

The Letters of Charles Dickens: Supplement VIII

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.

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ANGUS EASSON
MARGARET BROWN

LEON LITVACK
JOAN DICKS

I, 430.19.

To [MESSRS WILEY & PUTNAM], 31 AUGUST 1838

Page 431, note 1, line 3 *for* by Wiley & Putnam 1838-40 *read* by the proprietors Clark and Edson; sold in London and New York by Wiley & Putnam.

II, 97.16. Replaces catalogue extract in VII, 819^(aa)

To SERJEANT GOULBURN,¹ 8 JULY 1840

Text from facsimile in R & R Auctions catalogue, July 2007.

Devonshire Terrace | 8th. July 1840.

My Dear Sir

^aI am unfortunate again! I am engaged next Wednesday – not

only to dinner at home, but to a party at Miss Coutts's in the Evening.²

I should have written to you sooner, but there was a chance of release from the first of these engagements, which, I am sorry to say exists no longer. I cannot tell you how vexed I am.^a

Believe me | Dear Sir | Faithfully Yours

Mr. Serjeant Goulburn.

CHARLES DICKENS

¹Edward Goulburn (1787-1868; *DNB*). Forced to withdraw from the Army after publishing a libellous satirical poem. Serjeant-at-law, 1829; Tory MP, Leicester, 1835-7: see Vol. I, p. 607*n*.

²CD had accepted Miss Coutts's invitation on 4 July: see *To Miss Coutts*, 4 July, and *To Marjoribanks*, 6 July (Vol. II, pp. 95-6).

II, 436.6. Replaces catalogue extract in VII (Addenda), 837^(aa)

To MRS SHUTTLEWORTH,¹ 1 DECEMBER 1841

Text from facsimile in Stanley Gibbons eBay catalogue, August 2007.

Address: Free | Mrs. Shuttleworth | Tottenham Green | Tottenham.

1 Devonshire Terrace | York Gate Regent's Park
Wednesday, First December 1841.

^aTo all those whose signatures are attached to the Round Robin from Tottenham of Monday's date^{a2} I send my hearty thanks for their communication and cordially respond to all their good wishes and kind expressions.

CHARLES DICKENS

¹Ann Shuttleworth, wife of George Edmund Shuttleworth, auctioneer and surveyor, of High Cross Green, Tottenham.

²A letter of appreciation, dated 29 November, the signatures set out in a circle, a device originally intended to avoid any one signatory being identified as chief instigator in letters of complaint. Presumably a response to the completion of *Barnaby Rudge* in *Master Humphrey's Clock* (27 Nov) and CD's farewell to his readers for twelve months.

II, 457.10.

To LEWIS GAYLORD CLARK,¹ [?]1838-1841]

Extract in Supplement announcing the nineteenth volume (Jan-June 1842) of the *Knickerbocker, or New-York Monthly Magazine*, p. 3: see below.

Date: before the January 1842 issue of the *Knickerbocker*. CD showed interest in contributing to the magazine at least as early as 1838 (*To [Messrs Wiley & Putnam]*, 31 Aug., Vol. I, p. 430).

I read the *Knickerbocker* with very great pleasure: it is indeed a most various and entertaining periodical. It will afford me

pleasure to contribute to the pages of a work which numbers among its regular correspondents such writers as Washington Irving.²

¹Lewis Gaylor Clark (1808-73; *DAB*), editor and controlling proprietor (1834-60) of the *Knickerbocker*, 1833-65: Clark made it one of the leading American journals (Vol. I, pp. 431 *n.1*, 469 *n.2*). CD later recalled dining with him in America, Feb 42, while reverting to his unfulfilled promise to contribute to the *Knickerbocker* (*To* Clark, 2 Mar 43, Vol. III, p. 451). Given Clark's garbling elsewhere of CD's correspondence (Vol. III, p. 451 *n.4*), the present extract is quite probably a composite from different sources, including *To* Messrs Wiley & Putnam, 13 Dec [38], agents in London for the *Knickerbocker*, where the phrase "which I read with very great pleasure" also occurs (Vol. I, p. 469).

Washington Irving (1783-1859; *DAB*), American author; member of the American Legation in Spain (1826) and London (1829); Minister in Spain, 1842. His works include a comic history of New York, "by Diedrich Knickerbocker" (1809), a pen name he frequently used and taken as title of the magazine, to which he was a frequent contributor; *The Sketchbook of Geoffrey Crayon, Gent* (1820), which includes "Rip Van Winkle" and "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow"; and *Legends of the Alhambra* (1832). Greatly admired by CD: see *To* Irving, 21 Apr 41 (Vol. II, pp. 267-9).

V, 258.18.

To G. H. LEWES, 2 MARCH 1848

Line 32 *for* true men concerned it it, *read* true men concerned in it,

V, 273.5.

To MESSRS BRADBURY & EVANS,¹ 7 APRIL 1848

MS Österreichischen Nationalbibliothek.

Devonshire Terrace. | Seventh April 1848.

My Dear B and E.

I have no doubt that we shall get as much for *Dombey*² as *can* be got for anything in these times³ – and so am very well satisfied.

Is Kettle⁴ so much within your controul that he can be lent to me next Tuesday?⁵ He waited on us for some twelve years, – and if I can get him, I would rather have him than a stranger.
Faithfully Yours always

CD.

¹Printers and publishers; CD's publishers since transferring from Chapman & Hall in 1844: see Vol. IV.

²CD completed writing *Dombey* on 23 or 24 Mar (Vol. V, p. 263 & *n*). The final double number is dated April (issued at the end of March).

³Politics and social unrest might be expected to distract people from fiction.

Abroad the February Revolution in France deposed Louis-Philippe, while there were risings in Italy against the Austrians; at home, Chartist agitation was shortly to culminate in the Kennington Common rally of 10 April, while distress was widespread in the manufacturing towns (Vol. V, pp. 253 *n.6*, 254 & *n.4*, 273 & *n.1*). Sales of *Dombey* were strong throughout the serial publication, with no evidence of decline in the final number or subsequent volume publication: see Robert L. Patten, *CD and His Publishers*, 1978, ch. 10.

⁴Not otherwise identified: presumably a Bradbury & Evans employee who also waited at table on a part-time basis.

⁵The *Dombey* dinner, 11 Apr, to celebrate completion of publication. Macready noted as also present Ainsworth, Thomas Beard, Browne, Henry Burnett, D'Orsay, Evans, Forster, George Hogarth, William Jerdan, Lemon, Frank Stone, Thackeray: see Vol. V, p. 266*n*. Bradbury was ill and unable to attend.

V, 277.1.

To JULIA FORTESCUE,¹ 12 APRIL 1848

Text from facsimile in Gorringes (Lewes) online catalogue, March 2005.

Devonshire Terrace. | Twelfth April 1848. | Wednesday.

Dear Miss Fortescue.

We have entered into an arrangement with the Shakespeare House committee,² to play twice in London,³ for the purpose of founding a fund to endow a Curator of the house, who shall always be someone associated with English literature.⁴ The design being, to connect with the place and the name, an honourable retreat for one distinguished man through all time.

The exact time of acting is not yet fixed, but I have proposed some time between the middle and end of May. The Merry Wives on the first night; Every man in his Humour on the second. An interval, probably of a week, between the two performances.

I hope we may count on your kind assistance.⁵ Next Saturday we rehearse a farce,⁶ but on that day week we shall probably resume the Merry Wives; and if you will allow me, I will beg my brother⁷ to send you a list of our calls⁸ and other arrangements, as soon as it can be made out.

We are going to do Mrs Inchbald's Animal Magnetism⁹ with the Merry Wives, and I hope we shall do it very well.

