

The Letters of Charles Dickens:

Supplement IX

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, 329.9. Replaces extract at I, 485.11.

To J. P. HARLEY,¹ [?8 NOVEMBER 1837]

MS Charles Dickens Museum. *Date:* CD moved to Doughty St in Apr 37; he returned from Brighton (his only visit in the Doughty Street period) on 7 Nov 37 and presumably answered Harley the next day; handwriting and form of address support.

Doughty St. | Wednesday Evening

My Dear Harley.

I am more sorry than I can tell you, that I did not receive your invitation within a more convenient distance than Brighton² –

especially as I am truly anxious to see more of you, and not to perpetuate our present angel interviews.³

Can you take a family dinner with me, next Sunday at *four*? Forster dines with us, and a man named Thackeray⁴ whom perhaps you know; no one else. It will afford me very great pleasure to hear from you that we may hope to see you.

In haste Believe me | Ever Faithfully Yours

J. P. Harley Esqre

CHARLES DICKENS

¹John Pritt Harley (1786-1858; *DNB*), actor and singer. Stage-manager and leading comedian at the St James's Theatre from Sep 36. CD added the non-singing part of Martin Stokes to *The Village Coquettes* for him and dedicated the play to him (Vol. I, pp. 151*n*, 167*n*).

²CD had been in Brighton, 31 Oct-7 Nov, after finishing *Pickwick*.

³CD plays on "angel visits", which are "few and far between"; proverbial at least by the eighteenth century: *OED* cites Robert Blair, *The Grave* (1743), and Thomas Campbell, *The Pleasures of Hope* (1797).

⁴William Makepeace Thackeray (1811-63; *DNB*). First met CD in Apr 36, when he hoped to succeed Seymour as illustrator of *Pickwick*: see Vol. I, p. 305*n*. Rejected, but contributed to *Bentley's Miscellany* (see Vol. I, pp. 293*n*, 305 & *n*).

I, 543.12.

To JOHN MURRAY, 12 APRIL 1839

Note 2, column 2 for 24 vols, 1854-7 read 29 vols, 1854-7

I, 566.9.

To LAMAN BLANCHARD,¹ [?17 JULY 1839]

MS Private. *Date*: CD was in Petersham on 14 July and had proposed to meet Blanchard on Tuesday 16 July at Covent Garden Theatre (the night of Macready's final performance as manager there) to discuss the farewell dinner in Macready's honour on 20 July: see *To Blanchard*, [11] July 39, Vol. I, pp. 560-1. If another matter was not settled then (hence "both ways"), CD would provide necessary information "next morning", as he indicates here he has done.

Doughty Street. | Wednesday morning

My Dear Blanchard

Count upon me as the most enthusiastic and ardent supporter of the plot.² And in proof of my sincerity and earnestness expect me to call upon you today at 2 o'Clock to put myself bodily into your hands.

Always Faithfully Yours

Laman Blanchard Esquire

CHARLES DICKENS

¹Samuel Laman Blanchard (1804-45; *DNB*), essayist, verse-writer and journalist. See Vol. I, p. 290*n*.

²Untraced. Macready makes no mention of Blanchard at the dinner in his honour or of anything like a “plot” there (*Diaries*, II, 15-19).

INDEX OF NAMES AND PLACES

I, 718. col.1.

Barnaby Rudge, line 9 for 646 read 647

II, 89.17. Replaces catalogue extracts (VII, [Addenda] 817)

To GEORGE CHAPMAN,¹ 25 JUNE 1840

Text from extract in Pilgrim^(aa), transcript^(bb) and reproduction^(cc) in
Bloomsbury Auction catalogue, Nov 2007.

^bBroadstairs, Kent
Thursday 25th. June 1840

Dear Sir,^b

^aBelieve me that I am truly and sincerely obliged to you for your hearty invitation, and that forest scenery, pretty country, old bachelors, birds, beasts and trees, have all strong-holds in my affections. But I no more dare to leave town at present on such a jaunt, than I dare do any conceivable or inconceivable deed, the bare mention of which would make the hair of all human creatures stand on end with wonder.²

Every day since I have been here (except on Mondays when in common with other vagabonds³ I usually make holiday) I have been at my desk for many hours.⁴ I came here to escape the miscalled pleasures of town,⁵ which are pains and penalties⁶ to me, and have been obliged on sunny mornings to put a strong and resolute constraint upon myself and to keep the shadow of my Giant Work⁷ perpetually before me...my country escapes must be limited for this present to quiet places near at hand, where I can take root and put out my *leaves* ^cwithout interruption.^a

I can only say God speed you on your pleasant excursion. I shall connect you in imagination with the bachelors and maids (if you have no objection) the farmers, and all the other honest people and things you speak of. And when you see a young horse in a mill grinding away with all his might and main, perhaps you will do me the favour to link his image with mine.

Believe me | Faithfully Yours

George Chapman Esquire

CHARLES DICKENS^c

¹Probably George Chapman (1807-85), younger brother of Edward Chapman of Chapman & Hall; a land agent. See Vol. II, p. 89*n*.

