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## Rambling Recollections of John Crawford Woods. B.A. volume 2

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We had a pleasant voyage in the Victoria. We left London on April 19<sup>th</sup> and reached Adelaide on May 25<sup>th</sup>. [1891] We had several Aristocratic fellow passengers – The Dowager Lady Howard of Glossop as far as Brindisi, The Countesses of Hopetown and Kintore, Lords North and Rossmore, the Hon. Miss North, Hon. M<sup>r</sup> Bagot – Hon. Henniker – Major, Landy Brown & c. We had also several professional musicians on board. among them were Sir Charles and Lady Hallé. We called at Gibraltar, Malta, Brindisi, Port Said, Suez, Aden, Colombo and Albany before we reached Adelaide. We were unfavourably impressed with the manners of

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some of our aristocratic fellow - passengers. They were boisterous, noisy, and “selfish to the backbone.” Lady Howard and Lady Kintore were exceptionally free from any thing we could find fault with. Lady Hallé told us of a man’s remark to one who, getting skates on, complained that he felt awkward in them – “I suppose you thought skating as easy as learning to play the fiddle.” We had not one storm on the voyage. Concerts, theatricals and [ ... ... ] entertainments helped to keep us from “thinking long,” as the people of Ulster say. We had a clergyman on board who conducted a service every Sunday. When we reached Albany in

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Western Australia I received a telegram of welcome from the Adelaide Unitarians Congregation, and when we arrived at Largs Bay, South Australia, we were met by several old friends and by the Rev. R.C.Dendy. I preached in the Unitarian Church, Adelaide on the first Sunday after my arrival and the Church was filled. We were welcomed at a Social Meeting of the Congregation on the following Wednesday which was well attended – The whole assemblage joined in singing “Auld lang syne.” We made lengthened visits to some old friends – at Parkside with Simpsons,

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at Rosepark with the Saunders and at Norwwood with the Kays. Then we settled down for a time at Glenelg. I gave a lecture at the Unitarian School- -Room for the benefit of its friends, which was well attended. The subject was “Notes on a trip to the Continent of Europe” On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September my fatherinlaw M<sup>r</sup>. Alfred Simpson died suddenly in his 87<sup>th</sup> year. He was a man of superior ability, and warm affections. He was unfortunate in business in England and had a hard struggle at first in Australia, but was ultimately very prosperous as a Manufacturer of iron and tin articles \ware/. He bequeathed £500

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to the Adelaide Unitarian Church and enough to my wife and me to make us free from money cares for the rest of our lives. On the 29<sup>th</sup> of October the annual Meeting of the Unitarian Church, Adelaide, was held. The evening was wet and there was not a large attendance. A considerable decrease in the general funds of the Church was reported; but on the other hand it was announced that the debt on the Schoolroom would be cleared off at the end of the year; which will make the expense of the church-working less, as interest on borrowed money will no longer have to be paid. Pleasant reference was made to the

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fact of the return to the Province of myself and my wife, and of my willingness to help in the Services of the Church. M<sup>r</sup>. Simpson's bequest of £ 500 to the Church was gratefully acknowledged. A vote of thanks was passed to the Rev. R.C. Dendy for his services during the past year. It was not enthusiastically carried, and M<sup>r</sup>. Dendy in acknowledging it said he was ready to resign if people wished him to do so, and that if they so desired they ought in common honesty to say so. On Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1891 I preached in Adelaide to a good Congregation, M<sup>r</sup>. Dendy, having gone to preach the Anniversary Sermon at Shady Grove.

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We dined at Parkside. It was mentioned that M<sup>r</sup> Wilfred Simpson was my attorney, and I asked little Sarah Simpson if she knew what an attorney was – She replied 'a brother in law' of course. I have been thinking of how little it took to offend some people during the course of my ministry in Adelaide. I will mention a few cases. Soon after I arrived and the Church was built a merchant named Fischer joined the church. He sat in a front pew and brought his family with him. After a time they all ceased to attend. I enquired the reason why, and was

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told that M<sup>r</sup> Fischer was offended because I had passed him on the street without speaking to him. I went to his place of business and explained to him that I meant no incivility and that I was a nearsighted and a brown studyish man. He was [ ... ] at the interview; but never came to the Church again. Another man left because a fellow worshipper found fault with him about the forwarding of some goods. Another left because the agent of a Member of the Congregation asked him to pay an account. Another went away – a man having the name of Charming – because his hymnbook had been

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put in somebody else's pew. Another did the same because wearing a very shabby coat on Sunday, a well to do man who sat behind him, deeming him poor, sent him a cast-off coat of his own. In Edinburgh a lawyer's clerk, known to the attendant at S<sup>t</sup>Mark's Chapel as "Newman Noggs," on account of his wearing his trousers very short and general eccentricity, deserted my ministry when I was there because he, having offered to preach for me, I declined his services. I strove not to offend him, consulted friends who said the offer was ridiculous and that it would never do to accept it. I wrote several

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letters to him before I selected one I thought sufficiently conciliatory. I might as well have taken no trouble. The little man became my enemy and though I met him after on the streets he would never return my salutation. His name was Usher. On the 21<sup>st</sup> of November 1891 General Booth, as he is called, visited Adelaide. He was received by a great number of followers, and rode in a carriage drawn by six grey horses. Some people remarked 'rather different from the entry of his Master into Jerusalem'. Booth has delivered several speeches – I have only read reports of them. They seem frothy and poor. The man, however, must have wonderful power of

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organization. His system keeps people from drink and other vices I must wish it success; but the irreverence and grotesqueness of the Salvation Army tactics are a high price to pay for this object. I heard of a man who was shipwrecked and who swam ashore. He sent a telegram to his friends "I am saved.". Now, they did not know he had been to sea at all, and when they got his telegram they were puzzled; but finally concluded he had joined the Salvation Army. so telegraphed back to him the single word "Hallelujah". I am told by people who saw him that General Booth is not a prepossessing looking

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man: on the contrary rather like a London oldclothesman – an Israelite in whom there is much guile. In December 1891 my wife and I went to Port Elliot to escape the heat of Adelaide. Port Elliot is 54 miles from Adelaide in a Southeasterly direction. It is a pleasant place and the scenery about the sea-shore is bold and picturesque. We had good accommodation. Everything neat and clean in our lodgings. Different from some country places of the public house order. I heard of one Bushinn where at dinner the landlady found some large article in the soup. On investigation she found, she said,

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that it was a bit of Hughy's sock. To those acquainted with the personal appearance and habits of Hughy a bit of his sock would not raise an appetite for the soup in which it was found. Jan. 22. We have spent several weeks at Port Elliot and visited some pleasant places in the neighbourhood. I have an idle life and as I have been nearly all my life a worker I do not take kindly to it. My moral sense, too, rebels against spending time uselessly. My consolation is that I am laying in a store of health and strength, and that when I get back to my home at Knightsbrige – (S.A) I

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shall be able vigorously to do some- -thing for the benefit of my fellow -creatures. We have had cool weather this summer on the whole; but Wednesday last ( Jan. 20<sup>th</sup> ) was the hottest day there has been in South Australia for 10 years. It was 165° in the sun and 106 in the shade. On Jan 18<sup>th</sup> 1882 it was 180° in the sun and 111.8° in the shade. In Jan. 20<sup>th</sup> 1880 it was 172° in the sun and 113.5 in the shade. On this day Jan.22<sup>nd</sup>. it is quite cool and raining – After spending more than a week at Parkside Adelaide on the 13<sup>th</sup> February 1892 my wife and I started in the Innamincka steamer for Sydney

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New South Wales. We called for a day and a half at Melbourne and visited the Rev. John Macdowell, the Unitarian Minister of the place, He is a Belfast man and I found him very genial, pleasant and hospitable. I called at the place of business of Hamilton Moore an old schoolfellow of mine and cousin of my brother Hugh's wife; but he was not there. Melbourne impressed me more than ever before with its size, its grand buildings and bustle. We arrived in Sydney on the 18<sup>th</sup> of February and found it very warm, with a moist

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semitropical heat. We had a good view of the Harbour and we agreed in thinking we had seen nothing more beautiful in all our travels. Sydney itself is greatly improved since I saw it last nearly 30 \25/ years ago. We met at one hotel several Adelaide people whom we know and we have so far enjoyed ourselves. Today ( Saturday Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> ) we saw the Victoria Steamer in which we came last year from England start on her voyage for the old Country. It was a fine sight; but made me feel a little home-sick; for we old Colonist always think

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of and call the land of our birth home, and even little children and young people, born out here when speaking of England, Ireland or Scotland use the word home. On Sunday (Feb 21<sup>st</sup> \21/) we went to the Unitarian Church twice. The service in the morning was fairly attended and the Rev. George Walters preached a good sermon and delivered it well. There I met Mr & M<sup>rs</sup> Turner whom I had met 24 years ago. They invited us to take tea with them on Tuesday evening and we are going to do so. We went the Unitarian Church again in the evening

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It was as full as it could hold and M<sup>r</sup> Walters gave a very eloquent and interesting lecture. He is not a prepossessing looking man, and is said to be shy and irritable in private life; but undeniably his is a power in the pulpit. I have agreed to preach for him on my return from the Blue Mountains. Today Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>. we went in a steamer to Parramatta. The scenery all the way is very beautiful and notwithstanding the heat we enjoyed our trip very much. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of Feb. we dined with M<sup>r</sup> & M<sup>rs</sup>. Turner whose acquaintance I had made many years

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ago in Sydney. We spent a very pleasant evening at their house. On the 25<sup>th</sup>. \Feb./, we started for the Blue Mountains. The night before the heat in Sydney was terrible. I only had a little sleep in the morning. The scenery here is grand. I mean at Mount Victoria N.S.W. where I now write. We are between 3 & 4 thousand feet above the level of the sea, and where as at Sydney about 70 miles off we were prostrated with the heat, here we have fires in the sitting rooms. There are some French sailors here. I noticed how they seemed disgusted with our meal, porridge at breakfast. It is raining on this

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morning Feb 26<sup>th</sup> We see few wild animals about, and Kangaroos are being exterminated "In olden times I hopped about and sported in the heather, But now the people shoot me down and turn me into leather. Kangaroo's Lament" Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>. It thundered, lightened and rained all day Yesterday and was very cold. We had a game of whist in the evening with some ladies who are staying here. When we went to bed I could not sleep for some time my feet being very cold. today it is very wt without the thunder and lightening. We must wait for fine weather; before

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we start sight-seeing. Feb. 29<sup>th</sup> being a fine day we started to see the famous Govett's leap. The scenery there is grand and the place where the hunted bushranger is said to have jumped into a dreadful chasm is both grand and terrific. It made my wife nervous to see people go very close to the edge of the awful precipice. I have noticed that the people of N.S.W. wear their hair even closer cropped than the present modern fashion. Can it be out of respect to the traditions of the country? The weather now resembles that of a delightful English Summer day. So we infer it is very hot on the plains. March 4<sup>th</sup>. We went

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Yesterday to Eskbank and passed over in doing so the zigzag railway in the direction of Lithgow and Bathurst. It is a wonderful piece of engineering and the scenery is [ ... ]. In the afternoon we went for a walk and met M<sup>rs</sup> D<sup>r</sup> Stanley of Sydney who is staying at Blackwatter and who was coming to see us. to- -day we and a party walked to Mount Yorke. We saw a dead snake and a living one on our way. The view from Mount Yorke is splendid and we all enjoyed it very much. I was pleased to find that my walking powers were good. My wife seems much stronger than she

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was since that time ago which is a pleasure to notice. March 6<sup>th</sup> . Yesterday being a wet day we stayed mostly indoors. Today my wife and I went to the top of Mount Riddington and remained there a considerable time. We felt it was as awe inspiring a procedure as going to Church and we both thought of the words of one of our hymns "Morn amidst the Mountains/Lovely solitude, Gushing streams and fountains [ *illegible* ] Murmur God is good, God is good – ~~God is Good.~~" We witnessed a thunderstorm in the distance and returned home in time to escape the rain which soon came on.

