

The Letters of Charles Dickens: Supplement III

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 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

I.228.1. Replaces composite text.

To T. [J.] CULLIFORD,¹ [24 JANUARY 1837]

MS Private. *Date*: endorsed 24 Jan 37.

Furnival's Inn | Tuesday Afternoon

My Dear Uncle

I regret to say that I cannot leave home this evening. Catherine is not so well as she was;² and we have a consultation here, at six o'clock.

I was seized last night with a violent pain in my head (fortunately, just as I had concluded my month's work) and was immediately ordered as much medicine as would confine an ordinary-sized horse to his stall for a week. Whether it arises from the "Influentials",³ or from close application, or from worry, or from the wind cholic, to quote King Arthur,⁴ I know not. But this I know – that sorely against my will and much to my disappointment, here I am, in a gloomy and miserable state, and here I must remain.

Believe me | Affectionately yours,

T. C.⁵ Culliford Esqre

CHARLES DICKENS

¹Presumably Thomas John Culliford (1781-1852), CD's maternal uncle; son of Thomas Culliford, musical instrument maker; partner in Dewar & Culliford, insurance brokers.

²Charley had been born on 6 Jan.

³I.e. influenza.

⁴In Fielding's *The Great Tragedy of Tragedies; or, The Life and Death of Tom Thumb the Great*, I, iii.

⁵Thus in MS.

To JAMES HEYWOOD,¹ 17 OCTOBER 1845

MS Private.

London, 1 Devonshire Terrace
York Gate Regent's Park
Seventeenth October 1845

My Dear Sir

I am exceedingly obliged to you for your kind invitation. It would be a great pleasure to me to accept it; but my movements are so exceedingly uncertain, my arrival in Manchester² so dependant on circumstances, and the period of my stay so very short, that I deem it best to hold myself aloof from all engagements there. I have many occupations at this moment of a very pressing nature; and Mrs Dickens being unwell besides, and very near her confinement,³ I am really afraid to make engagements.

I am always, My Dear Sir, Very Faithfully yours
James Heywood Esquire. CHARLES DICKENS

¹James Heywood (1810-97; see Vol. IV, p. 404*n*), one of the founders of the Manchester Athenaeum and its first President.

²CD had agreed to attend the Manchester Athenaeum's soirée on 23 Oct, to support Talfourd, the evening's President. Heywood evidently asked CD to do something else than just attend: see also *To Leech*, 17 Oct, and, for the soirée, Vol. IV, p. 413*nn*.

³Catherine gave birth to Alfred D'Orsay Tennyson Dickens on 28 Oct. CD had already made clear her pregnancy meant his visit to Manchester must be brief: five days later, he withdrew altogether (*To Berlyn*, 22 Oct).

To ALEXANDER INGRAM, 3 FEBRUARY 1848

Add: Address (MS University Archives website, Feb 2003): Alexander Ingram Esquire | Greenlaw | Paisley. PM Feb 1848.

n. 3 replace with Alexander Ingram was a reporter for the *Renfrewshire Advertiser*, 1848-9, which was absorbed by the *Glasgow Constitutional* in 1850.

To GEORGE SCOTT,¹ 20 JUNE 1848

Extract in American Art Association, New York, catalogue of Collection of William F. Gable of Altoona, Part 1, 5-6 Nov 1923. *Date*: 1 Devonshire Terrace, Regents Park.

I once thought of Italy this year, but I shall not come there now.² Well! Maybe next year will be more propitious. In the meantime, the Italians and Austrians³ don't seem to be quite such good friends as you thought them on the first of last month.⁴

There is great talk now and then of the Chartists⁵ here, but I believe three-fourths of it to be got up by the Government for their own easy

purposes. Boys get on lamp-posts and say “Hooroar for the Marsellays”⁶ and 800 Life Guards⁷ immediately bivouac in the Millbank Penitentiary,⁸ and all the world says that if it hadn’t been for them and the Duke of Wellington,⁹ the country would have gone to pieces.¹⁰

¹George Scott, artist, resident in Rome: see Vol. IV, pp. 293-4 and *nm*.