²Reminiscent of the Ghost in *Hamlet* (I.v), who might make “each particular hair to stand on end” if he spoke of his abode.

³Workmen who idle after Sunday’s dissipation: hence jokes about observing “Saint Monday”. For CD’s development of “vagabonding”, see e.g. *To Felton*, 31 July 42 (Vol. III, p. 293: “The United Vagabonds”) and *To Cerjat*, 4 Jan 69 (Vol. XII, p. 268: “genteelly vagabondizing over the face of the earth”).

⁴CD was working on *The Old Curiosity Shop* (the “Giant Work”, with its “leaves”, below).

⁵CD had been in Broadstairs since 1 June and stayed for a month.

⁶A legal phrase that has passed into common usage, usually jocularly.

⁷The capitalization humorously personifies the task in terms reminiscent of Bunyan’s Giant Despair.

II, 111.22. Replaces catalogue extracts

To THOMAS HILL,¹ 8 AUGUST 1840

MS University of Rhode Island Special Collections.

Devonshire Terrace. | 8th. August 1840.

My Dear Mr. Hill—I call you “Mr.” because you are such a veteran, though my inclination is to drop any word that *seems* to imply any formality between us, and assume the most irreverential familiarity of address.

I cannot tell you how much pleasure I have derived from your kind note, and how cheering it is to me to be assured of the friendly interest of one whom I so warmly and truly esteem.² I receive your congratulations with true gratification, for I know they are sincere and am proud of a place in your kind recollection and warm heart.

Carry with you to Paris and bring back again, my earnest and hearty friendship. Be a reader as long as I am a writer, and let us hope that we may regard each other with the same feelings as those which³ animate⁴ us now, in some other world where if there will be very few books, there will be (if my faith be at all near the right one) marvellously few booksellers.

Always believe me | Faithfully Yours

Thomas Hill Esquire.

CHARLES DICKENS

Mrs. Dickens’s “love”.

¹Thomas Hill (1760-1840; *DNB*), retired drysalter and book-collector: see Vol. I, p. 329*n*. CD bought books at his sale, Mar 41 (Vol. II, p. 229 & *nn*).

²Presumably Hill had congratulated CD on *The Old Curiosity Shop*; he attended the dinner (20 Oct) to celebrate completion of Vol. I of *Master Humphrey’s Clock*. He died on 20 Dec, after a fall.

³“those which” written above caret.

⁴Final “s” deleted.

II, 370.33.

To LORD NUGENT, 26 AUGUST 1841

Line 34 for MS Private read MS Robert D. Farber University Archives & Special Collections Department, Brandeis University.

III, 437.6. Replaces extract

To H. SMALE,¹ 3 FEBRUARY 1843

MS University of Rhode Island Special Collections.

Devonshire Terrace | Friday Morning
Third February 1843

My Dear Sir

The months come round so fast, and this is such a short one,² that I shall not be able to have the pleasure of coming to dine with you until my February work has had its throat cut: which laudable deed I shall perform with all convenient despatch.

I was hurried away unexpectedly to Bath, in the beginning of my January leisure,³ and have since been reposing on some rheumatic laurels gathered on the Railway. I hear that while I was away, you saw the children; who were specially impressed by your manners and conversation.

I beg to be remembered to all your house. And am

My Dear Sir | Faithfully Yours

H. Smale Esquire

CHARLES DICKENS

¹Henry Lewis Smale (baptised 1790), proctor and notary: see Vol. III, p. 437.

²CD often complained of the extra pressure of deadlines: see e.g. Vol. I, pp. 405, 510 (“this most fraudulent month of eight and twenty days”).

³After completing January’s stint on *Chuzzlewit* (Vol. III, p. 425), CD was in Bath for a “few days” between 21 and 25 Jan; the purpose of his visit not known (Vol. III, pp. 429*n*, 431).

IV, 404.5. Replaces mention

To GEORGE CRUIKSHANK,¹ 17 OCTOBER 1845

Text from facsimile on eBay, 22 Feb 2008. Envelope (MS Benoliel Collection), PM 18 Oct 45, probably belongs to this letter, addressed “George Cruikshank Esquire | Amwell Street | Pentonville”.

Devonshire Terrace | Seventeenth October 1845

My Dear George

I enclose you the Savings Bank Paper, signed;² and £30 for your Investment.³

Ever Yours

George Cruikshank Esquire

CD

¹George Cruikshank (1792-1878; *DNB*), artist and caricaturist: see Vol. I, p. 82*n*. CD described him to Miss Coutts (Sep 45) as “one of the best creatures in the World, in his own odd way” (Vol. IV, p. 380).

²Clearly connected to Cruikshank’s and CD’s interest in Bertha Wight (*To Miss Coutts*, 17 Sep, [24 Sep], & 1 Dec 45, Vol. IV, pp. 380-1, 385, 443). CD applied this same day to become a Depositor in the Finsbury Savings Bank as trustee of Bertha Wight (Vol. IV, p. 385*n*), passing the documentation on to Cruikshank.

Presumably a further sum to be invested for Bertha Wight’s benefit.