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March 8<sup>th</sup> Yesterday we went to Wentworth Falls. On our way we saw William Sandover J<sup>r</sup> and his wife on the railway platform at Katoomba; but they did not notice us. We were greatly pleased and impressed with the Falls at Wentworth; which must be finer than we saw them when there is more water. The view is very extensive and though we had a long time to wait for a returning train we were glad we went. March 11<sup>th</sup> Yesterday we went to Katoomba and took lodgings there for next week. We were delighted with the scenery. We called upon the William Sandovers M<sup>rs</sup>. at the Carrington

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Hotel. It is a splendid place. The Sandovers were glad to see us as we were pleased to see them. W. Sandover is a very prosperous man. I might be proud of my foreseeing of the careers of the youths I had in my Mutual Improvement Classes in Adelaide. Nearly all have turned out as I predicted. There are one or two exceptions. Tim Duffield has got on far better than I thought he would. and alas, one or two have not turned out as I hoped. We walked to a place called Leura Falls and were as usual rewarded though we were very hot when we got there. March 18<sup>th</sup>. We left Mount Victoria yesterday.

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for this place where we are now called Katoomba, and which is the most important place in the Blue Mountains. It has been raining for eight days and so we have not been able to see much. But we hope for brighter weather soon. There is an interesting Scotch Minister ( Rev. M<sup>r</sup>. Sutherland ) boarding here where we are. He was an Edinburgh student and has enlarged views on many subjects. I fear he is in bad health. He has been stationed at Brisbane and has been led to modify his political opinions by the excesses the folly and the hypocritical spirit and attitude of the

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so called working classes. The same thing has happened to myself. We did not go to Church at Mount Victoria. The Protestant clergyman there is too fond of Mountain dew. March 27<sup>th</sup> We have had many pleasant excursions at Katoomba and have been delighted with the beauty of the mountains, waterfalls and glens in the neighbourhood. I have been reading besides light literature M<sup>r</sup>. Haweis 'Thoughts for the Times' and have been much pleased with their breadth and liberality. Would that Christians could write on some great principles and give up sectarianism for a truly Catholic Church!

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I have just booked over a little Book called "Christian Hymns" published by Hamilton, Adams & Co. London in which I find "Nearer, my God to thee" with a verse at the end of the hymn which I have never seen before. It is this

"Christ alone beareth me  
Where Thou dost shine  
[ ... ... ] he maketh me  
Of the divine  
In Christ my soul shall be  
Nearer, My God, to Thee,  
Nearer to Thee."

I must inquire whether this verse was written by Mrs. S.F Adams ( a Unitarian ) or whether it has been added in by a "pious hand". M<sup>rs</sup>. Adams name is appended to it

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in the book. – March 28<sup>th</sup> today my wife and I went to see a grand view from Echo point passing in our walk the residence of Sir Frederick Darling, Chief Justice of New South Wales.

The place is called Silianfels. When sitting in enjoyment of the view a party came to where we were from the Chief Justice's house. It consisted of the Earl of Jersey ( Governor ) Lady Jersey, Lady Darling [ ... ]. Neither the Earl nor the Countess is aristocratic looking; but I believe are very highly and deservedly esteemed as excellent people. We did not know whether to acknowledge their presence or to act as perfect strangers. As I only knew who

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the Governor was by having seen him before, and as he was dressed in tourist attire I acted as if an ordinary person was present by taking no notice. I saw Lord Sheffield lately in Sydney. He is as like a common man as Lord Jersey. March 30<sup>th</sup> Went yesterday and revisited Katoomba Falls. There is a book in this House entitled "Blessed [ ... ]" by Ganne [ ... ] – An American Unitarian Minister with a preface bay the countess of Aberdeen. It is a very excellent publication and much admired by the "Orthodox". I walked this morning past the tree which was the point of distance from Port Jackson reached in what

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is now the Bathurst district by Blaxland, Lawson and Wentworth. There is an inscription to this effect in a all round the tree. April 1<sup>st</sup> Hôtel Metropole, Sydney. We left Katoomba Yesterday. The weather was very wet and colder than we liked. today we went shopping and I saw Lord and Lady Jersey at the parliament House. Lord Jersey was there in state and in his warpaint in his capacity as Governor proroguing the parliament. I saw Today some of our fellow passengers in the Victoria from England. The W. Sandovers – the Younger are staying at this hotel

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This is my brother Robert's birthday and I think of him with brotherly affection. He is 70 years old Today. It seems so short a time since we were boys together. April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Today I preached in the Unitarian Church, Hyde Park, Sydney. There was a good Congregation – It is nearly a quarter of a century since I last preached in Sydney and then it was in the old Chapel in Macquarie Street, not a vestige of which is left. I felt no failing in power in preaching; but was very tired after it. The weather was muggy and perhaps my age had something to do with the feeling. M<sup>r</sup> Walters, the Minister, publicly thanked me

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for my services in a kindly way. One man had not been to church since last I officiated in this city and said I reminded him of old times. I do not approve of his practice, which reminded \me/ of what a bad attendant at Church in the North of Ireland said of himself "I am not Gospel-greedy." April 5<sup>th</sup> We went last night to hear Alfred Tennyson Dickens give a lecture on his father at the town Hall of Paddington a suburb of Sydney. The room could hold a least 1000 people and there were not more than 50 in it on the occasion. A. T. Dickens is a short stout gentleman

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His profile is like that of the pictures of his father whom I never saw. The lecture was a good one well delivered. I once lectured on Dickens at Adelaide Town Hall and had 1000 people to hear me. It is a disgrace to Sydney that so few went to hear A. T. Dickens. An American [ ... ] dancer would have attracted more people. April 9<sup>th</sup>. This is my birthday. I am now 68 years old. My wife has kindly given me a ring to commemorate the occasion. I have thought a good deal Today of my brothers and sister. I have also had before my mind

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my follies and faults of the past. It is wonderful how the misdeeds of one's life – even those of childhood – stick to the memory. I hope I have done some good actions in my time, but

these are not so much a reward to me as the badness are a punishment. I am a better man than some people take me for and yet those who think most highly of me would be surprised to find/ ~~how~~ how humbly I often think of myself. In public life I have been honest and energetic; but I have owed my success such as it has been very much to being in earnest and having a good voice. This day leads me to this moralising. I have

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to be thankful for having a very good wife. Having been married three times I have been in this respect always fortunate. My son is to me a great anxiety; but I hope these are in all ways better times for him, though my expectations in regard to him are not just now bright. There are subjects connected with him and me that tend to sadden me. How far I am to blame for what he is, God only knows. I have at least been a kind father to him; but have I always acted wisely or rightly by him is a matter which I cannot answer off hand in the affirmative. April 14<sup>th</sup>. Received a letter from my sister Maria

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asking me to tell her the exact truth about Arthur my son. I have done so. Yesterday I received a letter from Arthur telling me he had set up as a Commission Agent [ ... ] in King William Street, Adelaide. and asking me for my good wishes [ ... ]. I am sure he has them and I only wish I was able to be sanguine of his success. I had also a kind letter from my grand daughter Violet Woods. We went yesterday to the Organ Recital at the Town Hall, Sydney – and my wife was much pleased. The music is above my power of appreciation; but I have no doubt it is very good.

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April 18<sup>th</sup> We went Yesterday to Coogee and spent the day with M<sup>rs</sup>. Stanley and her family. We had some beautiful music in the evening and had a pleasant day. I fear the Unitarians in Sydney are not very harmonious. It is a mistake for a Minister to be on the Committee of his Congregation. I never committed that error, as well might a sovereign be a member of parliament – to compare great things with small. April 22<sup>nd</sup>. I have just heard by a letter from my sister Maria ( Campbell ) of the death of my cousin Magdelene Seebody ( born Robinson ) widow of the Rev. Henry Seebody, Presbyterian

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minister of Ballinderry and a native of Bangor, Co Down. She was an aged woman and when a girl used to be often at Woodville, my father's home. She had several sons and one daughter. One son of hers is professor of Mathematics in the Magee College, Londonderry. Today my wife and I went to the famous Botany bay. It is a poor place compared with Port Jackson. On our way we saw a great number of sheep's carcasses hung up at a butcher's shop to be sold at a penny a pound. We heard a gentleman tell one of the 'unemployed' to walk quickly to a place where employment could be found. My wife and I

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were impressed with briskness of the gentleman and with the languid, lazy, careless way in which the labourer followed him – the distance becoming very considerable between them. Men of his type believe in wages but not in honest earning of them. April 26<sup>th</sup> Went with my wife last evening to the Protestant Hall, Castlereagh Street, to hear a lecture on the Woman's Cause by the Rev. George Walters. The Chair was taken by Lady Windeyer, wife of a Judge, and there was a crowded audience. The lecturer was a very able one and was much applauded by the audience. Several ladies spoke well. A working man got

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up and said that though he sympathised with the cause no subject should be considered till the all-important relations between Capital and labour was settled. He was snubbed and looked sulky. I was pleased to find a Unitarian Minister taking so good a position as M<sup>r</sup> Walters did on a matter of public interest though I do not agree with all he said. May 1<sup>st</sup>. We went Yesterday with an excursion party to an S on the Hawkesbury River. The scenery is very beautiful and we enjoyed the day very much. The Captain of the steamer was a Scotchman who used to command one

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of the steamers on the Murray. He had been in many parts of the world and said he had made fortunes for others without enriching himself. When we were stopping at a landing place for some time he entertained his passengers by singing several songs – Killarney among others. We are not going to Church this morning; but intend to hear M<sup>r</sup> Walters lecture in the evening on D<sup>r</sup> Channing “The Unitarian Evangelist”. I am reading the Inquirer and learn from a sermon in it that it is best to call the popularly denominated John’s Gospel – “the” Fourth Gospel” for obvious critical reasons. May 3<sup>rd</sup>

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We went on Sunday evening to the Unitarian Church and heard M<sup>r</sup> Walters’ lecture on Dr. Channing. The Church was crowded and the lecture was a good one – Moderate, fair and appreciative. There was nothing original in it or that has not often been said before. This perhaps, was not to be expected. Last night we went to the Centennial Hall to hear Max O’Rell lecture on “Sandy”. The lecture was very amusing. When he spoke of the Scotch religion although he was very moderate, a Scotch “Meenister” and some others got up and went out [ ... ... ] that if they could see a

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joke they could not stand a goodnatured one against some of their own peculiarities. The audience generally seemed to be delighted with the lecture. May 5<sup>th</sup> I received a letter Yesterday from my son Arthur asking me if I would [ ... ] my offer to ‘take care of’ his daughter Violet in case he should have to seek ‘pastures new’ and giving a doleful account of business prospects in Adelaide. It is very good of my wife to agree to my wish to comply with this request, as Arthur and his wife both behaved very badly to her in times when their natures were tested. I wish to do all

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I can for Arthur’s child. I have little hope for him unless he gives up alcohol altogether, which I fear, though I have urged him to do it – and have done it myself, I fear to he will not consent to. We went last night and heard Max O’Rell lecture on Yankees & Yankeedom. The lecture was better attended than the one we heard on Sandy and was a splendid one. My 9<sup>th</sup> On Friday evening we went to hear Max O’Rell lecture on “Her Royal Highness Woman.” The attendance was very good and the lecture clever and amusing. He praised the American Women more than I think they deserve, judging from my

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experience of them in my travels. We visited on Friday M<sup>rs</sup>. Grant – widow of a late Unitarian Minister of the Church here. She is in straitened circumstance and bad health. When I go back to Adelaide must see if I cannot do something to help her. We went last evening to hear M<sup>r</sup> Walters lecture on Emerson. There was a crowded attendance and the lecture was very eloquent and good. He said D<sup>r</sup> Channing had views but Emerson had visions and started the tone of thought which is now seen in Modern Unitarianism. May 16<sup>th</sup>. We went on Saturday evening to the Unitarian

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Church Liverpool St. Sydney to hear a lecture [ ... ] on Ireland – we were pleased. On Sunday ( Yesterday ) we attended Church in the morning and heard an excellent Sermon from the Rev. George Walters. I said Goodbye to him and M<sup>r</sup>. Turner. We took tea with M<sup>rs</sup>. Stanley in the evening at Coogee at M<sup>rs</sup>. Stanley's. I was shown the Registry Book of Baptisms [ ... ] of the Sydney Unitarian Church. In it I found the following record "Minnia \Minnia/ daughter of John and Martha Brown-Poneterer, Sydney, officiating Minister J. C. Woods, April 27<sup>th</sup> 1862 – Baptism Registered April 29<sup>th</sup> 1862."

