

The Letters of Charles Dickens Online Supplement 1

Since the publication in the *Dickensian* in 2013 of the nineteenth Supplement to the Pilgrim *Letters*, the editorial team has continued to find new letters; these have been transcribed and annotated, in anticipation of publishing them in this new format, on the Dickens Fellowship website. While the same high standard of transcription and annotation has been maintained, it was decided to put an end to referencing each letter back to the twelve volumes of Pilgrim; this task will be taken up by a future editor of a supplementary volume of letters. In the interim, though, it was felt that a record needed to be kept of all new letters found, including those already published in recent articles in *The Dickensian* (such as those to James Emerson Tennent and Lord Dufferin, as well as those to the Morgan family). To this end, the Dickens Letters team is pleased to present the first tranche of letters in online format.

The editors gratefully acknowledge the kind assistance of the following individuals, and institutions: Elizabeth Allworth; Robert à Beckett; Dietmar Boehnke; Angus Easson; Sue Hodson (Huntington Library); Liverpool Athenaeum; Robin Morgan Lloyd; Chicky Di Martino; Rev. Edward Morgan; Herb Moskowitz; Mrs. Gerald Morgan; David Paroissien (*Dickens Quarterly*); Ruth Richardson; Stephen Scarth (Public Record Office of Northern Ireland); Miles Scott (St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust); Joseph Shemtov (Free Library of Philadelphia); John Strachan (British Postmark Society); Stephen Weekes. We are very grateful to Mark Dickens, owner of the copyright in Dickens's letters, for continuing to permit us to use unpublished material.

Editorial Board: Leon Litvack, Jenny Hartley, Paul Schlicke (Editors); Malcolm Andrews, Michael Slater (Consultant Editors); Ben Winyard (Editorial Assistant).

To JAMES EMERSON TENNENT,¹ 3 JUNE 1837

MS Public Record Office of Northern Ireland
Address: James Emerson Tennent Esqre M.P. | 25 Duke Street | Westminster

48 Doughty St. Mecklenburgh Square | Saturday June 3rd. 1837

My Dear Sir.

I fear that by this time you will have set *me* down as the rudest of *your* chance acquaintances. If so, let me make my apology in one word. On the night on which I was to have dined with you at Richmond, a very dear young relative was taken ill in my house, and after a few hours' suffering died.² It has been a heavier blow to me than I could describe were I disposed; and for a few weeks it has completely overwhelmed me.³

¹ Sir James Emerson Tennent (1804-69), politician and author; son of William Emerson, took the name of Tennent 1832, after marriage. MP for Belfast 1832-7, 1838-41, 1842-5, and for Lisburn 1852; secretary to India Board 1841-3, knighted 1845, civil secretary to colonial government of Ceylon 1845-50; secretary to Poor Law Board Mar-Dec 1852. Elected FRS 1862 and created a baronet 1867. Published several works on Greece, where he travelled and fought (meeting Byron) in 1824, and on Ceylon; contributed to Disraeli's newspaper *The Press* in 1853. Probably long known to CD, as an early friend and fellow law-student of Forster, and a member of the Macready circle by 1836; *Our Mutual Friend* dedicated to him.

² CD's sister-in-law, Mary Hogarth, died suddenly on 7 May 1837.

³ See, for example, letter to William Harrison Ainsworth: 'I have been so much unnerved and hurt by the loss of the dear girl whom I loved, after my wife, more deeply and fervently than anyone on earth, that I have been compelled for once to give up all idea of my monthly work, and to try a fortnight's rest and quiet. We have hired a very small cottage here, and have repaired hither for a little change of air and scene' (Pilgrim *Letters* 6, p. 260; dated 17 May 1837).

I take the earliest opportunity of saying that I most cordially reciprocate the wishes you are kind enough to express for the furtherance of our acquaintance which I am sincerely desirous to improve. I am staying with Mrs. Dickens at a cottage of twelve feet square in Hampstead just now;⁴ but I have given you our address in town at the commencement of this epistle, and unless some nefarious person purloins this valuable autograph,⁵ shall hope to see you again before long.

Meantime my Dear Sir, believe me

Very faithfully Yours

James Emerson Tennent Esqre.

CHARLES DICKENS

“ “6

⁴ CD was staying at North End, Hampstead, with Catherine, in order to allow her to recover from the miscarriage she suffered after her sister Mary's sudden death.

⁵ This comment may be meant as a joke, on account of the elaborately flourishing signature which CD had adopted by this time; but it may also relate to the esteem he felt he had gained in the eyes of his public and of other writers. For CD's assessment of his own reputation in 1837 see Michael Slater, *Charles Dickens* (New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 2009), p. 99.

⁶ The MS shows ditto marks below Tennent's name; this is a shorthand to indicate his address as it would appear on the envelope (25 Duke Street).

To HENRY COLBURN,¹ 30 MAY 1840

Facsimile in Sotheby's online catalogue, July 2014

Devonshire Terrace. | May 30th 1840.

Dear Sir

What do you wish me to do with the tale² which you left here t'other day? As it was left without any note or explanation, I am quite at sea about it.

I am going to Broadstairs for a month, early on Monday Morning. If you wish to communicate with me on the subject, a letter addressed to me there, will find me readily.

Faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

Henry Colburn Esquire

¹ Henry Colburn (d.1855), publisher and magazine proprietor. Founded the *New Monthly Magazine* (1814), *Literary Gazette* (1817), *Court Journal* (1829), and held interests in the *Athenaeum* and *Sunday Times*. Brought out the first editions of Evelyn's *Diary* 1819 and Pepys's *Diary* 1825. Disraeli, Bulwer, Hook, Marryat, Ainsworth and Lady Morgan were among the authors he published. Had a highly unsatisfactory partnership with Richard Bentley 1829-32. His opportunism earned him many enemies, *Fraser's Magazine* describing him as the 'Prince Paramount of Puffers and Quacks' (I [1830], 320). Published *The Pic Nic Papers*, edited by CD, 1841. His widow, Eliza Ann, married John Forster in 1856.

² Unidentified; possibly a contribution for CD to consider for inclusion in *The Pic Nic Papers*, contracted for publication by Colburn in 1838 but not published until 1841.

To JOSEPH JONES,¹ [8 MARCH 1842]

Facsimile in *Between the Covers Rare Books* online catalogue, October 2013, in third person

United States Hotel.² | March 8th.

Mr. Charles Dickens presents his compliments to Mr. Joseph Jones and begs through him to thank the Committee of the Hibernian Society,³ for their polite attention and kind invitation. It would have given Mr. Dickens great pleasure to accept it, but he leaves this city⁴ tomorrow morning and will be at [a]⁵ considerable distance from it on the seventeenth.

¹ Joseph Stevens Jones, (d. 1877), Boston actor, playwright, and theatre manager, who dramatised Samuel Warren's *Ten Thousand a Year*. See *Pilgrim Letters* 2, p. 202n.

² In Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

³ The Ancient Order of Hibernians, an Irish Catholic fraternal organisation; its American branch was founded in New York City in 1833.

⁴ Philadelphia, where CD stayed from 5-9 March, before moving on to Washington.

⁵ Word probably missing through a tear in the page.

To WASHINGTON IRVING,¹ 12 APRIL 1845

Facsimile in Christie's online catalogue, June 2013

Palazzo Peschiere, Genoa. | Twelfth April 1845.

My Dear Irving.

Captain Cunynghame² of the English army who was aide-de-camp to Lord Saltoun³ in China, is leaving this place for a short trip to Spain; and I cannot forbear giving him this note to you. You will like him very much, I am sure; and it will be a happiness to me to see some one who has been in recent communication with you – as I hope he will have been, when he and I meet in England next Midsummer.

I wish I could hope to meet you there, or anywhere, my dear Irving, were it only for as short a time as would suffice for the dispatch of such another Mint Julep as we disposed of at Baltimore.⁴ But I don't despair of seeing your face, and shaking your hand again, one of these days in some remote place or other.

