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W

To [Jno Gray?]

2 May 1815

20 Savile Row Bond St

1815

May 2d --

Sr. --

I have been resident on my Living -- since April 1814 -- but not constantly resident -- Will you therefore have the goodness to inform me what period of residence will be sufficient; whether the Churchwarden must depose to the two thirds of the Year, one half - or to what period as sufficient to exempt me from the additional charge of 5 pr Ct:-- I am sorry to give you this trouble, but I really do not know how to get over the difficulty, and to procure the Signature of the Churchwarden, without knowing the precise time of residence requir'd by Law -- at the same time I feel I am intruding upon you by asking the Question --

I am Sr &c

Sydney Smith --

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To Lady Caroline Lamb

28 May 1815

Dear Lady Caroline --

I receiv'd your note (desiring me to call upon you) after I had arriv'd at my parsonage in Yorkshire -- which will account I hope for my disobedience [.] In my way into Yorkshire I stopp'd at Hertford College for a day dining with your friends the Professors and meeting there that great ornament of the Church Dr Hook -- the Professors were coverd with contusions having been pelted for 5 days consecutively with Stónes by their Pupils [--] so much pelting has not been remember'd since the Giants pelted the Gods -- a mineralogical Collection has been form'd from the missile materials in which there is a great preponderance of Silex. There seem'd to be a general notion in this lapidated fraternity -- that the boys had been excited to this ludicrous Violence by some Hertfordshire persons -- Guess upon whom the Suspicion fell? imagine who suggested the idea? -- figure to yourself who defended you -- and believe me ever dear Lady Caroline most trueely Yrs --

Sydney Smith --

York -- May 28 -- 1815. --

Text from microfilm of original in Beinecke collection, Yale U.L.

Wm BW 1808

seen by ASB at Yale, X.76

source Yale from Sanger Dec 57, with many other pieces.

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To Mrs Sydney Smith

[c. 4 Sep ? 1815]

a Weeks Journey in the E. Riding

After taking affectionate leave of my Wife and family & making such arrangements as prudence dictated for the ordering of my farm and household. I sat off about 3 o Clock on the 4th of September for Pocklington a distance of 15 Miles -- from my benefice of Foston I had scarcely proceeded 200 Yards from my own house when I perceiv'd that my own horse was somewhat disorderd in his bowels -- & but for the intervention of the Splashing board my Situation would have been rather awkward ——— on proceeding half a mile farther a Covey of Partridges sprung up by what roud -- or in what direction they proceeded -- I unfortunately omitted to notice Is it impossible that the institutions of civil Society which affect them may in time become known to the Animal World, Crows have been observd to be audacious on the Sabbath -- why may not Partridges learn to be timid in September ——— on the Malton road I descried another Buggy similar to my own, we approached each other front to front and mutual destruction was inevitable, if by a proper management of the reins the antagonist Buggy had not turnd to one side, and my own to the other -- by these means (so agreeable to prudence and common Sense) we both escap'd unhurt -- I now perceivd that my horse was completely dissolv'd in consequence of a profuse perspiration which broke out upon him -- he evidently shewd a disposition for meat, & drink, by gently turning /himself

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(4 Sep 1815)

himself towards every place which he could mistake for an house of refreshment -- after struggling some time with this propensity I indulgd him with a feed of oats at the blue Cat at Buttercrambe --. happening to cast my Eye upon the Servant man I perceivd him poking out his Head like the Horse upon which I orderd him a pint of Beer, and so diminishing our Velocity on rising, -- and increasing it on falling Ground I arrivd safe at the nine Pigeons at Pocklington and found 30 farmers smoking Tobacco -- and singing a Song about great George out King ---

/Addressed:/ Mrs Sydney Smith / Foston / York ---

/Post-marked:/ POCKLINGTON 210

/Endorsed:/ (by Mrs S. :) A week's journey in Yorkshire

/Envelope marked by NCS:/ ... of no value -- reads almost like a parody.

New College Oxford, Archives 4440.

Eligible years (according to eliminations made on material held in Feb 72) are 1815, 1818, 1823, 1824, 1826. 4 Sep was a Monday in 1815 (this written to amuse the children?) and in 1826; a Friday in 1818 (Th, 1823; and Sat, 1824.)

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To Caroline Fox

4 Oct 1815

October 4 — 1815: —

Dear Miss Fox.—

I am very much obligd by your communication of the pleasant intelligence you receiv^d from Calais — I have no doubt but that the sorrow is all over, and the Joy all to come — that every Symptom of illness will disappear in the whole party — and that nothing will remain but to amuse themselves. God send it may be so ! — I wish you had been so good as to have said a Word of your little Nephew Henry E — is his health improving ? — [space] I rather think at present we shall go to Bath about February — and in that case I hope to see you in Town either in that Month or in March.

or G?
H

God help the poor Spanish insurgents. I tuck them privately into the Litany every Sunday — They have I am sure the cordial good Wishes of a certain Lord & his Sister. ~~t~~ The two most ardent friends to the oppress'd Many — and the most bitter enemies to the oppressing few that I know in the World — The King of France seems to be playing a very bold Game — Gentlemen of his profession are so untouchabl[e] that he can hardly get through s[uch] [ms. torn] mischief — his best chance was being heartily frighten'd — as they said of Lord Erskine in the Court of Chancery that as long as he was afear^d he did We^{ll} — — — Hideous ruin, and Combustion among the farmers in this part of the World. blustering Squires are collapsing very fast under the

/punctures.....

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W

(4 Oct 1815)

punctures of Adversity. No rents paid. this dreadful fit of
fertility into which the Earth~~/~~has falln will ruin every body.
God bless you dear Miss Fox I am ever most respectfully and
affectionately yrs.

Sydney Smith —

[Addressed:] Honble Miss Fox / Little Holland House —

Text from microfilm of B.M.Add.MS. 51968, f.87.

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NB

To Francis Cholmley^{er}

26 Nov 1815

I send your books [?] to York.

November 26

1815 --

My dear Sr. --

If I have left an Horsewhip at Brandsby be so good as to take care of it for me -- but you are welcome to h^orsewhip any Violent Bigot with it -- of either persuasion -- till I reclaim it -- I have read Scott -- God defend me from such a Verbose and Vulgar Coxcomb -- health and happiness and my most sincerely kind Wishes till we meet again --- &c &c

Sydney Smith --

Addressed: Francis Cholmley Esq / Bransby
Postmarked: YORK 27 NO 27 (illeg)
Endorsed: Novr. 26th 1815 / Sydney Smith

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