

## The Letters of Charles Dickens: Supplement VI

Since the publication of the first supplement in the Winter 2002 *Dickensian*, letters, both new and improved texts, have continued to surface. In this supplement we are particularly pleased to publish a letter to Robert Lytton in association with Valerie Purton's article based on it. Some hundred letters are currently to hand for future supplements. The editorial team, Margaret Brown and Angus Easson (editors), Michael Slater (consultant editor) and Malcolm Andrews, was strengthened last year by the addition of Leon Litvack of Queen's University Belfast, who had already been invaluable in searching net sites. Many people have assisted by searching out and sending letters, and the Dickens Fellowship has given vital support.

References (at the top left of each entry) to the earlier volumes of the British Academy-Pilgrim edition of *The Letters of Charles Dickens* are by volume, page and line, every printed line below the running head being counted. Where appropriate, note and column number are included.

The Editors gratefully acknowledge the following individuals and institutions for their help: Ellen Cordes (Yale University Library); Professor Duane DeVries; Brian Lake (Jarndyce); Valerie Purton; Beppe Sabatini; Joel Sartoris (Free Library of Philadelphia); Klaus Schappert.

ANGUS EASSON  
MARGARET BROWN

IX, 363.1.

### To FREDERICK OUVRY, 7 JANUARY 1861

Line 7 *for* clearing *read* drawing  
Line 8 *after* stories *add* comma

IX, 394.12.

### To RICHARD MONCKTON MILNES, 22 MARCH 1861

note 5 *add* The Monckton Milneses attended the Reading on 11 April (Mrs Monckton Milnes's Diary, MS Houghton Papers, Trinity College, Cambridge).

## IX, 402.1. Replaces catalogue extract

*To* LADY OLLIFFE,<sup>1</sup> 6 APRIL 1861

Extract in J. A. Stargardt, Berlin catalogue, 2004; *MS* 1 p.; dated 3 Hanover Terrace, 6 April 61; addressed Lady Olliffe.

I send you a little fan today which I hope you will like—if not for its sake, for mine. I tried one with the legend, in spangles, “I am not the Humbug some people call me”—but it didn’t look well!<sup>2</sup>

“I am very sorry to tell you that in the awful confiscation of private papers that always goes on here, the total papers from Cork<sup>3</sup> were destroyed. I hope you will get Olliffe’s forgiveness for me. He had described their contents as they concerned his good brother<sup>4</sup> with such astonishing exactness, that he can’t want them.”<sup>a</sup>

<sup>aa</sup> Replaces summary and extract.

<sup>1</sup> Lady Olliffe (*née* Laura Cubitt), wife of Sir Joseph Olliffe (1808-69; *DNB*), physician to the British Embassy in Paris.

<sup>2</sup> Clearly a running joke between CD and Lady Olliffe (compare *To* Lady Olliffe, 26 May 61, Vol. IX, p. 421), though probably symptomatic of CD’s increasing awareness of charges of humbug and lachrymose sentiment directed against him in the 1850s and 1860s. In April 1851, when CD chaired the General Theatrical Fund dinner (the night his daughter Dora died) and Forster, proposing his health, declared that CD’s “practical philanthropy was ever palpable”, someone had “cried out ‘Humbug!’” (*Daily News*, 15 April 51, quoted in *The Speeches of CD*, ed. K.J. Fielding, 1960, p.124). This hostility was to find open expression in the tributes to Thackeray (early 1864), who was contrasted with “writers of the Gushing School” (Vol. X, p. 347n).

<sup>3</sup> The subject of the papers not traced; some parts were found (*To* Olliffe, [13] Apr 61 and *To* Lady Olliffe, 13 Apr 61 (Vol. IX, p. 403).

<sup>4</sup> Henry B. Olliffe, J.P., Secretary to Cork, Blackrock & Passage Railway Co., of Mount Verdon House, 66 Summer Hill, Cork. He had offered hospitality when CD visited the city on his 1858 reading tour: see Vol.VIII, p.637.