Always believe me | Faithfully Yours

Miss Fortescue

CHARLES DICKENS

¹Julia Sarah Hayfield Fortescue (1817-99), actress: see Vol. II, p. 331*n*. Played in a number of adaptations of CD's works and several times with the Amateur Company organised by CD since 1845 (for the Company, see Vol. IV and Forster, V, i, 381-2).

²On 7 Dec 47, the London Shakespeare Committee, following the purchase of Shakespeare's birthplace in Sep, had announced its wish to place it "under the

superintendence of some Person honourably connected with Dramatic Literature” (Vol. V, p. 222 *n.2*). By Apr 48, CD had proposed the endowment of a curatorship through performances by the Amateur Company (*ibid.*).

³At the Theatre Royal, Haymarket, 15 and 17 May.

⁴CD intended the first beneficiary to be James Sheridan Knowles (1784-1862; *DNB*), the dramatist and actor, whose plays included *Virginius* (1820) and *The Hunchback* (1832). CD had been concerned to learn of Knowles's bankruptcy in Nov 47; in the event, less than £600 of the proposed £1,000 was raised and Knowles received it as a lump sum (Vol. V, pp. 222 *n.1*, 423 *n.3*).

⁵Fortescue played Mistress Ford in Shakespeare and repeated her role of Mistress Kitley in Jonson (she had performed it in 1845). Fortescue did not appear in the subsequent provincial performances.

⁶*Animal Magnetism* (see below); the rehearsal took place at Fanny Kelly's private theatre, 73 Dean Street, Soho (Vol. V, p. 281). The Company played James Kenney's farce, *Love, Law, and Physic* (1812) after *Every Man in His Humour*.

⁷Frederick Dickens (1820-68).

⁸i.e. dates for rehearsals.

⁹The farce (1788) by Elizabeth Inchbald (1753-1821; *DNB*), actress and author.

V, 314.7.

To CHARLES M. EVANS,¹ 22 MAY 1848

MS University of Birmingham.

Devonshire Terrace | Twenty Second May 1848.

My Dear Sir

I lose no time in replying to your letter² – for which I thank you, very much.

We will take it for granted that there shall be only one performance in Birmingham,³ and that at the prices you mention.⁴ In case another should be called for, we shall be glad to come back, and can do so easily.

But it *must be*⁵ on the Tuesday, since it can't be on the Saturday. On the Monday, we play at Liverpool; and several of our Company, by reason of the nature of their literary engagements are obliged to be in London, always, not later in the week than Wednesday Evening.⁶

I enclose you the draught of the bill,⁷ to which you can make all business additions you think proper. Acting on your suggestion, I have put up *Every Man in his Humour* – with a farce⁸ that made the people here, roar with laughter.

We must get the Theatre on the best terms we can.⁹ We shall also want a very good and ample orchestra. But that I can see about, when I come down. I will fulfil any engagement you may make for me, to meet the Committee, after Thursday next.¹⁰

The instant formation of the Committee, and announcement of the thing all over the town, are the grand preliminaries; and

I am delighted to see that you rush into these, like an Express Train.

Dear Sir | Faithfully Yours

Charles Evans Esquire

CHARLES DICKENS

¹ Charles M. Evans, Hon. Secretary of the Birmingham Polytechnic.

² CD had written to Evans, 19 May (Vol. V, pp. 309-11), seeking his assistance in the Amateur Company's benefit performances to endow the Shakespeare Birthplace curatorship (*To Fortescue*, 12 Apr. above).

³ CD had originally proposed a performance on Saturday 3 June and a possible second performance on Tuesday 6 June. In the event the Amateurs performed at Manchester on 3 June and Liverpool on 5 June. A second Birmingham performance was given on 27 June.

⁴ Lower boxes and pit, 7s.; upper boxes, 5s.; gallery, 2s. (*Aris's Birmingham Gazette*, 29 May). Receipts were £327.

⁵ "Must be" underlined with short double strokes.

⁶ Members of the Amateurs with editorial or other journalistic responsibilities needed to oversee proofs and final make-up: CD would have in mind Lemon and Leech, who would attend the weekly *Punch* dinner, Forster and possibly also Dudley Costello and G. H. Lewes, all in the company.

⁷ A single sheet included with the letter, giving the purpose of the performance and the cast lists for *Every Man in His Humour* and *Animal Magnetism*.

⁸ CD had originally suggested performing *Merry Wives*; instead the Jonson and Incbald were performed. On 27 June *Merry Wives* and Kenney's *Love, Law, and Physic* were given.

⁹ In June CD noted they never paid more than £50 for a provincial theatre for one night, to include carpenters, door-keepers, gas and band (Vol. V, p. 340).

¹⁰ On Friday 26 May. CD met the committee and reported "all looks very flourishing" (Vol. V, p. 322). To Lemon, 28 May, he wrote, "High prices, big posters, and great confidence. Theatre a little more dingy than I had expected, but a good one" (Vol. V, p. 323).

v. 324.31. Replaces mention

To MISS GEORGINA HOGARTH, 30 MAY 1848

MS State University of New York, Buffalo. Address: Miss Hogarth | Charles Dickens Esquire | 1 Devonshire Terrace | York Gate Regents Park | London. PM 30 May 1848.

Manchester. | Tuesday May 30th. 1848.

My Dear Georgy

If I don't appear and terrify the establishment by knocking them up before you receive this (which is highly probable) I shall be home soon after 4 tomorrow afternoon.¹ Have a bit of fish (not salmon) and something hot for dinner at ½ past 5, as it is probable that Lemon² and Forster will turn up.

Love to all | In great haste affecy always | CD.

¹ CD had been in Birmingham, Liverpool and Manchester in connection with the forthcoming Amateur Company's performances there.

²Mark Lemon (1809-70; *DNB*), playwright and editor of *Punch*: see Vol. III, p. 469*n*. CD had also invited him to dinner for the Thursday (Vol. V, p. 324).

V, 327.1.

To [CHARLES M. EVANS],¹ 5 JUNE 1848

MS Lehigh University Special Collections, Bethlehem, Pa.

Liverpool | Monday Morning Fifth June 1848

My Dear Sir

I cannot remember, in the multiplicity of letters I have written about these plays, whether I have sent you what is on the other side,² for a handbill to be stuck about the Theatre.

An immense house here, tonight!³

Faithfully Yours | CHARLES DICKENS

¹Clearly addressed to Evans as organiser of the committee for the Amateur Company's Birmingham performance on Tuesday 6 June.

²The other side of the MS is blank.

³At Liverpool, where the Amateurs performed *Merry Wives* and *Animal Magnetism*.

V, 334.9.

To THE HON. EDMUND PHIPPS,¹ 12 JUNE 1848

MS Kunstsammlungen der Veste Coburg.

1 Devonshire Terrace | York Gate Regents Park
Monday June Twelfth 1848.

My Dear Sir.

I will tell you in as few words as possible why I should have asked you for the favor of an introduction to your brother² if he had been in town.

Mr. Macready³ is going, early in the autumn, to fulfil an engagement in America – his last.⁴ For, on his return home, he will play the round of his best characters in England, and then leave the Stage.⁵ His friends have felt very strongly, that he ought to have a benefit at one of the large London theatres before he departs on his voyage across the Atlantic; deeming it important to his due recognition in the United States, that his services to the English Drama should be publicly and specially recognized here, before his departure. With this view, a requisition⁶ to him to appear in one of the characters associated with that great Literature to which he has done so much to call

attention, has been very numerously signed; not only by all the most eminent of living men in literature and art, but by many very conspicuous members of both houses of Parliament,⁷ as Lords Lansdowne,⁸ Campbell,⁹ Morpeth,¹⁰ and a host of others. Before making this requisition public, his friends have it very much at heart to discover whether there is any probability of her¹¹ Majesty being pleased to make this performance a Royal Command.¹² And as we are exceedingly unwilling to trouble Her Majesty by making a semi-public application in the first instance, to ascertain this, it has occurred to me that I possibly might, without any impropriety, solicit¹³ Her Majesty's attention to the subject, by means of your brother's kind intervention, which I am emboldened to ask, as the friend of Lord and Lady Normanby.¹⁴

It is proposed that the performance shall take place between this time and the middle of July. The grounds on which Her Majesty's generous patronage of it is sought, are, in few words these. — That Mr. Macready has made great efforts and sacrifices to restore our National Drama and to purify the Theatre as a great means of instruction and amusement. That Her Majesty's public recognition of this fact would, in the opinion of all his friends, be of infinite service to him in this particular stage of the close of his career. That as he has never been in the habit of taking benefits or soliciting support, he is, by this circumstance as well as by his public exertions and position, removed out of the usual ground of an actor. That¹⁵ the requisition I have mentioned, is, in itself, a proof of this. And that it could not but be very gratifying to him and to all his friends, if Her Majesty should see fit to add the last and highest grace to this list of names distinguished among her subjects, by commanding the performance.