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I Christened this child on my first exchange of pulpits with D<sup>r</sup>. Stanley. May 18<sup>th</sup> I was amused this morning with the politeness of a servant at the hotel ( Metropole ) at which we are staying. In telling another one to get a brandy & soda for a gentleman who had been overrefreshing himself the night before, he said 'Get M<sup>r</sup>. — his tonic! May 21<sup>st</sup>. We left Sydney on the 19<sup>th</sup> and reached this place – Grand Hotel, Melbourne the following day. The journey is a long one – 576 miles. We passed through much fine scenery – only it was too dark to see the best of it. We should have been pleased

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to see Wagga Wagga – Where the Claimant ( Calling himself Tichborne ) was a Butcher; but we only saw the station. We were both tired when we arrived here. – May 23<sup>rd</sup>. We attended the Unitarian Church Yesterday both morning and evening. There was a small congregation in the morning and a very good attendance in the evening. The services were excellent on both occasions and I was greatly pleased with the Rev. John MacDowell's sermons – especially the one in the evening on 'I will not pass this way again.' This morning Deeming the murderer is to be hanged in the gaol here ( Melbourne. )

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May 24<sup>th</sup> We went last night to hear Max O'Rell lecture on The French at Home in the Athenaeum, Collins Street, Melbourne. There was a large attendance. The lecture was very instructive, because though we have been in France and have seen a great deal of the Country we have only known hotel and railway life there as far as the people are concerned. Max O'Rell told us much about the home life of the French and declared they were the happiest people in the world. He said the English hypocrite was a religious one; a French hypocrite one of sentiment. The one pretended

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to be devout in soul the other to be tender in heart. He compared the French & English and was very fair to the people of both countries so far as I am capable of judging. The people of Melbourne did not seem to catch his points as quickly as those who heard him along with us in Sydney. We have now heard all his lectures except that to boys. In that one he tells some good stories – such as a Cockney boy, being asked by his French Teacher the plural of égal, said two gals . May 28<sup>th</sup> I have enjoyed O. W. Holmes' book entitled 'My Study Windows.' One or two sayings pleased

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me much – "The Code of Society is stronger with most persons than that of [ ... ], and many a man who would not scruple to thrust his fingers in his neighbours pocket would ~~forego~~ forego green peas rather than use his knife as a shovel." Also – "I say nothing of the quiet way in which the general term "nature" is substituted for God ( by the poet Pope ) but how utterly void of reasonableness is the theory that Nature would have left her highest product, Man, destitute of that instinct with which she has endowed other creatures.. As if reason were not the most sublimated

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from form of instinct." May 30<sup>th</sup> I preached & conducted the Service at the Unitarian Church, Melbourne, Yesterday. There was a pretty good but not large attendance. Some [ *crossed out illegible* ] Adelaide people who have come to live here spoke to me after the Service – James Martin and Edwin Pullman. In the evening my wife and I went to hear D<sup>r</sup>. Strong at the Australian Church. The Church was as full as it could hold. D<sup>r</sup>. Strong preached a good sermon and delivered it effectively though evidently suffering from a cold. It was cheering to see such an immense Congregation listening to his liberal utterances. He is

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a clear and candid speaker and uses no oratorical acts or tricks. When we were going out of the Church I was accosted by M<sup>rs</sup>. Stevens, formerly Daisy Spence who was Christened and married by me to her present husband. May 31<sup>st</sup> We spent Yesterday very pleasantly with M<sup>r</sup>. & M<sup>rs</sup>. McDowell. In the afternoon M<sup>r</sup>. MacDowell and I went to call upon M<sup>r</sup>. Greig – Son of an old deceased friend of mine who belonged to my congregation when I was minister of S<sup>t</sup>. Marks Chapel Edinburgh. Mr. G. Junior and his wife seemed very glad to see me. We afterwards called on M<sup>rs</sup>. Henderson, widow of a

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North of Ireland Presbyterian Minister. I dined with her thirty years ago in the house in which she now resides in company of the Rev. W. Bowen formerly a Unitarian Minister in the Midland Counties ( England ) and whose wife was a descendant of the famous D<sup>r</sup>. Priestley. M<sup>rs</sup>. Henderson once lived in the house of the Rev. William Porter of Newtown [ ... ] – father of the Rev. John Scott Porter and the Hon. William Porter, at one time Attorney General at the Cape of Good Hope. She told me some interesting and affecting incidents in the life of the Rev. William Porter. She was full of hospitality and I was

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sorry not to be able to accept any of her kind offers of refreshment. June 1<sup>st</sup>. I went Yesterday with Rev. John MacDowell and called upon the Rev. D<sup>r</sup>. Strong of the Australian Church and found him at home. I had been introduced to him eleven years ago by the late Professor Davidson of Adelaide. D<sup>r</sup>. Strong is a very pleasant, genial man in private and said he would call on me at my hotel. We also went to the house of his assistant M<sup>r</sup>. Addis, but he was from home. We called also on Miss Eleanor Wren of Adelaide who is staying at Windsor

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with her brother, but she was too unwell to see me. June 4<sup>th</sup>. We went Yesterday with M<sup>r</sup>. Walter Simpson over the parliament House of Victoria. My wife, who had never been in any House of Parliament before, was much pleased. Indeed, the parliament House of Melbourne compares not very unfavourable with those at Westminster. The previous evening we went to a Social Gathering of the Bachelors of the Unitarian Church and their friends – about 270 were present and an agreeable evening spent. I met there a M<sup>r</sup>. Jennings, nephew of

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D<sup>r</sup>. Alexander Gordon, late Professor in Belfast College and who 'chummed' with me two sessions at the Edinburgh University and who was first cousin of my late brother inlaw Rev. Julius M<sup>c</sup>Cullough of Newtownards, June 6<sup>th</sup> We dined on Saturday evening with M<sup>rs</sup>. Duerdin and met the Macdowells and M<sup>r</sup>. & M<sup>rs</sup>. Chester Earl there. Yesterday we went twice to the Unitarian Church, M<sup>r</sup>. MacDowell officiating – a small Congregation in the morning and a much larger one in the evening. June 8<sup>th</sup>. We went Yesterday morning to see the Flemington race-

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-course which is said to be one of the finest in the world. An official kindly showed us over all the interesting places – such as the Hill – the grandstand etc and refused a little present my wife offered him. In the afternoon we went to hear a debate in the Assembly about the railway Commissioners. It being ‘a burning question’ There was a full house and the Speakers gallery where we were was full. We heard the prime Minister, M<sup>r</sup>. Shiels, M<sup>r</sup>. Gillies, Sir Bryan O’Loughlin and several other speak. There was no eloquence, and a Labour representative was rowdy.

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Ballarat, June 11<sup>th</sup> 1892. We arrived here last night from Melbourne. We are staying at Lester’s Hotel where I spent a week eleven years ago after My wife Sarah died. Before we left Melbourne we had a visit at our hotel from the Rev D<sup>r</sup>. Strong of the Australian Church and his wife. I consider this a compliment as D<sup>r</sup>. Strong is a very busy man. He is doing a great work in Melbourne It is cheering to see a very large Church-building as crowded by liberal religionists as [ ... ] bigger Tabernacle used to be by a very different class of people – people who, however religious in their way, are quite unacquainted

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with the facts of the case about the Bible. Want of Knowledge keeps people orthodox, and yet what can be done with people who refuse to listen to anything but the Calvinism of 200 years ago? We parted with regret from Rev. John Macdowell at Melbourne, who saw us off from the station. He is a genial, kind, well informed and energetic man and I wish him great success in his [ ... ] and uphill works. June 14<sup>th</sup> On Sunday we went to S<sup>t</sup>. John’s Presbyterian Church, Ballarat. The minister of the Church did not officiate; but a Rev. M<sup>r</sup>. Cameron took his place. There was not a large congregation. The preacher, from his point of view was pretty

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fair, and insisted upon the necessity of character as a proof of religiousness – an improvement on some Presbyterian utterances. In the afternoon we went to the Botanical Gardens and Lake Wendouree. Yesterday we walked to Sebastopol – a place of gold mines. Gold- -mining is still carried on about Ballarat and pays. Today we had a pleasant walk about the town and my wife says she thinks Ballarat is the prettiest town she has seen after Paris. I would also except Edinburgh. I expected a letter from my son Arthur Today. I have written twice to him without getting any reply. Time will tell why he is silent. I am anxious about him.

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June 16<sup>th</sup> We went on Tuesday for a walk round about Lake Wendouree and then to the School of Art, where we saw some fine pictures. Yesterday we spent some time in the Ballarat School of Mines. I have no doubt the specimens of minerals we saw are very valuable; but not being a mineralogist I could only admire in a vague way. In the gallery of the building we saw some fine specimens of birds and animals stuffed – one green bird from New Zealand is particularly beautiful. June 26<sup>th</sup> We arrived in Adelaide from Ballarat on the 18<sup>th</sup> of this month

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and have been hospitably entertained at my brother in -law’s- ( M<sup>r</sup> A.M. Simpson’s ). I have been made sad by the fact that my son Arthur has gone away from his wife and child and sailed for Natal in South Africa. The future of those he has left must give me now serious concern. He has, I fear, left no provision for them. I must do the best I can under the circumstances. It is a melancholy business. I have little hope for my son’s improvement but it

is still possible he may turn over a new leaf in a fresh place. But he has been intemperate so long that it will be difficult to break off his bad habits.

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I received a few days ago a letter of thanks from the committee of the Melbourne Unitarian Congregation thanking me for preaching there one Sunday. Today I promised to conduct the Morning Service at the Adelaide Unitarian Church next Sunday. On Sunday July 3<sup>rd</sup> 1892 did go. There was a large congregation – the Church being quite full in every part except one place on the right of the pulpit which was not. however sparsely ~~attended~~ filled/ but could have held more. I am glad my old friends encourage me with their presence When I preach. I felt awkward in going into a pulpit so soon after the scandal about

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my son; but I believe people feel for me rather sympathy, than consider against me the disgrace attendant on having an only son who is a drunkard. I have written to my son in Natal a letter which so far as I was able I wished to make of an encouraging tone to him – to induce him to start afresh in some honorable career. My daughterinlaw called her a few days ago. She wishes to keep her child with her and to set up a boarding house. She asked me to pay £20 of back rent to enable her to make a start. She did not show much tact by calling my son in the presence of my wife and grand daughter “a mean

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thief”; on account of some discard between the two of them about money. I gave her a cheque for the £20. I do not think her fitted for the work she is about to undertake; nor do I believe that she has been a good wife to my son. But I pity her and she should have a trial at any rate. We are in our old home at Knights -bridge and in the bustle of cleaning, papering and painting. I brought my old dog Toby from M<sup>r</sup>. Simpson’s and chained him here; but Today he got loose and he and his chain appeared at breakfast at Parkside this morning. He is to stay there.