## IX, 424.1.

*To* W.C. MACREADY,<sup>1</sup> 11 JUNE 1861

*after* MS Morgan Library *Add Address* (envelope only, MS Alastair J. E. Matthew): W. C. Macready Esquire / 6 Wellington Place / Cheltenham. PM 11 June 1861.

<sup>1</sup> William Charles Macready (1793-1873; *DNB*), the leading English actor of his generation. As actor-manager, notably at Covent Garden, 1837-9, he sought to raise the artistic and moral reputation of the stage, promoting Shakespeare and new dramatists, while driving prostitutes from public areas of the theatre. Retired 1851. His friendship with CD was unbroken from 1837.

IX, 440.15. See Addenda, XII, 691.16

To MRS FORSTER, 18 JULY 1861

For MS Brian Lake read MS Simon J. Ashford

IX, 469.13.

To THE HON. ROBERT LYTTON,<sup>1</sup> 4 OCTOBER 1861

MS Durham Cathedral Library.

OFFICE OF ALL THE YEAR ROUND,  
Friday Fourth October 1861,

My Dear Robert Lytton.

The moment I received the excellent Legend,<sup>2</sup> I sent it off to the Printer's, and placed it in the next No. I made up—that which will be published in the week after this next. It is longer than a piece of Poetry usually is in this limited space of ours;<sup>3</sup> but I cannot call, or think, any thing so very good too long.

I made one slight alteration which I hope you will excuse. For "child of my bowels", I substituted "child of my bosom." Your word I very well know to be more in keeping with the speaker, but I think mine the better for the public.<sup>4</sup>

You put me to pain and shame when you write about subscribing to All The Year Round. As if it were not yours of right! I will speak to Mr. Wills<sup>5</sup> (who is now at home unwell) as to the best means of having it forwarded to you, and you may be sure of the means being punctually taken. Also, he will remit to you next week, the amount in which the Journal is indebted to you.<sup>6</sup>

I shall be heartily glad to have more contributions when you have more to send.

So much for business. I received Tannhäuser<sup>7</sup> without hint of authorship, and immediately detected *you*.<sup>8</sup> It afforded me the greatest pleasure; and I told Chapman and Hall immediately, that it was a very remarkable poem and certain to win attention and admiration. This I mention here, not as any proof of sagacity, but as an assurance that I was honestly and strongly impressed.

What you write of Great Expectations is doubly gratifying and interesting to me, because your father<sup>9</sup> was so very strong upon it while it was yet unfinished, and because he differed from me as to the turn of the last two pages or so, and I adopted his view as the view of a great artist.<sup>10</sup> This was when I was staying at Knebworth for two or three days last June,<sup>11</sup> and when his foreign tour had certainly done him good; for I

never knew him brighter, or saw him look younger. His story<sup>12</sup> has held the large circulation of *All the Year Round*, wonderfully.<sup>13</sup> I think I need not tell you what a pleasure and pride it is to me to work at his side.

Very faithfully Yours always

CHARLES DICKENS

P.S. I have not seen Browning yet.<sup>14</sup> But he has been much at Forster's<sup>15</sup> and Forster's account of him is cheering.

<sup>1</sup>Edward Robert Lytton (1831-91; *DNB*), diplomat and poet (as "Owen Meredith"); only son and second child of Edward Bulwer Lytton. Through his father he early became intimate with Forster, a close friend and literary advisor. Succeeded to his father's barony, 1873, and created 1st Earl of Lytton, 1880: see further Vol. VII, p. 694*n*. Lytton was currently in Vienna with the British Legation and Embassy.

<sup>2</sup>"Rabbi Ben Ephraim's Treasure", *AYR*, 19 Oct 61, VI, 80-84. Lytton based it, with permission, on a story told him by Robert Browning (*Letters from Owen Meredith...to Robert and Elizabeth Barrett Browning*, ed. Aurelia Brooks Harlan & J. Lee Harlan, Jr, n.d. [1937], pp.183, 193).

<sup>3</sup>Lytton's poem occupies 7 cols; of the other 13 poems in *AYR*, Vol.VI, none exceeds 3 cols.