Mrs. Dickens sends you her love, and hopes you have not forgotten her. I hope you have not forgotten Clarke's⁵ twin-brother either.

Ever Faithfully Yours,

CHARLES DICKENS

His Excellency | Washington Irving.

¹ Washington Irving (1783-1859), American author and diplomat. His *Sketch-Book* provided an important model for CD's *Sketches by Boz*. CD met him on his American tour in 1842, during which Irving supported CD's call for an international copyright agreement for authors.

² Thus in MS. Sir Arthur Augustus Thurlow Cunyngham (1812-84), who held the rank of Captain in the Buffs (3rd [East Kent] Regiment of Foot) in 1845; afterwards General. He had evidently met CD in Genoa; see *Pilgrim Letters* 4, p. 360n (*To Cunyngham*, 21 August 1845).

³ Alexander Fraser, 17th Lord Saltoun (1785-1853), Scottish peer who fought in the Napoleonic wars and the first Anglo-Chinese War.

⁴ Footnote to *Pilgrim Letters* 3, p. 70 observes that CD's first words on meeting Irving were: 'What will you drink, a mint julep [*sic*] or a gin cocktail?' and that, having said goodbye to CD in Washington, followed him to Baltimore for a further farewell.

⁵ CD's mis-spelling of Lewis Gaylord Clark, editor of *The Knickerbocker*, with whom CD and Irving dined together (*Pilgrim Letters* 3, p. 79n). He was twin brother of Willis Gaylord Clark (1808-41), poet and editor.

To THOMAS SOUTHWOOD SMITH,¹ [?] JULY 1845

Envelope only.

Facsimile in International Autograph Auctions online catalogue, February 2013

Date: PM 5 July 1845

Address: Dr. Southwood Smith | Finsbury Square

¹ Thomas Southwood Smith, MD (1788-1861), sanitary reformer. MD 1816; Unitarian minister at Yeovil, simultaneously practising medicine, 1816-20. Published *Illustrations of the Divine Government*, Glasgow, 1816. From 1820 practised medicine in London. One of the original Committee of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge 1825. He was main founder of the Health of Towns Association 1839. In 1841 Lord Normanby, the Home Secretary, used Smith's evidence to support his Drainage of Buildings Bill (shelved on the Government's defeat).

To JAMES EDWARDS,¹ 12 OCTOBER 1845

Replaces mention.

Facsimile in Ira & Larry Goldberg Coins & Collectables online catalogue, April 2014

Devonshire Terrace | Twelfth October 1845

Dear Sir

My visit to Manchester will so very hurried, that I have declined Mr Heywood's² extremely kind Invitation. I regret the cause very much, but it is really a relief to me be free. Mr Jerrold³ and I purpose coming down⁴ together on the Wednesday Evening; and we shall leave on the Morning after the Soirée. Pray do not think of having anyone waiting at the Railway, as we shall drive straight to our hotel and be quite at home.

Dear Sir

Faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

James Edwards Esquire

¹ James Edwards, probably secretary of the Manchester Athenaeum (see *Pilgrim Letters* 4, p. 403).

² James Heywood (1810-97), FRS and FSA 1839; founder of Manchester Athenaeum, 28 Oct 35, and first President; trustee of Owens College 1845-60; MP for North Lancs 1847-57. CD met him at Manchester in 1843.

³ Douglas Jerrold (1803-57), dramatist, radical journalist and wit; author of over 60 plays, including his most famous, *Black-eyed Susan* (1829). He was one of CD's closest friends. Edited *Douglas Jerrold's Shilling Magazine* and *Douglas Jerrold's Weekly Newspaper*.

⁴ CD had planned to travel to Manchester with Jerrold and John Leech to attend a meeting of the Athenaeum there on 22 October, but abandoned the plan on account of the advanced state of Catherine's pregnancy; she gave birth to Alfred D'Orsay Tennyson Dickens on 28 October.

To SYDNEY WILLIAMS,¹ 1 FEBRUARY 1846

Facsimile in the possession of Dietmar Boehnke.²

Devonshire Terrace | First February 1846

Dear Sir

I am extremely sorry that my Publishers should have given you any cause of offence. I think there must have been some misunderstanding between you.

I have handed your note to them; and have informed them, for the second time, that I am anxious to oblige Mr. Tauchnitz³ in all possible respects, as he behaved in a very honorable manner on the last occasion of my having any communication with him, observing my invariable principle in such matters. I do not wish to interfere beyond this.

I believed the arrangement to have been made long ago, and was surprised last night to hear anything from you to the contrary.

Faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

Sydney Williams Esquire

¹ Sydney Williams of Williams & Norgate, 19 Henrietta St, Covent Garden and 2 Queen's Passage; known to be Bernhard Tauchnitz's London agent by 1850, when CD sent him proofs of *Copperfield*.

² This letter was part of a group which recently came to light in Leipzig, in the Tauchnitz firm's archive, which was sold in the early 1990s. Before the items were dispersed the original Dickens letters were photocopied by the family of Dietmar Boehnke of the University of Leipzig. These photocopies were kindly shared with the Dickens Letters project.

³ Bernhard Tauchnitz of Leipzig, who published CD's works in his Collection of British Authors, for the continental market. Tauchnitz first approached CD about this initiative in October 1843. See *Pilgrim Letters* 3, p. 580.

To THOMAS HODGSKIN,¹ [4 FEBRUARY 1846]

Facsimile in One of a Kind Collectables Auctions catalogue, October 2014

*Private*²

OFFICES OF THE DAILY NEWS | WHITEFRIARS
Wednesday night

My Dear Sir.

I have found it so difficult to make any present arrangement in reference to the subject³ of your unanswered letter – consulting your feeling in reference to Mr. Danson⁴ – that I have been constrained to leave the matter where it stands. But there is very little difference between you and me, I assure you,⁵ on this head.

Faithfully Yours always

CHARLES DICKENS

Thomas Hodgskin Esquire

¹ Thomas Hodgskin (1787-1869), journalist recruited by CD as sub-editor on the *Daily News*. See *Pilgrim Letters* 4, p. 445n.

² Enclosed by a single stroke above and below the word.

³ Hodgskin was passed over for a leader column by Danson. See *Pilgrim Letters* 4, p. 487.

⁴ JohnTowne Danson (1817-98), recruited as financial leader-writer on the *Daily News*. See *Pilgrim Letters* 4, p. 448n.

⁵ 'in reference' deleted.

To THOMAS SOUTHWOOD SMITH,¹ [?20] FEBRUARY 1846

Envelope only, Facsimile in International Autograph Auctions online catalogue, February 2013

Date: PM 20 February 1846

Address: Dr. Southwood Smith | 38 Finsbury Square

¹ Thomas Southwood Smith, MD (1788-1861); see above, [?5] July 1845, for full annotation.

To LORD ROBERTSON,¹ 4 AUGUST 1847

Facsimile in Koller Auctions online catalogue, September 2013

Broadstairs, Kent. | Fourth August 1847.

My Dear Lord Robertson

You have read some charming works translated into English from the writings of Hans Christian Andersen? Here he is!² – If you were anything but what you are, I would not commend a man of his genius to you. So the merit of the deed is clearly yours, and not mine.

Ever my Dear Friend

Cordially Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

The Honorable Lord Robertson.

¹ Patrick Robertson (1794-1855), advocate; often known by the diminutive 'Peter'. Became a Lord of Session 1843, and took his seat on the bench as Lord Robertson. Known for his warm-heartedness and wit. At the Edinburgh dinner for CD he proposed the health of Scott. 'With what enthusiasm', he said, ' -- with what delight and cordiality would the author of *Waverley* have hailed the advent of the author of the *Pickwick Papers*.' He envisaged various meetings between characters in Scott's and CD's novels: how, e.g., Davie Gellatley (the half-witted servant in *Waverley*) would 'jump with delight to hail his brother Barnaby Rudge' (a parallel Bulwer clearly recognized too, though with disapproval); and how at Dotheboys Hall 'Dominie Sampson would have exclaimed at the arrangements of Squeers -- Pro-digious!' (*Caledonian Mercury*, 26 June 1841). Robertson and CD met again in 1844.