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July 15<sup>th</sup> I had a kind letter Yesterday from the Rev. John Macdowell of Melbourne. He being like myself an Ulster man is anxious that the elections in the old country should go against M<sup>r</sup>. Gladstone and Home Rule. I am not disposed naturally to go against those of my own race; but I am mildly in favour of giving Home Rule a trial, though I have no great confidence in the common sense of the Irish Nationalists [ ... ] as they call themselves. They have not had fairplay in the past and it remains to be seen whether they can manage themselves better than those who have oppressed them.

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And it does not follow that because I think I could manage my neighbour’s household better than he does himself that I have a right to go into his house and take the reins of government there. July 27<sup>th</sup> I have now got my old study put in order and our home will soon be ship-shape. I read Yesterday My late wife Sarah’s book “The Curate’s Friend”, and was much pleased with it. Its defect is that though the story is interesting there is a lack of exciting plot. August 10<sup>th</sup> On Monday 8<sup>th</sup> The Unitarian Young people gave an entertainment for the benefit of the Norwood Institute at

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Norwood. It was a great success and was patronized by the Countess of Kintore. I sent an account of it to Rev. John Macdowell of Melbourne. This is a sign of growing liberality August 19<sup>th</sup> Today I had a visit from a young man called Landers from Melbourne – with a letter of introduction from Rev. John Macdowell. He is a watchmakers [ ... ] and seeks

employment. He gives a very bad account of the financial state of Melbourne. I will do all I can for him. He told me of M<sup>r</sup>. Macdowell asking a young man to join his class for the study of Shakspeare and was thus replied to "Why dont you study something Modern."

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August 21<sup>st</sup> I have been struck with the following sentence in a book I am reading A text is sometimes "a more courageous kind of groan" August 25<sup>th</sup> Last evening I attended a social Meeting in the Schoolroom of the Unitarian Church. I made a speech in favour of the adoption by the congregation of the "Essex Hall Hymnae." I asked the people to think over the matter before the next Annual Meeting in October. The evening passed over pleasantly and peacefully though I do not expect all to agree with me. Complete

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unanimity in a Unitarian Congregation is rare. Freedom of thought has its little inconveniences, and though a good thing for each individual it does not seldom interfere with vigorous united action in a religious association. August 31<sup>st</sup> Had a letter recently from my nephew D<sup>r</sup>. Hugh Woods of London. He was in Dublin lately at the Tercentenary of Trinity College of which he is a graduate in Arts, Science and Medicine. He tells me of an old lady there who went to see the cyclorama of Jerusalem. Next door was a circus

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and the old lady entered the wrong place.. She was both interested and surprised at the unexpected aspect of and doing in the Sacred city; but when a girl in tights and spangles mounted a gallant steed she asked a gentleman sitting next to her "Sir, is this really Jerusalem?" It is said that gentleman laughed enough to make him ill. September 8<sup>th</sup> Today had a letter from my son Arthur from Natal, South Africa. he wrote in bad spirits and blames his 'hereditary temper' for much of his misfortunes; also false and treacherous friends, so called, not

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mention his wife who wished to have a judicial separation from him. He has written to his daughter Violet. I am very sorry for him; but he does not seem to blame himself for his drinking habits – the immediate cause of his loss of position. Sep<sup>t</sup>. 13<sup>th</sup> Yesterday to my surprise I received a telegram from Arthur in answer to a letter I sent to him to be taken to Natal by a Captain of a ship – from Port Pone. S.A. saying he would be in Adelaide in a few days – I have been amused in reading the following parody "There came to the beach a poor exile of Erin, The dew on his wet robe was heavy and \chill/ Ere the steamer that brought him had passed out of Newin's He was [ ... ... ] a bill."

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An Oxford Don was asked if he liked bananas, he replied he preferred the old fashioned nightshirt – ( not pyjamas ). Sep<sup>t</sup>. 19<sup>th</sup> I have this day arrived at the 37<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my coming to south Australia. And I believe I have been, to say the least, quite as happy and as useful as if I had stayed in Europe. Last Tuesday night my son Arthur came to see us. I received him in the spirit of the Father in the celebrated Parable. It was very good of my wife to agree to this. He has been very poorly in health and is much depressed in spirits. He has behaved quite well so far. He does not wish to meet his wife and I do not wonder. Yesterday

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there was an Anniversary Service of the Children's Sunday School connected with our Church. It was well attended. I conducted the devotional Service – M<sup>r</sup>. Dendy read one lesson and M<sup>r</sup>. Whitham the other. Miss Spence addressed the Children. I conducted the whole Service in the evening. The weather was threatening nevertheless there was a good

Congregation. — I was amused by our servant girls when they heard my son did not want any washing done by them saying to one another Perhaps he did not wear any clothes over there – ( Africa ) They probably inferred this from the

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pictures of the poor heathen of 'untutored mind' to be seen in tracts with only a bit of cotton round their loins. October 12<sup>th</sup>. Today I heard of the death of the Rev. Henry Jesson for many years Secretary of the British and Foreign Unitarian Association. I was a fellow student with him in Sir William Hamilton's Class of Logic & Metaphysics in the University of Edinburgh and became Minister of the Unitarian Chapel, Northampton, soon after M<sup>r</sup>. Jesson became a Unitarian. Several of his former Baptist Congregation became members of mine in Northampton. M<sup>r</sup>. Jesson was a distinguished student in Edinburgh and

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graduated A.M – a c a gold -Medallist. He was a very worthy man – a good scholar – a profound thinker; but not eloquent. I have had a letter Today telling me of the death of James Edward Martin, son of an old [ ... ] of English Unitarians. He was a promising young Id when I came to South Australia and became a solicitor with good prospects. But he gave way to intemperate habits and was a sad failure in life. I heard Yesterday of a little girl of eight years being asked by my old friend a good many years ago, if she would take a little pudding, saying "no, thank you M<sup>rs</sup> Clark

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I will take lots" This was candid if not polite or polished. Sep<sup>t</sup>. 7<sup>th</sup> I have just read in my newspaper that Lord Tennyson is dead. – full of years and honors. Who is to be the new poet laureate is a puzzle – Who is a poet at all of eminence now living? Time will bring an answer to one of these queries. – October 12<sup>th</sup> We have had in Adelaide an American Minister Dr. Clark advocating the Cause of a Society called The Religious or Christian Endeavour. He told of the way in which filial reverence for parents was manifested by its absence in business when a young man put over the place of business

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of which he had become a partner "John Smith & Fathers.". October 28<sup>th</sup> We have had Rev. John MacDowell and his wife from Melbourne with us for a few weeks. He has pleased the Unitarian people of Adelaide by his preaching. they are both very agreeable people. M<sup>rs</sup>. Macdowell and I went last evening to the Congregational Union Memorial Church and heard two liberal addresses by M<sup>essrs</sup>. Hawthorpe and Glasson. The emphasis was on Character and not the 'blood' theory of salvation.

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October 30<sup>th</sup>. On Saturday I went to the Sunday School ( Unitarian ) picnic which was held at Blackwood. there was a good attendance of children teachers and friends. M<sup>r</sup>. MacDowell of Melbourne was there and distributed the prizes to the children. Three cheers were given for him [ ... ] and the teachers and myself. M<sup>r</sup>. Macdowell preached two very good sermons Yesterday and has made a favourable impression on our people here. His discourses were calculated to do people good.

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November 1<sup>st</sup>. Last evening we had a meeting at the Church when M<sup>r</sup>. Macdowell gave an account of the Port Office Mission. We resolved to start a branch of it here. Ladies to meet at my house next week. Mr. Macdowell and I lunched Yesterday with M<sup>r</sup>. Glasson, Congregational Minister. We spent a pleasant time with him. Complimentary resolution was

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passed to M<sup>r</sup>. & M<sup>rs</sup>. Macdowell at the meeting at the Schoolroom Adelaide. November 5<sup>th</sup>.  
The annual Meeting of the Adelaide Unitarian Congregation was held on Thursday

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evening. There was a small attendance. M<sup>r</sup>. J.C. Morphett was Chairman. M<sup>r</sup>. Dendy attacked to idea of a Post Office Mission. Also stated that he thought Unitarians had no theological standpoint and must wait for further revelations of the "higher Biblical Criticism." He also averred his indifference as to spreading Unitarian principles. M<sup>rs</sup>. Symonds Clark expressed her dissent in which I supported her. My wife and myself are painfully constrained to resolve to absent ourselves from the Church while a Minister who gives no certain sound is in the pulpit. It has been painful to me to attend

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the Church to listen to the worst preacher I ever heard in any denomination. This, for principle's sake I [ ... ] endure; but when the preacher represents opinions the very opposite of my own I have no inducement or reason for enduring the torture of listening to his sermons. This matter has troubled me much.— November 12<sup>th</sup> Yesterday a Meeting of Ladies in favour of establishing a Post Office Mission took place at our house. About a dozen ladies attended and the Association was formed – not in connection with the church; but as an Independent Society. M<sup>rs</sup>.

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Woods was elected President and Miss (Florence) Kay Treasurer and Secretary. I am general adviser of the Association and have promised to try to get tracts and books from Melbourne, London and Boston – also to pay the expenses of advertising for the first three months. Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>. Unpleasant feeling between members of our Unitarian Church in reference to the Minister and Caused by his bad preaching and silly, illtempered behaviour. What the result will be it is difficult to predict. I have read a joke by a bishop – Being asked what

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is a dysalter – he replied Yate & Brady.

Miss C. H S.

There is an old woman of Fads  
Who talks a great deal about voting  
She tries to astonish the Cads, alas the  
old woman is doting.

Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>. I am informed that last Sunday M<sup>r</sup>. Dendy at the close of his sermon stated that he had heard a rumour had gone abroad that he was not in favour of a Post Office Mission. This, he said, was a mistake. He was in favour of it. If any mistake has taken place it has been caused by himself. He positively stated at the annual meeting of the Congregation

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that he would have nothing to do with a Postal Mission – that Unitarians had not any definite principles to stand on and set forth and held up as unintelligible M<sup>r</sup>. Carpenter's book on the Gospels – a book which I have heard him praise. Our little dog Toby died at Parkside a few weeks ago aged 14 years. Dec 7<sup>th</sup>. There is a good deal of unpleasant feeling in our Church about the Minister. My wife and I greatly regret that we cannot attend its services; for we not only think very badly of the Minister's preaching which I [ ... ] get over; but we can have

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no respect for him as a man. I have been amused by the following anecdote – “A crazy woman, listening to a preacher in [ ... ] on the text “In my Father’s house are many Mansions”, astonished everybody by exclaiming “My [ ... ], your feether’s hoose, auld Bankies! I Kent him weel, a but and a ben, and that but ill redd up.” December 16<sup>th</sup> Yesterday made my will, at the office of M<sup>r</sup>. August Davies. Left all I have to my dear wife with the exception of £100 to my nephew D<sup>r</sup>. Hugh Woods of Highgate, London, England. December 17<sup>th</sup>. My wife and I went Yesterday to the first

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annual Speech day of Way College. His Excellency the Earl of Kintore was in the chair. There was a good attendance of pupils and friends. Lord Kintore made a good speech. He quoted the following sentence of the duke of Devonshire. “We ought to guard against any idea that there is anything more noble, refined or respectable in the labour of a clerk who sits behind a desk than in that of an artisan who works in the factory or the mine.” And Lord Kintore added “Gentlemen, how true that is, and what need there is for it to be widely appreciated.”