²CD did not visit Italy again until Oct 53: he had thought as early as March 47 of a visit, but in 1848 Maclise’s indecision and political upheavals decided him against it (see Vol. V, pp. 42, 254).

³In March, Milan had expelled the Austrians and proclaimed the provisional government of Lombardy. Piedmont (the Kingdom of Sardinia) had then, unprovoked, invaded Austrian territory in support of Milan. The Piedmontese defeated the Austrians at Goito (30 May) and *The Times* in June reported their advances; in July, however, the Piedmontese suffered a crushing defeat at Custoza.

⁴There had been indications, to which Scott presumably referred, that Austria, distracted by widespread internal upheavals, might treat with the Milanese and recognise an autonomous Lombard republic. The continued military activity of Piedmont in May and June made a negotiated settlement unlikely. After the battle of Custoza, Piedmont sued for peace and Austria reoccupied Lombardy.

⁵After the fiasco of the National Chartist Convention, 10 Apr (see *To Tracey*, 8 Apr 48: Vol. V, p. 273*nm*) and the arrest of Ernest Jones and others on charges of sedition, the “physical force” Chartists and Young Ireland supporters, who demanded repeal of the Act of Union, made common cause. Prompted by the guilty verdict on John Mitchel (1815-75; *DNB*), proprietor of the *United Irishman*, meetings and marches were held in London, beginning 29 May (*The Times*, 30, 31 May). Government and police action meant the failure of a demonstration called for Whit Monday, 12 June: at Bishop Bonner’s Fields, near Victoria Park, Bethnal Green, not more than 200, apart from police and spectators, turned up, and at other sites, few or no demonstrators appeared (*The Times*, 13 June).

⁶*The Times* noted the “rabble auditory”, who “true to the real principles which had brought them together”, threw stones and broke windows and the “small knots of lads...ready to assist in any demonstration” (31 May, 13 June). The revolution in France and the flight of Louis Philippe in February had given new force to the *Marseillaise* as a revolutionary watchword. In April, the Chartist Convention, imitating the newly created French National Assembly, had dissolved itself to become the English “National Assembly”: at a meeting to elect delegates for Westminster and Marylebone, one candidate’s seconder was “a man with the tricolor” (*The Times*, 15 May, 22 April).

⁷With the Royal Horse Guards, the Life Guards form the household cavalry, based in London. On 31 May a body of Life Guards “flitted like spectres across the scene” during an evening demonstration at Clerkenwell Green (*The Times*, 1 June), while on 12 June, when the great demonstration had been called, troops, including the Life Guards and Royal Horse Guards, were posted at Bethnal Green, Clerkenwell, and Croydon (*The Times*, 13 June).

⁸Spelt “Penitentiary” in source. The Millbank Penitentiary, built 1812-21 on the north bank of the Thames; demolished 1890: the Tate Gallery now occupies the site.

⁹In the House of Lords, Wellington (who was in opposition) urged that either the meetings be forbidden or the organisers be subject to seizure of property for damage done (*The Times*, 3 June). The government’s action to ban the “forceful demonstration” of 12 June by placards posted up on the Saturday (*The Times*, 12 June) may have been credited by some to Wellington’s demands.

¹⁰*The Times*, commenting upon the disturbances, essentially treats them lightly, mocking at the leaders and their lack of purpose: the demonstration of 12 June had ended “not in smoke, but in rain....Let them agitate for the Charter if they please, but not make it the stalking-horse of an impotent and ridiculous rebellion” (13 June).

V.497.

To SAMUEL ROGERS, 18 FEBRUARY 1849

Note 3 *delete first sentence after “on 7 May – ” and substitute* and met her again at dinner at CD’s on 12 May (see *To Talfourd*, 14 May 49, revised note 3 below).

V.498.

