

46 Southmoor Road
Oxford. Jan. 2nd /88

Dear Jones,

Out of all your numerous friends in England, I believe I may congratulate myself on being the only one (excepting of course your people at Ovestrey) who has heard of your prospect of getting the Carlton curacy, your dining with the Bishops of Melbourne and Riverina, and to crown all, your threatening to get married. Having made frequent inquiries without much success I wrote the other day to your father, who has replied giving me your address and several particulars, and I am heartily glad to hear your general health is so good & that you are physically stronger. I ought to have told you before I did of my post at Droonport: probably by some means or other you have got the letter announcing that fact wh. I expect I posted too late. I was very sorry we had left Oxford when you passed through. I have now spent two terms at Droonport

and found the post a very decent
one in many respects — principal
a University man, and a gentleman
— no out of school supervision, nice
set of boys etc. Among other things
I have been reading the French and
German books for the late Junior
Clerk Local, and with todgings away
from the school and a 'boss' who
treats me considerably, I am glad
to say I have by no means lighted
on one of the wretched places so
common up and down the country
like that Liverton school I went
to see more than a year ago. I
have got to know the parents of one of
the lads, well-to-do people, and been
to their house three or four times.
There are only four sisters of ages
ranging from 14 to 21, but I hardly
think you will consider that a just
cause or impediment to my visits.
I have one cause of dissatisfaction
as regards my post, and that is the
ungenerous pay: it is all very well for
a time, but I must have an increase
soon, elsewhere if not here.
I spend my holidays in Oxford. Last
August I called to see Roberts at
Bulcombe and spent a very pleasant
week with him, not forgetting of course
to visit Stonehenge. He has ~~pretty~~ rooms

in a pretty cottage, enlivened by his piano. The village is very small and must be exceedingly dull in winter. I read the lessons for him on the Sunday evening in a chapel of ease at one end of the parish. His vicar is a very aristocratic old man, - an old-fashioned High Churchman - who dresses for dinner every day, and on the whole is ~~not~~ unlike a clergyman. Roberts, however, likes him, so perhaps my idea of him is a mistaken one, as I only saw him for a few hours one evening.

At R's request I wrote to Humphreys, urging him to revive a correspondence, but to no purpose. I understand, however, that he has just been up to Oxford for Group A.I. I must not forget to mention that Roberts was priested at the last ordination.

We saw the ordination in Oxford Cathedral a fortnight ago, the only candidate we knew being Hodgson who has got the St. Peter-le-Bailey curacy. He preached his first sermon last night. Chavasse is getting on as well as ever.

A great number of people attended the midnight service last Saturday. Our friend Simpson has at last ended his troubles, & taken his degree. I returned to Oxford just in time to say good-bye to him. He told me he was walking with his mother at Blackpool last summer, when they came across C. F. Ward, and had a few minutes' conversation. He was with some lady - the same I presume he brought to Oxford once. Nobody has heard from him. I actually succeeded in getting a letter from Wood last term - very short and uninteresting: he appears to be prospering up there. I hear nothing of Sumner. Brooksbank lost his mother a few weeks ago. He is still reading here for his History School. You see with not being in Oxford in term I am rather short of accurate information respecting our friends. The Dought-Newtons are still disengaged. Captain

Williams has had another addition
to his family - another young Cap-
tain.

I wonder if you over there are ta-
king part in the meetings for Uni-
versal and United Prayer, to be held
this week. I think the idea is a
capital one.

I sh^d. think the Bishop would feel
rather interested in you, when he
found you were one of his audience
at Elaydon. I remember him saying
then how pleased he was to come
across new families with that
annual gathering.

I hope you are overcoming the dif-
ficulties of yr. situation, and
finding congenial work; but of this
I have no clear information. What
sort of a place is Melbourne?
and its scope and prospect in
that part of our Empire for anyone
in the scholastic line? I am
naturally making inquiries, though
I have formed no plan of emigrating.

Christopher and Cox both preached, the former before twelve, and the latter after, the old and young year — not a bad idea.