If you can help me in this matter, I shall be very sincerely and heartily obliged to you. I am half ashamed to have troubled you at this length, but I could not state the case in fewer words; and I am so conscious, after all, of having stated it imperfectly, — and am consequently in such danger of beginning again, — that I feel my only safety is in leaving off here.

Believe me | My Dear Sir | Very faithfully Yours

The Honourable Edmund Phipps.
DICKENS

CHARLES

¹The Hon. Edmund Phipps (1808-57; *DNB*); barrister, and Recorder successively of Scarborough and Doncaster: see Vol.V, p. 547*n*.

²Charles Beaumont Phipps: see next letter.

³William Charles Macready (1793-1873; *DNB*), the leading English actor of his generation: see Vols I, p. 279*n* & II, p. 2*n*.

⁴Macready had visited the States in 1826-7 and 1843. He sailed to America, 9

Sep, and returned 23 May 49. Macready had thought of settling in the States, but the Astor Place riot rendered this impossible: *To Macready*, 10 May 48, and *To Mrs Macready*, [?30 May 49], Vol. V, pp. 304 & *n*, 547-8 & *nn*.

⁵For various reasons, Macready's final performance only took place on 26 Feb 51.

⁶Organised by CD. For a draft in CD's hand, see Vol. V, p. 320*n*. The requisition was reported in *The Times*, 26 June: of the original signatories, 35 are named.

⁷*The Times*, 26 June, lists among others CD, Bulwer Lytton, Maclise, Forster, Carlyle, Charles Kemble, Tennyson, Count D'Orsay, Henry Hallam, Cobden, eight MPs, including Monckton Milnes, and eight lords apart from those named by CD.

⁸Henry Petty-Fitzmaurice, 3rd Marquess of Lansdowne (1780-1863; *DNB*). CD had first met him at Holland House, 1838 (Vol. III, p. 263*n*).

⁹John Campbell, 1st Baron Campbell (1779-1861; *DNB*), lawyer and politician. Lord Chancellor of Ireland and created Lord Campbell, 1841. Lord Chancellor, 1859.

¹⁰George William Frederick Howard, Viscount Morpeth, later 7th Earl of Carlisle (1802-64; *DNB*).

¹¹No lower case "H" in "her" in MS; elsewhere in letter, upper case in "Her Majesty".

¹²Eventually agreed for 10 July: see next letter.

¹³Written above caret and "call" deleted.

¹⁴Constantine Henry Phipps, 1st Marquess of Normanby (1797-1863; *DNB*), politician and diplomat. Brother of Edmund and Charles Phipps. Ambassador in Paris, Aug 46-Feb 52, where CD met him frequently Nov 48-Feb 49, though Normanby was distracted by diplomatic business (see Vols IV & V). Lady Normanby, *née* Maria Liddell (1798-1882); CD dedicated *Dombey* to her (Vol. V, p. 109 & *n*). Their son, the Earl of Mulgrave, travelled on the *Britannia* to North America, Jan 42, with CD and invited him to organise the Montreal garrison's theatricals, May 42 (Vol. III, p. 13 & *n*).

¹⁵"And" deleted before "That".

V, 341.1.

To LIEUT.-COL THE HON. CHARLES BEAUMONT PHIPPS,¹
16 JUNE 1848

MS Kunstsammlungen der Veste Coburg.

1 Devonshire Terrace | York Gate Regents Park
Sixteenth June 1848.

My Dear Sir.

If it would suit Her Majesty's convenience to command the play for any night between Saturday the 8th. and Thursday the 13th. of July, both inclusive, I believe that would be a very eligible time.² The Theatre Royal Drury Lane is the House proposed.³

Awaiting the favor of your reply, I am Dear Sir

Yours faithfully and obliged

The Honorable C. B. Phipps.

CHARLES DICKENS

¹Lt.-Col. Charles Beaumont Phipps (1801-66; *DNB*), brother of Edmund Phipps

and Constantine Henry Phipps, Lord Normanby. Equerry to the Queen since Aug 46 and private secretary to Prince Albert since Jan 47.

²Fixed, by 30 June, as 10 July: see *To Hullah*, 30 June (Vol. V, p. 353 & *n*).

³At Drury Lane, Macready played Wolsey in *Henry VIII* (Acts I-III) and Oakley in George Colman's *The Jealous Wife* (see Vol. V, p. 358*n*).

V, 358.28.

To W. C. MACREADY, 3 JULY 1848

Note 1, line 2 *for* 11 July *read* 10 July

V, 407.6.

To UNKNOWN CORRESPONDENT, 13 SEPTEMBER 1848

Line 7 *for* MS W. A. Foyle *read* MS Free Library of Philadelphia

V, 410.12.

To CHARLES W. HOLDEN,¹ 19 SEPTEMBER 1848

Text from eBay website, 2003. *Address*: C. W. Holden Esquire, New York, U.S. of America. By Post Office Steamer.

Broadstairs, Kent | Nineteenth September 1848

Sir

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the eighth of last month and forwarded to me here, during a short absence from London. I have given your proposal every consideration, but I regret to add that I cannot entertain it. I do not see my way to any literary arrangement in America, which is made dependent on any kind of contingency. Nothing but a proposal to pay me, beforehand, and in this country, a certain sum of money for a certain undertaking and performance on my part, would remove the many otherwise [insuperable]² obstacles that arise in my mind out of the distance between the two countries, and their several states of law and feeling in reference to literary property.³

I am not the less obliged to you for your offer and remain
Faithfully yours

CHARLES DICKENS

¹Charles W. Holden, publisher of *Holden's Dollar Magazine of Criticisms, Biographies, Sketches, Essays, Tales, Reviews, Poetry, etc.*, a popular New York monthly (Jan 48-Mar 51), edited by Charles F. Briggs (1804-77).

²"insufferable" in source.

³CD was often exercised by "the defective and shameful state of the law of

copyright as between different countries" (*To Flügel*, 27 Apr 48, Vol. V, p. 292). His outspoken views had provoked controversy on his American visit: see Vol. III, Preface and *passim*.

V, 445.8.

To THOMAS CHAPMAN, 22 NOVEMBER 1848

Note 1, line 6 for Augustus deserted her in 1858 read Augustus deserted her in 1857.

V, 447.22.

To FRANK STONE,¹ 26 NOVEMBER 1848

MS Free Library of Philadelphia.

Bedford Hotel, Brighton² | Twenty Sixth November 1848.

My Dear Stone.

I think this, *very pretty indeed*, and cannot suggest any alteration whatever.³ Bradbury⁴ will probably come up to you soon after you receive this, in the hope of getting the first block.⁵

My Dear Stone | Faithfully Yours ever
CHARLES DICKENS

¹Frank Stone (1800-59; *DNB*), painter: see Vol. I, p. 487*n* and later vols.

