

Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> 1889 " Castlebar Court  
Ealing, London, W.  
Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> 1889

My dear Jones,

My last letter to you was written at Anerley S.E. I am now at Ealing, W., where my principal removed at the beginning of this term.

It was a pleasure to me to forward those letters. Sumner replied from Bath (St. James') and Wood from Bridlington, where he was staying for his holidays. The latter wrote that "it was all very well for young men, but old men had better stay at home": but my sister who is living at Bedford just now, and occasionally sees the wards, says that Wood is now likely to embark sooner than they on account of his health, that the Sumners have decided to go, as well as Brooksbanks's fellow-curate, and that Hodgson is thinking the matter over. Your invitations therefore appear to have been very successful; but still lest you should be disappointed, I would advise you not to rely too much on this information, part of which may be



only rumour. Hodgson, whom I saw during the holidays, gave me no hint of such an intention, though the change of Vicars may possibly have created it. The new Vicar of St. Peter-le-B. is the Rev. H. C. Squires, Chavasse's brother-in-law, lately returned from India. I hardly think him a suitable successor: he did not take my fancy when I heard him three or four years ago.

Ward as you know has joined Mycliffe Hall. He seems to be much better off than formerly, and talks of not being influenced by pecuniary considerations: but is he really going to get £200 a year (or even £250 I believe he said) to begin with at Melbourne? I remember however you said money did not go quite so far over there. W. read the lessons at St. Peter's during the holidays, and better than most men C. gets, in fact very well, & with a firm, strong, though not entirely agreeable voice: but he could easily overcome certain peculiarities.

It was I who posted you that paper containing the degree list wh. included Ward C.F., White, & Wood. Those fellows

Ward C.F.



Dr. Rufus Thomas

actually took the very earliest opportunity  
Finding you are well posted up in  
church news, I need not say much  
about it. My sister and I have  
now heard your friend Thomas  
frequently. He is a capital preacher,  
and we like him very much. My S.  
thinks a deal of his ability, and  
mentions her visits to St. Aldate's with  
evident gratification. I remind her  
that he is (so they say) already engaged,  
and also for fun discuss the possi-  
bility of his being ploughed for  
Smalls! — a catastrophe which  
the alleges would not lessen her high  
opinion of him! Among certain Ox-  
ford ladies, going to St. A. to hear W.H.  
G.V. is styled "going a Thomasing", & I  
have heard "St. Thomasing" suggested as  
an emendation. It is said he is going  
to take the Arts Course, and I have  
no doubt he will do well.

What do you think of the establishment  
of Mansfield College in our midst?  
It was opened with considerable éclat  
at the beginning of term and is now  
in full swing. The block of buildings  
is in every respect worthy of the old  
city, and has a most elegant ex-  
terior, especially the chapel. It lies



not far from Holywell Church, but nearer the Park. Poor old Hatch, one of its ready supporters, who was present at the opening breakfast, has just died rather suddenly. You remember him well, no doubt.

I hope to visit Oxford again for the approaching holidays, and to have some skating, which is always very enjoyable there.

In August I went to Nuneham for the first time: we were invited to join a party going by steamer. St. Aldate's Choir had their outing there on the same day under the supervision of Thomas and Coe.

I have not yet revisited the White Horse. There really are some nice spots in the neighbourhood of Oxford. I think we both missed a deal of pleasure by neglecting the river as we did. One day last holidays we rowed to Lyntonham, and then climbed a hill, the existence of which I quite unaware of, affording a splendid view - the best in the district, I think. Have you interesting scenery in your parish?

Brasenose new buildings in the High are almost completed.

I remembered the 3<sup>th</sup> inst and how we



pared on that evening four years ago, visiting Price Parry's rooms and then witnessing the row. I have not heard that anything of the sort took place this time.

You may not have forgotten my old landlady at 48 Southmoo Road: her husband has just "done a month" for embezzling from his employer. She still keeps lodgers: it is a good thing for the family that the licence was not withdrawn.

By the way, did you hear of West's election to a Birmingham incumbency? I will risk the superfluousness of my account. Three men put up, and were voted for. West was strongly opposed by the brewing interest but obtained a fair majority over his high church opponent: the other candidate was an stranger and failed to score many votes. It was a novel proceeding.

An old friend of yours — the mother of two young friends of yours, — Mrs. Knight Newton, inquired after you. I am told, the other day, at Arkell's annual Drawing Room Meeting for the Church P. A. Soc.

Pearson is about to leave St. Ebbe's.

Glad you had such a successful mission. it seems religious work is in full swing in the colonies, and the home methods approved. Do you call the colonists callous as a body?



Your remark "The very name of Christ was expunged from the lesson books some years ago" speaks badly for their general spiritual tone. I believe you once spoke of the difficulty of getting people to take a deep sincere interest in religious matters, though they were willing to contribute money. Perhaps indifference rather than freethought is their characteristic.

I must mention another visit I paid to Father Ignatius. He holds an annual mission in Westminster Town Hall, followed as usual by three or four "orations": it was one of these "orations" that I had the opportunity of hearing. The subject was "The Bishop of Lincoln & the Catholic ceremonies". I expected a violent denunciation of everything Protestant; instead of that we had a speech of studied moderation, now and again a little sarcastic in reference to the Church Assoc., but breathing no uncharitable spirit: in fact he took such pains to be moderate, & inquired so impartially against past want of spirituality among ritualists that our party seemed to come off splendidly in the contest. I quite enjoyed it, because it was quite evident that his evangelicalism is still a



power with him: he admitted in the course of his address the help he had received from Nonconformists. His audience, however, or at any rate his professed supporters, never seem to be enthusiastically evangelical, do they?

A. & M. and Sankey are a rather peculiar combination to use in the same parish: but probably you cd. not see your way to banishing the former, but get over the difficulty by avoiding the objectionable hymns. I am inclined to advocate the disuse of unsound hymns as soon as possible. Unsound doctrine, nicely versified and wedded to a pretty tune, is apt to become rooted the more easily, don't you think?

It is convenient to be so near town. On the 9<sup>th</sup> we had a whole holiday, so I ran over for the Lord Mayor's Show — the first I had seen. The line of route was thronged, and the shop windows too, from Strand to the Tower. The procession included much that was interesting — a series of ancient L. M.B. in col.



times peculiar to their periods — representations of Oliver Cromwell, John Hampden, &c. &c.

Last summer of course, we had the shik to look at. I saw him twice. He had a good time of it. I have been going in for football a good deal lately. Do they take any interest in it, where you are? I shd. like to know whether there is a cordial feeling of loyalty to the mother-country among the Austr. colonists, & if it is a fact that ill-feeling was shown towards English exhibitors at the last Melbourne Exhibition.

With best wishes for your health (which I hope is now thoroughly established) and for a happy New Year for you both

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

H. W. Padley

P.S. My sister sends her kind regards.

Headquarters as usual

46 Southmore Road

I do hope this letter is not above weight