

186  
To Francis Wrangham

28 Jun 1810

Dear Sr. —

I deprecate your agreeable talent of bringing pleasing impossibilities before the eyes of your friends — Hummanby [sic] Lady Cayley — and the Alum Works — I wish the fates would allow it — but in August an Indian Brother and a Country Sister — omitting the mention of a lubberly Nephew — In September absent all the Month at Manchester. in October Scotch Philosophers and Edinburgh Reviewers — and a Visit to Northumberland. — So that with a burning Zeal to come and see you and Mrs Wrangham — I scarcely think it feasible — but be assur'd the time must & will come for our paying a visit to Hunmanby and I am strongly of opinion it will be next year — <sup>space</sup> If you come this way you will be so good without Scruple to turn in here — We shall be extremely happy to see you — I am glad you lik'd the Brew<sup>u</sup>ers[?] — he would fain Cudgel Martin into greater honesty and liberality. — and is in truth a most excellent personage — I do not know Wyvill — but he is surely dead — I do not mean bodily decomposd but intellectually defunct. — <sup>space</sup> I am oblig'd to you my dear Sr for your praise, but I assure you I pretend to nothing but honesty and liberality — I do not think I would advocate a bad cause for any advantage whatever — I believe I would advocate a good cause at much hazard and risk to myself — and I think I would give up any opinion whatever if any man would shew me it was wrong — beyond this you will find me a sleepy, common place Country Parson. — <sup>space</sup> I need not say that if Mrs Wrangham comes to York we shall have great pleasure in paying our respects to her at Heslington — I remain my dr [Sr] with every Sentiment

*! sad tear*

186.1

(28 Jun 1810 contd.)

of respect & regard very truly Yrs

Sydney Smith -

June 28. 1810 - Heslington. -

[Addressed:] Revd F. Wrangham / Hummanby / Bridlington / Yorkshire. -

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Text from xerox copy ~~of original~~ lent by Fondren Library, Rice University,  
Houston, Texas.

*Hunmanby to be spelled Hunmanby throughout, despite the confusion  
caused by Sydney's highly casual use of minims.*

188

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To Francis Wrangham

29 Jul 1810

My dear Sr. —

I thank you for and admit Lord Hardwick. — Lord Clive —  
Dr Samuel Clark — Lardner — Holt — Spenser — Hogarth. My List did not  
include the names of Locke or Boyle — tho it did of Milton an error for  
the correction of which I am much oblig'd — Those of your List which I  
have not enumerated here I was either aware of before, or deem them not  
sufficiently splendid for my catalogue of Worthies — — What you say of the  
early state of public Schools is true. but it makes for my purpose — for I  
say of all the genius and talent which England has produc'd the largest  
portion was nourish'd at private Schools, and the other at public Schools  
then differing nothing from private Schools in their nature and constitution —  
the residue is the boast of our public Schools in the present acceptation of  
those terms —

— I hope you will come and stay a day or two with us before the close of  
the Summer — I have thoughts of a predatory incursion upon you —

I am very much obligd to you for your list of those who have been  
privately whipp'd, and I remain dear Sr ever Yours very sincerely —

Sydney Smith. —

July 29 1810 —

Heslington —

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Text from xerox copy lent by Fondren Library, Rice University, Houston, Texas.

ER XVI xxxii (Aug 1810) "Public Schools of England".

189  
80  
To Robert Smith

56  
T  
15 Sep [1810]

My dear father. —

I cannot tell you the regret and affliction we have all experienc'd at the illness of ~~p~~ poor little Cecil. — From what we have lately heard I do not doubt of his recovery — but am convinc'd that very tedious and distressing Symptoms will follow upon his illness. — however this is all nothing in comparison with the danger which threaten'd at first. — that Maria and little Cecil should come <sup>to us</sup> ~~up~~ this Year is now entirely out of the question — it will in all probability be a month or 6 Weeks before he is able to move — and then the Weather will be quite unfit for his making such a Journey. — You have heard of the death of Mr Charles Pybus he has left the largest portion of the Pittance he left behind him to a natural Son — begotten by poetical licence upon I know not whom — Arthur Lysaght his nephew is his residuary Legatee and ~~if~~ he dies without Children the Elder Children of John Pybus are benefited — his executors are Mr Lysaght, and an apothecary by the name of Seton who attended him — as Mr Lysaght is at Sea the Apothecary is acting executor. — he died of a diseas'd Liver — brought on I should suppose by an immoderate use of Wine— by taking no exercise, and by sulky pride — the death of a man who made every one miserable who approach'd him — cannot be lamented as a loss —

I hope your buildings are going on to your satisfaction --I shall be compell'd to the same sort of trouble & exertion - very soon —

cont.....  
para

189.1

(15 Sep 1810)

Mrs Sydney and the children are extremely well — Doug[las] [seal] is growing up to be a very fine boy, and I think will be clever. — We are all staying here with a friend of mine at a very pretty place near Manchester, & meet with a very hospitable reception — The manufufacturers are as active as possible every Barn and shed where Machinery can be set up is in full Employment. — God bless you my dear Father I hope you will not allow yourself to be put out of Spirits by the late events. Every thing will soon return into its old Channel — Mrs Sydney and the children beg their king Love # &

I remain ever your affectionate Son

Sydney Smith

Sedgely near Manchester

Friday 15. September —

[Addressed:] Robert Smith Esq / Lydiard / Taunton / Somersetshire —

[Postmarked:] MANCHESTER 15 SEP 1810 185

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Huntington Library microfilm.

HM 30766

✓ 191  
To Francis Cholmeley

23 Nov 1810

My dear Sr. --

You were so good as to say you would give me a receipt for cleaning <sup>Boot</sup> ~~Wato~~  
Tops. the request would appear trifling to some persons but you have liv'd too  
much in the World, and observ'd it too well not to know that human beings are  
valued in prop<sup>o</sup>rtion to the goodness of their Boot Tops -- tho' I am far from  
denying <sup>t</sup>hat integrity and moral worth come in as very good seconds to this  
Ocreal Splendor --

If it is not unfair to ask it of you when so many friends will be asking th<sup>e</sup>  
same thing pray let us know when Mrs Cholmley is confind -- & present our kindest,  
& most sincere good wishes -- ever yours my dr Sr very truly.

Sydney Smith --

November 23d:1810 --

Thursday. --

Money found by Mrs S. in her own pockets.

Addressed: Francis Cholmeley Esq / Brandsby / York      Postmarked: YORK (& illeg.)  
Watermarked: (Device) / 1807      Endorsed: Novr. 23d 1810 / Sydney Smith

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Text from xerox of MS. North Riding Record Office, ZQG.

✓ 192  
To Francis Cholmeley

27 Nov 1810

November 27

1810. --

My dear Sr. --

I most sincerely wish you joy and so does with not less sincerity Mrs S. -- say every thing that is kind on our part to Mrs Cholmley.

It is the greatest of all possible mistakes for a mother to nurse her own Child. -- tho' it is more poetical -- do not fall into this error -- or if fall'n in do not persevere too long. -- Many thanks for the Boot Tops and Cake. I was much alarm'd at first thinking the Tops were to be clean'd by the Cake

ever yours my dr Sr most truely

Sydney Smith --

Addressed: Francis Cholmeley Esq / Brandsby / York

Endorsed: Novr. 27 1810 / Sydney Smith

Postmarked: YORK

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Text from xerox of MS. North Riding Record Office, ZQG.