IV, 408.18. Replaces catalogue extract addressed to Unknown Correspondent in VII (Addenda), 864 (incorrectly referenced IV, 412.7)

To MISS COSGREVE,¹ 20 OCTOBER 1845

Text from facsimile in PBA Galleries (San Francisco) catalogue, June 2007.²

Devonshire Terrace.
Monday October Twentieth | 1845.

With Mr. Charles Dickens’ compliments, and best wishes for Miss Cosgreve’s success.

¹Unidentified.

²The MS is tipped into the front flyleaf of Vol. I of an expanded copy of *Pickwick* (1837).

IV, 488.17.

To LADY DUFF GORDON,¹ 3 FEBRUARY 1846

MS Shaun Springer.

Devonshire Terrace | Third February 1846

My Dear Lady Gordon

Pray do not think me unmindful, for a moment, of your note, or of the immense advantage of Mrs. Austin’s² help. It is impossible to have a greater respect for her, or to set a higher value on it, than I entertain.

I have had to speak to the Foreign Editors of the Paper;³ and this has delayed me.

We have a large establishment in Paris,⁴ and are not therefore in a position to pay as well for such letters as you describe, as we otherwise might have done.⁵ But they tell me that for one

good letter a week, they would pay Four Pounds a week, very willingly. (£4) We pay the same sum, I am assured, to a correspondent who stands high in one of the Public Departments,⁶ and has peculiar advantages in respect of position, information, and so forth.

I profit so much by your work, that I cannot say I object to your being overworked. But I do very strongly object to your being underpaid, or being out of heart, or anything but in a most beaming state of satisfaction and happiness. As to that carriage —if I were Cinderella’s Grandmother⁷ (or Father) I would instantly take four Swans out of the Park by Queen Square⁸ there, and change them into Blood horses. The Foot Guards hard by,⁹ should be thinned for your State Footmen. The Kettle Drums should spring up into a Landau and a Barouche;¹⁰ and I would alter everything about you, for your pleasure, if you would remain exactly as you are for mine.

When you have heard from Mrs. Austin, I shall hope to receive one line from you, telling me the result.¹¹

Always believe me | Faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

¹Lady Duff Gordon, *née* Lucie [Lucy] Austin (1821-69; *DNB*), author and translator. Married Sir Alexander Cornwall Duff Gordon, Bart, 1840. Their house noted for a progressive literary and social circle that included CD, Tennyson, Thackeray and Meredith. Her translations (largely from German), which included works by Niebuhr and von Ranke, began (1844) with a vastly successful version of Wilhelm Meinhold’s novel, *Mary Schweidler*, best known in English by its subtitle, *The Amber Witch*. Lived abroad for her health from 1851, settling (1862) in Egypt. Her letters from Egypt published, 1865 and 1875.

²Sarah Austin, *née* Taylor (1793-1867; *DNB*), mother of Lady Duff Gordon. She supported her husband financially by journalism and translations from French and German. Living in Paris 1843-48. For CD’s satirical parody of her translation of a tale by F.W.Carové, see Vol. I, p. 573*n*; it was also imitated by him in “A Child’s Dream of a Star”: see *Dickens’s Journalism*, ed. Michael Slater, Vol. 2 (1996), pp. 10-13 & 185-8.

³CD was deeply involved in establishing the *Daily News* (first issue, 21 Jan 46: see Vol. IV). Dudley Costello (1803-65; *DNB*: see Vol. I, p. 442 & *n*), author and journalist, was the newspaper’s (sole) foreign editor.

⁴The Paris agent was André Guillaume Fillonneau (Vol. IV, p. 497*n*); he had married Amelia, sister of CD’s brother-in-law Henry Austin, in 1837 (Vol. I, p. 52 & *n*). Joseph Crowe, son of a *Daily News* leaderwriter, Eyre Crowe, was sent to assist the Paris correspondent (possibly Fillonneau) in early 1846: Vol. IV, p. 444*n*; a reporter attended the Chamber of Deputies. “Large establishment” suggests more than three people, but the earlier reference to Foreign Editors in the plural suggests CD may exaggerate the size of the *Daily News* establishment.

⁵The *Daily News* had recruited editorial and reporting staff at high rates of pay: 8 guineas a week was offered a reporter and 3 guineas for reporting the Court of Common Pleas (Vol. IV, pp. 432, 454). Lady Blessington, for London fashionable news and gossip, accepted £500 a year (Vol. IV, p. 475*n*).

⁶Unidentified.

⁷CD’s slip for the “Godmother” of all standard versions.

⁸The Duff Gordons lived at 8 Queen Square (now incorporated into Queen Anne's Gate), Westminster. The park is St James's, with its elongated lake.

⁹At the Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk.

¹⁰Both landau and barouche were smart carriages, to be driven covered or open; the landau opened entirely by folding back and forward, the barouche by folding back the rear half-head.

¹¹Untraced, if she contributed.

VI, 15.18.

To AUGUSTUS DICKENS, 25 JANUARY 1850

Note 2 for 1827-1886 read 1827-1866

VI, 191.16.

