

Hardwick Parsonage,

July 22. 1864

My dear Sir,

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I had been wishing to hear, rather than wondering at not hearing from you - for I can well understand all manner of hindrances to correspondence - and I had even fancied you might have started for Rome. Thank you very much for your thoughtful kindness about commissions - nothing of the kind however has turned up at present. -

I congratulate you most cordially upon the prospect which a good Providence seems to have opened out before you, and sincerely hope that both your parents and yourself may have reason to rejoice in the decision.

If such poor unworthy prayers as mine may be of any service to you, you may depend upon their being very sincerely offered, with true interest in your welfare both in this & a future world. I quite understand your difficulty as to the advice which you would receive (no doubt in a most friendly & well-intentioned spirit) from the quarter you have mentioned - being previously aware of the love of heterodoxy & paradox (to coin a word for my purpose) so much to be regretted there. It so happens -