<sup>4</sup>The phrase is used thrice by the Jew Zillah, addressing her daughter Rachel, with the Old Testament resonance of "bowels" as the seat of pity or compassion (compare Genesis, 43:30). CD substituted for its more physical associations, both in common usage and in the Bible (e.g. Acts, 1:18), the Biblical and common association of "bosom" with the heart and love. Lytton kept CD's changes when republishing the poem in *Chronicles and Characters*, 2 vols, 1868 (II, 85).

<sup>5</sup>William Henry Wills (1810-80; *DNB*), assistant editor and part-proprietor of *HW* and *AYR*. Wills had returned (shortly after 23 September) from a holiday on the Continent: the illness (below), not referred to elsewhere, was clearly minor and Wills was working normally on 25 October.

<sup>6</sup>One guinea a page was the standard rate, "but it is sometimes more" (*To Felton*, 10 Nov 59, Vol. IX, p. 155). Lytton's poem occupies 3½ pages.

<sup>7</sup>Thus in MS. *Tannhäuser, or, The Battle of the Bards. A Poem*, by Neville Temple and Edward Trevor, 1861. The authors' names were the pseudonyms of Lytton ("Edward Trevor") and Julian Fane (1827-70; *DNB*), diplomat and poet, secretary of the British Legation and Embassy at Vienna, 1858-65. Fane was an admirer of the music of Wagner, whom he met in Vienna and the poem, written in alternate sections by Fane and Lytton, closely follows Wagner's opera (Robert Lytton, *Julian Fane. A Memoir*, 1871, pp.170, 173). It is in blank verse in deliberate imitation of Tennyson's idylls, with inset songs for the Wartburg contest. Lytton had hoped the authorship of what he regarded as a light-weight work, imitative and largely written by Fane and himself for their own entertainment, would be concealed, but Fane's pseudonym, a version of the family motto, was soon recognized and Lytton's identity by association.

<sup>8</sup>Fane wrote the first stint: for the division of writing between him and Lytton, see *Julian Fane*, pp.176*ff*. A review in *The Times*, 2 Aug 61, "all flaming eulogy", helped to see off one edition in two days, and by 24 September "all but" two editions of 1000 copies each (*Letters from Owen Meredith...*, ed. Harlan & Harlan, pp.190-91).

<sup>9</sup>Edward George Earle Lytton Bulwer Lytton (1803-73; *DNB*), 1st Baron Lytton, writer and politician: see Vol. I, p. 337*n* and later vols. Co-founder with CD of the Guild of Literature and Art (see Vol. VI); godfather of CD's last child, Edward Bulwer Lytton (b.1852).

<sup>10</sup>*Great Expectations* completed its serialization in *AYR*, 3 Aug 61, V, 433-7.

For CD's changes to the ending at Lytton's suggestion, see *To Bulwer Lytton*, 24 June 61 and *n.3* and *To Forster*, 1 July 61 (Vol. IX, pp. 428-9, 432-3). CD early admired Bulwer Lytton, praising *Paul Clifford* (1830) in the Preface to the third edn (1841) of *Oliver Twist*. Having by January 1861 secured Lytton's agreement to write a novel for serialization in *AYR* (see below), CD declared "I never have been so pleased at heart in all my Literary life, as I am in the proud thought of standing side by side with you before this great audience" (*To Bulwer Lytton*, 23 Jan 61, Vol. IX, p. 374).

<sup>11</sup>CD stayed at Knebworth, Lytton's house, the nights of 15-18 June 1861.

<sup>12</sup>*A Strange Story*, *AYR*, 10 Aug 61, V, 457 to 6 March 62, VI, 553.

<sup>13</sup>CD reported on the circulation to the same effect to Bulwer Lytton, 28 Aug & 17 Sep 1861 (Vol. IX, pp. 448,459), and was enthusiastic about the novel to the end, calling it in December 1861 "most masterly and most admirable" (Vol. IX, p. 543).

