & I could work my fingers
off for him - My duties are
very heavy & responsible but I am
confident of giving satisfaction & by & by
time I hope to be able to be in
a position to do some practical good for
myself & others - I am a little rusty in
my practice & many things I have to
attend to are quite novel to me, eg
Insolvency, Mining, Divorce Admiralty &c
However I'll pull it thro' somehow!

Altho I left my last situation without
regret I must say I was very kindly
treated there - altho they have the
reputation of being the greatest "negotia-
tories" in Melb. They offered to raise
my salary, but I declined as I was
quite sick of the work - You will
see now that the anxiety, perplexity
uncertainty of my movements have had
to a certain extent impeded the
expression of a friendship that will
never be diminished by me -

of general matters I have nothing
to say - I still of course take my
old interest in the inner circle that
forms my dearest recollections but beyond
this I have no wish ever to see
Tasmania again - I see, I think, a
good field in N. S. W. I mean to try it
next year - In fact I applied to Mr
Duffell, in a moment of doubt, to release
me from my engagement, but he gave me
only good advice & so earnestly persuaded
me to enter his service, promising me
that it would be a step I would never
regret, that I was completely won over

I have several times made resolutions to
give up general reading & confine myself
entirely to money-grubbing & melancholy
but I cannot do it - No, I shall always
be the same - an unsatisfactory wretch
& a perpetual nuisance to my friends - this
& other selfish & mean ideas are perhaps
the outcome of my materialistic meditations
but they teach one thing; that it is absurd for
me to attempt to exchange arguments with
you or any one of your intellectual calibre
Hence I shall not do it - In future I shall
set my claim to your friendship on
my grateful appreciation of the many
boons you have conferred upon ^{me} & my readiness
to be your humble but affectionate satellite.
Perhaps the merciful years will give me a
higher claim, but this is the only one I can
give at present -

Excuse the shortness of this note. I am very
busy & shall to read & work very hard for
some weeks, but they will soon pass & then
I hope to be able to give you more satisfaction.
Remember me affectionately to Milton
& Lucy, & Godsham (from whom I have just
rec'd a rather silly ltr) & with many
mingled emotions of sorrow, shame &
gratitude, believe me
Ever your affectionate fr
J. G. Mill