

respectful and very sincere
congratulations. -

I beg to remain

Faithfully & Respectfully yours

Joseph Hall

Melcombe Horsey Rectory
Dorchester Dorset
1816
29 Jan'y 1892

Dear Mrs Rivers

I beg to thank you very
much for kindly favouring
me with a line as to the
General's condition. I should
have written before to
thank you, - but that in the
early part of the week, very
gloomy accounts concerning
the General reached this
neighbourhood, - and I
thought it better to wait
until I could learn
something definite.

But, in the local papers there was nothing unfavourable; - later on I heard better accounts, - and the London Standard of yesterday confirmed those accounts.

I beg to offer my very sincere congratulations to both you and the General on this favourable change, - which I hope will be maintained until he is quite restored to good health again.

His numerous, - I may say countless, - friends and admirers will be rejoiced at this happy prospect of

his complete recovery. A life so valuable as the General's; valuable not only to his family and to so many others; but no less valuable to the Scientific world at large, could be very ill spared from among us. I trust he may be spared many, many years to come; - and that he may be one of those Sons of Science whose lives cover the larger part of a century.

May I ask you kindly to convey to him my