

health. But during the
five months she was confined
to bed, she had stimulants
in considerable quantity -
it was absolutely necessary,
& was given with the
doctor's knowledge and
sanction - and she had
often three or four grains
of opium a day in addition.

This state and condition,
with mental disturbance
and the necessity for
stimulants, is, I imagine,
the ground for the false
report that she is intemperate.

Melcombe Horsey Rectory
Dorchester, Dorset
16 Novem 1886

(1264)

Dear Sir
I beg to offer my most
grateful thanks for your
letter, and for the great
kindness of which it is the
outcome.

The accusations are
utterly false -
This year my wife has
been confined continuously
to bed for five months.
The illness was connected
with what is usually termed

'Change of life'. The derangements connected with this period have extended over several years - A few years ago she was so ill I sat up with her for seventeen successive nights, and during that time was not in bed either day or night. We were in hourly anticipation of her death. She had severe & prolonged faintings. She has had attacks, less severe, from time to time for many years, - and on these

occasions there is great mental disturbance, and these prolonged faintings. None of the usual remedies for faintings - as Sal Tolatide &c - are of use, and her doctor in the North told me to give her stimulants - Brandy or Whiskey - and never mind what people said, as nothing else roused and restored her.

She has now, so far as I can judge, emerged from that condition and period in which these attacks occur - and is improving in

It is utterly false that there has been any improper intimacy with her -

But I have heard once or twice that before coming to us, her record was not of the best. Under these circumstances malicious persons apparently have seen an opportunity for a venomous slander.

The maid is still with us - She has for some time been engaged to a young man, and he told me a few days ago they were going to be married soon.

The accusation is utterly false, as when she is free from these attacks, or menace of these attacks, she takes only a very small quantity of any kind of stimulant. 12

As to myself I am open to the visits of my parishioners, or friend, morning, noon or night - and there is not a shadow of foundation for the accusation.

I lived for nearly twenty years in a populous district in the Diocese of Ripon,

and my life was open to
the scrutiny of everybody.
It was during an illness
that the report was spread
about me by a malicious
person there. Friends
gathered round me, and
subscribed & gave me
over £60 as a token of
sympathy. I was very
much in need of it, and
this brings me to the
nackpoint. I came here
very poor, and am still
very poor. Since your
sons were here, we have
kept only one maidservant.

I could not very well afford to
keep two as well as a
man-servant to take charge
of the garden and pony. We
have had only one maid-servant
during my wife's illness.
With all the unavoidable
expences consequent on her
illness, I could not afford to
have a nurse in addition,
and a nurse was less
necessary as the maid is a
very good nurse, and
always during my wife's
faintings had much courage
& address. She was an
invaluable help -

very kind letter. As you
say 'forewarned is forearmed',
and I do not doubt that in
a short time I can
put my heel effectually
on the neck of these slanders.

I beg to remain
Faithfully Respectful and
very grateful Yours
Joseph Hall

To

General Pitt-Rivers F. R. S.

(L254)

It is evident that (3
slandrous tongues have
been at work, but I am
sure they can only be
few. The Church is as
well attended as ever,
and with the exception of
one individual there is
not the smallest diminution
of cordial friendship towards
us, nor the smallest
diminution of respect to
us among the cottagers
and poor people.

It is painful - intensely
painful to know that these

Things have been said, -
and your letter is the first
direct intimation I have had
of them, but these reports,
like other groundless talk
will in a short time
die away. We shall
live them down.

Being poor I could not
very well afford two servants
- nor a nurse. Even with
your kind help in sending
your sons here as pupils,
I have not been able
yet to get before the world
in pecuniary matters.

I had been still poorer before
coming here. My last
living was only £150 a
year, - and now at the
end of each half year, I
am still owing the Bank
£150. Having to pay
interest constantly to the Bank,
and with diminished Tithe,
my net income here is not
much over £200 - But
notwithstanding this, I shall
at once have a second
servant in the house.

I try to accept my very
grateful thanks for your

pinion to work O. G. end. and
crosswires. The left a similar
barrel to outward appearance but
without glasses. This tube
would contain the spirit level
and reflector. The cost of such
an instrument would be about
£ 5. 15. 6. if finished like
ordinary Mathematical Instr.
but if covered with leather
and japanned like field glasses,
the cost would be about £ 7. 10. 0.

Great Pitt Rivers Nov. 19. 86.

L264a

Dear Sir.

Since your visit yesterday
we have thought of a plan of
overcoming the difficulties about
which you spoke in the Telescope
Letter. We would propose
to have a kind of field glass.
as regards shape, the right barrel
would be an ordinary Telescope
with erecting eye piece and ^{eyepiece} ~~and~~