<sup>14</sup>Elizabeth Barrett Browning had died in Florence, 29 June 1861; Browning returned to England on 29 September: he stayed with Arabel Barrett, his sister-in-law, before moving shortly after 7 October into nearby lodgings at 1 Chichester Road, Paddington. Lytton was a close friend of the Brownings, but Lytton may have mentioned the origin of his poem in Browning's story (note 2 above), so prompting CD's mention here.

<sup>15</sup>For Forster's friendship with Browning, see James A. Davies, *John Forster: A Literary Life*, 1983, ch.9. As early as August, Forster had been looking out a London house for Browning (who only moved in 1862 to a house of his own) (*Letters from Owen Meredith*..., ed. Harlan & Harlan, p.183).

IX, 502.22.

*To MRS WATSON, 8 NOVEMBER 1861*

Line 24 for MS Mr Thomas Brown read MS Free Library of Philadelphia

IX, 542.23. Replaces catalogue summary

*To T. HOLMES,<sup>1</sup> 18 DECEMBER 1861*

Text from facsimile in Jarndyce Dickens catalogue, CLXV.

All The Year Round Office  
Wednesday Eighteenth December / 1861.

My Dear Holmes.

I just missed you here.

To day I am obliged to go out of town,<sup>2</sup> and I am not likely to be back here before 10 at night. But tomorrow from 10 until ½ past 1 I am sure to be here. I hope there may be nothing amiss that would have disturbed the peace of poor dear Arthur.<sup>3</sup>

Faithfully Yours

T. Holmes Esquire

CHARLES DICKENS

<sup>1</sup>Perhaps Thomas Knox Holmes (1809-93), solicitor, of Holmes & Co., 18

Abingdon St: see Vol. IX, p. 542*n*; CD's form of address suggests he knew him well.

<sup>2</sup>CD, originally away for a month on a Reading Tour (the remaining engagements postponed after Prince Albert's death, 14 December), had certainly returned to London by 18 December. Letters of 19 December, when CD was dealing with "a raging sea of correspondence" (*To Baylis*, 19 Dec), are dated variously from the *AYR* office and Gad's Hill.

<sup>3</sup>Arthur Smith (1825-61; *DNB*); acted as business manager to his brother, Albert, for his entertainments, 1852-60; organized CD's readings 1858 and 1861. Smith, whom CD called "the man who is never to be replaced" (*To Tracey*, 26 Dec, Vol. IX, p. 553), had died 1 October. Possibly Holmes was involved with Smith's legal affairs.

X, 15.8.

*To CLARKSON STANFIELD*,<sup>1</sup> 16 JANUARY 1862

Line 9 *replace with MS Private*. On mourning paper.  
Line 13 *delete comma after Stanny*  
Line 15 *Wed is underlined*  
Line 16 *after -day add comma*  
Line 19 *new paragraph at In the hope that...*  
Line 23 *read CD*.

<sup>1</sup>Clarkson Stanfield (1793-1867; *DNB*), RA.

X, 38.1.

*To DR W. C. HOOD*,<sup>1</sup> 19 FEBRUARY 1862

Text from facsimile in on-line catalogue of GoAntiques.com (8 April 2005).

OFFICE OF ALL THE YEAR ROUND,  
Wednesday Nineteenth February 1862

My Dear Dr. Hood

The gift is unfortunately bestowed elsewhere. I know the fact, or I would have immediately represented your case.<sup>2</sup>

You will see a reference to yourself (and not a disagreeable one, I hope) in our today's No.<sup>3</sup>

Faithfully Yours ever

CHARLES DICKENS

<sup>1</sup>William Charles Hood (1824-70), MD, FRCP, Medical Superintendent of Bethlehem Hospital since 1852: see Vol. VIII, p. 318 & *n*. CD's friendship with him developed from 1857 and Hood apparently gave medical attention to CD's mother (*To Hood*, 21 June 60, Vol. IX, p. 266).

<sup>2</sup>Presumably Hood was asking CD's support in placing one of his patients in an institution.