² Andersen was in London at this time. See *Pilgrim Letters* 5, p.134

To MRS MILNER GIBSON¹ [11 OCTOBER 1847]

Facsimile in Christie's online catalogue, May 2014

Date: 'November' was written in mistake for October, given the context.

Devonshire Terrace.] Eleventh November 1847.²

My Dear Mrs Gibson.

I will make a note of the twenty fourth — and come if I can (of which I have a³ little doubt) — and let you know beforehand.

Your pretty little protégée⁴ has played the Devil with us by her delay; but it was quite natural, and I can't blame her.

Very faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

Mrs. Milner Gibson.

P.S. My love to the bright daughter.⁵

¹ Susanna Arethusa Gibson (1814-85), society hostess. See *Pilgrim Letters* 4, p. 106n.

² The date is CD's mistake, presumably for 11 October 1847, as he reports the result of his interview with the girl in a letter to Mrs Gibson dated 26 October 1847. See *Pilgrim Letters* 5, p. 176.

³ Added over caret.

⁴ Thus in MS. The girl was put forward by Mrs Gibson for the post of matron of Urania Cottage, but was passed over on account of her youth and inexperience. See *To Mrs Gibson, 26 October 1847* (*Pilgrim Letters* 5, p. 176).

⁵ Alice Mary Milner Gibson.

To THOMAS WEBSTER,¹ 7 April 1848

MS Stephen Weekes

Devonshire Terrace. | Seventh April 1848.

My Dear Sir

If you will kindly let me know in what amount I stand indebted to you,² I shall be happy to discharge the pecuniary part of my obligation.

I hope to send you, in the course of a week or so, the completed *Dombey* wherein you will find, at your leisure, that other subject for the companion picture.

Accept my best thanks for the enduring pleasure you have given me, and believe me

Very faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

T. Webster Esquire

¹ Thomas Webster (1800-86), painter, particularly of children. ARA 1840; RA 1846. Exhibited frequently; in the RA exhibition 1847 his painting *Instruction* was described as 'a little gem . . . one of the boasts of the year' (*Literary Gazette*, 5 June).

² CD purchased the brimstone and treacle scene from *Nicholas Nickleby*, which Webster painted as frontispiece for the Cheap edition; see *Pilgrim Letters* 5, p. 203. The companion picture from *Dombey*, mentioned in this letter, has not been found.

To WILLIAM ELLIS,¹ 30 APRIL 1849

MS Free Library of Philadelphia.

Address: The Reverend William Ellis | 8 Grafton Street | Piccadilly

Devonshire Terrace. | Thirtieth April 1849.

My Dear Sir

Miss Coutts² has communicated with me, in reference to the case – proposed for admission into the Home³ – in which you are kindly interested.

I should like to have a few words of conversation with you on the subject, and to suggest to you why I rather fear it would do better in another kind of Institution. Would it be convenient to you if I called on you at 12 on Wednesday?⁴ In case you should have any engagement for that time, I shall be at home at 5 tomorrow afternoon, but I shall be very happy to call upon you as I have proposed, if that will do.

My Dear Sir

Faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

The Reverend William Ellis.

¹ William Ellis (1794-1872), missionary and author.

² Angela Georgina Burdett Coutts (1814-1906), youngest child of Sir Francis Burdett and Sophia, daughter of Thomas Coutts, the banker. After inheriting the fortune of her maternal grandfather in 1837 she devoted her life to philanthropy. She met CD in 1838 or 1839, and the two became lifelong friends. CD recommended and administered many of her philanthropic projects, including ragged schools, and Urania Cottage.

³ Urania Cottage, the home for former prostitutes in Shepherd's Bush, founded in 1847.

⁴ 'Tuesday' cancelled; 'Wednesday' added over the caret.

To CAPTAIN E. E. MORGAN,¹ 27 July 1849

MS Robin Lloyd

Address: Captain E.E. Morgan | New York City | U.S. of America

Bonchurch, Isle of Wight² | Twenty Seventh July 1849.

My Dear Sir

The date of this letter will I hope explain to you why we have not been able to avail ourselves of your kind and welcome invitation, which only arrived here last night.³

My ladies⁴ desire their cordial remembrances to you, and I am always

Very faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

Captain Morgan.

¹ Capt. Elisha Ely Morgan (?1805-64), of the American merchant service (Silas Jones Jorgan in 'A Message from the Sea', *All the Year Round* Christmas Number, 1860).

² CD was in the Isle of Wight with his family from 26 July to 1 October.

³ Morgan captained the *Southampton* on its inaugural voyage across the Atlantic in June 1849. It docked at Gravesend on 6 July ('Money-Market and City Intelligence', *Times*, 6 July 1849), and then travelled on to London. It left London for the return journey to New York on 28 July ('Regular Line of Packets between London and New York', *Times*, 4 June 1849).

⁴ Catherine Dickens and Georgina Hogarth.

To MRS SCOTT RUSSELL,¹ 16 NOVEMBER 1849

MS Mrs Chicky Di Martino

Devonshire Terrace | Sixteenth November 1849.

Dear Madam

I beg to thank you for your letter. I do not believe there are many intelligent people disposed to uphold *Public Executions*,² but I hope to find out before long.

Faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

Mrs Scott Russell

¹ Harriett, née Osborne (1808-88), wife of John Scott Russell (1808-82), civil engineer and shipbuilder, who was hired by CD as railway editor on the *Daily News*.

² CD had outspoken views on capital punishment, and contributed five letters to the *Daily News* on the subject in 1846 (23, 28 February; 9, 13 and 16 March).

To CAPTAIN E. E. MORGAN,¹ 26 July 1850

MS Rev Edward Morgan

Devonshire Terrace |Twenty Sixth July, 1850.

My Dear Captain Morgan.

Many thanks for your note. I purpose coming down on Tuesday, by the train which leaves town at 2, bringing Mr. Stone,² Mr. Egg,³ (I dare say you know his pictures) and perhaps my own Illustrator, Mr. Browne,⁴ with me. If the weight of our united intellects should not be too much for the Southampton,⁵ we shall be happy to go on to Gravesend.

Alwys Believe me

Faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

¹ See above for details.

² Frank Stone (1800-59), painter, self-taught; ARA 1851. Son of a Manchester mill-owner and employed as a cotton-broker from 1816. Gave up business for painting 1824, and worked his way to London by painting portraits. On arrival in London 1831, found employment drawing 'beauties' for the *Keepsake*, *Book of Beauty* and other annuals. Associate of the Watercolour Society 1833. Exhibited portraits in the Royal Academy 1837-9; then, from 1840, the subject-pictures chiefly associated with his name. Secretary of the Shakespeare Club 1838-9, where he met CD. Was one of the illustrators of *The Haunted Man*, 1848, and provided extra plates for the First Cheap Editions of *Nickleby* and *Chuzzlewit*.

³ Augustus Egg (1816-63), artist. Son of a gunmaker; student at the Royal Academy from 1835; began exhibiting 1836; soon inherited enough to be independent and exhibited sparingly; ARA 1848; RA 1860. Later lived abroad for his health and died in Algiers 1863.

⁴ Hablot Knight Browne, 'Phiz' (1815-82), painter and illustrator. Called Hablot after a French officer, killed at Waterloo, who was engaged to his sister. Apprenticed to William and Edward Finden, engravers; then turned to painting, mainly in water-colour; awarded the silver Isis medal by the Society of Arts for the best illustration of a historical subject 1832. Employed by Chapman & Hall as the regular illustrator of the *Library of Fiction* 1836. Illustrated CD's *Sunday Under Three Heads* the same year; succeeded Buss (who had replaced Seymour) as illustrator of *Pickwick*. After signing his first two plates 'Nemo', he adopted the pseudonym 'Phiz' as being more in harmony with 'Boz'. Illustrated all CD's novels up to and including *A Tale of Two Cities*, 1859 (except *Oliver Twist* and *Hard Times*).