To FREDERICK DICKENS,¹ 10 OCTOBER 1850

MS Private.

Broadstairs | Thursday Night Tenth October 1850.

My Dear Frederick.

You must not suppose that the item you extract from my sum of objection, though a great one, is the total.² Many other objections of the strongest kind to the recurrence of such a responsibility would remain, if that were disposed of. []^a I will not say that I have not the confidence I could desire, in you, as to money matters. It is enough for me to say, that I know enough of the world to have a horror of the very name—security. If I were security for you, and you were false to me, you never could pay me back the value of that broken trust, and never could set up my confidence again.

I wish to ask this. If I am ready to be security for you to a Life office, on the Insurance of both our lives—to which, distinctly understand I do not commit or pledge myself in any way—could not the money be borrowed as a loan, to be repaid (principal and interest) at £50 a year.³ I believe that it could, and that instead of loading yourself with irons for life, you could wear them for an ascertained number of years, with the hope of throwing them off, while you []^a had yet a term of active life before you.

Affectionately | CD

¹Frederick William Dickens ("Fred"; 1820-68), John Dickens's second son and fourth child. CD was concerned with his education and secured him employment, principally a post in the Treasury, 1839. On good terms with CD and Catherine during their engagement and earlier married life; useful in various of CD's affairs (e.g. the Knebworth theatricals, 1850-51). Problems arose over his marriage to

Anne Weller (1848) and his increasing debts: see Vol. I, p. 47*n*, and later vols.

²Fred had proposed that CD stand security for a loan to cover debts of about £600 (Vol. VI, pp. 180*n*, 198). CD refused to be security, stressing particularly (presumably the “item” Fred referred to) his unease at the thought “of bequeathing such an obligation” to any of his (CD’s) children who might outlive him (*To Fred*, 26 Sep, Vol. VI, p. 180).

⁴Illegible word deleted.

³On 25 Oct, CD wrote to W. B. Hodge, secretary and actuary of the General Reversionary and Investment Co., introducing Fred and asking whether the Company did such loans or, failing that, whether Hodge could advise Fred on such business (Vol. VI, pp. 197-8). The matter had not been settled by 28 Nov (*To Frederick Dickens*, p. 220), while Fred confirmed CD’s doubts by ordering goods beyond the value CD had guaranteed (*To Widger*, 3 Jan 51, p. 255-6).

VI, 214.1. Replaces extract

To DR JOHN ELLIOTSON,¹ 23 NOVEMBER 1850

MS University of Rhode Island Special Collections.

Devonshire Terrace. | Saturday Evening
November Twenty Third 1850.

My Dear Elliotson.

Will you do me the new kindness to see what is the matter with the Bearer of this note, Mr. Wilson,² Perruquier to all the chief Theatres in London, of whom I have had much knowledge in our Amateur Plays, and who is a very worthy and zealous man—not gaining much, by great exertion—quite an artist in his way—most attentive, punctual, steady, and reliable in all things. He is certainly in want of sound medical advice, and I can recommend him (but that’s little to say) to none so sound and kind as yours.³

Ever My Dear Elliotson | Faithfully Yours

Dr. Elliotson

CHARLES DICKENS

¹John Elliotson, MD (1791-1868; *DNB*), distinguished physician and mesmerist: see Vols I, p. 461*n* & VI, p. 214*n*.

²William Wilson, theatrical hairdresser and wig-maker, 277 Strand; see Vol. IV, p. 394*n*.

³Wilson was well enough in Dec 50 to be engaged for the Rockingham theatricals, Jan 51 (*To Mrs Watson*, 14 Dec 50, Vol. VI, p. 34).

VI, 473.4.

To MRS MORSON,¹ [30] AUGUST 1851

Envelope only, from facsimile on eBay, February 2008. *Address*: Mrs. Morson | Urania Cottage | Near The White Horse | Shepherds Bush | London. *Date*: postmarked on verso 30 Aug and 1 Sep 51. Black border.

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

VI, 548.17.

To MRS GASKELL, [4] DECEMBER 1851

Page 549, line 4 *after* gone from me *add note* ^{2a}

After footnote ² *insert* ^{2a} Echoing 1 Samuel 4:21: "she named the child Ichabod, saying, The glory is departed from Israel"; the phrase had become proverbial.

VI, 588.5.

To THOMAS CONNOLLY, 3 FEBRUARY 1852

Note 3, line 2 *for* Royal Engineers *read* Royal Sappers and Miners

VI, 637.1.

To E. R. CUTLER, 7 APRIL 1852

Line 2 *for* MS Private *read* MS Robert D. Farber University Archives & Special Collections Department, Brandeis University.

VI, 651.11.

To A. H. LAYARD,¹ 24 APRIL 1852

MS Private.

Tavistock House
Twenty Fourth April 1852

My Dear Layard

Can you give Mrs. Dickens and me, the pleasure of your company at dinner, next Friday at a quarter to Seven.

Faithfully Yours always

Dr.² Layard.

CHARLES DICKENS

¹Austen Henry Layard (1817-94; *DNB*), excavator of Nineveh and Liberal politician: see Vol. VI, p. 555*n.*

²Presumably CD's slip for "Mr." In MS, the opening greeting's correction of "Layard" suggests haste.