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December 24<sup>th</sup> Received this week Kind letters from home and a present of Card Markers (Whist) from my nephew and niece Hugh and Harriet Woods of London. We are going to dine tomorrow at my brotherinlaw’s ( M<sup>rs</sup>. Simpson’s ). I met with the following anecdote in my reading which pleased me. It is “a story of a barbarian King who with his queen was Captured by some great emperor of the East. “How much would you give for your wife’s life” asked the Emperor “A thousand of my own if I had them” replied

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the captive Monarch. The emperor was pleased with the reply, and in merciful caprice let them both go free. When the liberated couple got home to their poor little barbaric Kingdom, the King asked his wife what she had thought of the emperor’s palace, its columns of porphery, its pavements of mosaic, its roof of fretted gold, its throne studded with diamonds and rubies. “I was not looking at them” answered the queen – she was only a barbarian you know “I was looking at the man who said he would give a thousand [ *illegible* ] lives for mine”—

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I have received a conciliatory letter from M<sup>r</sup>. Dendy our Minister and have sent a good natured one in reply. – December 26<sup>th</sup>. We dined yesterday at M<sup>rs</sup>. Simpson’s, Parkside. All the family were present except Allen who has gone on a walking excursion. We had a good dinner and *illegible* drank our friends’ health in a glass of champagne. I had not taken any wine for a long time. Xmas day on a Sunday is a misfortune in a small way. Children cannot join in games because it is Sunday and yet feasting &c seem out of place on a Lord’s day. December 29<sup>th</sup>. Today

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I received a letter from M<sup>r</sup>. F.C. Smith of Mount Barker declining an offer I made to him to preach a sermon to the Shady Grove Congregation. I thought my going to them might be a refreshment to them and a token of interest taken in them; but it seemed I have made a mistake. However I have the satisfaction of feeling that I meant kindly and well. It is my first experience of a rebuff of that kind. January 2<sup>nd</sup>. 1893. Yesterday, being new year’s day we went to Church and heard some

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of our old favourite hymns for the occasion well sung. The lecture was on Longfellow the Unitarian poet.— not a bad lecture but vilely delivered. I attended a meeting of the Committee of the Church. — nothing was settled about M<sup>r</sup>. Dendy's removal or stay. Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> Yesterday was my wife's birthday and our eleventh wedding day. I made my wife a present of two large bottles of eau de Cologne and she had presents from all at Parkside —especially noticeable was a splendid diamond brooch from her brother and sisterinlaw.

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Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>. I have been pleased with the following story in Froude's lecture at Oxford on his being made Professor of Modern History there — "Carlyle told me once of a lawsuit pending in Scotland affecting the succession to a great estate of which he had known something. The case depended on a family secret known only to one old servant, who refused to reveal it. A Kind Minister was sent to tell her that she must speak on the peril of her soul. "Peril of my soul" she said. "And would ye put the honour of an auld Scottish family

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in competition with the soul of a poor creature like me". Jan 11<sup>th</sup>. I heard Yesterday of the death of M<sup>rs</sup>. Davies, widow of D<sup>r</sup>. Charles Davies. When I came first to Adelaide she and her husband were among my most kind and hospitable friends. D<sup>r</sup>. Davies was one of those who joined together to bring me to the colony of South Australia. I have been asked to conduct the funeral Service of M<sup>rs</sup>. Davies tomorrow. I performed the same office for her husband several years ago. January 13<sup>th</sup>. Yesterday I officiated at the funeral

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of my old friend M<sup>rs</sup>. Davies. The Postmaster General (M<sup>r</sup>. C. Todd) [*second d added in pencil*] The Under Secretary ( M<sup>r</sup>. Sholl ) and other friends of the family were present; but I did not notice any I knew besides those I have mentioned except her sister C.J A. Davies and M<sup>r</sup>. M.S. Clark. January 31<sup>st</sup>. Today I had a friendly conference with the Rev. R.C. Dendy on the state of our Adelaide Unitarian Church. I promised to do all I can to bring about some peaceable arrangement between those who wish to retain him here and those who desire

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him to resign. He promised to aide in the cause of peace. So I have some hope that the Congregation may hold together. Today I had a letter from my Son Arthur asking me to try to get him some [ ... ] employment. I will try to get him away into the Bush — away from temptation to his besetting sin. Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>. Today I had a call from my son Arthur. He looked better than I have seen him do for a long time. He is going to some gold fields and I hope he may keep sober and work. I am glad of the slightest thing that can

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make me hopeful about him. I had also Today a visit from the Rev. Alexander MacCally of Melbourne, formerly of the North of Ireland, who has thoughts in reference to settling in South Australia as a professor of elocution. I have read in the newspapers that a man was recently fined for Calling an old woman an 'ag lag/.— Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>. This is the anniversary of my first wife's death 42 years ago. Though I have been married twice since her death I revere her memory. She was a sweet, good little woman. She was

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the mother of my only son and child. She was 24 years old when she died and had she lived till now would be an old woman. I greatly mourned her loss; but she would have been as sorry as I am at the career of our son Arthur. Yesterday I officiated at the funeral of Joseph Bailey whom I married to his second and third wives. I had a conversation with him two days

before his death, in King William Street Adelaide. He thought he was getting better. He neglected, however to do what his doctor told him was needful to be done, and died suddenly in consequence

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of the neglect.— March 19<sup>th</sup> Today attended a meeting of the Committee of the Unitarian Church, Adelaide. M<sup>r</sup>. Dendy's resignation of the pulpit ( to come in force in six months ) was laid before the committee. It is to be referred to the congregation. I promised to conduct the services on next Sunday in order to give M<sup>r</sup>. Dendy a rest. He says he has lately been much worried by the state of things in the Church.— March 27<sup>th</sup> I conducted the Services at the Adelaide Unitarian Church Yesterday. The day

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was very hot, notwithstanding there were fairly good Congregations both morning and evening. I am tired Today and am convinced that one Service a day is as much as my strength is equal to. April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Today M<sup>r</sup>. Whitham preached in the morning and M<sup>r</sup>. Wybert Reeve gave a lecture in the evening on "True Selves" — I was recently amused to read the saying "Misfortunes to ourselves are trials, on our enemies judgment". April 5<sup>th</sup>. Last Evening there was a meeting of the Adelaide Unitarian Congregation. The resignation of Rev. R.C. Dendy was

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accepted. M<sup>r</sup>. Dendy made a very injudicious speech. The meeting passed off peaceably, which I was afraid it might not do. April 10<sup>th</sup>. On Saturday I had a party of children to celebrate my birthday the 9<sup>th</sup>. The little ones seemed to enjoy themselves much and were greatly pleased with some inexpensive presents. Poor little Katie Simpson had a nice tumbler for me with 'Uncle' on it. In her eagerness to give it to me she tumbled down and broke it, much to her sorrow. Yesterday I attained my 69<sup>th</sup> year and I am a hale man

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for my age. I conducted the Service in the evening at the Unitarian Church, and though I was hoarse I got through it all right and had a good Congregation. I have had on the whole a happy life. I have had some severe troubles — the death of my first wife — the long illness and death of my second — the misconduct of my only child — but I have had a great deal to be thankful for, and can say "Goodness and Mercy have followed me all the days of my life". I was struck with the point of a saying I recently read "Our own

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misfortunes we call trials, those of our enemies judgments." Tennyson said he had a great reverence for D<sup>r</sup>. James Martineau, and James Knowles, Editor of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century tells us that he ( y ) declared that of the Members of a society consisting of many eminent men ( such as Mansing Gladstone, Froude, the Duke of Argyll &c ) Martineau was far the greatest among us." See 19<sup>th</sup> Century Jan. 1893. April 27<sup>th</sup> We had a visit last week from the Rev. Alexander Wilson of Killinchy, Co. Down, Ireland. He had been travelling for his health in the neighbouring colonies

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and was advised by M<sup>r</sup>. Walters of Sydney to visit Adelaide in re our vacant pulpit in the Unitarian Church — or rather —\the pulpit that/ to be vacant in September next. He conducted the Services last Sunday evening — a Church meeting was held on the Monday evening when favourable opinions of his fitness for the situation were expressed. Nothing definite,| however, has yet been settled. May 3<sup>rd</sup>. I went last night to a half yearly Meeting of the National Defence League and seconded a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the Hon.

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R.C. Baker which was proposed by the Hon. John Howard Angas. The Meeting was a success. May 16<sup>th</sup>. Today I received a kind and interesting letter from Miss Florence Hill in reference to our Postal Mission of the existence of which I had informed her. May 20<sup>th</sup>. I was amused Today by reading in the Forum, an American publication, in an article on the HouseKeeping problem the following story – A lady applied to the local washerwoman for her services and was refused. “But you

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do washing for other people” “Yes”, replied the matron of the tubs, “but you have never called on me” I have also been pleased with the following “The Difference between Firmness and Obstinacy.”– “Firmness is a strong Will ; obstinacy a strong Won't.” May 26<sup>th</sup> I went to the governor’s Leveé on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Her Majesty’s birthday – For more than thirty years I had the privilege of the private entree. On this occasion I went as a private citizen. The Leveé was not largely attended. Sir Robert Duffy the new Governor of New South

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Wales, was present, he being on his way to Sydney.—May 29<sup>th</sup> .Last evening we went ( my wife and I ) to hear a young Primitive Methodist Minister named Thompson – who is gaining a reputation here. He is very eloquent and amazingly liberal; also well informed. Last night there was a terrible hurricane. It reminded me of a great storm in Ireland in 1835 when I was a little boy; but which I well remember. My father’s cowhouse at Woodville had the roof blown off. Last night our man’s room coachhorse

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stable were unroofed and several of our trees were blown down and some plants in the garden torn up by the roots. Our dwelling house did not suffer. There have been many similar disasters in and about Adelaide and I fear we shall have bad news from [ *crossing out and replacement illegible* ] June 7<sup>th</sup> I have had a visit from a M<sup>r</sup>. French of Northampton, England whose father was a member of my Congregation when I was for a short time a Minister in Northampton. M<sup>r</sup>. French spent some time pleasantly

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with me and Yesterday I shewed him over M<sup>r</sup>. Simpson’s factory with which he was much interested and pleased. June 12<sup>th</sup>. I was pleased by reading the following passage in an article by A. Bodington in the Westminster review of April 1893. “We bear in our bodies rudiments whose utility has long ages since passed away. There was a time, too, when our eyes existed but as specks dimly conscious of light, but not of forms; our ears, specks capable only of perceiving the simple vibrations of a fluid medium. Who could have told in the

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early ages of the earth that these specks of protoplasm would develop into eyes that could penetrate millions of miles into the visible universe, into ears which could be ravished with the sublimest harmonies? Why may we not hope that the extraordinary, the unique instinct of religion, slowly evolved as it has been from the lowest fetish worship, may be the preparation for an existence of unimaginable glory in another world than ours? Faith may be beyond the grasp of those who will not relinquish the guidance of Reason. But Hope remains to tell us that the deathless

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instinct of religion bids us not despair, and that “beyond the veil, beyond the veil”, when this mortal shall have put on immortality, we may retain our selfconsciousness, and become more fully cognisant of an Eternal All-Good, All -loving, but not All powerful Being, who has

striven to draw us to Himself." June 13<sup>th</sup> Yesterday Christopher Augustine Reynolds, Roman Catholic Archbishop of South Australia, died. I knew him when, many years ago, he was a priest at Morphettvale, and I have been on friendly terms with him every since. I was please to be informed

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by an influential lady of his Church (Mrs Doctor Gunson) that he liked me better than any of the other Protestant minister of Adelaide. D<sup>r</sup>. Reynolds was a good man and a very hard - working ecclesiastic. He was respected by people of all denominations and greatly loved by his own people. June 25<sup>th</sup> I have been much interested and instructed by reading works by Dr. Mommene, formerly preacher at the Foundlings Hospital, London – His book about [ ... ] is very valuable and should be useful. Today I was pleased by reading an article in the Edinburgh Review on D<sup>r</sup>. John Arbuthnot