Note 1 *substitute* There are relatively few references to Rogers at this period, but on 26 May 49 Mrs Carlyle reported to Forster Rogers's description of a dinner party on 12 May at CD's, which "he did not like at all; 'every body talked so much and so loud that one could not hear a word said.' that is *he* had not the talk all to himself – in other words *Mr Carlyle was there* – the greatest affliction that can befall Rogers at a dinner party" (*Collected Letters of Thomas and Jane Welsh Carlyle*, ed. Clyde de L. Ryals and Kenneth J. Fielding, 1995, vol. 24, p. 57).

V.539.

To T. N. TALFOURD, 14 MAY 1849

Note 3 *substitute* Mrs Gaskell had been to a dinner-party at CD's on Sat 12 May – possibly their first meeting. Mrs Carlyle, who had not dined at Devonshire Terrace before, described it as "'A great Fact!' – Forster might have called it" (*to Jennie Welsh*, 17 May; *Collected Letters of Thomas and Jane Welsh Carlyle*, ed. Clyde de L. Ryals and Kenneth J. Fielding, 1995, vol. 24, p. 50). But she was critical of its extravagance: "Such getting up of the steam is unbecoming to a literary man who *ought* to have his basis elsewhere than on what the old annandale woman called 'Ornament and Grandeur' – The dinner was served up in the new fashion – not placed on the table at all – but handed round [i.e. a dinner *à la Russe*] – only the desert on the table and quantities of *artificial* flowers. but such an overloaded desert! pyramids of figs rasins oranges – ach! – At the Ashburton dinner served on that principle there were just *four cowslips* in china-pots – four silver shells containing sweets, and a silver filigree temple in the middle! but here the very candles rose each out of an artificial rose! Good God! – *Mrs Gaskell* the Authoress of *Mary Barton* was there – I had already seen her at my own house a natural unassuming woman, whom they have been doing their best to spoil by making a *lioness* of her" (*ibid.*, pp. 50-1). Another guest was Samuel Rogers, "who", wrote Mrs Carlyle, "ought to have been buried long ago, so old and illnated he is grown" (*ibid.*, p. 51: the misdating of Mrs Carlyle's letter – she dates it "Holy Thursday", i.e. Ascension Thursday, 17 May 49, not Maundy Thursday, 5 Apr – is responsible for the mistake of supposing there was an earlier dinner on 31 Mar where Mrs Gaskell met CD). For Mrs Gaskell's response to this 12 May dinner, see *To H. K. Browne*, 4 May, n. 1. Crabb Robinson, who had met Mrs Gaskell on 22 Apr at breakfast with Edward Chapman, noted in his diary that she was "a woman of agreeable manners with a hale florid complexion with nothing literary about her appearance – She pleased me" (MS Dr Williams's Library).

VI.256.12.

To CHARLES KENT,¹ [4 JANUARY 1851]

Envelope only in Jarndyce Dickens catalogue CXLV. *Address*: Charles Kent Esquire
| Sun Office | Strand. PM 4 Ja 51.

¹William Charles Mark Kent (always known as Charles) (1823-1902; *DNB*), poet and journalist: see Vol. V, p. 280 and *n*: Editor of the *Sun* since 1845.

VI.264.14.

To JOHN M'KINNELL,¹ 18 JANUARY 1851

Text from Report of the Speeches of the Glasgow Athenaeum Soirée, 28 Jan 1851.

London, 1 Devonshire Terrace
18th January, 1851.

Dear Sir,

I should have answered your note sooner had I not been visiting in the country.²

I am very sensible of the honour the Directors of the Glasgow Athenaeum³ do me in inviting me to repeat a visit⁴ of which I entertain the pleasantest remembrances. But, I regret to add that engagements render it quite out of my power to support the distinguished president on the occasion of the second triennial soiree.⁵

I beg to present my tribute of respect to his Grace,⁶ and to the directors and members, and remain, dear Sir, Faithfully yours,

J. M'Kinnell, Esq.

CHARLES DICKENS

¹ John M'Kinnell, from Dumfries, appointed Secretary of the Glasgow Athenaeum, 3 May 49; resigned 1859.

² CD returned to London on 16 Jan from Rockingham Castle, where he had been since 7 Jan.

³ Founded 1847.

