

Dear Jonathan,

I have spent some time writing on two issues:

- a) a response to your letter about residences
- b) a response to your letter about your future aspirations.

The business about duty prompts a third letter - or rather prompts me to accept a single letter dealing with all these matters & with what must be described as a common concern underlying all of them.

Your expressed ^{in a semi-hypothetical} interest in doing duty was in principle very welcome. In practice it didn't prove possible to take up that offer. ~~It was~~ have not proved here to have you on the staff & in some cases have particularly asked that you should not join the house team. The kind of

opportunity is best done by somebody resident in the estate, & in any case I know that various other possibilities (job-republics etc) were considered, but that it was in the

end thought most sensible to fill a different gap in Barrabode at any rate in the short term by asking you to bring your considerable experience as a scholar to bear. It was clearly not your preferred position, but might not necessarily have been expected to produce the reaction from you which it did.

The root cause of several difficulties is that someone has developed our what must be described as your reputation as a homosexual when (for better or worse) whether you are or not is just the point - a would in any case be your own business except insofar as it affects the reputation of the school or the conduct of its affairs. Whether the fact of that matter, never stop including your colleagues (with Parker) as members & at least one of their predecessors have been concerned at what have seemed to them to be your readiness to set out & to establish friendships with other boys in a way that bordered them, involving as it appeared to do, visits to your home which to some extent took them out of the mainstream of life, and which on occasions led to difficulties over permission to be away for the whole or the time of return or the extent to which alcohol was available. However, have sometimes been concerned, too, about some aspects of trips to S.E. Asia or about the presence of certain of their charges on them. These concerns have been intermittent, of course, but have been deeply felt - which has not made it any easier for the full in question to raise them direct with you.

It is also the case that some of your colleagues believe themselves to be in the

has become more established & which has become increasingly to be a source of difficulty.

possession of knowledge about activities outside
 the school which places a real barrier
 between them & yourself in terms of
 confidence & respect, this kept them though
 they choose (I would guess) to keep their
 own counsel on the matter, because the
 information which they believe they have is
 for the most part privileged & confidential.

In any case I have said enough to make it
 clear why it is not entirely easy to
 write about the matter of resolution (any
 such letter would be in laying down in
 a way that I don't find very satisfying
 conditions about proper permission, probability,
 doubt) or about your future in the
 school at a time when it
 after a difficult situation - ie when a
 teacher lays down that permission after with
 a long period of ~~some~~ ^{some} ~~time~~ ^{time} ahead before
 some agreement; ~~though~~ ^{though}, too, to explain
 why the matter of a duty allocation was
 my only but the only one which you
 suggested it to be.

About the specific ^{on} ~~matter~~ ^{on} which I was
 copying my separate replies I believe I
 must not for the moment delay my
 response.