⁵ Morgan took command of the *Southampton*, a packet ship belonging to the Black X Line, in June 1849. On this particular voyage the ship returned to New York from Gravesend on 31 July ('Ship News', *Times*, 1 August 1850).

To FELIX JOYCE,¹ 17 NOVEMBER 1850

Facsimile in Philip Weiss Auctions online catalogue, October 2013

Knebworth Sunday | Seventeenth November 1850.

My Dear Mr Joyce.

By the “three copies in Morocco”, I meant (and ought to have explained that I meant) three of our usual copies that are not in cloth. – Not specially bound for me, but such as are commonly bound. Fifteen copies in all.

Faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

¹ Felix Joyce (d. 1865), accountant at Bradbury and Evans.

To JAMES THOMSON,¹ 12 JUNE 1852

Extract in Jarndyce Catalogue, Winter 2012-13.

Tavistock House,
Saturday evening, Twelfth June 1852

I am very glad that all is going so well – I am very glad also, that there is no difference between us in reference to the subject of our last short correspondences.² Of course you understand that I will connect Sir James Brooke's name with the trust, with the greatest pleasure, and with all possible grace and courtesy towards him. The point I would rather avoid is quite another matter. . . . I observe that the word I have written before "places" has a cabalistic appearance. I mean it to represent a 3.³

¹ James Thomson, of Gordon, Thomson, & Keene, seed merchants and nurserymen, 25 Fenchurch Street.

² CD had written to Thomson the previous day (*Pilgrim Letters* 6, p. 694) about a speech he was to give at the Gardeners' Benevolent Institution on 14 June, declining to allude to the 'Bornean proceedings'. These concerned the controversy surrounding Sir James Brooke; see *Pilgrim Letters* 6, p. 694, n 4.

³ CD had reserved three tickets for Catherine Dickens.

To THE EDITOR OF *THE DAILY NEWS*, 7 FEBRUARY 1853

Text from the *Daily News*, 7 February 1853.

Mr. CHARLES DICKENS wishes us to contradict the paragraph (quoted from *The Derby Reporter*), relating how 300*l.* had been presented to Inspector Field,¹ late of the detective force. Mr. Dickens says: "The statement is unimportant to me, but as it might cast a slur on the conduct of a most excellent officer in the discharge of his duty, I beg you to do him the justice of contradicting it, on my assurance that it is one of the most extravagant inventions I have ever seen in my life, without a scrap of truth for its foundation."²

¹ Charles Frederick Field (?1805-74) began his career as a Bow Street runner; was chief inspector of Metropolitan detective police until 1851, then retired on 'good-service pension', but continued to work for the police at Great Scotland Yard and also as private inquiry agent. For CD's expedition with him and articles in *Household Words* see To Wills, 12 July and 17 Sep 50, and To Lytton, 9 May 51. His characteristics, depicted most vividly in CD's *Household Words* article 'On Duty with Inspector Field', contributed much to Inspector Bucket in *Bleak House*.

² See William F. Long, 'Inspector Field and the Improbable Gift', *Dickens Quarterly* 30.1 (March 2013): 43-54.

To MONSIEUR DAMPS,¹ 25 MAY 1853

MS Huntington Library

PM 26 May 1853

Address: À Monsieur: | Monsr. Damps | 48/50 Rue de Minimes. | Bruxelles.

Tavistock House, London | Jeudi Mai 25, 1853.

Monsieur.

J'ai eu l'honneur de recevoir² votre lettre. Permettez-moi de vous assurer que M. Louis Dickens n'est pas mon cousin, et que je nai³ point de connaissance avec son nom.

Recevez⁴ Monsieur, je vous prie, l'assurance de ma plus haute consideration.⁵

CHARLES DICKENS

À Monsieur Damps.

¹ Unidentified. Probably an unsolicited letter about supposed relations or employees which souvenir or autograph hunters sent to CD, in order to elicit a signed response from him.

² Thus in MS.

³ Thus in MS.

⁴ Thus in MS.

⁵ Thus in MS.

To GILBERT À BECKETT,¹ 9 FEBRUARY 1854

MS Robert à Beckett

Tavistock House | Ninth February 1854

My dear a² Beckett.

I hope it is not unconstitutional to find a trifle of difficulty sometimes, in deciphering Beakish caligraphy.³ A “mysterious appearance” in your letter looks to me more like Monday (in the list of your official days) than any thing else. Assuming it to be the sign or symbol of Monday, I will come on Monday at 4, to see

Mary Richardson⁴

Faithfully Yours ever

CHARLES DICKENS

Gilbert a⁵ à Beckett Esquire

¹ Gilbert Abbott à Beckett (1811-56); police magistrate (hence ‘Beakish’); journalist, prolific playwright and humorous writer. Recommended suitable candidates for Urania Cottage, which Mary Richardson probably was, although there is no further mention of her.

² Thus in MS.

³ Thus in MS.

⁴ The name ‘Mary Richardson’ is written (in a different hand) on a scrap of paper and pasted into the letter.

⁵ Thus in MS.

To RICHARD FORD,¹ 20 APRIL 1855

Facsimile in Christie's online catalogue, May 2014

Tavistock House | Friday Twentieth April, 1855

My Dear Mr. Ford.

Enclosed is formal testimony that I will, with the leave of Heaven, keep my vow. And if in the profoundest secrecy I may connect the name of Baring² with the word Failure, I waft you this breath of suspicion that he broke down in his rare Spanish Wine when we dined there together so admirably. I look to you with a serene confidence, and hope I shall come to the consideration of those two Vintages in a prepared frame of mind.

Faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

Richard Ford Esquire.

¹ Richard Ford (1796-1858), Spanish traveller. See *Pilgrim Letters* 7, p. 584.

² Thomas Baring (1799-1873), banker. Entered the family banking firm, of which he became head; a director of the Bank of England 1848-67; MP 1835-7 and 1844-73.

To JOHN PALGRAVE SIMPSON,¹ 8 OCTOBER 1855

Replaces Extract in Supplement III

MS Huntington Library

Tavistock House | Monday Eighth October 1855

My Dear Sir

Coming to town this morning for the day,² I find your two letters together.

For myself, I am bound at once to say that I am far from sanguine of the success of your enterprize,³ and that I am not disposed to join it.

As to Miss Burdett Coutts, I am unable to give you any authorized reply, as that lady is in the South of France.⁴ But I have a strong impression that an application to her to become a shareholder would be certainly unsuccessful, and that her interest in such a design would altogether depend upon the manner of its realization and execution.

I hope your experience may rapidly disprove my misgivings, and I beg to assure you that your second note needed no apology.

My dear Sir

Very faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

J. Palgrave Simpson Esquire.

¹ John Palgrave Simpson (1807-87), playwright and novelist. In Paris during the 1848 Revolution, he settled in London in 1850. Published four novels and had c. 60 plays performed, including adaptations of *Bleak House* and *A Tale of Two Cities*. Like CD, a member of both the Garrick Club and the Athenaeum.

² CD was in Folkestone, 'hammering away' at *Little Dorrit* (see *To Macready*, 4 Oct).

³ Not traced.

⁴ Miss Coutts, whom CD assisted in her philanthropic projects, was travelling with Dr and Mrs Brown (her former companion Hannah Meredith).

To THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOSPITAL GOVERNORS' WEEKLY BOARD, ST.

GEORGE'S HOSPITAL,¹ 3 JANUARY 1857

MS St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust²

The following are the facts relating to the condition in which the body of Mrs. Purvis,³ a patient in St. George's Hospital, who died there, was restored to the friends of the deceased. They have been collected from the testimony of three very respectable persons, by no means of a low class in life. It is hardly necessary to add, that they are all producible.