⁴ CD had presided at the first soiree of the Glasgow Athenaeum on 28 Dec 47: see Vol. V, p. 216*n* and *Speeches of CD*, ed. K. J. Fielding, pp. 85-92.

⁵ After the success of the first grand soiree, it was intended to arrange one triennially (James Lauder, *The Glasgow Athenaeum, A Sketch of Fifty Years' Work (1847-97)*, 1897, p. 38): the next, after 1851, was in Dec 55.

⁶ George Douglas Campbell, Duke of Argyll (1823-1900; *DNB*). Succeeded to the dukedom in 1847. He presided at the second soiree, 28 Jan 51.

VII.212.25.

To MISS BURDETT COUTTS, 27 NOVEMBER 1853

After Barrett. *add Address* (Jarndyce Dickens catalogue CXLV): Miss Burdett Coutts | Hôtel Bristol | Paris. PMs Venezia 27/11/53; Paris 2 Dec 53.

VII.659.9.

To SIR JOSEPH PAXTON,¹ 26 JUNE 1855

MS Arthur Fulljames.

Tavistock House
Tuesday Twenty Sixth June 1855

My Dear Paxton

I am much obliged to you for your letter, received on Sunday afternoon. Upon its receipt I read that part of Friday night's debate² (which I had not previously seen), and I also wrote to decline attending on Wednesday.³ But on a pledge from Mr. Morley⁴ that any continuance of a mis-statement of any kind, on the part of the association, should be strongly disavowed at the commencement of the proceedings⁵ and further that he would state what had passed between us on the subject – I did not consider myself free to cancel my original promise, and I am therefore going.⁶

Faithfully Yours always

Sir Joseph Paxton

CHARLES DICKENS

¹ Sir Joseph Paxton (1801-65; *DNB*), gardener, architect and intimate friend of the 6th Duke

of Devonshire: see Vol. VI, p. 411*n*. A notable example of efficiency, both in his work at Chatsworth and on the Crystal Palace, he had been advertised (*The Times*, 22 June) as a speaker at the Administrative Reform Association's meeting on 27 June: he did not attend.

⁷On 22 June W. S. Lindsay (1816-77; *DNB*: see Vol. VII, p. 610*n*), a prominent member of the Association, defended himself against charges of business inefficiency and took the opportunity to repeat in the House of Commons details of official inefficiency and waste. He was devastatingly answered by Sir Charles Wood (*The Times*, 23 June; see further Vol. VII, pp. 661-2 and *mn*). Wood's refutation and its details that called in question Lindsay's accuracy were clearly the ground of Paxton's concern and, presumably, of his withdrawal from the meeting of 27 June.

⁸The meeting of the Administrative Reform Association at Drury Lane Theatre, 27 June: for the Association, see Vol. VII, pp. 511*n*, 611*n*. CD had subscribed to the Association: Vol. VII, pp. 610-11.

⁹Samuel Morley (1809-86; *DNB*), Chairman of the Administrative Reform Association: see Vol. VII, p. 646*n*.

¹⁰Morley in his opening remarks at Drury Lane (27 June) referred to the manner in which "statements made at the last meeting" had been controverted by Wood and that Lindsay would "set himself right" in the House of Commons. Morley had no doubt Lindsay would demonstrate his accuracy, "for members of the association were extremely jealous as to the accuracy of the statements made in support of the object they desired to advance" (*The Times*, 28 June). In *The Times* report Morley makes no reference to any agreement between himself and CD.

¹¹Morley had announced at the Association's meeting on 13 June that CD had "promised to speak at the next meeting" (*Daily News*, 14 June; see Vol. VII, p. 646*n*) and he had been so advertised in *The Times* (22 June). For the meeting and CD's speech see *The Times*, 28 June; *Speeches of CD*, ed. K. J. Fielding, pp. 197-208; and Vol. VII, pp. 656*n*, 658*n*.

VII.718.15.

To J. PALGRAVE SIMPSON,¹ 8 OCTOBER 1855

Summary in Jarndyce Dickens catalogue CXLV; dated Tavistock House, Monday 8 Oct 55;² addressed J. Palgrave Simpson.