²CD went to Brighton on 22 Nov to finish *The Haunted Man* and returned to London for the marriage of Augustus Dickens, 5 Dec (Vol. V, p. 445*n*).

³Stone provided three illustrations for *The Haunted Man*. CD refers to the redrawn illustration, "Milly and the Old Man", depicting Milly wearing a lace cap, as required by CD (*To Stone*, 23 Nov, Vol. V, p. 446).

⁴William Bradbury (1800-69; *DNB*), of Bradbury & Evans.

⁵Woodblock illustrations were used for *The Haunted Man*: Stone would have drawn the illustration directly onto the block or pasted it on for the Bradbury & Evans cutter to work on.

v, 459.1. Replaced by MS fragment added to extract

To BENJAMIN WEBSTER,¹ 18 DECEMBER 1848

Extracts^(6a) in Walter M. Hill catalogue No. 16 (Dec 1905); MS 3 pp.; dated Adelphi Theatre, 18 Dec 48; MS (undated fragment ending and signature), R & R Enterprises, Aug 2005. *Date*: handwriting and content support placing of fragment with original extract.

“Dear Sir,

I have attended the rehearsal of the *Haunted Man*² this morning and am quite persuaded and convinced that if you

bring the piece out tomorrow night, it will not succeed...slovenly and imperfect state in which this version is... will disappoint the public and you too ... I think it right to send you this opinion and to urge you to reconsider the matter^{a3}...But if you will let me know tonight, at what hour you begin tomorrow, I will come with pleasure.

Faithfully Yours

Benjamin Webster Esquire.

CHARLES DICKENS

¹ Benjamin Webster (1798-1882; *DNB*), actor and theatre manager; lessee of the Adelphi Theatre from 1844: see Vol. III, p. 510*n*.

² The first stage adaptation of *The Haunted Man*, by Mark Lemon from advance proof sheets provided by CD: see *To Lemon*, 28 Nov, and *To Hogarth*, 15 Dec (Vol. V, pp. 449-50, 457-8). The Adelphi paid £100 for permission to stage the drama: see Vol. V, p. 470.

³ CD was at the Adelphi all day, 19 Dec, advising Webster (*To Miss Coutts*, 19 Dec, Vol. V, p. 460). The first performance was 20 Dec, the postponement being agreed on 18 Dec, since the Adelphi's advertisement in *The Times* (19 Dec) announces: "To-morrow will be positively produced an entirely new drama"; a full programme for 19 Dec, excluding *The Haunted Man*, is also advertised. Despite CD's concerns, the actors were widely praised: see Vol. V, p. 459*n*. It ran, with some interruptions, until 7 Feb 49.

v, 475.20. Replaces catalogue extract

To UNKNOWN CORRESPONDENT, 12 JANUARY 1849

Text from facsimile in Forsythes' Auctions, LLC. online catalogue, 2006.

Devonshire Terrace | Twelfth January 1849.

Dear Sir.

I have received your letter and will not forget it. I should be really happy to assist you to any suitable employment if it were in my power; but I know of none, and I fear I am not likely to know of any.

Faithfully Yours | CHARLES DICKENS¹

¹ A piece of paper appears to be stuck over the recipient's name below CD's signature, unless the name has been cut away and replaced with a piece of paper.

v, 557.27.

To UNKNOWN CORRESPONDENT, 21 JUNE 1849

Mention in Walter T. Spencer catalogue, No. 72 (1896); *MS* 2 pp.; dated Devonshire Terrace, 21 June 49.

Declining an invitation to a charitable institution.

V, 677.10.

To [KARL VON HOLTEI], 22 DECEMBER 1849

Line 10 *for* CARL *read* KARL *and add square brackets round name*
Line 11 *after* Krieg. *add Address* (MS envelope only, Staats- und
Universitäts-Bibliothek Hamburg): Herr Carl Von Holter.

Note 1 *add* Collected autographs and noted in his autobiography (Oct 49)
that a friend translated a letter to CD and her husband sent it: CD
presumably replied through the friend.

V, 681.23.

To MRS MORSON,¹ 27 DECEMBER 1849

MS Michigan State University Libraries.

Devonshire Terrace | Twenty Seventh December 1849.

Dear Mrs. Morson.

Unfortunately *this* is the receiving day at St. Bartholomew's
Hospital.² I fear you may be too late, but *directly you receive*
this, please to take Maria Cridge³ there, in a fly: first signing the
enclosed form of petition yourself, and taking it with you. The
hospital is in Smithfield. Will you call here on your way back,
and leave word (in case Mrs. Dickens should not be at home,
write a line in my room) stating whether you have got her in, or
whether she will have to wait another week.⁴

Faithfully Yours

Mrs Morson.

CHARLES DICKENS

¹Georgiana Morson (*d.* 1880), matron of the House (Urania Cottage), 1849-54:
see Vol. V, p. 509*n*.

²Founded at Smithfield, 1123; still on that site. Until the 1860s admissions were
limited to one day a week (here a Tuesday), when a physician was on duty in the
Great Hall for this purpose.

³An inmate of the House: see *To* Miss Burdett Coutts, 27 Dec (Vol. V, p. 681),
and *To* Mrs Morson, 27 Dec (Vol. XII, p. 619).

⁴Maria Cridge was admitted, 27 Dec, and discharged, 20 Mar 50 (St
Bartholomew's Hospital Admission Register, MR 1/9, p. 105), despite CD's hope
that she would be out in Jan 50 (Vol. VI, p. 5).

VI, 11.20.

To GEORGE HODDER, 21 JANUARY 1850

Line 21 *read* MS Arnold U. Ziegler.

VI, 91.9.

To THE REV. GILBERT ELLIOT,¹ 1 MAY 1850

MS Fred. D. Bentley, Snr, Marietta, Georgia, USA. Address: The Reverend Gilbert Elliot.

Devonshire Terrace | First May 1850.

My Dear Sir

I send you round the enclosed² (which perhaps you will return), thinking you may like to be made acquainted with such an intimation of its being “all right” in that quarter.

I have said a word to my friend Mr. Punch.³

In haste | Ever Faithfully Yours

The Reverend Gilbert Elliot

CHARLES DICKENS

¹The Rev. Gilbert Elliot (1800-91); Rector of Holy Trinity, Marylebone (1846-50), during which time he and CD became friends: see Vol. VI, p. 538*n*. His appointment as Dean of Bristol announced in *The Times*, 1 May. Opposed to the Romanizing movement in the Church of England (Vol. VI, p. 205*n*).

²Not identified.

³i.e. Mark Lemon, as editor of *Punch*. In issues for May 1850 the only likely items that Elliot’s interests might have prompted are verses mocking admission charges to St Paul’s Cathedral (p.169) and a satirical defence of the Metropolitan Interments Bill (p.187).

VI, 155.18. Replaces mention

To MISS GEORGINA HOGARTH, 23 AUGUST 1850

MS State University of New York, Buffalo.

OFFICE OF HOUSEHOLD WORDS

Friday Twenty Third August 1850

My Dear Georgy.

Forster don’t come tomorrow,¹ having the Narrative² to attend to. Neither does Fred. I am not sure but Stone may. I shall come by the Ramsgate boat, and be put ashore at Broadstairs. All well, and Kate most blooming.³

Ever affectionately | CHARLES DICKENS

Loves to all the Darlings.

¹CD was staying in Broadstairs, with occasional trips to London on business; he was returning to Broadstairs on 24 Aug.

²The *Household Narrative of Current Events* (a monthly supplement to *HW*), which Forster helped to compile and for which he wrote leaders: see Vol. VI, p. 18*n*.

³Catherine had given birth to a daughter, Dora Annie, 16 Aug.

VI, 232.15.

To MISS DOLBY,¹ 14 DECEMBER 1850

Text from facsimile, eBay website, March 2006.

Devonshire Terrace | Saturday Fourteenth December | 1850.