When the body was claimed, it lay in the Dead House of the Hospital, covered with a sheet, but otherwise perfectly naked; though the deceased, at the time of her death, had good clothing of her own in the Hospital. It lay on a bench or table, close side by side with the body of a man, which was also only covered by a sheet. There was no appearance upon it of the face having been composed, or the lower jaw adjusted. There was no wrapper about the latter. The hair lay in disorder and confusion, tumbled about the head and face. In this condition, the two men who claimed it, separated it from its horrible and unnatural companionship, got some coverings upon it, and took it to the third of the three persons from whom this representation proceeds, one of the trained schoolmistresses, holding the best government certificates, and the principal mistress in Miss Burdett Coutts's schools at

¹ St George's Hospital at Hyde Park Corner. Angela Burdett-Coutts had influence there, probably as a benefactor. Her father had been a patient there many years before. This is the 'statement' CD refers to in his letter to Miss Coutts, 3 January 1857 (*Pilgrim Letters* 8, p. 251).

² Reprinted in Ruth Richardson's article 'Death & The Lady: Miss Coutts, Mr. Dickens & The Dead House Committee', *Dickens Quarterly*, 30.3 (September 2013): 177-97; transcribed from St George's Hospital *Dead House Committee Book* 5-6.

³ CD and Miss Coutts were protesting about the shameful treatment of the corpse of Margaret Purvis, who had died at St George's Hospital, Hyde Park Corner. For full details see Richardson's article.

Westminster.⁴ Her position is described, in order that it may be understood that she is not an ignorant or irresponsible kind of woman.

Notwithstanding that the two men had done what few kind offices they could do for the corpse while it was in the Dead House, with all consideration and gentleness, its appearance, even when it was received by this female friend, was so forlorn and shocking, that she hid it from the sight of the daughter of the deceased, until she had been able to perform those functions for it, which decency and humanity usually suggest.

The dread of St. George's Hospital (and naturally though perhaps unjustly, of all Hospitals) engendered in these people by the painful remembrances thus impressed on their minds, can scarcely be imagined. It has since happened that a pupil-teacher of the Schoolmistress fell ill. The latter shrank with horror from the idea of the poor girl's going to St. George's, as she might have done; and tended her in a private lodging until she died.⁵

⁴ Most of CD's information seems to have come from Harriet Bragg, head-mistress of St Stephen's School, Rochester Row, which was founded and funded by Miss Coutts. Margaret Purvis was the mother of Harriet Bragg's pupil Ann Purvis, who subsequently became a pupil-teacher at the school.

⁵ Although the hospital rebutted the criticism, two of the members of staff involved had already been dismissed for drunkenness and unauthorised absence, and reforms were subsequently put in place to ensure the decent treatment of the dead.

To SUSAN HORNER,¹ 16 NOVEMBER 1857

Replaces extracts in Pilgrim *Letters* 8 and Supplement XIII

MS Huntington Library

Tavistock House | Monday Evening Sixteenth November | 1857

Dear Miss Horner

My having been away, has a little delayed my answer to your esteemed note; but I hope this will not seriously inconvenience you.

The circumstance of this article being a translated pamphlet, already known in its general purport to the English public, is conclusive against its acceptance for Household Words. If the paper had taken an account of the pamphlet – a dissertation about it, and general description of it – the case might have been different. As it is, I must decline it: very much against my will.

Pray accept my sincere thanks for your offer, and believe me

Very faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

Miss Horner.

¹ Susan Horner (1816-1900), translator and writer on Italian subjects. She was one of six sisters, five of whom published translations or original works. Horner published *A Century of Despotism in Naples and Sicily* (1860), *The Tuscan Poet G. Giusti and his Times* (1864), and (with her sister Joanna) *Walks In Florence and its Environs* (1873). CD rejected the offer of a novel from her in 1866; see Pilgrim *Letters* 11, pp. 284-5.

To THE REV. WILLIAM BELL,¹ 18 JUNE 1859

Facsimile in Fraser's Autographs online catalogue, June 2014

Gad's Hill Place | Higham by Rochester, Kent.

Saturday Eighteenth June 1859

My Dear Sir

Allow me to assure you that I have received your very kind letter with great pleasure, and that I hope – and confidently believe – that Sydney will do credit to your interest in him and care of him.

Believe me

My Dear Sir

Faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

The Rev. William Bell

¹ The Rev. William Bell, RN, co-principal of the naval school at North Grove House, Southsea, which CD's son Sydney attended.

To SIR HENRY ELLIS,¹ 28 SEPTEMBER 1859

Replaces mention in Pilgrim *Letters* 9, p.126.

Facsimile in Sotheby's online catalogue, December 2014

OFFICE OF ALLTHE YEAR ROUND
Wednesday Twenty Eighth September 1859

My Dear Sir Henry Ellis

A gentleman who also contributes to this Journal – Mr Hollingshead² by name – has an idea that he could write a pleasant fanciful paper on the British Museum on an off-day, when the Public are not there. If it should not be inconsistent with your arrangements to give him the means of going through the Museum under such circumstances, I shall feel much indebted to you for kindly giving him admission.

Very faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

Sir Henry Ellis

¹ Sir Henry Ellis, FRS (1777-1869), antiquary and Principal Librarian, British Museum 1827-56.

² John Hollingshead (1827-1904), journalist and theatre manager. Regular contributor to *Household Words* and *All the Year Round*, became a member of the staff 1859. No trace exists of this article on the British Museum.

To MARGUERITE POWER,¹ 28 DECEMBER 1859

Facsimile in Bloomsbury Auctions online catalogue, December 2014.

OFFICE OF ALL THE YEAR ROUND
Wednesday Twenty Eighth December 1859

My Dear Marguerite. "Yes," to "Getting up Early."² With pleasure.

Kind regard at home

Ever affecy.

CD.

¹ Marguerite Agnes Power (1815-67), niece of CD's friend the Countess of Blessington. She edited *The Keepsake* (1851-7), and published a number of novels, including *Evelyn Forester* (1856), *The Foresters* (1858), *The Letters of a Betrothed* (1858), *Nelly Carew* (1859) and *Sweethearts and Wives* (1861). In 1860 she wrote *Virginia's Hand*, a long narrative poem dedicated to John Forster.

² 'Getting Up Early', *All the Year Round* 3 (12 May 1860): 105-8.

To ALEXANDER IRELAND,¹ 2 JANUARY 1860

MS Liverpool Athenaeum

TAVISTOCK HOUSE, TAVISTOCK SQUARE, LONDON. W.C.

Monday Second January 1860

My Dear Sir

Having been in Wales for the last few days, I have only just now received your kind note and its accompanying paper. Pray accept my cordial thanks for both.

Very faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

Alexander Ireland Esquire.

¹ Alexander Ireland (1810-94), journalist and man of letters: publisher and business manager of *Manchester Examiner*, 1846-86. Friend of Carlyle, Leigh Hunt and Emerson, whose English lecture-tour of 1847-8 he arranged. Member of founding committee of Manchester Free Library 1851. Published bibliographies of Hunt and Hazlitt 1868; a biography of Emerson 1882; *The Book-Lover's Enchiridion*, 1882; and edited 12th edn of Robert Chambers's *Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation*, 1884 -- giving Chambers's name for the first time.

To GEORGE BENTLEY,¹ 9 SEPTEMBER 1860

MS Huntington Library

GAD'S HILL PLACE, | HIGHAM BY ROCHESTER, KENT.
September Ninth 1860.

Dear Sir

Allow me to acknowledge the receipt of your obliging note of yesterday's date,
and to thank you for it.

Faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

George Bentley Esquire.

¹ George Bentley (1828-95), publisher and miscellaneous writer; son of the publisher, Richard Bentley; educated at King's College, London; joined his father's firm 1845 and after his death in 1871 retrieved its fortunes; wrote Introduction to Maginn's *Shakespeare Papers*, 1859 (new edn, 1860); ed. *Temple Bar*, bought by Bentley's, 1866-95; and at his death left 21 MS vols of his literary journals. Published Wilkie Collins and many other contemporary novelists.

To ROBERT PATTERSON,¹ 25 JANUARY 1861

Extract and summary in Jarndyce catalogue, Winter 2012-13

Acknowledging a good review of Great Expectations: I beg to thank you for your note and for its accompanying copy of *The Press* -- which I need scarcely tell you, was very agreeable and gratifying to me. *CD suggests several dates when the two might meet.*

¹ Robert Hogarth Patterson (1821-86), journalist and cousin of Catherine Dickens. Editor of the Tory journal *The Press*, 1858-65.