Dickens has received two letters from Simpson, does not feel sanguine about his enterprise,³ and is not disposed to join it. Dickens cannot speak for Miss Burdett Coutts as she is in the South of France⁴ but feels that she would not wish to become a shareholder. He hopes that the success of the project will disprove his misgivings.

¹John Palgrave Simpson (1807-87; *DNB*), novelist and dramatist: see Vol. VIII, p. 575*n*. His adaptations of *Bleak House* and *A Tale of Two Cities* produced after CD's death.

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

³Not traced.

⁴Miss Coutts, travelling with Dr and Mrs Brown, was returning from the Pyrenees by way of Montpellier.

To WILLIAM KELLY,¹ 3 OCTOBER 1858

Text from facsimile in Jarndyce Dickens catalogue CXLV.

Royal Hotel, Aberdeen²
Sunday Night | Third October 1858.

Dear Sir

I have received your very welcome note,³ and I beg very cordially to thank you. But unfortunately I have not received the newspaper to which your note refers. Could you have the kindness to send me a copy of the Sonnet⁴ I am naturally anxious to read – either to Glasgow (care of Mr Muir Wood,⁵ Buchanan Street), between this and Saturday; or to my house (Tavistock House) in London, afterwards?

Yours faithfully and obliged

William Kelly Esquire

CHARLES DICKENS

¹Possibly Thomas W. Kelly, London schoolmaster; contributed “Animal Mechanics” to *HW* (10 July 52); author of *Rosemary Leaves*, 1854, and other collections of verse: see Vol. X, p. 363.

²On Monday morning, in John Marr’s Music Saloon, CD read the *Carol* and in the afternoon he read *Little Dombey*: for his Autumn 1858 Reading tour see Vol. VIII, *passim* and Appx H.

³No doubt forwarded from the office by Wills.

⁴Not traced.

⁵John Muir Wood, of J. M. Wood & Co., pianoforte and music sellers, 42 Buchanan Street, Glasgow; CD’s agents for his readings in Glasgow.

To PETER ROYLE,¹ [7 MAY 1863]

Envelope only in Jarndyce Dickens catalogue CXLV. *Address*: Peter Royle | 27 Lever Street | Piccadilly | Manchester. PM London WC My 7 63.

¹Peter Royle, surgeon and physician, 27 Lever St, Piccadilly, Manchester.

To PETER ROYLE, 11 MAY 1863

Extract and summary in Jarndyce Dickens catalogue CXLV; dated Gad’s Hill Place, 11 May 63; addressed Peter Royle Esquire.

Having paid Doctor Whitehead¹ I had no intention of imposing a loss upon you *sends him a cheque*. I have suffered so severely from paying the debts of others.²

¹Either James Whitehead, physician, 87 Mosley St, Manchester, or Richard Trafford Whitehead, surgeon, 46 Ardwick Green, Manchester: the former more likely, since the courtesy title “Dr” was given to physicians. No payment to Whitehead discovered.

²The circumstances of CD’s payment to Royle not traced, but are most likely to be in connection with a family member. CD’s accounts show a payment on 14 May 63 of £8.2.6 (MS Coutts).

To EDWARD EASTWICK,¹ 13 OCTOBER 1865

MS Joseph Rubinfine Autographs. Address: Edward Eastwick Esquire | 38
Thurlow Square | S.W. PM. OC 13 65.

OFFICE OF ALL THE YEAR ROUND,
Friday Thirteenth October 1865

My Dear Mr. Eastwick

As we have now two serial stories² publishing in these pages together, I wish to give each of your papers a separate name, so that each may seem, for the time being, complete.³ Will you let me know what title you would prefer for your first chapter,⁴ and will you let me have some more Manuscript to send to the Printer?

It is unnecessary to remark, perhaps, that when you collect your papers, you can either use these separate headings as titles of chapters, or abolish them altogether.⁵

Faithfully Yours always

Edward Eastwick Esquire

CHARLES DICKENS

The Printer will send you a Revise⁶ of the first paper, and you can then append a title to the Proof.