VII, 400.1.

To HENRY AUSTIN, 20 AUGUST 1854

Page 401, note 6, line 7, *for* Wills, 10 Sep *read* Wills, 19 Sep

VII, 522.13.

To JOHN LILWALL,¹ 3 FEBRUARY 1855

Extract (3rd person) in Christie's catalogue, November 2001; *MS* 1 p.; addressed Mr. Lilwall; dated Tavistock House, 3 February 1855.

Regretting that he cannot have the pleasure of complying with the request of the Early Closing Association,² as all the public engagements of that nature he had leisure to make during the present year, are already made.

¹John Lilwall (?1818-92), founder, 1842, and Honorary Secretary of the Early Closing Association; author of *The Half-Holiday Question Considered, with Some Thoughts on the Instructive and Healthful Recreations of the Industrial Classes*, 1856.

²The Early Closing Association, based at 35 Ludgate Hill, London, aimed to reduce "within reasonable limits" the hours of employment in industrial life, which included offices, banks and the wholesale trade, besides manufactures. In freeing evening hours for recreation and self-instruction, the Association stressed educational and moral development. See Supplement IV, *D*, 100 (Winter 2004), 232*n*.

VII, 591.29. Replaces catalogue extract

To T. W. J. CONNOLLY,¹ 14 APRIL 1855²

MS Hamburger Theatersammlung.

Tavistock House | Saturday Fourteenth April 1855

Sir

I have received your book³ with very great pleasure. The fact of your being its author is most honorable to yourself, and scarcely less so to the service to which you belong. I feel, as your fellow countryman, a personal pride in such a work.

Without retaining it longer than one evening, I have sent it (for the present), to a gentleman associated with Household Words; and I have told him he will gratify me⁴ very much if he will go a little out of his way to write an early account of it.⁵ I need not say that I leave his judgment perfectly free; but I have sent him at the same time your letter and its enclosure,⁶ and I am sure he will feel as cordial an interest in the Volumes⁷ as I do myself.

I am | Faithfully Yours

CHARLES DICKENS

¹Thomas William John Connolly, Quartermaster Sergeant of the Royal Sappers and Miners; *To* Wills, 4 May 55 (below) confirms the identity. CD and Connolly had been in contact in Feb 52 (Vol. VI, p. 588).

²The editors discovered a forgery of this letter, clearly by the “South Coast Forger”: see Vol. VII, Preface, p. xv.

³*The History of the Corps of Royal Sappers and Miners*, 2 vols, 1855.

⁴Word added above caret.

⁵Henry Morley’s lead article, “Mechanics in Uniform”, *HW*, 2 June 55, XI, 409, gave an enthusiastic account of Connolly’s book and its subject.

⁶Presumably letter or enclosure included reference to Sir John Fox Burgoyne (1782-1872; *DNB*), of the Royal Engineers (in the Crimea, 1853-5; Field-Marshal, 1868), and his recommendation of Connolly’s book for study by Royal Engineers officers (*HW*, XI, 410).

⁷Connolly’s *History* was in two volumes.

VII, 606.14.

To SIR JOSEPH OLLIFFE,¹ [3] MAY 1855

Envelope only from facsimile in online George Houle Books & Autographs catalogue, May 2005. *Address*: Sir Joseph Olliffe | 2 Rue St Florentin | Paris. PM 3 May 1855 and Paris [?] Mai [?].²

¹Joseph Francis Olliffe (1808-69; *DNB*), physician; see Vol. V, p. 606*n*.

²To Lady Olliffe, 3 May (Vol. VII, p. 606), may have been enclosed with the letter to Sir Joseph, though no mention is made to Lady Olliffe of it being so sent.

VII, 609.14. Replaces catalogue extract

To W. H. WILLS, 4 MAY 1855

MS The Free Library of Philadelphia.

Tavistock House | Fourth May 1855

My Dear Wills

I omitted two points yesterday.

First, will you remind Morley at any odd time, of the History of the Sappers and Miners by the Quartermaster Sergeant.¹

Secondly, will you specially ask him if he will try to do any little fanciful thing in reference to the accompanying book of Leigh Hunt’s,² that may do it a service? I am anxious about this, for reasons.³

As it is a sort of Railway book, he might perhaps, under some such title as an extraordinary Railway Ride, describe the chief things in it as circling about him during a Railway journey and changing an ugly ride (say, along the fenny Eastern Counties for instance) into something sunny and beautiful.⁴

Don’t lose time about this, for I believe Hunt’s race on this side of the Moon to be nearly ended.⁵

Faithfully alwys | CD.⁶

¹See *To Connolly*, 14 Apr 55 (above).

²James Henry Leigh Hunt (1784-1859; *DNB*), essayist, critic and poet: see Vol. I, p. 341*n* and later vols. The original of Skimpole in *Bleak House*: see Vols VI, pp. 623 & *n*, 628 & *n*, VII, p. 460 & *nn*. *Stories in Verse*, a gathering of verse tales, was published 30 Apr.