My Dear Miss Dolby

I shall be happy to see you here tomorrow, if it should suit your convenience, at half past one o'Clock.²

Faithfully Yours

Miss Dolby.

CHARLES DICKENS

¹Charlotte Helen Dolby (1821-85; *DNB*), *contralto*: see Vol. VI, p. 242*n*.

²They met as arranged. The subject of their discussion unknown, though presumably about her professional career: see Vol. VI, p. 242 & *n.5*.

VI, 379.11.

To MRS ADOLPHUS GILLET, 9 MAY 1851

Line 12 *read* MS Free Library of Philadelphia. On mourning paper.

VI, 454.22.

To E. FÖRSTER,¹ 9 AUGUST 1851

MS Stadtarchiv Hannover. *Address*: E. Förster Esquire | 23 Bryanston Street² | Portman Square | London.

Broadstairs, Kent. | Ninth August 1851.

My Dear Sir

I am exceedingly sorry to be so unfortunate; but on Tuesday last, I was occupied at a little distance from London all day, and on Wednesday was obliged to go to the ancient City of Rochester.³ Since then, I have come here, and I fear that I am little likely to be in London again at any certain time, until next month.

Faithfully Yours

E Förster Esquire

CHARLES DICKENS

¹Possibly Ernst F. Förster (1800-85), painter and writer; author of a history of German art, 5 vols, 1851-60.

²A lodging house, kept by Mrs Ellen Webber.

³CD was in Broadstairs 28 May-20 Aug. He was in London, 4-8 Aug; his engagements on Tuesday (5 Aug) and Wednesday not otherwise known.

VI, 458.6.

To GEORGE AUGUSTUS SALA, [?13 AUGUST 1851]

Note 2 for (1828-95, *DNB*) read (1828-96, *DNB*)

VI, 463.23.

To LLEWELLYNN JEWITT,¹ 18 AUGUST 1851

Text from facsimile in Christie's catalogue, June 2005. On mourning paper.

Broadstairs, Kent. | Monday Eighteenth August | 1851.

Sir.

I am very sorry that, owing to my absence from London, I did not receive your letter until Saturday last.

And I regret that my engagements will not admit of my accepting the invitation with which I am honored by the Plymouth Mechanics' Institute.² I esteem and appreciate that invitation, and have the warmest sympathy with all such excellent associations, but my avocations render it out of my power to attend.

I am Sir | Faithfully Yours

Llewellynn³ Jewitt Esquire.

CHARLES DICKENS

¹Llewellynn Frederick William Jewitt (1816-86; *DNB*), antiquary. Chief Librarian of Plymouth, 1849-53. Publications include *Ceramic Art of Great Britain* (1878), *Graves, Mounds, and Their Contents* (1870) and, with Samuel Carter Hall, *Stately Homes of England* (1874-7).

²Founded 1825; CD presumably had been asked to give an address at the inauguration of the Institute's new building in Princess Square, 10 Sep.

³Misspelt by CD.

VI, 471.18. Replaces catalogue extract^(aa)

To DR SHERIDAN MUSPRATT,¹ 24 AUGUST 1851

MS Bayerische Staatsbibliothek (Autog. Dickens, Charles). Address: Dr. Sheridan Muspratt | College of Chemistry | Liverpool. On mourning paper.

Broadstairs, Kent. | Sunday Twenty Fourth August | 1851.

My Dear Dr Muspratt.

Five hundred pounds would be a noble sum to clear in Liverpool, and would *more* than satisfy me.²

^aI wish I could be there, to meet Baron Liebig,³ – one of the greatest men in Europe, and in whom I am (as who is not?) most

strongly interested. But I can only feel proud at a distance, to know that I have the honor to number him among my readers.^a

Faithfully Yours always

Dr. Sheridan Muspratt.

CHARLES DICKENS

¹Dr James Sheridan Muspratt (1821-71; *DNB*), industrial chemist; founded the Liverpool College of Chemistry, 1851: see Vol. VI, p. 439*n*.

²The Guild of Literature and Art performed Bulwer Lytton's *Not So Bad as We Seem* and Lemon's *Mr Nightingale's Diary* in Liverpool, 11 Feb 52; about £600 was cleared (Vol. VI, p. 596 & *n*). Muspratt contributed significantly to the success of the performance: *To Wills*, [6 Feb 52], Vol. VI, pp. 593-4 & 594*n*.

³Justus von Liebig (1803-73), eminent German chemist: see Vol. VI, p. 471*n*. Muspratt had worked in his laboratory, 1843. Liebig was making a tour through the United Kingdom.

VI, 533.16.

To MRS MORSON, [OCTOBER 1851]

Envelope only, from facsimile in Catalogue of International Autograph Auctions, May 2007. *Address*: Mrs Morson | Urania Cottage | Near The White Horse | Shepherds Bush. *Date*: Oct 51.¹

¹There are two weak postal cancellations on the recto and verso, of which only Oct 51 can be read. CD may have been writing about the "small commotion" involving two separate incidents at Urania Cottage: see *To Miss Burdett Coutts*, 9 Oct (Vol. VI, p. 513).

VI, 555.5.

To A. H. LAYARD, 16 DECEMBER 1851

Note 1, col. 2, last line *for* 17 June 55 *read* 27 June 55

VI, 565.1.

To ALBERT SMITH,¹ [JULY-DECEMBER 1851]

Summary and extract in Cuthbert Bede, "Unpublished Anecdotes of Charles Lamb, Douglas Jerrold and Charles Dickens", *London Sketch-Book*, I, iv (April, 1874), pp. 19-22; addressed Albert Smith, undated. *Date*: mention of the Crystal Palace suggests that this was written during the year of the Great Exhibition and after CD mentions his visit in a letter to Mrs Watson, 11 July 1851.

Excusing himself, on the ground that he had a severe cold, CD described the gathering and preparation for a sneeze, and, in imagery drawn from the Crystal Palace, the laying on of the complete series of waterworks, upper and lower basins, and the grand finale of the accomplished sneeze.²

¹Albert Smith (1816-60; *DNB*), author and entertainer: see Vol. IV, p. 8*n*.

²CD likens his sneeze to the great fountain by Osler, Follett & Clarkson, a centrepiece of the Great Exhibition in Hyde Park, May-Sep 51. The 27-foot fountain featured a main water spout, as well as smaller jets lower down, from which water streamed into an upper and lower basin. CD visited the Crystal Palace twice; he specifically recalled the Osler fountain: *To Mrs Watson*, 11 July, Vol. VI, p. 428. CD had a severe cold on 11 July (*To Wills*, Vol. VI, p. 430) and again on 31 Oct (*To Watson*, Vol. VI, pp. 532-3).

VI, 604.1. and Supplement IV, *D*, 100 (Winter 2004), 233.

To DAVID ROBERTS, 17 FEBRUARY 1852

Line 2 *replace with MS Dan Calinescu.*

Line 5 *after Roberts add full stop*

Line 6 *read The Guild of Literature and Art*

Line 8 *after Manager add comma*

after here add comma

Line 12 *after Esquire add full stop*

VI, 628.14. Replaces extract^(aa) Vol. VI, p. 625, misdated [?13-14 Mar] 1852

To MRS GASKELL,¹ 18 MARCH 1852

MS Free Library of Philadelphia.

OFFICE OF HOUSEHOLD WORDS,
Thursday Eighteenth March 1852

My Dear Mrs. Gaskell

You need not be in the least afraid of sending too often!! You may be very sure that a contribution from you is more welcome and delightful to me than I dare express to the most suspicious of women.²

You shall have a Proof of this MS, if you will be so kind as to correct it.³ I thought I had, myself, gone carefully over the last;⁴ – but upon my word it made me cry so, that I might as well have left it alone for any mechanical eyesight that⁵ remained to me.