<sup>3</sup>Hood is referred to twice in “M.D. and M.A.D.”, *AYR*, 22 Feb 62, VI, 511 & 513. The article, based on a hearing in the Commission of Lunacy to determine whether William Frederick Windham (“Mad Windham”) of Felbrigg Hall, Norfolk, should be declared incapable of managing his own affairs (reported extensively in *The Times*, 17 Dec 61 onwards: the hearing occupied 34 days), attacks the system of expert witnesses being retained by either prosecution or defence and giving their opinions accordingly, regardless of facts. Dr Hood (“who should be an authority”) is honourably mentioned both for his part in the hearing and for his effort “to be helpful to a foolish and neglected youth” (*AYR*, VI, 511, 513). On Windham (who was clearly incapable of managing his own affairs), see further R.W. Ketton-Cremer, *Felbrigg: The Story of a House*, 1962, ch.XIII. Hood had been earlier referred to in “The Star of Bethlehem”, *HW*, 15 Aug 57, XVI, 145.

X, 62.7.

To MRS [VON OPPEN],<sup>1</sup> 31 MARCH 1862

Text from facsimile in Cowan’s Auctions Inc on-line catalogue, 16 April 2005.

OFFICE OF ALL THE YEAR ROUND,  
Monday Thirty First March 1862

My Dear Madam

I have given your instructions, envelope, and stamps, to the publisher here<sup>2</sup> (having nothing to do with that kind of business myself), and no doubt the commission will be faithfully executed by to day’s post.

Your letter is exceedingly pleasant to me, and I thank you for it most cordially. It is my misfortune to believe America short of absolute perfection, and sometimes to think that she vitally injures the great principles she holds in trust;<sup>3</sup> but I have numbers of American friends, and I believe I have never lost one by reason of this moral audacity.

So I send my regard with some confidence to your husband, and assure you that I remain what I have so long been without knowing it—

Faithfully Your friend

Mrs D’Oppen

CHARLES DICKENS

<sup>1</sup>CD clearly wrote “D’Oppen” in the letter; the source suggests the letter was accompanied by an envelope addressed to Mrs Von Oppen. Perhaps Isabella Von Oppen, born c. 1835 in the United States; married (1857) Friedrich (Frederick) Von Oppen from Prussia, manager (1871) of Colt’s Firearm Co. They lived (1871) at 29 Norfolk Crescent, St Marylebone.

<sup>2</sup>Chapman & Hall; possibly an offprint from *AYR* was requested.

<sup>3</sup>As embodied in the Declaration of Independence. CD had experienced the tyranny of the Press, hostility for his claims to copyright protection, and the institution of slavery: see *American Notes*, *Chuzzlewit*, and Vol. III, *passim* and pp.

viii-xvi. Mrs Von Oppen's birthplace and the company her husband worked for suggest grounds for objection to CD's representation of the United States.

X, 62.26.

*To MRS BRADFORD,*<sup>1</sup> 1 APRIL 1862

Extract in Heritage Book Shop Inc., catalogue 2001; addressed Mrs Bradford; dated North Strand, London (Office of All the Year Round letterhead), First April 1862.

Madam,<sup>2</sup> I cannot in the least remember the name you subscribe with your letter, nor have I the faintest recollection of any such book as "Tales of the Moor".<sup>3</sup> I suppose myself to be in fault but it is the plain truth. In any case, believe me it would be quite out of my power to do anything for your husband's work that it could not do for itself. It's long since I relinquished the ungenerous office of recommending MSS to publishers, but I can honestly assure you that I never once did so with success.

Faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

<sup>1</sup>Wife of John Bradford, of Pavilion Place, Newton Abbot; his *Tales of the Moor*, 1841, and other literary works, appeared under the pseudonym of Josias Homely.

<sup>2</sup>"Madame" in source.

<sup>3</sup>Two long stories interspersed with verse. CD had received the book in 1841 (Vol. II, pp. 426-7).

X, 88.23.

*To [?JOHN POOLE],*<sup>1</sup> [?MAY 1862]<sup>2</sup>

Text from facsimile of fragment in on-line catalogue of Live Auctioneers (14 April 2005).

Many thanks for the curious and interesting MS.<sup>3</sup>

Faithfull Always

CD.