³CD may have wanted to make some reparation for his portrayal of Hunt as Skimpole.

⁴Henry Morley's "By Rail to Parnassus", *HW*, 16 June 55, XI, 477, takes the form of an account by a poor clerk of the diversion Hunt's book provides on a train from Waterloo to Southampton (it was issued by Routledge in their Railway Library).

⁵I.e. "his earthly life is nearly over": although he survived until 1859, Hunt described himself in a letter, Feb 55, as "a bundle of clothes sitting by a fire": see Vol. VII, p. 609, *n.6*.

⁶Wills sent CD's letter to Morley with the note: "Will you attend to the enclosed".

VII, 644.6. Replaces catalogue summary

To CHARLES FROST,¹ 8 JUNE 1855

MS Niedersächsische Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Göttingen.

Tavistock House | Friday Eighth June 1855.

Dear Sir,

I do not make the appointment you request, simply because I am unwilling to give you the trouble of coming here to no purpose. I assure you that I have not the slightest prospect of being able to visit Hull, during the next two years. All the engagements I could possibly make, to read for any Literary Societies, I made for next Christmas, six months ago. I am now on the verge of a new book,² and am quite unable to contemplate any additional occupation.³

Dear Sir | Faithfully Yours

Charles Frost Esquire

CHARLES DICKENS

¹Charles Frost (?1781-1862; *DNB*), of Kingston-upon-Hull, solicitor to the Hull Dock Co. and antiquary; ten times president of the Hull Literary and Philosophical Society between 1830 and 1855.

²CD had been planning and working on *Little Dorrit* since early 1855: see *To Miss Coutts*, 6 Feb, and *To Collins*, 4 Mar (Vol. VII, pp. 525, 555 & *n*).

³CD gave public readings in Hull, 14 Sep, 26 & 27 Oct 58 (Vol. VIII, pp. 752-753).

VII, 653.18.

To THOMAS CHASE,¹ 21 JUNE 1855

Text from facsimile on eBay, February 2008.

Tavistock House | Thursday, Twenty First June 1855

Dear Sir

I shall be at home tomorrow (Friday) at 2 o'Clock, and happy to see you if that hour will suit your convenience.

Faithfully yours

Thomas Chase Esquire

CHARLES DICKENS

¹Unidentified.

VII, 706.5.

To MR SMYTH,¹ 19 SEPTEMBER 1855

Extract in Christie's catalogue, June 2007; *MS* (3rd person), 1 p.; addressed Mr. Smyth; dated Folkestone, 19 Sep 55.

Declining an invitation from Smyth, being engaged at present with his own pursuits—will visit Sheffield at considerable inconvenience²—and has his arrangements made for immediately returning to the avocations that now engross his attention.³

¹Unidentified.

²CD had already engaged to read the *Carol* at Sheffield on 22 Dec, an "old" promise (*To Forster*, 16 Sep, Vol. VII, p. 701).

³CD was just beginning No.III of *Little Dorrit* (Bk I, Chs 9-11).

VII, 736.17.

To MESSRS BANTING AND SONS,¹ 3 NOVEMBER 1855

MS Kotte Autographs, Germany.

Mr. Charles Dickens will be punctual in his attendance on the mournful occasion² to which the letter of Messrs. Banting and Sons refers.

¹William Banting & Sons, 9 Park Lane, Grosvenor Square and 27 St James's, Piccadilly, undertakers.

²Dr William Brown, husband of Miss Coutts's companion, Hannah (*née Meredith*), had died suddenly, 23 Oct, when at Montpellier with Miss Coutts and his wife. CD, then staying in Paris, undertook the arrangements for Dr Brown's burial at St Stephen's, Rochester Row (7 Nov), returning to London for the purpose (Vol. VII, pp. 727-35 & *nn*). CD's is a formal response to the firm after formal notification.

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THE DICKENSIAN

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Note 4 *for* 8 Feb 56 *read* 9 Feb 58

BIOGRAPHICAL TABLE

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2 Aug-13 Nov First reading tour *for* 85 readings *read* 84 readings

VIII, 8.1.

To GEORGE AUGUSTUS SALA, 4 JANUARY 1856

Note 1 George Augustus Sala *for* (1828-95; *DNB*) *read* (1828-96; *DNB*)

VII, 26.9. Replaces catalogue extract

To GEORGE HOGARTH,¹ 15 JANUARY 1856

MS R. & R. Auctions, 2006.

49 Champs Elysées, Paris
Fifteenth January 1856

My Dear Hogarth.

The Post-Delivery being late to day, I have only time to empower you, in so many words, to convey to Addison and Co.² my full permission to use the title "*Little Dorrit*" for the song³ you describe. Mary⁴ must add it to her Repertoire.⁵

You astonish me about the Boots.⁶ I suppose they'll make a Mess of it, and I thank Heaven that I am out of the way.

With loves from all. I Ever Faithfully

CHARLES DICKENS

¹George Hogarth (1783-1870; *DNB*), CD's father-in-law; lawyer, musician and

music critic; Secretary, Philharmonic Society, 1850-64: see Vol. I, p. 54*n*.