With my compliments to Mr. Gaskell⁶ | Ever Faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

^aA golden baby⁷ has just arrived at Tavistock House – a perfect Californian little Duncan⁸ –

his silver skin, laced

(internally)

with his golden blood.⁹

We think of calling him, appropriately remembering the enchanted home of his infancy,¹⁰ Tom Tiddler.^{a11}

¹Elizabeth Cleghorn Gaskell, *née* Stevenson (1810-65; *DNB*), novelist and biographer. Her first novel, *Mary Barton* (1848), led CD to invite her to write for *Household Words*: “Lizzie Leigh” was the opening contribution in No.1. See Vol. V, p. 539*n*.

²CD was eager to have contributions from his “Dear Scheherazade” (Vol. VI, p. 545): Gaskell valued *Household Words*’ ethos and CD’s prompt payment. The relationship was uneasy, though: Gaskell accused CD of stealing one of her ghost stories (Vol. VI, pp. 545-6 & *nn*); CD altered without authorisation a reference to *Pickwick* in “Our Society at Cranford”, *HW*, 13 Dec 51, IV, 265 (see Vol. VI, pp. 548-9); and both had problems over the writing and serialisation of *North and South* (see Vol. VII).

³“Visiting at Cranford”, *HW*, 3 Apr 52, V, 55.

⁴“A Love Affair at Cranford”, *HW*, 3 Jan 52, IV, 349.

⁵“it” deleted after “that”.

⁶The Rev. William Gaskell (1805-84; *DNB*), Unitarian minister at Cross Street Chapel, Manchester.

⁷Edward Bulwer Lytton Dickens (1852-1902), born 13 Mar.

⁸CD continues his laboured joke with Mrs Gaskell about the supposed opulence of his establishment: see *To Mrs Gaskell*, 25 Nov and 21 Dec 51 (Vol. VI, pp. 545-6 & 558). Gold had been discovered in California, 1848, and the great Gold Rush began in 1849.

⁹*Macbeth*, II. iii. 109.

¹⁰i.e. the “opulence” of Tavistock House.

¹¹Tom Tiddler’s ground, in the children’s game, is where we go, “Picking up gold and silver”.

VI, 677.8.

W. J. BRODERIP,¹ 18 MAY 1852

Extract in Walter T. Spencer catalogue No. 69 (1895); *MS* 2 pp.; addressed W. J. Broderip; dated 18 May 52.

I write briefly,² being surrounded at this moment (in the spirit) with no end of brickmakers’ babies and forms of phantoms all calling out of the gloom, ‘Take me next,’ ‘Look at me,’ ‘It’s my [turn],’³ ...

¹William John Broderip, FRS (1789-1859; *DNB*), lawyer and naturalist; magistrate at Westminster Police Court: see Vol. VI, p. 136*n*.

²Clearly about a case for the House. CD had urged Broderip to recommend cases (26 July 50, Vol. VI, p. 136) and presumably refers to Sarah Youngman’s admission (*To Broderip*, 25 May 52, Vol. VI, p. 683).

³Source reads “time”. CD was at work on *Bleak House*, No. 4 (chs 11-13); he refers to ch. 8, the brickmaker’s house and the death of Jenny’s child. The plan for No. 4 shows he thought of developing this line, then rejected it for the present: “The Brickmaker’s Family? No”.

VI, 695.20.

CHARLES DICKENS JNR, [? MID JUNE 51- MID JUNE 1852]¹

MS (fragment) Peter Thorogood.

...perhaps they have told you even this.

Ever your affectionate father

CHARLES DICKENS

I think there is a Great Western morning train which arrives at Slough at 3 minutes past 10. We will come down by that. Or we could arrive at Windsor by the same train, at 11.² Wouldn't that be best?

¹Charley was at Eton, Jan 50-Dec 52. On present evidence, CD visited him there five times. Presumably CD went alone, late May 51 and early-mid Nov 51 (Vol. VI, pp. 407, 542); he went with friends on 1 July 51 (Beard), 24 Feb 52 (Leech), 1 July 52 (Beard and Lemon): Vol. VI, pp. 416, 606, 699. The agreed train times for these latter three do not fit the details here, though arrangements may have been finalised differently. On current information, probably arranging for one of these three latter outings.

²By changing at Slough to the Windsor branch line.

VI, 706.8.

To SAMUEL CARTWRIGHT, [?8 JULY 1852]

Envelope only, MS Neil McMillan. *Address:* Samuel Cartwright Esquire
132 Old Burlington Street. PM 8 July 52.

¹Presumably Samuel Cartwright, Jnr (1815-91), dental surgeon: see Vol. VII, p. 27*n*. Samuel, Jnr, became CD's dentist, but his father, Samuel, Snr, also a dental surgeon, practised at the same address.

VI, 800.24.

To MRS MORSON, 8 NOVEMBER 1852

Text from facsimile in *Catalogue of International Autograph Auctions*, May 2007.

Tavistock House | Monday Eighth November 1852.

Dear Mrs. Morson.

I have seen the girl,¹ respecting whom you wrote to me, and I give her this letter.

I have taken down such unsatisfactory particulars as it is possible from the very nature of her life to get out of her, and should like to know – must indeed, before it is possible to admit her – that her story is so far true. As it is close by you, I wish you would enquire (taking her with you if you like) at Mrs. Crouch's² – at the Turnham Green Hall³ – and at the place where she lodged – and ascertain that these are facts. If her statement

appears to be untrue, no more can be done for her. If it appears to be true, you may give her a shilling or two today: and if you will come to me tomorrow morning and tell me what you have discovered, I will at once decide upon the case without waiting to refer it to Miss Coutts.

Faithfully Yours | CHARLES DICKENS

¹Unidentified.

²Matilda Crouch, lodging house keeper, 28 Tavistock Place.

³Unidentified; Turnham Green itself, in Chiswick, borders on Heathfield Terrace and Chiswick High Road.

INDEX OF NAMES AND PLACES

VI, 877, col. 2

Delete Cooke, George 568n.

VII, 26.5.

To W. H. WILLS, 17 FEBRUARY 1853

Note 4, line 2 *for* (1829-96, *DNB*) *read* (1828-96, *DNB*)

VII, 58.1. Replaces extract

To JOHN JAFFRAY,¹ 2 APRIL 1853

Text from Winifred A. Myers Ltd catalogue^(ms) and R. & R. Enterprises catalogue, 26 April 2005; *MS* 1 p.; dated Tavistock House, 2 April 1853; ^awith envelope addressed John Jaffray, Journal Office, Birmingham.^a

Dear Sir,

^aI have read your agreeable letter with much interest, and accept with gratification the honor conferred upon me.^{a2} It gives me great pleasure to hear that the Banquet³ has been "attended with good results" and I very cordially reciprocate your friendly feeling.

Believe me, very faithfully yours, | CHARLES DICKENS

¹John Jaffray (1818-1901), baronet 1892; Chairman, Committee of the Fine Arts Prize Fund Association. Newspaper proprietor, including the *Birmingham Journal*; High Sheriff, Warwickshire, 1865; a founder of the Birmingham Free Libraries; founder of Jaffray Hospital.

²CD had been elected one of 20 Patrons at the annual meeting of the Fine Arts Prize Fund Association; also elected were Ruskin, Sir Charles Eastlake and David Cox (*Birmingham Journal*, 2 Apr).

³The banquet, 6 Jan 53, was designed to publicise the Birmingham Society of Artists and its proposed prizes in the fine arts. The opportunity had also been taken

to make a presentation to CD beforehand and he then spoke at the banquet: see *The Speeches of CD*, ed. K. J. Fielding, 1960, pp. 154-61.

VII, 86.1.

To MISS FANNY KELLY,¹ 12 MAY 1853

Line 2 *after* N, II, 461. *add Address* (envelope only from facsimile in Christie's catalogue, Jan 2004): Miss Kelly | Moscow Road | Bayswater. PM 12 May 53.