"Paul Pry" — M-S  
May 1862

<sup>1</sup>John Poole (1786-1872; *DNB*: see Vol. IV, p. 672*n*), miscellaneous writer, particularly noted for his farces, the most successful, *Paul Pry* (1825), giving him the soubriquet by which he is identified on this fragment by another hand than CD's. He gave up writing about 1845, his health broken by heavy drinking, and lived in Paris: CD obtained a Civil List pension for him in December 1850 (see Vol. VI, pp. 233 & 239).



<sup>2</sup>The date is given at the end of the fragment in another hand than CD's and in a different ink from "Paul Pry". Poole had returned from Paris by June 1862 and was living in Kentish Town: see *To Poole*, 13 June 62, Vol. X, p. 93.

<sup>3</sup>Unidentified; possibly by Poole, though CD reported in 1850 that Poole, in "a prematurely shattered state", was "perfectly unable to write" (*To Lord John Russell*, 18 Dec 50, Vol. VI, p. 239). CD's description of Poole to Collins in October 1862 does not suggest any return of literary powers (Vol. X, p. 138).

X, 186.1.

*To H. G. ADAMS*,<sup>1</sup> 1862

Mention (envelope only), Walter T. Spencer catalogue, No. 60 (1893); addressed H. G. Adams, dated 1862.

<sup>1</sup>Henry Gardiner Adams (?1811-81), chemist and apothecary (see Vol. II, p. 11*n*). As Secretary of the Mechanics' Institute, Chatham, frequently in touch with CD during the 1860s; no other letter to him in 1862 currently known.

X, 260.22.

*To MISS GEORGINA HOGARTH*, 18 JUNE 1863

note 4 *add* The song was Robert Schumann's *Dei beiden Grenadiere* (*The Two Grenadiers*), 1840; words by Heinrich Heine.

X, 263.1.

*To MRS SARTORIS*, 26 JUNE 1863

*after Wednesday add new note 2a* CD had dined with her on 18 June (Mrs Monckton Milnes's Diary, MS Houghton Papers, Trinity College, Cambridge).

X, 313.1. Replaces catalogue mention.

*To MESSRS BRADBURY & EVANS*, 9 NOVEMBER 1863

Text from Walter T. Spencer catalogue No. 110 (1902); MS 1 p.; dated Gad's Hill Place according to earlier mention.

Monday Ninth November 1863.

Dear Sirs,

Please send *Cheap Edition* of Bleak House and Little Dorrit<sup>1</sup> (only) to Mrs. Alfred Dickens,<sup>2</sup>

4 Grafton Terrace,

Haverstock Hill,  
Hampstead Road.<sup>3</sup>

Faithfully yours always

CHARLES DICKENS

<sup>1</sup>The Cheap Edition of *Bleak House* was published and printed by Bradbury & Evans, 1858; transferred as publishers to Chapman & Hall, 1861. That of *Little Dorrit* was published (1861) by Chapman & Hall, but still printed by Bradbury & Evans.

<sup>2</sup>*Née* Helen Dobson (?1823-1915): Alfred, CD's next youngest brother, had died in July 1860.

<sup>3</sup>CD rented the house for Helen and her children. CD's mother lived with them until her death, September 1863. CD was arranging to transfer Helen and the children to Yorkshire by the end of 1863; they returned to London in 1866.

X, 360.10.

To EDWARD BARROW,<sup>1</sup> 23 FEBRUARY 1864

Text from Charles Wells, "Written in a Library: A Dickens Letter", *Bristol Times and Mirror*, 7 Aug 1920, p. 10; addressed Edward Barrow; dated Gloucester Place, Hyde Park Gardens, 23 February 1864.

Many thanks for your letter. Another of my boys<sup>2</sup> would arrive<sup>3</sup> out at Calcutta when his brother<sup>4</sup> had been dead a month, confidently expecting to see him after six years. When a family are widely dispersed this is in the course of Nature. The ranks must be closed up and the march must go on.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Edward Barrow (1798-1869), CD's maternal uncle; Parliamentary reporter on the *Mirror of Parliament* and later on the *Morning Herald*. Member of the Newspaper Press Fund from January 1859: see Vol. I, p. 49*n*.

