

10 Dec. 85.

77

5 Mus. Terr.

Dear Howard,

I'm sorry you missed getting Barlow in for the Cheshire Div. but hope you may have better luck next time: anyway it does good to show the people that you are not too frightened to run a candidate. However very likely next elections will see the boroughs more liberal & the counties more conservative. The result in the latter this time is certainly

starting.

Meanwhile say the Tories stick to office & be free to carry on a little bit of liberal home legislation while at the same time they settle things somewhat abroad.

Salisbury is certainly a powerful man in the latter way & thus a conservative cabinet under probably have the great advantage of being unanimous in any policy which is more than could be prosecuted meaning a liberal cabinet containing Goschen, Jelfe, Chamberlain &

Hastings! This latter ~~is~~ ^{is} the
want with particular well I
say & there is no doubt that
the kind around must soon be
leader of a party which most
entirely want contain Goschen & his
friends. The liberal party just
now is scarcely homogeneous enough to
work well against Tories & Irish combined.

I can't exactly say when I shall
be down north but perhaps it
may be very soon:
think of running away from here very
soon being rather tired of work & get

having a lot which I must get through
this vac. The Lincoln affair does
not come on till January (3rd week I (any))
so I shall read hard for it: in health
I'm perfectly well but just in that condition
mentally in which I can't do any real good
so I shall most likely be down soon &
begin to read after a day or two's vac.

I shall be glad to see you at Bowdon & very
glad if you could arrange for Lillie to be there
also. However I'll write before long.

Lillie tells me that ^{Monteath's} Kennie is staying at
Woodley which is a good sign. I suppose
nothing has been heard of from China. Of course
W. R. would agree with us if he knew but then
he does not. W. Monteath has scarletina -
hence Kennie's going to Woodley - they ^(the Monteaths) asked that he
might do so which looks well.

WRS.