¹Edward Backhouse Eastwick (1814-83; *DNB*), orientalist and diplomat: see Vol. XI, p. 5nn.

²*At the Bar* by Charles Collins and *Half a Million of Money* by Amelia B. Edwards.

³CD later noted that the public have a tendency, "having more than two serial stories to bear in mind at one time, to jumble them all together, and do justice to none of them" (Vol. XII, p. 443). Eastwick's papers on Venezuela, where he had been Commissioner for arranging Venezuela loans 1864 and 1867, appeared in *AYR*, 4 Nov 65 – 28 Apr 66, XIV, 343 – XV, 366. There is no reference to the individual papers being part of a series. The *AYR* volume indexes, though, give not only the specific titles, but also a general title, "Venezuela", as well as alternative titles: e.g. "Erminia", *AYR*, 28 Apr 66, XV, 366, is indexed also under "Venezuela" and "Valencia, The Beauties of".

⁴"To Venezuela: Sailing on a Friday", *AYR*, 4 Nov 65, XIV, 343.

⁵Eastwick's *Venezuela: or, Sketches of Life in a South American Republic; with a History of the Loan of 1864* (1868), retains the *AYR* headings with minor variations and additions.

⁶A proof taken after corrections in the *AYR* office of the preliminary proof.

To THOMAS ADOLPHUS TROLLOPE, 17 FEBRUARY 1866

Note 8 *add* The specific reference is to the tale of Aladdin: the wicked magician's evil brother, seeking to destroy Aladdin and his bride, declares their palace lacks one thing only to be the wonder of the world – a roc's egg hung from its dome (when Aladdin commands the genie of the lamp to bring the egg, he nearly brings about his own destruction).

To CHARLES KENT, 9 OCTOBER 1866

MS Gotshall Collection, New York State Library.

OFFICE OF ALL THE YEAR ROUND,
Tuesday Ninth October 1866

My Dear Kent. Not the slightest notion of dressing. No such thing is ever done here – come at ½ past 6 this evening.¹

Ever Yours | CD.

¹Dickens had written the day before, saying he must stay in the Office for the next two days, but asking Kent to dine with him either on Tuesday or Wednesday: see Vol. XI, p. 253.

To HENRY BICKNELL,¹ 9 SEPTEMBER 1867

MS The Garrick Club.

GAD'S HILL PLACE | HIGHAM BY ROCHESTER, KENT
Monday Ninth September 1867

My Dear Bicknell

Pray give my love to Mrs Bicknell, and my cordial thanks for the kind remembrance and her dear father's² sketch. Assure her from me that she cannot have a brighter or more faithful recollection of those "pleasant days in the far off distance" than I have; and that her figure is always in the foreground of those delightful pictures when I see them.

I cannot remember the rights of the signatories to the sketch.³ I know we had some joke about it at the time, but I cannot call it to mind.

May the Clyde be a kind river to you and yours and do good service! We all unite in Kindest wishes and regards, and I always am

Very faithfully yours

Henry Bicknell Esquire

CHARLES DICKENS

¹Henry Sanford Bicknell (?1818-80), younger son of Elhanan Bicknell (1788-1861; *DNB*), patron of arts and business man; Henry had been employed by the Crystal Palace Co.; probably a member of his father's firm by 1860; married Christine, only child of David Roberts in 1841.

²David Roberts (1796-1864; *DNB*), painter; RA 1841: see Vol. V, p. 522; probably met CD through Clarkson Stanfield (1793-1867; *DNB*: see Vol. I, p. 553), marine and landscape painter; painted scenery for CD's Amateur Theatricals 1851-2: see Vol. VI.

³On 14 June 62 Roberts, Stanfield and Benjamin Webster travelled to Gad's Hill, where they spent a few days; David Roberts made a pencil sketch, dated Gadshill, 17 June 62, now in the Yale Collection. CD seems to suggest some residual right to the sketch among the original members of the party, of whom he and Webster were now the survivors: the picture is not among those sold in July 1870 (*Catalogue of the Library of CD...*, ed. J. H. Stonehouse, 1935).