<sup>2</sup>Francis Jeffrey (1844-86), CD's third son; he had left England for India on 20 Dec 63, on his way to join the Bengal Mounted Police.

<sup>3</sup>CD used this subjunctive mood elsewhere: see *To Adams*, 25 Feb 64, and *To Knight*, 1 Mar 64 (Vol. X, pp. 362, 366).

<sup>4</sup>Walter Landor (1841-63), CD's second son; he had been a Lieutenant in the 2nd Highlanders stationed in India; died of aneurism of the aorta, 31 Dec 63 (see further *To Miss Burdett Coutts*, 12 Feb 64, Vol. X, pp. 355-6).

<sup>5</sup>Not apparently a quotation, though from 1861 CD uses a similar sentiment when exhorting correspondents in situations of loss (e.g. *To Mrs Brown*, 3 Nov 61, Vol. IX, p. 494; *To Forster*, 22 Dec 68, Vol. XII, p. 252).

X, 367.1. Replaces extract, misdated 3 March 1864

To THE REV. T. W. GOLDHAWK,<sup>1</sup> 2 MARCH 1864

Text from digitised facsimile in Sotheby's on-line catalogue, 20 April 2005.

GAD'S HILL PLACE,  
HIGHAM BY ROCHESTER, KENT.  
Wednesday Second March 1864

Dear Sir

I hope you may not have thought me unmindful of your pleasant letter, or unwilling to comply with its request. Several circumstances have combined of late, to render me even less available than usual for letter-writing.<sup>2</sup>

With this, I have the pleasure of sending you a copy of David Copperfield.<sup>3</sup> My two daughters (the younger married)<sup>4</sup> beg me to convey to you their kind regard. A poor boy whom you christened,<sup>5</sup> died in India,<sup>6</sup> a grown man, on the last day of this last old year. All my other sons are well and working their various ways.

Faithfully Yours

The Rev. T. W. Goldhawk

CHARLES DICKENS

<sup>1</sup>The Rev. Thomas Woods Goldhawk (?1813-70), curate, St Marylebone, London, 1845-50; Vicar of Sheldwick, Kent, 1850-70.

<sup>2</sup>For similar excuses since the beginning of the year, see e.g. *To Collins*, 25 Jan 64 (Vol. X, p. 346). Besides normal business and social engagements, CD had had to cope with the recent deaths of his mother (September 1863); of Thackeray (December 1863), writing "In Memoriam" for the *Cornhill*, Feb 64, IX, 129-32; and of Walter Landor Dickens, news of which reached him in early February 1864. He was working on *Our Mutual Friend*, getting No.1 set up in print by mid February for Marcus Stone to provide titlepage and illustrations (Vol. X, p. 357), while searching for a London house to rent from February to June. He had also been away for a few days in both early January and early February.

<sup>3</sup>The source says the two-volume 1859 edition, inscribed "The Rev. T. W. Goldhawk From Charles Dickens, Third March 1864".

<sup>4</sup>Kate had married Charles Collins in 1860.

<sup>5</sup>Walter Landor, baptised 8 Feb 1841 at St Marylebone church. CD is mistaken about when he first knew Goldhawk, who does not appear in the Clergy List until 1845. The baptismal record (National Metropolitan Archives) names G.H.Thompson (curate, Holy Trinity, Tottenham, 1830-45) as performing the ceremony. CD presumably knew Goldhawk while living at Devonshire Terrace.

<sup>6</sup>See *To Barrow*, 23 Feb, above.

x, 370.18. Replaces mention

*To MRS BENZON*,<sup>1</sup> 7 MARCH 1864

MS Feuchtwanger Memorial Library, Specialized Libraries and Archival Collections, University of Southern California. On Gad's Hill headed mourning paper.