You may have heard that Jackson is married and been elected Rector of Exeter. The new Censor is Pope of Worcester, a rather promising head I think. Jackson received a very decent testimonial; the subscriptions were limited to 1/- each. I knew nothing about it, so I never contributed. In a few months the Non-Coll. Board quarters will be moved from Clarendon Buildings to a costly edifice adjoining the School more elegant than useful: there is not much to see for £4000.

As they are not far from Univ. perhaps I ought to mention Miss Bright, who are not ^{quite} so good-looking as formerly. The eldest married a Yorkshire squire, a Univ. man, some time ago.

To mention a few public facts. The Home Rule question is causing a lot of stir all over the country. I read of one or two great meetings in Oxford, one addressed by Salisbury

yet. If I can get decent pay in England I shall stay, but if I find my work continues to be unremunerative, I may possibly try the Colonies, but it would be hard to make such a resolution. One of my colleagues at Devonport said he had read an article by the Headmaster of Melbourne Grammar School, stating that local influence and prejudice now militate against the prospects of an English University man in the scholastic line. Is that so? I shd. be glad if you could give me some reliable information on the point. It was not Australia where Sumner got that lucrative tutorial appointment, was it?

Jan. 3. I went to one of the prayer meetings yesterday afternoon. It will be interesting to you to hear that Christopher was there with his trumpet, doing his best to hear, and yawning without covering his mouth, in the most public fashion. I have been told that on New Year's Eve, at the St. Aldate's midnight service

and another by Dillon in the Corn Exchange: several hundred pounds was spent in fitting up the building with additional galleries (for Salisbury's meeting) and seats fetched a guinea and half a guinea. It was the occasion of a Conference of Conservative Associations. I hear several men got sent down for rowdiness. Gladstone is exceedingly energetic: it is even suggested that his visit to Florence till the opening of Parliament will not terminate without an attempt to influence the Pope in favour of his Irish schemes.

The Pope has just been celebrating his Jubilee, you know, and the Queen must needs send him a golden bowl wh. I think he intended to use at the celebration of his Jubilee Mass! We have got a Roman Catholic Lord Mayor and Home Secretary; the next thing will be the establishment of diplomatic relations with the Vatican! Then there is Mackonochie's funeral, conducted in the most ritualistic and Romish manner — Requiem Mass etc. etc.

Jan. 4th.

I do not think I have much more
to say that would interest you.
How very unlikely ~~our~~ to be
realised is our project of taking
our M.A. together! Instead of
being within easy distance of
one another, we who assemble
on the White Horse are all
widely separated. Do you
come across Oxford men at all
out there? I always like to
meet with people who have some
accurate knowledge of the University,
who are aware for instance of the
force of the term "Non-Collegiate", &c.
I expect there are not too many of
that description at Melbourne.

Captain Williams, I forgot to mention,
had his annual "yachting expedition"
in the Summer Term. Brooksbank
forwarded me an amusing description
of it.

May was up last term attending lectures at Wycliffe Hall though he did not join that institution.

Barrow took his degree not long ago, and that old Keer managed to get through Smalls.

Your friend Stretch-a-point has shaved completely and is at first sight unrecognisable.

Pryor married that Miss Orwood a few months ago, and has got a curacy at Birmingham.

My sister ^{who is waiting for the vac.} has got a post in a family at Wakefield, the duties of wh. she enters upon in about a week. I don't like the idea altogether, but we thought it best under the circumstances that she shd. go in for something of the sort. We shall be at tremendous distance from each other. However, we are becoming rather accustomed to separation,

for she has not been • with me at
Davenport. She wishes to be
remembered to you.

Do you think of returning if your
voice improves, or does the colony
prove congenial enough to cause
you to stay? I hope I shall
hear from you before the time
when a reply to this wd. reach
me. I expect this will be a
sort of Valentine.

Enclosing one or two views, and
wishing you complete and speedy
restoration,

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

H. W. Padley.

[P.T.O.]

My Dronport address
is "20 Victoria Place
Stoke, Dronport"
but "46 Southminster Road
Oxford" will
always find me

77nd college friend
J. H. Jones