To W. BLANCHARD JERROLD,¹ 29 JULY 1868

MS The Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

GAD'S HILL PLACE,
HIGHAM BY ROCHESTER, KENT.
Wednesday Twenty Ninth July 1868

My Dear Blanchard Jerrold

I think a couple of such articles as you suggest, would be very acceptable and interesting. But I doubt the subject's bearing more than a couple,² for All The Year Round purposes.

Faithfully Yours always
CHARLES DICKENS

¹William Blanchard Jerrold (1826-84; *DNB*), journalist and author, eldest son of Douglas Jerrold: see Vol. V, p. 676*n*.

²Not traced, if published.

To HENRY D. PALMER,¹ 2 DECEMBER 1869

Text from the *Ladies' Theatrical Bouquet*, 8 Jan 1870. Address (envelope only, MS Free Library of Philadelphia): Henry D. Palmer Esquire | Langham Hotel | Regent Street | W. PM London 2 Dec 69.

GAD'S HILL PLACE,
HIGHAM BY ROCHESTER, KENT.
Thursday, 2nd Dec. 1869.

My Dear Mr. Palmer,

I must congratulate you this morning on your having arranged everything yesterday so satisfactor[il]ly with Mr. Fechter,² the rather, as I never saw him act better than he did last night.³

I hope that you and Mr. Jarrett⁴ (to whom I send my kind remembrance,) will find this enterprise thoroughly successful, and that it will be a pleasant recollection to all of us.

Henry D. Palmer Esq. Believe me, | Faithfully yours,
CHARLES DICKENS

¹Henry David Palmer, proprietor of the Westminster Theatre, New York, and joint-owner and manager of Niblo's Theatre; well-known as opera and theatre impresario: see Vol. XI, p. 498*n*. Palmer was in London (see envelope to this letter, headnote above & Vol. XII, p. 448), partly to settle the terms of Fechter's American tour.

²Charles Albert Fechter (1824-79; *DNB*), actor: see Vol. IX, p. 450*n*. Fechter and Palmer had met at the AYR office to formalise the American tour agreement, 1 Dec (*To* Palmer, 25 Nov 69), where they were "a company of Doves" after CD's fears that Fechter would injure himself by refusing Palmer's terms (*To* Hogarth, 2 Dec 69): for the terms, see Vol. XII, pp. 384*n* and 438.

³Fechter was playing a twelve-night engagement (29 Nov – 11 Dec) in his most famous roles before his departure for the States. On 1 Dec he played Claude Melnotte in Bulwer-Lytton's *The Lady of Lyons*.

⁴Henry Clay Jarrett, joint-owner of Niblo's Theatre with Palmer.

XII.486.1. Text augmented by additional extract.

To MRS LESLIE,¹ 7 MARCH 1870

Extract from Nial Devitt Books catalogue with additional extract from Jarndyce Dickens catalogue CXLV.

Suggesting a day for a meeting... I really do not see (having done my day's work, and [not] seeing at all) why I should wait for my daughter Mary's return, to answer your kind note. Shall it be (this looks as if I were asking you to "name the day" in a more tender reference) on Saturday week...

¹Identified as Constance, wife of John Leslie, by her grandson, Sir Shane Leslie (see note in Jarndyce catalogue); the letter is laid in a 1st edn of *Pickwick Papers*, belonging to him; see also Vol. XII, p. 486 n1, where delete "Probably".

XII.507.1.

To J. S. LE FANU,¹ 7 APRIL 1870

Mention in Maggs Bros catalogue, 1923.

Concerning a proposed contribution² by Le Fanu to All the Year Round.

¹Joseph Sheridan Le Fanu (1814-73; *DNB*), novelist and journalist: see Vol. XII, p. 414n. *Uncle Silas*, 1864, is the best known of his 16 novels.

²Probably *The Rose and the Key*, 36 instalments, in *AYR* from 21 Jan 71 (see Vol. XII, pp. 442 n5 and 535-6).