To WILLIAM DARE MORGAN,¹ 8 February 1861

MS Robin Lloyd

3 Hanover Terrace, Regents Park N.W.²
Friday Eighth February, 1861

My Dear Sir

We are in town for the season, at this address. If you have no better engagement for Sunday than to join our family dinner at 6 o'clock (exactly) we shall be truly glad to see you.

Faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

W.D. Morgan Esquire

¹ William Dare Morgan (1838-87), son of CD's friend Captain E.E. Morgan (see above). Joined his father's shipping firm, the Black X Line, and spent most of the period 1861-4 in London, safeguarding the family's interests during the American Civil War.

² CD rented this property from 14 February to 15 June 1861, so that his daughter Mamie could enjoy the London 'Season' (see *Pilgrim Letters* 9, p. 382; dated 1 February 1861).

To GEORGE ROBERT GLEIG,¹ 3 JULY 1861

MS Private

OFFICE OF ALL THE YEAR ROUND,
Wednesday Third July 1861.

My Dear Gleig,

I am always delighted when I can find promise in a new aspirant.² Pray do me the favor to address the Ghost story to me personally, here. You may rely upon my reading it myself and giving it my best and earliest attention.

Faithfully Yours always

CHARLES DICKENS

The Rev. G.R. Gleig

¹ George Robert Gleig (1796-1888), author and Chaplain-General of the armed forces, 1844-75. His *History of the British Empire in India*, 1830-5, and *Story of the Battle of Waterloo*, 1848, were in the Gad's Hill library at CD's death.

² CD used Gleig as an intermediary to communicate with Amelia Edwards, who contributed 'Picking up Terrible Company' to 'Tom Tiddler's Ground'. See *Pilgrim Letters* 9, p. 455 (*To Gleig*, 16 September 1861).

To WILLIAM DARE MORGAN, 13 March 1863

MS Robin Lloyd

OFFICE OF ALL THE YEAR ROUND,
Friday Thirteenth March 1863

My Dear Morgan

I think you may perhaps be able to help me in a matter I have at heart, and if you can, I am sure you will.

You know my son Frank,¹ and you know that he is waiting for a Foreign Office vacancy. How long he may wait, Heaven knows; in the mean time he is tired of waiting, and I am still more tired of seeing him wait. I have not enough for him to do here, and he wants to be roused up, and thrown upon his own resources, and regularly employed in some routine duty. I should like him to go a long voyage,² but that seems a difficult thing to attain just now: so I should like him to go a short voyage,³ in default of a better. But it is essential that he should be *employed* aboard ship, and should not go as a gentleman-idler.

Could he go out to America in one of your vessels, and be set to work on board in any clerk-like capacity? Of course I propose to pay for him, but I want him to

¹ CD's son Francis Jeffrey Dickens (1844-86), whose career path was a cause for concern for his father. By 1859 Frank had given up any thought of a medical career on account of his stammer, and he expressed a wish to become a 'gentleman farmer' in the colonies (see *Pilgrim Letters* 8, p. 71; dated 31 May 1859). CD seems to have recognised Frank's desire to travel and work abroad, and so the boy was given opportunities to master European languages – with a view to working for the Foreign Office, or in international business. Frank was sent to France and Germany, and then worked in the same City office where his brother Charley had been employed (*Pilgrim Letters* 9, p. 247 and 9, p. 351; dated 3 May and 21 December 1860). CD also took him on periodically at the offices of *All the Year Round*, because he thought for a time that Frank had a 'natural literary taste' (*Pilgrim Letters* 9, p. 383; dated 1 February 1861. See also 10, p. 191; dated 8 January 1863). Through CD's influence, Frank was nominated for the Foreign Office by Lord John Russell (then Foreign Secretary; see *Pilgrim Letters* 10, p. 133; dated 3 October 1862); but he failed the examination. In July 1861 CD was calling him 'That unaccountable, uninteresting, and impracticable boy' (*Pilgrim Letters* 9, p. 439; dated 12 July 1861).

² Thus in MS.

³ Thus in MS.

be kept at work on some pretence or other as if he were earning and fighting his own way.

This is the whole case. My son Charley will be very glad to confer with you upon it, if you think you can see any way towards the end I have before me.

Always Faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

W. D. Morgan Esquire

To WILLIAM DARE MORGAN, 19 March 1863

MS Robin Lloyd

Address: W.D. Morgan Esquire

OFFICE OF ALL THE YEAR ROUND,
Thursday Nineteenth March 1863.

My Dear Morgan.

I should not find it easy to tell you if I tried – and I am not going to try – how very much obliged to you I feel for your prompt assistance and sound good sense in the matter of Frank. I do not write for any such impracticable purpose, but merely to advise you that Charley will give you my cheque for £20, for remittance to your good father.¹ If he will kindly undertake (as you suggest he will) to provide the boy with money according to his – your father's – discretion, I shall have a far higher reliance on its being a sound one in such a case, than I should have upon the soundness of my own. Nor should I think of questioning the expedience and advantage of any drafts that your father² might draw upon me, if he were satisfied that they were to Frank's real advantage.

¹ Captain E.E. Morgan; see above. CD paid W.D. Morgan £20 on 23 March 1863 (CD's account, Coutts's Bank).

² 'He' cancelled; 'your father' added over caret.

This is not a likely time, I fear, for any thing to open out before Frank in America. If he could find any suitable way of life there, he would be better there than here; but if no such thing, or hope of it, comes to pass, I suppose he will return aboard the same ship. What I hope you will let your father know, with my love, is, that I send him out with perfect confidence in the novelty and discipline – and, not least of all, the check of having his money in such good keeping – doing him lasting service any way.

Faithfully Yours ever

CHARLES DICKENS

W.D. Morgan Esquire

To PETER ROYLE,¹ 11 MAY 1863

MS Huntington Library

Gad's Hill Place, Higham | Eleventh May 1863.

Dear Sir

Having paid Dr. Whitehead,² I had no intention of imposing a loss upon you. But I have suffered so severely from paying the debts of others, that I feel it really necessary to set you right. Enclosed is a cheque for the amount in question.

Faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

Peter Royle Esquire

¹ Peter Royle (1818-91), surgeon, with premises at 27 Lever St., Manchester. A lifelong Conservative, he was active in municipal politics, and was chairman of the Manchester Board of Overseers of the Poor in the 1850s and 60s. Royle also played a key role in treating the victims of Asiatic Cholera in Manchester in 1853 (*Leeds Mercury*, 13 Nov. 1891).

² James Whitehead (1812-85), surgeon, with premises at 87 Mosley Street, Manchester. He specialised in the diseases of women and children, and in 1856 he (together with August Schoepf Merei) founded the Clinical Hospital and Dispensary for Children (later Manchester Clinical Hospital for Women and Children).

To JOHN PALGRAVE SIMPSON, 11 AUGUST 1863

MS Huntington Library

GAD'S HILL PLACE,
HIGHAM BY ROCHESTER, KENT.
Tuesday Eleventh August, 1863

My Dear Palgrave Simpson

I am very happy to have the pleasure of accepting your picturesque remembrances of Warsaw. The two papers will go best (I think) rolled into one.¹ You shall have a proof sent to you in that form, a few days hence.

Believe me always

Very faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

J. Palgrave Simpson Esquire

¹ Published as 'When Order Reigned in Warsaw', *All the Year Round* 10 (5 September 1863): 31-5.

To WILLIAM DARE MORGAN, 2 NOVEMBER 1863

MS Robin Lloyd
Address: W.D. Morgan Esquire | 15 Cunningham Place (or terrace) |
St. John's Wood | N.W.]

OFFICE OF ALL THE YEAR ROUND,
Monday Second November 1863

My Dear Morgan.

I am afraid this note may anticipate your return, but it will be none the worse for lying at your office a while.