²Robert Addison & Co., piano makers, music sellers and publishers, 210 Regent St and 47 King St, Golden Square.

³Music by Gerald Stanley, words by Henry Abrahams, published (1856) by Addison, Hollier & Lucas; CD's "kind permission" for use of title is acknowledged.

⁴Mary ("Mamie") Dickens (1838-96), CD's eldest daughter.

⁵"As a child...I used to sing to my father a great deal, and in after years I used to play and sing to him constantly" (interview published in *The Young Man and the Young Woman*, Christmas No., 1895). For Mamie's solo in *The Lighthouse*, see Vol. VII, p. 920.

⁶I.e. *The Holly-Tree Inn*, *HW* Extra Christmas No., Dec 55. At least eight stage adaptations appeared between 17 Jan and 21 Feb 56 (Ruth F. Glancy, *CD's Christmas Books, Christmas Stories, and Other Short Fiction: An Annotated Bibliography*, 1985, pp. 373-4).

VIII, 80.14.

To W. H. WILLS, [31] MARCH 1856

Mention in *To Wills*, 1 Apr 56 (Vol. VIII, p. 80).

Confirming they are all right.

VIII, 86.1.

To GABRIEL LEGOUVÉ,¹ 10 APRIL 1856

Text from reproduction in R. M. Smythe, *Spring Autograph Auction*, May 2002.

Champs Elysées, | Jeudi Avril 10, 1856

Mon cher Legouvé

Je suis désolé, mais comme le diable le veut, je suis engagé.
Je le regrette extrêmement, je vous assure.

Mille amitiés | votre tout dévoué

CHARLES DICKENS

¹Gabriel Jean Baptiste Ernest Wilfrid Legouvé (1807-1903), playwright, poet and essayist: see Vol. VIII, p. 61*n*. CD admired Legouvé's *Médée*, which he saw performed by Adelaide Ristori, 8 Apr 56 (*To Legouvé*, 9 Apr, Vol. VIII, p. 85).

VIII, 99.1.

To W. H. WILLS, 27 APRIL 1856

Page 100, line 3 *for* to Sub *read* the Sub

VIII, 102.28.

To SIR JOSEPH OLLIFFE, [?21 OCTOBER 1855-27 APRIL 1856]¹

MS Private.

Champs Elysées | Sunday evening

My Dear Olliffe

I grieve to give you trouble; but my Nurse² has suddenly fallen ill in a strange way—has been vomiting a quantity of blood, without any reason that I can make out (unless it should arise from a natural derangement of the system: which seems to be upon her)—and I am induced to ask you if you can kindly come round in the Coach I send with this, and look at her.

Ever Faithfully Yours | CHARLES DICKENS

¹CD was in Paris, with intervals in England, 19 Oct 55 to 29 Apr 56; the earliest and latest dates therefore on the first and last Sundays in this period.

²Presumably the nurse of Edward (“Plorn”); otherwise unidentified. No other reference is made to her in the known correspondence of this Paris period.

VIII, 130.21.

To H. K. BROWNE,¹ 6 JUNE 1856

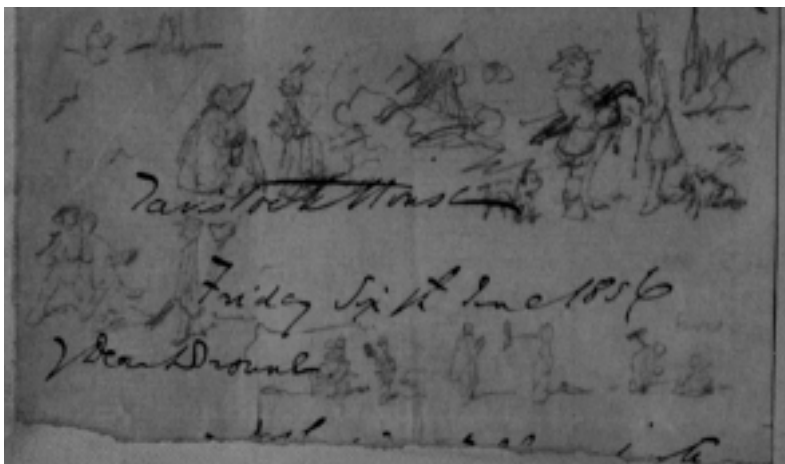
MS (fragment) Valerie Browne Lester.

Tavistock House | Friday Sixth June 1856

My Dear Browne²

¹Hablot Knight Browne, “Phiz” (1815-82; *DNB*), painter and illustrator: see Vol. I, p. 163*n*. CD’s chief illustrator from *Pickwick* to *A Tale of Two Cities*.