57 Glo'ster Place, Hyde Park Gardens  
Monday Morning, Seventh March 1864

My Dear Mrs Benzon

Let me cordially wish you many happy returns of to day. I do so, before going away to fulfil my engagement. You will have known, by not hearing from me to beg a corner, that it held me fast.<sup>2</sup>

Enclosed is the autograph for Mrs. Adams<sup>3</sup> with my kind regard to her.

Very Faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

<sup>1</sup> *Née* Elizabeth Schlesinger Lehmann (1829-78), born in Hamburg; Frederick Lehmann's sister and wife of Ernst Leopold Benzon: see Vol. IX, p. 411*n*.

<sup>2</sup> The engagement (not identified) that kept him from a corner of the table at her birthday party. CD anticipates Mrs Benzon's next day's reading of his letter.

<sup>3</sup> Not otherwise identified.

X, 374.1.

*To* HENRY MORLEY, 21 MARCH 1864

Line 2 *replace* MS Mr Vincent Starrett *with* MS Dan Calinescu

X, 393.12.

*To* LADY HOUGHTON, 10 MAY 1864

*after* propose *add new* note 2a Georgina accompanied CD; other guests included Mrs Procter, Sir Henry Holland and A.W.Kinglake (Guest List, MS Houghton Papers, Trinity College, Cambridge).

X, 421.1.

*To* MISS J. L. FRITH, 22 AUGUST, 1864

Line 2 *replace with* MS Armstrong Browning Library, Texas.

X, 437.1.

*To* JAMES BEAL,<sup>1</sup> 11 OCTOBER 1864

MS Julian Browning. *Address:* Mr. James Beal / H.M.S. Orlando<sup>2</sup> / Mediterranean Station. PM 11 Oct 64. On mourning paper.

GAD'S HILL PLACE,  
HIGHAM BY ROCHESTER, KENT.  
Tuesday Eleventh October 1864

Mr. Charles Dickens encloses Mr. James Beal, his cheque upon his London Bankers (payable to Mr. James Beal's order)<sup>3</sup> in discharge of the amount of the bill<sup>4</sup> which Mr. Beal cashed for his son, Mr. Sydney Smith Dickens, now of H.M.S. "Pelican."

<sup>1</sup>James Beal (sometimes "Beale" in Naval records), *b.* 8 March 1842; served in the Royal Navy from 1856 until his death, 1893; Captain's Steward on H.M.S. *Orlando*, March 1862-June 1865.

<sup>2</sup>Sydney Smith Haldimand Dickens (1847-72), CD's fifth son, served as midshipman on H.M.S. *Orlando* from 6 December 1861 to 12 May 1864; on 10 May he was deprived of one year's time. He left the *Orlando* in May and joined H.M.S. *Pelican* in June 1864, being allowed 8 months of the time of which he had been deprived (MS National Archive).

<sup>3</sup>J.Beal drew £10.0.0 on 9 November 1864 according to CD's account at Coutts's Bank.

<sup>4</sup>A legally-enforcable IOU, the loan to be repaid, with interest, at an agreed date. No doubt Sydney had raised the money to cover his debts.

X, 467.1.

To BENJAMIN WEBSTER,<sup>1</sup> 28 DECEMBER 1864

After MS Private *insert Address* (facsimile of envelope in Fraser's autograph on-line catalogue, March 2005): Private / Benjamin Webster Esquire / T.R.<sup>2</sup> New Adelphi / Strand / London / W.C. PM Dec 28 64.

<sup>1</sup>Benjamin Nottingham Webster (1797-1882; *DNB*), actor, dramatist, and lessee of the Adelphi Theatre.

<sup>2</sup>i.e. Theatre Royal.

XI, 40.31.

To LADY HOUGHTON, 17 MAY 1865

after daughter *add new note 4* Mamie; other guests included Mrs Norton, the Brookfields, Sir Richard Mayne, and the Comte de Paris (Guest List, MS Houghton Papers, Trinity College, Cambridge).

XI, 77.22. Corrects text from printed source

To GEORGE CHILDS,<sup>1</sup> 31 JULY 1865

MS Seymour Adelman Letters and Documents Collection, Bryn Mawr College Library. *Address:* George W. Childs Esqre. / Ledger Office.