

(Enclose my love, again - I mean,  
my happiness!)

Talking of Churches - Tell your  
Father (at Benchel of the Jewel  
Temple) that I am glad he  
is "keeping his hair on" - for  
I have known him rather  
irritable on occasions!

Tell him also, that Trinity  
Hall has offered me the dining  
hall of St. Edwards, Cambridge (in  
their gift), when he & I used  
to eat Harrow Lodwin in  
our salad days - when F. D.  
Maurice after wards was - &  
when I have often to them hoped  
I might perhaps be allowed  
to be a humble <sup>successor</sup>. Then  
is, unfortunately, went to no

Dyrham Lodge  
Clifton Park  
Bristol.  
August 18 - 1892

My dear Howell -  
I have treated you but  
scarcely, I admit. Please  
forgive me. The truth is that  
I hate refusing a favour, & that  
I could not see my way to  
wanting yours. I will tell  
you my difficulties.  
When I go up to Oxford as  
Select Preacher, it will  
naturally be from a date  
day to Monday - & as naturally,  
I shall be (in almost all cases)  
the guest of some Head of a  
House, or other Big wig of the

University. Saturday evening  
being the one week day evening  
available, my host will probably  
ask a friend of two to meet me,  
and it would seem rather  
ungracious (would it not?)  
at least for the first two of  
three "turns" if I said - "I will  
come to be some time, but I  
must be out, Saturday evening!"  
Warren of Magdalen, has already  
invited me to come to him, &  
Paget of Christ Church, has  
held out the same flattering  
offer. "That's where it is,"  
you see! Excuse my blarney!  
Then again, I have no  
less than here to write a fresh

paper for you - for I am eaten  
up with daily visits (2) to  
the Cathedral, & have to  
walk out of work - & I should  
have therefore to fall back  
upon some thing old - something  
"old" in something "old", however  
the "Crambe" be rechristened -  
Resolve me, my doubts -  
I repeat you most reluctantly,  
but you will understand my  
difficulties, I know.  
I am so glad to hear you are  
in beautiful success. I think  
I should like to be Rector of  
Pulford - I should see, written  
over the Church Porch in  
Gothic Characters; -  
"Pull Devil. Pull Borough!"

freshman (a little strange  
in his head!) -  
I wish I was with you -  
that in a beautiful climate,  
in August - & at most  
times. The arrives were here  
last week, & I got a sniff  
of Temple air. Charles Wells  
was the judge, & I dined  
with them at their lodgings.  
They had two nice Mass hals  
with them (young Charles &  
dandy's (d.f.) son) - would  
that you, too, had been of the  
party! Ask your father (who  
knows his Bacon - & did once  
why Lord Bacon would have had nothing  
to say to you ("Because you are the  
idol of your love") - your ever affec-  
A. Ainslie.

(2)

Endowment - the income from  
opportunity & all sources does not  
do more than pay a good estate,  
than the vicar perhaps £100 a  
year for himself - so that I should  
make a large sacrifice, becoming  
if I left the Temple. but I  
am seriously thinking of it, for  
I have been there nearly seven &  
twenty years, and it is quite  
long enough - I have no prospect  
of preferment from the Heaven-  
forsaken crew who have not  
entered on the Government of  
this country. I do not need  
to decide until October, but  
I think I shall most  
likely accept. The opportunity

of getting a word in now there  
with you dear under-graduate,  
is a privilege I much covet.  
He might write me a  
few lines, tell him, (or dictate  
a few, from the cucumber -  
pane under which he is  
forcing the coy mountaineer.)

Scene in a Provincial  
Book-Store -

lady Visitor (in search of some thing  
to read) - "Have you Browning's  
Poems?"

serious Shopman: "No, Ma'am. how  
of us down here can understand  
him."

lady Visitor. (Changing her tack)  
"Have you Præd?"

S. Shopman: "Yes, Ma'am. we  
tried that - but it was of  
no use." (Scene closes.)

By the way, Sunday, the seventh  
of November, is the first  
day of my Oxford duties.  
And I have no doubt that  
(if their arrangements permit)  
I shall be the guest either  
of Warren or Paget. It was,  
(I strongly believe), Warren  
through whose influence I  
was appointed to the very  
distinguished office (of  
preaching to a Vice-Chancellor,  
two Esquire-Bachelors, three  
masters of arts, and a