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– the contemporary of Pope, Swift Etc. He first applied the name John Bull to Englishmen June 29<sup>th</sup>. I have read an account of Principal Fairbairns book entitled "The Place of Christ in Modern Theology" A writer in the "Review of the Churches" says "Dr Fairbairn's doctrine is not derived immediately from his "formal source". His formal source is the consciousness of Christ; the material bases on which the book is built is his doctrine of the godhead; but D<sup>r</sup>. Fairbairn has not shown that this doctrine – if at least Three persons in one is [ ... ] in the historically

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attested consciousness of Christ. . . . Against those who accept both the witness of Christ's consciousness and the truth of the Divine Fatherhood, but who shrink from affirming the Trinity, D<sup>r</sup>. Fairbairn's argument may be dialectically strong, it will scarcely be felt to be critically – ie. as preceeding only on the basis of critically verified sayings of our Lord - Conclusive" July 13<sup>th</sup> I was gratified to receive a note from M<sup>r</sup>. F. Duffield Of the Civil Service accompanied by a copy of the Civil Service Review in which is an article by him. M<sup>r</sup>. Duffield states in his note that if

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there is any merit in his article, some of it is due to my teaching 25 years ago. He was a member of a Mutual Improvement Society of which I was president. It is pleasant to think that one has really done some good in the world. July 15<sup>th</sup> I have read in the newspaper (Register) that the Rev. R.C. Dendy has made an engagement to conduct the Services at the Unitarian Church, Dewsbury, Yorkshire. I am glad that he is not to leave us without the prospect of another engagement as Minister. July 29<sup>th</sup> I Have been struck with a

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passage I have read in an American Tract – "Fred – Douglas tells the story in his autobiography that in his early life when a slave at the [ ... ] he used to pray with all the earnestness of his soul that God would give him his freedom \om/. Month after Month and year after year he prayed in this way, but still the freedom did not come At last one day, while thus pleading with all his soul before god, he heard a voice out of heaven whispering to him "Pray with your legs, Fred, pray with your legs" and obeying this divine behest, in thirty [ *illegible crossing out* ] \days/ the prayer

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was answered, and Fred Douglas was a freeman." July 30<sup>th</sup>. Today I have read an article in the Melbourne Beacon giving an account of the Rev. Dr. Momene's article in the Fortnightly Review Dec. 1892 entitled "Religion: its Future." In this article Dr Momene (of Church of

England) says “The Orthodox doctrine is as vile as anything to be found in heathen- -dom. But the addition to it of the doctrine of predestination makes it \infinately/ viler still. The two together constitute the most savage superstition which has ever existed in the world”. August 13<sup>th</sup> Yesterday I conducted a religious service on the occasion of the marriage of William George \Auld/ Auld-and

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and Ellen Howard Clark, at Hazelwood Cottage – the legal ceremony having been previously gone through before the Registrar in Adelaide. The bride objected to being married by the Rev. R. C. Dendy – the present minister of the Adelaide Unitarian Church. I recently read a good story of a man going into the shop of the Blacks of Edinburgh – great publishers and booksellers and asking one of the M<sup>essrs</sup>. Black to buy some smuggled whiskey – telling the indignant M<sup>r</sup>. Black that he would take the value of the liquor out in Bibles.

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August 19<sup>th</sup> I am reading with pleasure D<sup>r</sup>. Beyo’s ‘Twenty -five years of S<sup>t</sup>. Andrews. I am amused with the following anecdote of a statement in a sermon by D<sup>r</sup>. Wallace – once editor of the Scotsman and now a member of Parliament “We are told to love our enemies, but we are not told to like them. I don’t like any enemies, I dislike them very much. But I love them. and I shall ever be ready to shew my love to them by trying to get them \severely/ punished, that they may be led to repent of their behaviour towards me.” August 26<sup>th</sup> 1893. Today Miss Barker, daughter of the late Rev. Samuel Barker

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Birmingham and niece of the Rev. D<sup>r</sup>. Martineau came to visit us. Soon after her arrival the Chief Justice Way and Sir Henry Parkes of Sydney called. Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>. I have Just been reading Besant’s “Fifty Years Ago.” Besant tells two good stories taken from Miss Martineau’s “American Society”. One is of An American traveller who had been to Rome, and said of it – Rome is a very fine city, sir, but its public buildings are out of repair.” The other is the following. “Few men, said the preacher in his Sermon, when they

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build a house, remember ~~that~~ \there must/ some day be a coffin taken downstairs.! “Minister,” said a lady who had been present, “have got into the strangest ways of Choosing subjects. True, wide stairs- -cases are a great convenience but Christian Minister, might find better subjects for their discourses than narrow staircases.” Sept. 13. I have read a speech Today by Rev. D<sup>r</sup>. Paton of Chalmer’s Church, Adelaide, in which is the following well put sentiment or of vision. “For after all what was law ? Simply a method of the divine operations, of which we obtained some knowledge

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in the observation of natural phenomena. It was not a God, nor a King nor a tyrant. As D<sup>r</sup>. Carpenter had said the universe was not governed by law, but according to law. September 13<sup>th</sup> . Yesterday being the Sunday School Anniversary and collection Sunday, M<sup>r</sup>. Whitham and myself conducted the services. I conducted the \devotional/ religious services in the Morning and M<sup>r</sup>. Whitham addressed the children. In the evening I preached the Sermon M<sup>r</sup>. Whitham taking the introductory Service. There was a good but not crowded attendance in the morning

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and a small one in the evening. It was a significant fact that in the evening nearly all the Sunday-school teachers were absent from the Service though it was at their request that Mr. Whitham and I officiated. This was an illustration of the bad spirit which Dendy, our late

minister, has excited in our formerly amicable society. Sept 25<sup>th</sup> I preached twice Yesterday to small congregations Mr. Whitham taking the devotional part of the Services. Yesterday was the wettest day we have had in Adelaide for a long time. I never had so small

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an audience in Adelaide as I had last night – not more than 20 including all souls present – September 28<sup>th</sup> — Yesterday the Rev. Alexander Wilson, the new pastor of the Adelaide Unitarian Church arrived in the Paramatta. He seems in good health and spirits. I met him at the railway station and drove him in my phaeton to the House of M<sup>rs</sup>. William Kay. October 1. Last evening we had a Social Meeting at the Church Schoolroom to welcome M<sup>r</sup>. Wilson. It was well attended and harmonious. Today M<sup>r</sup>. Wilson conducted the Services in the Church.

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There was a good attendance in the morning and M<sup>r</sup>. Wilson preached fairly well. He is a great improvement on Dendy which is not saying much – Owing to my wife's being unwell I did not attend the evening Service. October 10<sup>th</sup> Last evening I presided at Meeting in the Unitarian Church Schoolroom for the starting of a Literary and Debating Society. Thirteen were present and resolutions were carried in favour of a beginning. Reference was made to the pleasant and profitable society of a similar Kind over which I presided for 15 years.

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October 21<sup>st</sup> This day I took my son Arthur Maclure Woods to the Inebriate Retreat and placed him there as an inmate or patient in [ ... ] that, if possible, he may be reclaimed from his sottish drunken habits. I feel bound - in duty to do all I can to reclaim him; but I am aware that his is a very bad case. Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Last evening we had an entertainment in the Church Schoolroom, in connection with the Unitarian Literary Society of Adelaide. I gave a lecture without notes on Oliver Goldsmith which was well received.

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The occasion was memorable to me as it was the first time I ever read anything in public without spectacles as I did. The haunch of venison in illustration of my remarks. I have been wearing spectacles since I was 17 years of age and at close upon 70 I can do without them. Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>. We have a pleasant visit from Rev. Henry Simpson of Westminster, a cousin once removed of my wife. He is taking a tour round the world. He is a High Church man and a philanthropist – using his ample means for educating poor boys to be useful and self supporting

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in life. I wish him God speed. He is a very pleasant man and won the heart of M<sup>r</sup>. A. Simpson's children. Nov 20<sup>th</sup>. On Friday last I delivered a lecture on Sydney Smith at the Burnside Council Chamber to a Home Reading Circle and their friends. I had a good audience and a vote of thanks was carried to me proposed by the Rev. M<sup>r</sup>. Dodd the local Anglican Clergyman. On Satur-day my wife and I went to the Annual Picnic of M<sup>r</sup>. Simpson's men at Belair – the National Park. There were about 500 present and all seemed to

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enjoy themselves as did we. Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> I conducted the morning service Yesterday at the Unitarian Church Adelaide, M<sup>r</sup>. Wilson having gone to Shady Grove. M<sup>r</sup>. Whitham officiated in the Evening – There was a very good attendance in the morning and a small one in the evening. Last Friday we had the Annual Meeting of the Postal Mission in the Church Schoolroom. There was a full attendance of the members but only two visitors from the Congregation. – Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> [ ...] I have been much interested in reading the autobiography

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of G. J. Holyoke, the Secularist. In my early days I had a small passage of arms with him at Edinburgh. I have been struck with the following words of Ernest Jones the Chartist – on a subject I have often taken the common view of E. J. says – “You have been told that the Church in the Dark Ages was the preserver of learning, the patron of science, and the friend of freedom. The preserver of learning in the Dark Ages! It was the Church that made these ~~dark~~ Ages dark. The preserver of learning! Yes, as the wormeaten oak chest preserves a Manuscript. No more thanks

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to them than to the rats for not devouring its pages. -It was the Republics of Italy and the Saracens of Spain that preserved learning – and it was the Church that trod out the light of those Italian Republics. The patron of Science! What? When they burned Savanarola and Bruno, imprisoned Galileo, persecuted Columbus, and mutilated Abelard? The friend of freedom! What? When they crushed the Republics of the South, pressed the Netherlands like the vintage in a wine Kelten, girdled Switzerland with a belt of fire, and steel, banded the

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crowned tyrants of Europe against the Reformers of Germany and launched Claverhouse against the Covenanters of Scotland? The friend of freedom when they hedged Kings with a divinity! Their superstition alone upheld the rotten fabric of oppression. Their superstitions alone turned the indignant freeman into a willing slave and made men bow to the Hell they created here by a hope of the Heaven they could not insure hereafter. There is nothing so corrupt that the Papacy has not befriended, and but one gleam of sunshine flashes across the black picture, in the architecture

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of its Churches, the painting of its aisles, and the Music of its Choirs.” — Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>. Last evening we went to hear a lecture on Shakespeare by M<sup>r</sup>. Glyn at Burnside. It was a good lecture not very well delivered. I proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer which was seconded by M<sup>r</sup>. Knot the lawyer and carried. In reading a novel called ‘For God & Humanity’, I have been impressed with a sentence or two to this effect “There is a great difference between a tender Conscience and a quick one. A tender conscience makes one very penitent and remorseful after one

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has done wrong; it enables one to feel what a sinner one is, and what a fool one has made of one’s self. A quick Conscience scouts out the very approach of evil before it comes; it acts like a pointer, When he perceives the presence of game, it sets one’s whole moral being on the guard, and enables one to arm one’s self for the attack. Thus it prevents one from falling under temptation, and that is far better thing than repenting after a fall.” In addition it is required that the Conscience should be stable – not spasmodic and intermittent – but after an emotional

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impulse has passed away a good resolution is not allowed to go with it. — Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> On Sunday last M<sup>r</sup>. Wilson preached an able and eloquent Sermon on Post Office Mission at our Church. a satisfactory collection was made – Such as will bear all the expenses for the coming year. I have received a letter from M<sup>r</sup>. Cowle, Manager of the E. S. A.C. Bank informing me of a probability of getting my son Arthur on to a Station – away from public houses. This will be better for him than ‘loafing’ at the Inebriate Retreat.