²The letter is torn off just below the greeting, leaving the tops only of the first line of the letter. Browne has made a series of sketches above and around what remains of the letter: reproduced in Valerie Browne Lester, *Phiz: The Man Who Drew Dickens*, 2004, p. 128. Presumably Browne tore off CD’s instructions for illustrations; CD was working on the July No. of *Little Dorrit* (Bk I, Chs 26-9), in which the illustrations were “Five and Twenty” and “Floating Away”. Browne’s sketches on the letter fragment bear no relationship to any *Dorrit* illustrations. The central sketch (not unlike a windmill) may be a preliminary thought for the monthly cover of Charles Lever’s *Davenport Dunn* (serialized from July 1857), where a large man steps forward over the horizon, from a panorama of London, lit behind by a giant oil-lamp sending out rays of light. The couple at the left margin might possibly relate to an illustration in the December 1857 issue, “Conway on escort duty”, where a man helps a young woman of superior class along a shore at night, with the wind blowing.



Dickens's letter to H. K. Browne, 6 June 1856, showing some sketches by Browne. Reproduced by courtesy of Valerie Browne Lester.

VIII, 152.1.

To WALTER SAVAGE LANDOR, 5 JULY 1856

Line 24 *after* Little Nelly *add*^{6a}

Line 25 *after* their mother *add*^{6b}

after pretty sister *add*^{6c}

after footnote 6 *insert*^{6a} Ellen (Nelly) Power, sister of Marguerite Power.

^{6b} Agnes M. Power, *née* Brooke (*b.c.*1801), married

Col. Robert Power, agent of the Blessington estates in Co.Tyrone.

^{6c} Unidentified.

VIII, 178.21. Replaces envelope only (VIII, 179.20)

To SIR JOSEPH OLLIFFE, 24 AUGUST 1856

Line 22. *Replace with* MS James McGrath Morris. *Address* (envelope only, MS Benoliel Collection): Sir Joseph Olliffe | Trouville | Calvados.

PM 25 Aout, year illegible but no doubt 1856: see *To* Mrs CD, 25 Aug.

Line 24. *Add new letter*

Boulogne, Sunday Twenty Fourth August, 1856

My Dear Olliffe

I write very hastily, not to lose a Post.

—To thank you, most heartily and earnestly, for your kind letter.¹ I have taken the most efficient means of shewing you the value I set on your opinion and advice, by sending *all the boys* home to London this very day.² I would have sent them yesterday, but that the Steamer was gone, before your letter came. We ourselves may perhaps remain (unless we should

have reason to suppose that things grow worse), until the middle of September.³ But we are ready to start at any time. I have no doubt of our being in the healthiest situation here, and in the purest house. Still, if you were to order us off—we should obey.

We have had a general knowledge of there being such a Malady abroad among children, and two of our childrens'⁴ little acquaintances have even died of it.⁵ But it is extraordinarily difficult (as you know) to discover the truth in such a place;⁶ and the townspeople are naturally particularly afraid of *my* knowing it, as having so many means of making it better known.⁷ I had no idea of anything so terrible as poor Dr. Crampton's experience.⁸ We are greatly concerned for him, and deeply sympathize with him.

I hope you saw my article in Household Words on the demeanour of your friend the late Mr. Palmer.⁹ I suppose it expressed what numbers of people had felt without working out to their satisfaction, for the run upon it was extraordinary.

Pray give my love to Lady Olliffe, and to all the house; in which all my house (of course not including Georgina)¹⁰ cordially join. And with many thanks, Believe me always my Dear Olliffe

Heartily Yours | CHARLES DICKENS

¹ Olliffe wrote to alert CD to an epidemic of diphtheria ("malignant sore throat" or "Boulogne sore throat") in Boulogne. The worst was in fact over and no one in the Haute Ville had been infected (Vol. VIII, p. 178 & *n*), but CD was particularly concerned since his family was in Boulogne and three of his sons (Frank, Alfred and Sydney) were due to begin a new school year there.

² Six boys were in Boulogne (Walter, Frank, Alfred, Henry, Sydney and Edward); they left with Mrs CD. Katy and Mamie left 26 or 27 Aug.

³ CD had originally thought of leaving Boulogne in early Oct. In the event, he left on 3 Sep, Georgina and the servants on 4 Sep.

⁴ Thus in MS.

⁵ Not certainly identified; one was presumably Walter A'Beckett, aged nine, son of Gilbert: see Vol. VIII, pp. 179 & *n*, 181 & *n*.

⁶ Hotels and lodgings keepers were keen to suppress anything that might deter English visitors. The *Maîtres d'Hôtel* denied the presence of diphtheria (Vol. VIII, p. 181*n*).

⁷ CD had described Boulogne favourably in "Our French Watering Place", *HW*, 4 Nov 54, X, 265; he might therefore write unfavourably there as well. CD might also think of his access to the world of British journalism, not least *Punch*, *The Times*, and the *Examiner*.

⁸ Unidentified.

⁹ "The Demeanour of Murderers", *HW*, 14 June 56, XIII, 505, on Dr William Palmer (medical practitioner, hence, jokingly, Olliffe's "friend"), the "Rugeley poisoner", convicted of murder, 27 May. Palmer had been described as self-possessed and composed during his trial: CD objected to the suggestion in newspaper reports that there was something admirable in this behaviour (*HW*, XIII, 505; see also *To* Coutts, 1 June 56, Vol. VIII, p. 128).

¹⁰ Clearly a joke.