

Please
give my love to
Emily I will write
her very soon.



(46)
Nov. 25. 83.

Dear Howard

We are in the
midst of a wet Sunday which
is an event not much appreciated
here especially by those such as
myself who look forward to it as
a day on which to be out in the
fresh air a little. I am much
looking forward to this term coming
to an end for though perfectly
well in general health I feel rather
muddled & have acquired the

power of rapidly forgetting anything
I read.

Of course you will have heard of poor
Hornby missing his London Exam.
I can't understand it except on the
ground that he has got 'stale' through
over-reading which is most probably
the real ^{cause} of things. I think

if he could get a change for a
little & the chance of pulling himself
together again & then starting once
more that he would probably be all
right. It will be very depressing
to him I fear but I don't think away

people know that he was in for it
~~get~~ which is a good thing. We
always used to credit him with a
very fair power of getting up Exam.
work & I believe he has it notwithstanding
these failures. He is a kind of
fellow who gets 'sluggish' & heavy if he
does not get exercise.

Just now we are having
two or three subjects occupying
attention here & I wish that my time
were free so as to take more interest
in them. In the first place

'virescentia' is on: there is a somewhat
strong opposition to any of it under

any form (of course the very name
of 'intersection' rather begs the question)
being carried on in any 'varsity'
buildings. There is a debate on at
the Union next Thursday: a Balliol
man moves that the house disapproves
of its being practised in any University
buildings - Macquiden will open the
opposition to him + there will probably
be a good debate. For some things
I wish that I had begun speaking at
the Union but to do anything there takes
up too much time especially as I am
trying to get through my course in a
year less than the usual time.
Besides this the great subject of the day

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here or the one which is going
to be the great one is the social
question — what is to be done with
+ for the lower classes.

Oxford seems to be once more
coming to the front + though at
present it is merely being talked about
in every college + lectured about we
shall have before long some great
movement + the best of it is that
it is coming in our time + that we
shall be able to do our share in
the work. Have you seen anything

of what is called the "University Settlements" idea. This is in the main

that 'Vandy men (perhaps belonging to one college or to various colleges) should form a kind of settlement that is that a place should be kept in some poor part of one of our great towns such as the East End of London with lecture & class rooms that it should be under the charge of some older man & should be made the centre of work of various kinds: 'vandy men would be the workers not permanent ones

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necessarily but the aim would be for them to undertake for a longer or shorter time work in which they were fitted - such things as teaching or lecturing or acting or singing or almost anything. They would go about & amongst the people & try to get to understand them & their needs & if possible to give them in their lives what Matthew Arnold would call "Sweetness & light". It is really a modified form of Socialism & is indeed almost Spinoza's that name here. Of course such a scheme as this would have to be much modified before being made practically useful but

the very fact of such things being
discussed as earnestly as they are
shows the deep interest that is being
awakened in them & that we shall
yet see Oxford at the head of a new &
this time a social movement. To a
certain extent it must be unconnected with
what would ordinarily be called 'religious'
object & might perhaps on this ground meet
with opposition from many though of course
it would really be anything but opposed
to real religion: at all events it would be
distinctly unsectarian as its leaders are & would be
most probably outside the church that is held
no position in this.

I find that my time is up as I have to read
in chapel this evening so must close at once.
In friend,
W.S.S.