¹Fanny (Frances) Maria Kelly (1790-1882; *DNB*), actress. Had owned the private theatre at 73 Dean Street, Soho, where the Amateur Company performed in 1845. CD and Lemon had been trying to arrange a benefit for Kelly prior to her "Final Retirement from Public Life" (Vol. VII, p. 84*n*); the attempt was abandoned in June (*To Lemon*, 12 June, Vol. VII, p. 96 & *nn*).

VII, 249.1. Replaces incomplete printed text

To W. W. F. DE CERJAT,¹ 16 JANUARY 1854

MS Lehigh University Special Collections, Bethlehem, PA. *Address*: William W. F. De Cerjat Esqre | Elysée | Lausanne | Switzerland.

Tavistock House, London | Monday Sixteenth January 1854

My Dear Cerjat. Guilty. The accused pleads guilty, but throws himself upon the mercy of the Court.² He humbly represents that his usual hour for getting up, in the course of his travels,³ was three o'Clock in the morning, and his usual hour for going to bed, nine or ten the next night. That the places in which he chiefly deviated from these rules of hardship, were Rome and Venice;⁴ and that at those cities of Fame he shut himself up in solitude, and wrote Christmas papers for the incomparable publication known as Household Words.⁵ That his correspondence at all times, arising out of the business of the said Household Words alone, was very heavy. That his offence, though undoubtedly committed, was unavoidable, and that a nominal punishment will meet the justice of the case.

We had only three bad days out of the whole time. After Naples,⁶ which was very hot, we had very cold, clear, bright weather. When we got to Chamounix, we found the greater part of the Inns shut up and the people gone – no visitors whatsoever – and plenty of snow.⁷ These were the very best circumstances under which to see the place, and we stayed a couple of days at the Hotel de Londres (hastily re-furbished for our entertainment) and climbed through the snow to the Mer de Glace,⁸ and thoroughly enjoyed it. Then we went, in Mule procession (I walking) to the old hotel at Martigny, where Collins was ill, and I suppose I bored Egg to death by talking

all the evening about the time when you and I were there together. Naples (a place always painful to me, in the intense degradation of the people)⁹ seems to have only three classes of inhabitants left in it – priests, soldiers (standing army one hundred thousand strong) and spies.¹⁰ Of Maccaroni we ate very considerable quantities everywhere; also, for the benefit of Italy, we took our share of every description of Wine. At Naples I found Layard the Nineveh Traveller,¹¹ who is a friend of mine and an admirable fellow; so we fraternised and went up Vesuvius together,¹² and ate more Maccaroni and drank more Wine. At Rome, the day after our arrival, they were making a Saint at St. Peters:¹³ on which occasion I was surprised to find what an immense number of pounds of wax candles it takes to make the regular, genuine article. From Turin to Paris, over the Mont Cenis, we made only one journey.¹⁴ The Rhone being frozen and foggy was not to be navigated, so we posted from Lyons to Chalons¹⁵ – and everybody else was doing the like – and there were no horses to be got – and we were stranded at midnight in amazing little cabarets, with nothing worth mentioning to eat in them, except the iron stove – which was rusty, and the billiard table – which was musty. We left Turin on a Tuesday evening, and arrived in Paris on the Friday evening; where I found my son Charley hot – or I should rather say, cold – from Germany,¹⁶ with his arms and legs so grown out of his coat and trousers that I was ashamed of him, and was reduced to the necessity of taking him, under cover of night, to a ready made establishment in the Palais Royal, where they put him into balloon-waisted pantaloons and increased my confusion. Leaving Calais on the evening of Sunday the 10th. of December,¹⁷ fact of¹⁸ distinguished author's being aboard was telegraphed to Dover, whereupon authorities of Dover Railway detained Train to London for distinguished author's arrival – rather to the exasperation of British public. D. A. arrived home between 10 and 11 that night thankful, and found all well and happy.

I think you see the Times, and if so you will have seen a very graceful and good account of the Birmingham readings.¹⁹ It was the most remarkable scene that England could produce I think, in the way of a vast, intelligent assemblage, and the success was most wonderful and prodigious – perfectly overwhelming and astounding altogether. They wound up by giving my wife a piece of Plate, having given me one before; and when you come to dine here (may it be soon!) it shall be duly displayed in the centre of the table.

Tell Mrs. Cerjat,²⁰ to whom my love and all our loves, that I have highly excited them at home here by giving them an

account in detail of all your daughters;²¹ further, that the²² way in which Catherine and Georgina have questioned and cross-questioned me about you all, notwithstanding, is maddening. Mrs. Watson²³ has been obliged to pass her Christmas at Brighton alone with her younger children, in consequence of her two eldest boys coming home to Rockingham from school, with the hooping cough.²⁴ The quarantine expires to day, however, and she dines here, on her way back into Northamptonshire, tomorrow.²⁵ There is great talk about Prince Albert's interference in foreign politics, and the Queen is supposed to be undecided whether to open Parliament in person or not: fearing his present unpopularity.²⁶ The sad affair of the Preston strike remains unsettled,²⁷ and I hear on strong authority that, if that were settled, the Manchester people are prepared to strike next.²⁸ Provisions very dear, but the people very temperate and quiet in general. So ends this jumble – which looks like the index to a chapter in a book,²⁹ I find when I read it over.

Ever My Dear Cerjat. Heartily Your friend CHARLES DICKENS

¹William Woodley Frederick de Cerjat (*d.* 1869), member of an old Vaudois family. Resident at Lausanne, where CD came to know him as a friend in 1846.

²Clearly CD had not written to Cerjat during his Italian travels (next note), though he had seen him 16 Oct when briefly in Lausanne on his journey.

³CD travelled in Switzerland and Italy, 10 Oct-11 Dec 53: see Vol. VII. His companions were Wilkie Collins (see Vol. VI, p. 310*n*) and the artist Augustus Egg (see Vol. V, p. 113*n*).

⁴CD arrived in Rome, 12 Nov, and in Venice, 24 Nov.

⁵In Rome CD wrote "The Schoolboy's Story" and in Venice, "Nobody's Story", *HW*, Extra Christmas No. 1853, 1-5, 34-6.

⁶CD arrived in Naples, 4 Nov, staying about a week.

⁷CD stayed in Chamounix, 19-21 Oct: see also *To Mrs CD*, 20 & 21 Oct 53, Vol. VII, p. 168.

⁸The great glacier, terminating in the Glacier du Bois; the source of the river Arveron (modern Arve) in the valley of Chamounix. CD had been there in 1846: see Vol. IV, pp. 594-5. The excursion from Chamounix took 2½ hours by mule and 2 hours back. The "old" hotel (i.e. where they stayed in 1846) was the Hotel de la Grande Maison: Vol. IV, p. 618*n*.

⁹In 1845 CD had found the "condition of the common people" in Naples "abject and shocking" (*To Forster*, [11 Feb 45] and [?22 Feb 45], Vol. IV, pp. 266 & 271).

¹⁰For CD's gloom about the state of Naples, see *To Forster*, [?4 Dec 53], Vol. VII, p. 222 & *n*.

¹¹Austen Henry Layard (1817-94; *DNB*), archaeologist and radical politician: see Vol. VI, p. 555*n*. He had published *Nineveh and Babylon*, on his second series of excavations, in Summer 53.

¹²They "ascended Vesuvius in the Sunlight, and came down in the Moonlight, very merrily" (*To Miss Coutts*, 13 Nov 53, Vol. VII, p. 189). CD had previously climbed Vesuvius, with Catherine and Georgina, 21 Feb 45: *To Mitton*, 17 & 22 Feb 45, Vol. IV, pp. 269-71.