Frank has come out second, for the second time, in the competitive examination, and has therefore lost the Foreign Office for good; – or it would be more to the purpose to say, for bad.¹

He wants to be sent to try his fortune “somewhere in the New World.” I am so completely at a loss to know where to send him with any one hope of his alighting on his legs, that I have been casting about in my mind for some sound adviser. Your means of knowing the ins and outs of such a matter are as good as anybody's whom I know, and I² rely upon your good sense quite as much as on your readiness. I should very much like to have some talk with you at your convenience, about him.

Faithfully Yours always

CHARLES DICKENS

W.D. Morgan Esquire

¹ By the early 1860s admission to the Foreign Office required not only nomination by the Foreign Secretary, but also success in an examination that included handwriting; English and French dictation; translation of French into English and vice versa; spoken French; translation in one of German, Latin, Spanish, or Italian; writing a précis; geography; and modern history since 1789. See Ray Jones, *The Nineteenth-Century Foreign Office: An Administrative History* (London: London School of Economics, 1971), p. 43. A new appointee was unwaged for the first five years of service. Frank Dickens's stammer may have been a factor in his failure.

² Written after ‘your’ cancelled.

To FREDERICK CHAPMAN,¹ 2 FEBRUARY 1866

Facsimile in Swann Auction Galleries catalogue, May 2013

GAD'S HILL PLACE,
HIGHAM BY ROCHESTER, KENT.
Friday Second February 1866

My Dear Sir

I am very sorry to hear that your wife² is so ill, and also that you have but newly passed through other domestic misfortunes. I hope that your removal of your invalid³ may lead to better results, and of course could not expect to see you at such a time.

Faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

Frederick Chapman Esquire

¹ Frederic (or Frederick) Chapman (1823-95), publisher. He became a partner of Chapman and Hall in 1847, and took over the firm when his cousin Edward Chapman (1804-80) retired in 1864. From 1865 he also published the *Fortnightly Review*.

² Clara Chapman, née Woodin, whom Chapman married on 21 November 1861.

³ Chapman had taken her to Bournemouth, where she died on 28 February 1866.

To MESSRS ESSELL KNIGHT AND ARNOLD,¹ 6 SEPTEMBER 1866

Facsimile in International Autograph Auctions online catalogue, June 2013

GAD'S HILL PLACE,
HIGHAM BY ROCHESTER, KENT.
Thursday Sixth September 1866

Dear Sirs

Allow me to thank you for your letter of yesterday's date.

The lime trees² will probably be planted about a month hence. I will take care that Mr Langford³ has good notice of my gardener's being ready for the work.

Faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

Messrs. Essell Knight and Arnold.

¹ Solicitors and clerks to the Rochester Magistrates.

² CD wished to plant a row of lime-trees on the side of the high-road along the whole wall-frontage of his property. See *Pilgrim Letters* 11, p. 240; dated 4 September 1866.

³ Perhaps George Langford, of 17 Edwin St, Gravesend, acting on behalf of the Magistrates.

To ROBERT GEMMELL,¹ 7 DECEMBER 1866

Replaces Extract

MS Huntington Library

GAD'S HILL PLACE,
HIGHAM BY ROCHESTER, KENT
Friday Seventh December 1866

Sir

In reply to your letter, I beg to assure you that I shall be happy to become a subscriber of One Guinea towards the publication of the work you have in hand.² But I cannot undertake to read the MS with a view to writing a critical opinion on it, for two reasons. Firstly, because that is a request so often preferred to me that compliance would leave me no leisure for any other occupation in life. Secondly, because I know perfectly well that any publisher would form his own opinion for himself, and would be wholly unimpressed by mine, if it were favorable.³

Faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

Mr. Robert Gemmell
Glasgow

¹ Robert Gemmell (1821-86), minor Scottish poet and railway goods clerk for the Glasgow and South-Western Railway Company.

² *Montague: A Drama, and other Poems* (London and Glasgow, 1868).

³ A review of Gemmell's volume in the *Athenaeum* noted: 'Of *Montague*. . . we cannot say much in the way of praise. "Montague" [a drama in three acts] is stilted and stagey; the other "poems" are not very poetical' ('New Poetry', 12 Dec. 1868, p. 793). The *London Review* noted that 'as a literary exercise', *Montague* 'is not of the slightest value. It is poor as an intellectual effort, and it exhibits an entire want of skill in the construction of blank verse suitable to dramatic purposes, or indeed to any purpose' ('Minor Poetry', 17 Oct. 1868, p. 457).

To WILLIAM DARE MORGAN, 19 MARCH 1868

MS Mrs. Gerald Morgan

Address: W.D. Morgan Esquire | 70 South Street | New York City

Albany,¹ Thursday Nineteenth March | 1868.

My Dear Morgan

I most heartily congratulate you on your happiness. None of your old and true friends can be more deeply interested in it than your undersigned correspondent and all the household at Gad's Hill. I look forward to being presented to Miss Hoyt,² and to welcoming her, beforehand, to my Household Gods and Goddesses: – you know how warmly.

Dolby,³ I, and our three men,⁴ will mount guard over you all the way to Liverpool: and I mean to report to Miss Hoyt from the other side what excellent care we took of you. The Gasman (as the most reliable)⁵ already has orders – tell Miss Hoyt from me – never to take his eye off you, day or night.

All good be with you, and with the object of your love. With best wishes for both, Believe me always

Affectionately Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

¹ CD read in Tweddle Hall, Albany, on 18 and 19 March.

² Angelica Livingston Hoyt (1847-1933), Morgan's fiancée.

³ George Dolby, CD's reading tour manager from 1866.

⁴ Aside from Dolby, the staff CD brought with him from England included Henry Scott (his valet), Richard Kelly (who arranged the preliminaries in each venue), and George Allison (the gasman). Kelly was discharged for speculating on tickets; see *Pilgrim Letters* 12, pp. 62, 96; dated 1-3 and 17 April 1869.

⁵ CD called George Allison 'the steadiest and most reliable man I ever employed' (*Pilgrim Letters* 12, p. 92; dated 7 April 1868).

To THE MARQUIS OF DUFFERIN AND AVA,¹ 15 SEPTEMBER 1868

MS Public Record Office of Northern Ireland

GAD'S HILL PLACE,
HIGHAM BY ROCHESTER, KENT.
Tuesday Fifteenth September 1868

My Dear Lord Dufferin

I should have answered your kind note much sooner, but that it seemed absurd to do so, without knowing when I am coming to Belfast. It is now arranged (these things being settled for me), that January is to be the time for my short visit.²

I am most cordially obliged to Lady Dufferin³ and yourself for your proffered hospitality, and I thank you sincerely. But the work on such occasions is so very hard, that I long ago found any private enjoyment to be quite incompatible with it. I travel with a staff of whom the greatest exactness in business is required, and I never leave them.⁴ I invariably live at an hotel with my Secretary, and stick to my post as though it was a matter of life or death. There is not the least merit in this devotion, for I could not get on with out it.

If you should fortunately be at home when I come to Belfast, I shall hope to express my thanks in person, and to have the honor of being presented to Lady Dufferin. In the meantime and always, Believe me

Very faithfully Yours

The Lord Dufferin

CHARLES DICKENS

¹ Frederick Temple Hamilton-Temple Blackwood (1826-1902), son of 4th Baron Dufferin and Clandeboye; 1st Marquis of Dufferin and Ava, of Clandeboye, Co. Down, diplomat and administrator; Under-Secretary War Office 1866-8; Governor General of Canada 1872-8; Viceroy of India 1884-8; Ambassador in Paris 1891-6.

² CD's 'Farewell' tour of Ireland included two readings in Belfast, on 8 and 15 January 1869.

³ Harriot Georgina Hamilton-Temple-Blackwood, Marchioness of Dufferin and Ava (1843-1936).

⁴ CD travelled to Ireland in the company of his manager George Dolby and his sister-in-law Georgina Hogarth.

