

May 25. 86

(86)

LINCOLN COLLEGE  
OXFORD

Dear Howard

I have had a  
very week one more & have  
been rather fagged. Dining out  
is enjoyable but I find it rather  
tiring: & on Wed. I was at  
a Christ Church 'fellows': a  
select party of ~~about~~ only 6. The  
man himself is somewhat of an  
opiscure & been on his "best Burgundy"  
& '47 Port. I have quite given  
up all hope of being able to

distinguish me  
from another & believe a great  
deal of crisscross work is a  
brand. At the dinner however

there was an interesting man - a  
fellow of University Coll. who should  
have been fellow of Christ Church but  
was known not on account of his  
religious views.

It was one of  
the last acts of Pusey's life to be  
carried down in a letter to vote  
against his election. I am  
afraid Pusey was somewhat narrow as

far as one can hear. He & his  
party declined to subscribe to the  
memorial to Cranmer & Latimer put  
up here & when specially written to  
by the chairman of the Committee  
saying that as the leaders of a distinct  
Church party their subscription would  
be very welcome replied that  
they would be extremely happy  
to subscribe on one condition -

that on the memorial should be  
inscribed "Ecclesia ignibus  
Marianis purgata"! A trifle  
cool. The memorial went  
up without their assistance.

On Sunday I was dining at  
New Coll. the best High table I  
have yet dined at. I had a  
long discussion after dinner in  
common room with one of their chief  
docs on the subject of specialism  
maintaining that this was absolutely  
essential. Afterward I had  
a talk with Sylvester the great mathemat-  
ician whose name you may have heard.  
I feel dreadfully young & junior  
amongst these people but find them  
all extremely kind & as yet have  
not come across any Mark Pattison  
to damp one's energies.  
Fortunately as a science man one is

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allowed - even expected - to be  
energetic to a certain extent.

I have just come in also from  
a dinner at the Rectors.

It was rather a select party with  
Max Muller Mrs. & Miss. The  
Hon. Bodrich of Merton. Canon  
Bright + a few others.

Fortunately at dinner I had charge  
of a niece of the Rectors a delightful  
girl + so much enjoyed what  
might have been a formidable meal.  
I was much struck with the great

suburb of conversation which came  
the moment we sat down &  
were ceased the whole evening:  
also it bore witness to the truth of  
the statement that general conversation  
is rare in England. Eugene spoke  
to his or her neighbour with of  
course the exception of Mary who  
my own & there I drew a number  
in very closely & there being brought  
people together for a little let them  
separate into paragraphs.

I was much interested in watching  
& in talking to my neighbour.

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After dinner

Miss Mary Sturton says

Mary M. accompanying her: he  
seems to play very well indeed.

I shall gradually get to know  
people but have scarcely time  
enough to do this kind of work in  
& further feel dreadfully young.  
I receive a letter full of this kind of  
things but my ordinary work would  
be seen more immediately to you  
than this.

I am hard at work day & night  
on the Ligado eye & hope to  
make a good thing of it: I  
shall have a paper ready for the

Royal Society before long now.  
I trust you will excuse my not  
writing but it is simply my  
work in this way & having to spend  
all my spare time in going out  
which prevents my doing more  
in the way of writing.

I hope you are all well at Brodwin.  
Please remember me to Emily.

V WMS