

~~1876~~ Hardwick Vic. 9 Sept. 1876. -

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My dear Mr. Arthur

I was going to have written to you this very morning if your kind missive had not come in. - I hope you have not thought me a very Turk (our heads here are boiling over with the war) for taking no notice of your very reasonable request - & I meant to have told you how it happened. I fully intended to have carried out your expr^t as prescribed in the letter - but many evenings were cloudy, & many moonlight ones, clear enough, we were obliged to dine late for convenience or company (we have been receiving visitors one after another) - just at the time for trying - & conscience obliges me to add that two or three times it was forgotten - so that it has never been attempted at all - for which pray accept the expression of my very sincere regrets.

I am very glad to hear that you are getting ^{on} so jolly at the Meeting & are so comfortably