TO GEORGE DOLBY,¹ 17 FEBRUARY 1869

Replaces extract

Facsimile in Profiles in History catalogue, May 2013

Great Western Hotel²
Wednesday Seventeenth February 1869

My Dear Dolby

I was in severe pain all last night, and Scott³ (the best of nurses) poulticed and fermented the unhappy foot, all the night through. It had looked in the evening as though it were taking a decided turn for the better; but it came out afterwards as I tell you.

I am so clouded to day by opium and Beard's⁴ other medicines, that I hardly know which part of the general confusion is foot, and which head. But I *think*⁵ the inflammation is subsiding.

Of the probabilities as to Saturday,⁶ I can as yet say nothing. You know how earnestly I hope to get sword in hand again that soon, and fight it out. You shall hear again by tomorrow night's post how I go on. I am as restless as if I were behind bars in the Zoological Gardens; and if I could afford it, would wear a part of my mane away, as the lion has done, by rubbing against the windows of my cage.

Ever affectionately

CD.

¹ George Dolby (d. 1900), CD's reading tour manager from 1866.

² In Conduit St East, Paddington.

³ Henry Scott, CD's valet and dresser.

⁴ Francis Carr Beard (1814-93), FRCS, CD's regular physician from 1859; youngest brother of CD's lifelong friend Thomas Beard.

⁵ Doubly underlined.

⁶ For the first of his farewell readings in Edinburgh, the *Scotsman*, 18 Feb, announced that they were postponed to 24 and 26 Feb (with no third reading) because of his inflamed foot.

To PERCY FITZGERALD,¹ [?]10] MAY 1869

Envelope only. Facsimile in Apex Philatelic Auctions online catalogue, March 2013
PM 10 May 1869.

Address: Percy FitzGerald Esquire | 21 Merrion Street | Dublin

¹ Percy Hetherington Fitzgerald (1831-1925), son of Thomas Fitzgerald, MP, of Fane Valley, Dundalk, Ireland; novelist and miscellaneous writer. BA Trinity College, Dublin, 1855; called to Irish Bar; Crown prosecutor; married 1869 the Hon. Dorcas Louisa Skeffington, daughter of 10th Viscount Massareene. Early turned to writing and established himself in a variety of periodicals. Prolific contributor to *Household Words* since July 56; his first story, 'At the Sign of the Silver Horn', 26 July 56, XIV, 41, was, according to him, accepted with Forster's help, and 'considered a striking success' (*Memories of CD*, 1913, p. 4); contributed two stories to the 1856 Christmas Number, 'Wreck of the Golden Mary', and by Aug 58 had contributed over 30 stories and articles. His claims of a 'close and familiar' friendship with CD, a relationship of 'precious intimacy' (*Memories*, above, p. 5), were exaggerated; but CD was fond of him, encouraged him and admired some of his writing. First President of the Dickens Fellowship.

To CHARLES FECHTER,¹ 28 JUNE 1869

Replaces Extract in Pilgrim *Letters* 12

Facsimile in Doyle Auctions online catalogue, April 2013

GAD'S HILL PLACE,
HIGHAM BY ROCHESTER, KENT.
Monday Twenty Eighth June 1869

My Dear Fechter

I was not here when your note arrived. Georgina sent it after me to the office (where I was *not*), and it came back here, only to-day.

I do not see any objection to your sending that Telegram to *Booth*.²

Ever affecy.

CD.

¹ Charles Albert Fechter (1824-79); actor and playwright. CD first saw him perform in 1856, and thought him one of the finest actors of his generation (see Pilgrim *Letters* 9, p. 405). The pair were close friends in the 1860s. Fechter left Britain for the United States in December 1869.

² Edwin Thomas Booth (1833-93); American actor, famous for his portrayals of Shakespeare's Hamlet, and brother of John Wilkes Booth, who assassinated President Abraham Lincoln in 1865. In February 1869 he opened Booth's Theatre in New York City. Fechter was no doubt negotiating with Booth concerning his upcoming visit to the United States.

To THOMAS LONGMAN,¹ 3 FEBRUARY 1870

MS Free Library of Philadelphia

5 Hyde Park Place W | Thursday Third February 1870.

My Dear Longman

I do not see anything to amend in the enclosed papers. Charles Reade² (Junior Athenaeum Piccadilly)³ looks well after his copyrights and knows the subject. I think he should be invited.

Faithfully Yours always

CD.

¹ Thomas Longman (1804-79), Chairman from 1842 of the Longmans publishing firm, which he managed with his brother William (1813-87). The company published works by many important authors, including John Stuart Mill, Benjamin Disraeli, and Thomas Babington Macaulay; it also published the *Edinburgh Review*.

² Charles Reade (1814-84), novelist and dramatist, best known for *The Cloister and the Hearth* (1861). His novel [*Very*] *Hard Cash* was published in *All the Year Round* in 1863; when it ended CD took the extraordinary step of publishing a statement in which he dissociated himself, as editor, from the statements and opinions of his 'literary brother' (*All the Year Round* 10 [26 Dec 1863], p. 419), on account of Reade's overt expressions of sexuality. Reade was well known for the lucrative deals he struck with publishers, and for his advocacy of international copyright; to this end published an attack on literary piracy entitled *The Eighth Commandment* (1860), which was admired by CD. Reade, in turn, greatly admired CD, and referred to him as 'my master' (C. L. Reade and Compton Reade, *Charles Reade: A Memoir* [1887], II, p. 37).

³ The Junior Athenaeum was a London gentlemen's club, opened in 1864, in what was formerly Hope House, built by the Duke of Newcastle in 1849-50.

To THE MARQUIS OF DUFFERIN AND AVA, 20 MARCH 1870

MS Public Record Office of Northern Ireland

5 Hyde Park Place W¹
Twentieth March 1870.

My Dear Lord Dufferin.

Our bright little Mrs. Finlay² is coming to dine here (with her husband)³ next Wednesday at 7. We have no party, as we heard but now of their intention. I fear so short and informal a notice is not likely to find you disengaged; but if you could come, it would afford my daughter⁴ and myself much pleasure, and would make Belfast joyful.

Believe me

Faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

The Lord Dufferin

¹ CD had rented 5 Hyde Park Place from Thomas Milner Gibson, for the period January to June 1870.

² Janet Finlay, daughter of Alexander Russel (1814-76), editor of the *Scotsman* newspaper in Edinburgh, where Finlay had done his training. On the occasion of Finlay's engagement, CD wrote to him about his anticipated meeting of the fiancée: 'I hope you will make as good a report of me as you can, beforehand. For it is but fair that she should be prepared to like me, when I am in such an admirable state of preparation to like her' (*Pilgrim Letters* 10, p. 436; dated 10 October 1864).

³ Francis Dalziel Finlay (1832-1917), proprietor and editor, from 1857-74, of the *Northern Whig*. He was instrumental in promoting CD's public readings in Belfast in 1858, 1867, and 1869. He also arranged for CD the purchase of an Irish jaunting car, which was used to ferry guests from Gad's Hill to Higham station; see *Pilgrim Letters* 8, p. 645. Finlay's obituary in *The Times* stated that once he took charge of the *Northern Whig* he 'introduced ideas and methods till then unknown in Irish journalism', including a so-called 'London Letter', initially written by the journalist Edmund Yates (1831-94), who was a regular contributor to *All the Year Round*.

⁴ Mamie Dickens.

To ANDREW DICKSON WHITE¹ [NO DATE]

Envelope only.

Facsimile in R&R Auctions online catalogue, October 2014

Address: Andrew D White Esquire

¹ Andrew Dickson White (1832-1918); co-founder and first President of Cornell University. CD met him in March 1868 (see *Pilgrim Letters* 12, p. 77).

To MARTHA LOCKEY¹ [NO DATE]

Envelope only.

Facsimile in R&R Auctions online catalogue, November 2013

Address: Mrs Lockey | Prospect Villas | Forest Hill | S

¹ Martha Lockey, née Williams. A contralto singer; in 1853 she married singer and music publisher Charles Lockey (1820-1901), who was the lessee of the hall in Hastings where CD delivered a public reading in November 1861.