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1894 Jan. 4<sup>th</sup> My wife's birthday and our twelfth wedding day. My wife received several presents from Parkside. Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> Have heard of the death of M<sup>rs</sup>. Macdowell of Melbourne and of M<sup>r</sup>. Herbert New Evesham, Worcestershire, England. Both people whom I knew and greatly liked and respected. – Jan 8<sup>th</sup>. Today my son Arthur who has been in Hople Lodge (Inebriate Retreat) at Belair, started for a Station at Finnis Springs – 500 miles north of Adelaide. I hope he may thus have an opportunity of which he will avail him-

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-self of gaining strength & health both of mind and body. Jan. 14<sup>th</sup> On Wednesday last my wife and I came to Mount Gambier – more than 300 miles from Adelaide – South East. It is a pretty place and celebrated for some beautiful lakes and a volcanic Mount – the scene of an extinct eruption also curious underground rivers. Today, Sunday, I went to hear the Presbyterian Minister, Rev. M<sup>r</sup>. Caldwell, who preached a very good sermon. I have a kindly feeling towards the church of my fathers, and had its ministers been as moderate as most of those of the present day I probably would not have left it.

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Jan 17<sup>th</sup> In reading a book, got from the Mount Gambier Institute entitled Memories of our Great Towns – by D<sup>r</sup>. Doran – I was struck and pleased by a statement attributed to Bishop Reynolds “that God would rather have His trees for fruit than fuel” – This was in reference to men's Salvation or [ ... ] in the next world. – Today our landlord drove us to see a very fine cheese and butter factory and also to a M<sup>r</sup>. [ ... ] splendid farm in which are some very curious caves – evidently connected with volcanic action in times past – how long no one knows. We saw grain being

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thrashed in a scientific way and the crop of wheat and potatoes are splendid in this neighbourhood. Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup>. We went to the Presbyterian Church Yesterday morning and heard a good sermon from Rev. M<sup>r</sup>. Caldwell of the Mount Gambier P Church. He is a County Tyrone man and a better Reader than any of his Adelaide contemporaries in his own denomination. Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup>. We went this morning to see a “Model Garden.” We saw many fine flowers and fruit trees of various kinds. The quantity of apples especially is enormous in this garden. The proprietor complained

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that the railway charges to Adelaide were so exorbitant as to prevent him from being able to send them there with a profit. He is a very civil man called Earl and he gave us some apples which he called Irish peaches. I remember similar apples in my father's garden, Woodville, Bangor, Co. Down. Jan 30<sup>th</sup>. Yesterday we went to Beachport which is distant 50 miles from Mt. Gambier. We passed several little villages, the largest being Millicent. Beachport has a pretty bay, a fine pier and a large hotel. It has one general store, but neither a baker nor butcher.

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The population which consists chiefly of fisher-folks, get their bread and meat from Millicent by rail – 25 miles off. — The country between this and Beachport seems good land generally but with the exception of a lake we saw little to interest us. Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> We were driven Yesterday by M<sup>rs</sup>. Jens our landlady – Miss Baker and Miss Everard accompanying us – to a dairy farm. the owner is a Swede called Simpson and his wife is from Somersetshire. They were very well off and very hospitable giving us nice afternoon tea in very pretty China cups. M<sup>r</sup>. Simpson told me his

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history. He was originally a sailor and had many hardships before he became independent. Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>. We went, accompanied by Miss Baker and Miss Everard, to see the Glenelg River which is in Victoria. We started on the 13<sup>th</sup> in a vehicle drawn by 3 good horses and driven by the proprietor of the Steamer Perseverance. We travelled 20 miles to a place called the Punt and there got on board a little steamer ten tons burthen. We steamed up the river to a place where there were beautiful fresh water springs about 32 Miles from where we started. The scenery was remarkably beautiful &

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picturesque. We camped for the night – the ladies sleeping in a little cabin and I on the deck. The captain & crew in a tent on land. Next day we went in as far as [ ... ] in all up the river and enjoyed ourselves very much. The captain (as we called him) who had charge of us, was a German – very amusing and we called him Mark Topley. We returned the next day to within 20 miles of the Punt and tied our boat to the shore and I slept in a little place in the cabin – about the size of a dog kennel. Our Captain supplied in the morning with some nice

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fish for breakfast – bream. On the fifteenth we started for Mount Gambier and had a pleasant return journey. We saw altogether 104 rabbits – 11 Kangaroos – 4 Eagle hawks – 4 snakes – and a great many wild ducks, herons, parrots and laughing Jackasses– On the 16<sup>th</sup> we went to a Circus which came to Mount Gambier and were much amused. Feb.20<sup>th</sup> On Saturday last we all walked to the top of Mount Gambier which resembles in shape Mount [ ... ], though a much smaller place. My wife said I walked like a young man, Which is a compliment

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an old man relishes. Yesterday our party went to Port Macdonnell which is 18 miles from this. Te ladies were pleased to see the lighthouse. We passed Mount Schanks –saw “Blockers” places there and some curious water- -holes on our way. One on the road was walled in. A man asleep let his horses once get into it before the walls. The man narrowly escaped. The dray and horses were never seen again. These caves, holes and lakes of this neighbourhood are very deep and are of volcanic origin. We saw at Macdonnell Bay the wrecked ship “Tenterden” in the breakers —In going to Port MacDonnell, and not

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far from the place we passed Dingley Dell, the house in which lived M<sup>r</sup>. Adam Lindsay Gordon the \S/ Australian poet. – It is a pretty place and quite a dell. Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> On Saturday I presented on behalf of myself and wife a tea canister to Ehret – the Captain of the Perseverance, the man who conducted us in his steamer up and down the Glenelg River. The name of his boat Perseverance we had printed in the Canister. E. was much gratified. Yesterday my wife and I went to hear the Baptist Minister of Mount Gambier in the morning. There was a small congregation

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and a very good Sermon. In the Evening we attended the Presbyterian Church. It was handsomely decorated for a Harvest Thanksgiving. The Congregation was large. Strange to say certain portions of the Minister’s Sermon were the same as we had heard in the morning. I concluded the two divines had been reading the same literature in preparation. March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Strange to say on my way to Adelaide from Mount Gambier a man in a railway carriage gave me a little book to read in which I came upon the striking points of the Sermons I had heard the previous Sunday.– On Wednesday

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last we left Mount Gambier for Penola where we were the guests of M<sup>r</sup>. McClenaghan the Manager there of the National Bank. We went with a large picnic party on the Thursday to see some very curious caves, passing through on our way Yallum Park – a splendid demesne. On Friday we journeyed to Murray Bridge where we stayed all night, being comfortably accommodated at the station – a commercial gentleman called Ellis kindly giving up his prior claim on the only bed at the place to be obtained. We were thus spared going to the hotel at some

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little distance off where two men “on the drunk” were making nuisances of themselves – one being a doctor – who intruded the night before on the chambers of a newly married couple who had no lock to their door. On Saturday we arrived at our home. Today I went to Church as usual and M<sup>r</sup>. Wilson officiated. March 12<sup>th</sup> Yesterday I conducted the morning service at the Unitarian Church, Adelaide. It was Harvest Thanksgiving Day. The church was nicely decorated for the occasion and a collection was made for the Children’s Hospital. Today I had a visit

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from my granddaughter Violet Montagu Hawkins Woods and I have her a Monthly allowance for her support with her mother. She is a nice looking girl and I trust may be a good woman. April 4<sup>th</sup> We went last evening to hear a lecture on Ancient Universities by D<sup>r</sup>. Bevan of Melbourne, on the invitation of the Chancellor of the University – Chief Justice Way. The lecture was a very good one, and is to be printed. April 5<sup>th</sup>. I was struck with the following passage in Mr. C. Toulmin/ Crossland Literary Reminiscences (Landmarks of a Literary Life “Among the traditions associated

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with those Spanish Jews (à popros Grace Aguilar) was a very striking one. An ancestor, I believe, if the Aguilars, Holding a high position about the Court, was on his death-bed, and a cardinal had been summoned to administer extreme unction and afford the last consolations of the Romish Church. “Cease” murmured the sufferer, only about an hour before he breathed his last, “Cease your ministrations, I am a Jew!” Upon which the Cardinal immediately began the Hebrew prayer for the dying for He also was of the Hebrew race” – and probably if not certainly of the Hebrew faith–

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April 9<sup>th</sup> This is my 70<sup>th</sup> birthday and I am thankful for good health and many kind friends. I had a party of 25 little children mostly on Saturday. My granddaughter Violet was present and admired as a fine looking girl. My little nieces – Simpson all made me presents and so did others. I value as I grow old the expressions of goodwill of my friends old & young and I am sorry for estrangements. April 16<sup>th</sup> I preached the sermon yesterday morning at the Adelaide Unitarian Church. And felt quite able to do so. I am desirous

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to cease to preach at all so soon as I feel I am doing the work badly and it is difficult for an old man to be sure about the matter. One is liable to think too favourably of one’s own performance, and others do not like to tell an old man he is failing. April 24 This is my sister Maria’s birthday. She is 74 years of age. I wrote to her Today. Last evening I delivered a lecture to The Australian Natives Association at Bench’s rooms, Adelaide, On the life and poetry of Thomas Moore. There was a very appreciative

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audience and the affair passed off pleasantly and there were very favourable accounts of it in both the Daily Newspapers. April 30<sup>th</sup> I read the Service in the Church Yesterday. In reading a book I have been struck by the following comparison – “Life is like a stained glass window looked at from the outside it may seem blurred and unbeautiful, but to one standing within harmonious and very beautiful.” May 2<sup>nd</sup> We have had a visit from the Rev. John Macdowell, late of Melbourne, with his two little girls and a

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nurse, on his way to England. Poor man, he lost his wife lately and is much depressed. We were glad to be able to show him hospitality. May 13<sup>th</sup> I have been impressed with the following little piece which I think is a good skit upon Agnostics. It is entitled Marine Philosophy in Silly Suffolk. “A Jelly fish swam in East Anglian Sea And he said –“This world it consists of me There’s nothing above and there’s nothing below That a jellyfish ever can possible know – Since we’ve got no sight no hearing or smell Beyond what our single sense can tell. Now all we can learn from the sense of touch

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“Is the fact of our feelings, viewed as such; But to think they may have an extreme \cause/ Is an inference clean against logical laws. Again to suppose as I’ve hitherto done There are other jellyfish under the sun Is a pure assumption that cant be backed By one jot of proof or one single fact; And being a bit of a submarine poet I’ve written some amateur lines to show it. In fact (like Hume) I distinctly doubt If there’s anything else at all about; For the universe simple centres in me And if I were not, why nothing would be.” Just then, a shark, who was passing by, Gobbled him down in the twink of an eye. And he died with a few convulsive twists But, somehow the universe still exists” Grant Allen. May 14<sup>th</sup> .Last evening I

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conducted the entire service at the Unitarian Christian Church. Adelaide. There was a fair but not large attendance. I felt quite equal to the duty. May 18<sup>th</sup> . I have been pleased in my reading with the following remark of Huxley – “The magistrate who listens with devout attention to the precept “Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live” on Sunday, on Monday, dismisses as intrinsically absurd, a charge of bewitching a cow brought against some old woman; the superintendent of a lunatic asylum who substituted exorcism for rational modes of treatment would have but a short tenure of office; even parish clerks

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doubt the utility of prayers for rain so long as the wind is in the east; and an outbreak of pestilence sends men, not to the churches, but to the drains.” May 29<sup>th</sup>. I went yesterday to the levee of the governor (The Earl of Kintore) For 34 years I had the privilege of the private entrée. Then I was the Head of a Denomination and a Personage, now I am only a person. today I read the origin of the phrase ‘What will M<sup>rs</sup>. Grundy say?!’ I occurred in a play written in 1800 by Thomas Morton called “Speed the plough.” and which was popular for a considerable time though now forgotten – See “All the