¹³In fact, the beatification (declaring "Blessed"), not the canonisation (declaring a "Saint") of Giovanni Grande, 13 Nov 53. Grande (1546-1600), who worked in

hospitals and prisons, punning on his Spanish surname, called himself the “Grande Pecador” – the “Great Sinner”: see also *To Hogarth*, 13 Nov 53, Vol. VII, p. 192 & *n.*

¹⁴CD left Turin, 6 Dec 53; here he gives Friday 9 Dec as the date of his Paris arrival: see also *To Regnier*, [10 Dec 53], Vol. VII, p. 225*hn*.

¹⁵The Rhone and the Saône meet at Lyons; Chalon is on the Saône (as CD knew: Vol. VII, p. 223).

¹⁶Charley, returning home for Christmas, was spending a year in Leipzig to improve his German and business experience. CD arranged for them to meet in Paris and travel on to London (*To CD Jnr*, 25 Nov 53, Vol. VII, p. 208).

¹⁷Sunday was 11 Dec; rapid travel presumably caused confusion, since *To Regnier*, [10 Dec 53], was misdated at the time. CD started from Paris on the Sunday morning.

¹⁸“fact of” written above caret.

¹⁹CD’s three readings on behalf of the Birmingham and Midland Institute, 27, 29 and 30 Dec 53. Reported in *The Times*, 2 Jan; Catherine was presented with a “silver flower-stand” on 31 Dec (Vol. VII, p. 250*nn*). See also CD’s account of the third reading (of the *Carol*) specifically for working men: *To Mrs Watson*, 13 Jan 54, Vol. VII, pp. 243-4.

²⁰Maria, daughter of Peter Holmes of Peterville, Co. Tipperary.

²¹Cerjat had five daughters: see Vol. VII, p. 165*n*.

²²“y” crossed out after “the”.

²³The Hon. Mrs Watson, *née* Lavinia Jane Quin (1816-88): see Vol. IV, p. 574*n*. Her husband, the Hon. Richard Watson, had died, 24 July 52.

²⁴“hooping” thus in original. As well as George (*b.* 1841), Edward Spencer (*b.* 1843), and Mary Georgiana (*b.* 1845) – “the jolly boys, and the calm little girl”, CD called them (*To Mrs Watson*, 24 Jan 51, Vol. VI, p. 266) – a daughter, Lavinia Grace, had been born posthumously, Feb 53. The boys were both at Eton.

²⁵Mrs Watson clearly confirmed, in reply to CD’s letter of 13 Jan (Vol. VII, p. 244), that she would stay two nights in London and dine with the Dickens on 17 Jan, on her way home to Rockingham Castle.

²⁶Omitted in MDGH.

²⁶The Prince was widely believed to exert an undue influence over his wife and to favour pro-Prussian and pro-Austrian policies. In the agitation over the Eastern Question, late 53-early 54, when Anglo-French support for Turkey against Russian aggression culminated in the declaration of war, Mar 54, popular feeling ran high against Albert. The Prince himself wrote, 27 Dec 53, that “treachery is the cry, and, guided by a friendly hand, the whole press has for the last week made ‘a dead set at the Prince’...My unconstitutional position, correspondence with Foreign Courts, dislike to Palmerston...are depicted as the causes of the decline of the State, the Constitution, and the nation” (quoted in Theodore Martin, *The Life of His Royal Highness The Prince Consort*, 1876, II, 535; see further ch. L). The Queen opened Parliament in person, 31 Jan 54; *en route*, “hisses were occasionally heard, but they were at once drowned amid the general cheering” (*Household Narrative* [1854], p. 25).

²⁷The Preston weavers had been on strike for over 20 weeks. CD visited Preston in late January and wrote “On Strike”, *HW*, 11 Feb 54, VIII, 555, later incorporating some of his observations in *Hard Times*.

²⁸There was a serious strike by the Manchester mill-workers the following year.

²⁹CD refers to the convention of providing a summary of a chapter at its head or on the contents page.

To THE REV. WILLIAM VALENTINE,¹ 9 FEBRUARY 1854

Text from facsimile in Alexander Autographs online catalogue, 4 May 2005.

Tavistock House | Ninth February 1854.

Mr. Charles Dickens presents his compliments to the Reverend William Valentine, and begs to express his regret that his occupations will not admit of his being present on the 22nd. to hear the interesting lecture of his esteemed friend Mr. Layard.² And as Mr. Dickens has a great objection to associating himself, *merely in name*, with anything, and would feel such a proceeding particularly discourteous³ in the case of so justly eminent a man, he is obliged to send this reluctant apology for not complying with Mr. Valentine's request.⁴

¹The Rev. William Valentine (?1787-1873), Minister of St Thomas's, Arbour Street, Stepney: see Vol. V, p. 392n.

²Layard lectured on his Discoveries at Nineveh at the Beaumont Institution, Mile End Road, on the evening of 22 Feb. Proceeds went to the National Schools and other charities in Valentine's parish.

³"court" written over other letters.

⁴Presumably to have his name announced as supporting Layard and the lecture's charitable purposes.

VII, 323.17.

To E. W. COLE,¹ 29 APRIL 1854

Text from facsimile at unidentified website, 2004.

Tavistock House | Twenty Ninth April, 1854.

Sir.

I regret that I cannot preside at the annual Meeting of the Institution.² But my occupations, and the recreations that are necessary to them, have obliged me, this year, to abstain from accepting any such public Engagement. I have refused many, conditionally; replying to the urgent invitations, "If I go anywhere, I will come to you." My appearance in this case, would involve me in innumerable others; and I am obliged – positively obliged – to decline.

My attendances at public meetings at any time, are very few and far between.

Faithfully Yours

Mr. Edward William Cole

CHARLES DICKENS

¹Edward William Cole, Secretary of the Newsvendors' Benevolent Institution.

²CD had spoken at the Annual Meetings of 1849 and 1852. On 13 Apr to Cole (Vol. VII, p. 311) he indicated his willingness to become President of the Institution

and was elected 22 May at the annual meeting. He presided at the next annual meeting, 21 May 55.

VII, 372.26.

To JULES BENEDICT,¹ 20 JULY 1854

Line 27 *replace headnote with* Text from facsimile on the website of John Wilson Manuscripts Ltd. *Address:* Jules Benedict Esquire 12 Manchester Square (narrow black border). PM 20 July 54.

Page 373, line 4 *for* I can't keep it *read* I can't help it

¹Julius (Jules) Benedict (1804-85; *DNB*), composer and conductor: see Vol. V, p. 353*n*.

XII. 658. Delete entry for VII, 372.27 (*To* JULES BENEDICT, 20 JULY 1854).

VII, 375.30.

To MISS GEORGINA HOGARTH, 22 JULY 1854

Page 376, line 10 *after* health. *add* ^{1a}
After note 1 *insert new note* 1a: CD himself took out a further life policy at this date: an unidentified insurance company's *pro forma* Certificate from the Proposer's Private Friend exists, dated 27 July 54 and signed by Forster, who declares he last saw CD "Four days ago" (MS Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge).

Page 377. Line 11 *after* Forster *delete* ⁵
after note 4 *delete* note 5
Amend numbering of notes 6-8 *to* 5-7

VII, 475.1.

To EDWARD CHAPMAN, 1 DECEMBER 1854

Note 3 line 5 *read* organized CD's readings between 1858 and 1861. See later vols.

INDEX OF NAMES AND PLACES

VII, 944, col. 2

Hard Times line 2 *after* 309, *insert* 403-4

VII, 946, col. 2

Dickens, John line 2 *for* death 361*n* *read* 362*n*

THE DICKENSIAN

VII, 958, col. 1

London *Buildings...Greater London* line 11 *for opening...387n read 384n*

VII, 965, col. 1

for Pitt, William the Younger 68 read Pitt, Thomas 68

VII, 973, col. 1

Warner, Mrs Robert, line 2 *for 114 & n read 116 & n*