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year round” – March 3 – 1894 June 5<sup>th</sup> . Yesterday I officiated at the funeral of the late Edward Montgomery Martin who died at Glenelg on Sunday June 3<sup>rd</sup> (1894) aged 87 years. He was one of the founders of the Adelaide Unitarian Church and though a very eccentric was a very kind hearted, intelligent and religious man. Only two of the twelve gentlemen who united to bring me out to south Australia are now alive – Arthur [ ... ] and Algernon Sidney Clark. June 9<sup>th</sup> . I attended Today the funeral of the Rev. William Roby Fletcher, M.A. for many

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years Minister of the Stow Memorial Church (Congregational) Adelaide. There was a very large funeral. M<sup>r</sup>. Fletcher was a learned and liberal man though not an elegant preacher. July 24<sup>th</sup>. I went Yesterday in company with the Rev. Alexander Wilson to meet on board the Steamer Oroya the Rev. Alexander C. Henderson, B.D. the minister who is about to occupy the Unitarian pulpit in Melbourne. We were both favourably impressed with the young minister. August 9<sup>th</sup> On the evening of the 7<sup>th</sup> of this month I dedicated to the service of God Alice Elaine, daughter

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of Moxon Cooke, Sporting -editor of the Australian, and of Beatrice (born Woodville), his wife. I christened Moxon Cooke himself between thirty & forty years ago. Last evening a very able paper on Victor Hugo was read by M<sup>rs</sup>. Hubbe – sister of M<sup>r</sup>. Cooke, at the Unitarian Schoolroom, Adelaide. I proposed a vote of thanks to her which was enthusiastically carried. On the occasion our Minister showed his nationality by saying he was once so engrossed in reading a book by

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Victor Hugo that he did not know what time of night it was till the morning. August 12<sup>th</sup> On Saturday (11<sup>th</sup>) a bronze statue of Queen Victoria was unveiled in Victoria Square, Adelaide by Lady Smith, wife of Sir E.T. Smith. It has been presented by Sir E.T.S. and is an ornament to the city. I am reading reminiscences of the “Bench & Bar” by Sergeant Robinson and have been amused by the following passage – A schoolmaster had “a row of boys arranged before him that he might examine them in the matter of cleanli-

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-ness. Each boy was told to hold out his right hand, and in the first few the Master did not find any blemishes that called for special attention. At last he came to one that seemed to try his patience. ‘Now,’ said he, if I find a dirtier hand than that in the school I will forgive you’ ‘for’, Sir, said the boy, will you – there and he immediately stretched out his other hand, which seemed as if it had recently indulged in close familiarity- ties with the coal scuttle.” August 14<sup>th</sup>. Yesterday I read a letter in the Inquirer

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by M<sup>r</sup>. Henry Turner of Sydney in which he pleads for Mrs. Grant, widow of the late Rev. Grant formerly Minister of the Unitarian Church in Sydney – also previously at Portsmouth, Maidstone and Northampton. M<sup>rs</sup>. Grant was left unprovided for and has two daughters. She is in very bad health. I sent Today a donation of £ 1 for her and my wife and I will try to get others to help her I knew her before she was married as daughter of M<sup>r</sup>. Shepherd – postmaster of Portsmouth – August 29 - , This is my grand daughter’s birthday. She is 16 years

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old. Last evening we went (I & my wife) to hear Cyril Tyler – the famous boy-singer, at the Adelaide Town Hall. We were much pleased Bishop Kennion leaves for England Today – to become bishop of Bath & Wells there. In the same steamer will be Tulmage – the famous American preacher. He is superficial and vulgar though fluent and funny. In his lecture on evolution he proved himself to be either an ignorant ass or an unmitigated humbug. I think the latter. September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Today I read the Service at the

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Adelaide Unitarian Church, in the morning. On Thursday last I officiated at the funeral of M<sup>r</sup>. William John Kennedy, Schoolmaster. He was a native of Ennis- Killen and a fine looking and excellent man. His funeral was largely attended: Among those present being Mr. Knox a nephew of the late Archbishop of Armagh. Last week I sent another £1 to M<sup>rs</sup>. Grant in Sydney – given me for that purpose by Miss Sarah Kay. Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>. I have been able to send £3-1-0 more to M<sup>rs</sup>.

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Grant this week. On Sunday last I preached at the Adelaide Unitarian Church in the morning M<sup>r</sup>. Wilson being ill of quinsy. Yesterday I had a kind letter from my old friend Sir Philip Manfield of Northampton acknowledging one from me congratulating him on being Knighted. It is about 45 years since I was Unitarian Minister in Northampton. Sir. P.M. and Mr. French who recently visited us here are now the only two left of the old congregation among the residents of Northampton.

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Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>. Read a paper last night to the Literary Society – Wakefield Street, Adelaide on the life, character and services of Lord Brougham. There was only a small attendance. Sept 19<sup>th</sup> This is the 39<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my arrival in South Australia. My wife has given me a copy of 'The Heart of MidLothian' as a memento of the occasion. How many people I have outlived since I came to this province! Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>. On Thursday evening my wife and I went to a meeting at the Norwood Town Hall convened by the Mayor M<sup>r</sup>.

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White, for the purpose of establishing a society for trained nurses for the poor. Dr. Campbell (Hon. Allan) explained the object of the Meeting and showed the benefit of trained nursing to the poor. The meeting was addressed by Canon Andrews, Father Peters, D<sup>r</sup>. Hayward, D<sup>r</sup>. Borthwick & myself. Sept 27. I have had a great deal of trouble lately with my son Arthur. He will not try to do any work and is evidently tired of living a retired and sober life. When near a town or a public house he will get

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drunk – by hook or crook – if he can. He has lost all self- respect and is a very despicable character. I have sent him all the articles he has asked to be provided for him, at the station 473 miles in the interior. He is so lazy I am afraid they will not keep him there much longer. I am at a loss to know what to do with or for him. To have such a son is a great affliction which calls for all my philosophy and religion –courage and patience to bear. I could easily go away to the other side of the world. But that would not be right or brave.

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October 8<sup>th</sup> Yesterday I took the morning Service at the Adelaide Unitarian Church. It was the 39<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Unitarian Public worship in South Australia. The subject of my sermon was Reverence . Two Church of England people were present. M<sup>r</sup>. Tomkins and Miss Kath Shendan–the latter expressed herself pleased with the sermon. there was a good Congregation. October 17<sup>th</sup>. On Sunday morning last (October 14<sup>th</sup>). my only son Arthur Maclure died. He had ruined his Constitution

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by excessive drinking, and no attempts to save his life by the enforced abstinence from alcohol during the last nine months of his life were of any avail. I have had to keep both him and his daughter for some time. He died intestate, I believe, and I do not think he had anything to bequeath. The most lamentable thing connected with his death is that no one can

be sorry that he is gone. He was 43 years old. He is in the hands of a Merciful and Compassionate God. It would have

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been a cheerful thing for me to die and leave him behind as he had no property and as little inclination and perhaps ability to work for a living. October 20<sup>th</sup> In my reading I have been struck with the remark of Constable "A selftaught man is a man taught by a very ignorant person". Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> I have now recovered from a serious illness brought on by distress of mind caused by my son's death. I am thankful to be well again and wish to record how

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good and Kind my wife has been to me. I was able to attend church last Sunday and I am gratified that many of my old friends are in sympathy with me. December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Today I conducted the morning service at the Adelaide Unitarian Church. There was a larger congregation than usual present. I felt quite able for the work. As soon as I feel that I cannot do it efficiently I will cease to preach. The danger I know, is that I may

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overestimate my powers. December 23<sup>rd</sup>. Last evening we spent at Miss Sheridan's, North Adelaide. M<sup>r</sup>. & M<sup>rs</sup>. Alfred Simpson and all their children were there. Little Katie acted very well as Old Father Christmas and held bag of presents for all of us. Today I conducted the Morning service at the Adelaide Unitarian Church. There was a fair congregation and I felt quite able for the duty, though the weather has lately been very trying and exhausting.

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Dec. 26. We went to our Church Yesterday – being Christmas day. It was beautifully decorated. There was a good Congregation. M<sup>r</sup>. Wilson preached a Sermon on the Humanity of Christ. We dined at M<sup>r</sup>. Simpson's at Parkside and spent rather a sombre day. Our hosts were very kind and our dullness was owing to sad memories. We got caught in rain on our way home. Jan 1<sup>st</sup>. 1895. We had a pleasant party of friends last evening to join us in saying Goodbye to 1894.

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My granddaughter Violet dined with us and we both thought her improving both in looks and in general demeanor. The future this girl is a matter of great concern to me. For her sake it is very important that my life should be prolonged. Jan. 4<sup>th</sup>. This is my wife's birthday and the 13<sup>th</sup> of our wedding days. My wife received several presents from me, her nephews and nieces, and a very magnificent epergne from her brother and sister-inlaws. In the

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evening we went to a place of amusements. She deserves all the kind attentions her relatives can shew her; for she is one of the best and kindest of women. I have heard from my sister and brotherinlaw – A.S. Harris – in answer to my letters telling of my son's death. Very sad they are! Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> Yesterday I went to see Mr. & Mrs. A J. Baker and was disgusted with my own stupidity in thoughtlessly talking about a case of murder by an insane man – nephew of Colonel Sanderson of North of

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Ireland, quite forgetting that M<sup>rs</sup>. Baker's daughter M<sup>rs</sup>. Beckes is out of her mind. The day before I went to Glenelg and saw M<sup>rs</sup>. E. M. Martin and M<sup>rs</sup>. John Spence – very old friends; but who from our living far apart, are not so much part of my life as they used to be. Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>. The weather for the last two days has been extremely hot. Last night I and my wife went to

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the opening of the Museum in Adelaide. The ceremony was performed by the Earl of Kintore. I was invited as an

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Ex-Governor of the Institute. I met there my old friend, and Neighbours (former) M<sup>r</sup>. & M<sup>rs</sup>. Charles Penny. It was their Silver wedding day. I was present at their wedding. M<sup>r</sup>. Penny is blind and when I Lived near him I very often took him for walks which he liked very much, and was a pleasure to me. Jan 14<sup>th</sup>. Yesterday at Church M<sup>r</sup>. Wilson read a Sermon by an English Congregational Minister on O. W. Holmes. It was a very liberal Sermon as to the Unitarian opinions of D<sup>r</sup>. Holmes

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The writer of it referred to the fact that D<sup>r</sup>. Holmes was the son of a Congregational Minister and declared that the statement that Ministers' sons went wrong more frequently than those of laymen, is untrue. As my recently deceased only son went to the bad it was painful to me to hear this matter discussed. But such an occurrence is one of the Crosses I Must bear with patience. Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>. I have been amused by the following description of Mr. Samuel Johnson by Soames Jenyns

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"Religions, moral, generous and \humane/ He was; but self sufficient, rude and \vain/ Illbred and overbearing in dispute, A scholar and a Christian and a brute."— Jan 24<sup>th</sup>. Yesterday I received a letter from the Rev. George Walters asking me to help him to get a trip to the old country at the end of the year. I have written to say that I will aid him in any way in my power. I was the first minister appointed to Sydney Unitarian Congregation but gave way to M<sup>r</sup>. Hanley, who told the Authorities of the B. & F

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U. A. that he would go to Sydney whether appointed by them or not. I have had three visits to Sydney and have exchanged with both D<sup>r</sup>. Hanley and M<sup>r</sup>. [ ... ]. The present Minister M<sup>r</sup>. Walters is a very able man and gathers large Congregations. I hope to be able next month to preach in Melbourne for the Rev. M<sup>r</sup>. Henderson. My time of being able to preach at all is naturally short and I am pleased to be able to be useful while I have the power and opportunity.