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This is the "melancholy fragment"
referred to in NCS No. 275 - Horner died 8/2/17

From Francis Horner

18 Jan 1817

Pisa, 18 January 1817

I think it very kind of you & Mrs Smith to write to me. Really, nothing can be more friendly. Letters are the only gratification that comes to vary my present life, which is as secluded as possible; and it is quite refreshing to hear from you and about you.

I thought you would admire Mr Stewart's Dissertation; it seems to me the best of his writings in some respects, particularly the style, and the freedom with which he speaks his mind. You are too soon with your censure for the omission of Hartley; he has not yet arrived at him; the second part must begin with Locke. The mention of Horne Tooke is incidental; if you will read, in the volume of Philosophical Essays, one expressly upon the subject of those philosophical speculations, I think you will be of opinion he has done that author no injustice, but has adjusted I think with success the exact impact & value of his very original researches into the history of the invention of language, while he has exposed the blunder there was in imagining that this historical discovery affected our reasonings in metaphysics & morals.

Tho' I was of the Elgin Committee, I took but little interest in their inquiry; it was clear the public ought to have the marbles, and what they were worth in money I did not see how anybody could tell. It was reduced to.....

MS. L.S.E.

Unfinished.

Does not appear in 1843 or 1853 Memoirs of Horner; other L.S.E. material included in the published volumes, and transcribed with regular notes.

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To Leonard Horner

- Factory inspector
quoted by Karl Marx

23 Mar 1817

Foston, March 23, 1817.

My dear Sir,

I remember no misfortune of my life which I have felt so deeply as the loss of your brother. I never saw any man who combined together so much talent, worth, and warmth of heart; and we lived together in habits of great friendship and affection for many years. I shall always retain a most lively and affectionate remembrance of him to the day of my death. We shall be most happy to see you here if you can make us a visit; I shall always meet you with those sentiments of regard and respect which are due to yourself, but never without deep feelings of grief and emotion.

God bless You !

S.S.

Text from M., p. 218: not apparently in N.C.S. (and noticed as missing by TLS.)
cf. the memoir-letter in Works ii, 319-21 (dated 26 Aug. 1842) which Butt (RES p. 24)
suggested should be published in "vol. iii"

✓ 232
To Richard York

21 Jun 1817

June 21st -- 1817. --

My dear Sr. --

I return'd home from Scarbro this Evening where I have been to take an house for my brother, and found your kind note here: -- our man Servant keeps his bed in the 2d day of a fever— this is the only obstacle to our enjoying the pleasure of your Company -- but he has been purg^d, and Vomited by my particular directions so violently that I think he must do well -- a day or two will shew -- I shall be at home till the 22d July -- and will send you an ample Challenge as soon ^{ever this} as ^{the} Event explains itself more clearly -- I remain my dear Sr -- with very kind remembrances from Mrs Sydney and myself to your excellent Lady -- very truly Yrs

Sydney Smith ---

Addressed: Richard Yorke Esq / Wighill Park / Tadcaster. --

Postmarked: YORK 22 JU 22 1817

Major

Text from xerox of MS. (York, via Leeds Public Library.)

Whitwell Sheepshanks (d. 1817) changed name to York 1796. His son R. Y. of Wighill Park (1778-1843) was D.L., High Sheriff 1832, Lt-Col. W.R.Y. Hussar Yeomanry. He m (1801) Lady Mary Anne Lascelles, yst dan of 1st Earl of Harwood. See [? 1817]

✓ 233

To Edward York

[? 1817]

(Place after 21 Jun 1817)

Dear Edward --

It will be my duty to state to your afflicted parents, that I did not find you
at your Books but on the Water.

Sydney Smith --

Text from xerox of MS. ^{Major} York.

— Edward York (1802-1861), the only son of Richard York
of Wighill. He m. 1835 Penelope Beatrix Sykes

(on rather than in the water)

✓ 234

(21 Jun 1817)

NOTE

Re Richard York: placed with xeroxes after 9 Apr 1840, but handwriting is prob. 1820s

On finding his arm broken the first thing which Colonel York exclaim'd was "thank God it is not my sword arm" --

Leutenant Colonel York of the Ramham Moor Fancy Hussars bears his illness with admirable patience. --

Verses on Colonel Yorks accident

Poor Lieutenant Colonel York
Cannot use his Knife & Fork
Nor do the Weavers any harm
For he has broke his valiant arm

Epitaph on Col. Y

"Here lies a volunteer Dragoon
who left this planet much too soon
He did not die in broil nor battle
but all from riding Vicious Cattle

"a Correspondent observes this is not the first time Col Yorke has been thrown. --

Text from xerox of MS. Major York.

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To Miss Vernon

WT asks if this was the man
who wrote an essay of Jas.
Mills Essay on Govt.

[August 1817]
[1817?]

My dear Miss Vernon,

Mrs. Robert Smith seems very well, very cheerful and contented, and turns out to be immoderately fond of lobsters.

Leveson and Vernon are very well, and have no proneness to cough upon light occasions. Bobus (considering that such are not his most striking attributes) is gracious and loquacious. The young gentleman from Somersetshire who is staying here is running about eagerly to all the adjacent towns with the impetuosity natural to youth. The maturity of Leveson and the caution of Vernon are impotent to restrain him. Pray put Lady Holland in mind to ask Shuttleworth for his nomination to Winchester for Windham. I wrote to her about it, but the letter may be wandering about the Seven United Provinces. A smile from Miss Fox added to the commands of Lady Holland will render Mr Shuttleworth's obedience more agreeable to himself; a machine that is to be put into motion may as well be oiled.

Miss Fox I understand is appointed Paymaster: if all your appointments, my dear Miss Vernon, are equally judicious, the success of your journey is certain. My father has a Somersetshire valet called Jones, ambitious of being a courier.

I have been taking lessons in writing, — you have the first fruits. They will call me ere long Sydney the Calligraphist.

The weather has been wretched here, which Bobus and my father attribute to Yorkshire, and not to that derangement of our climate and

/planet.....

235,1

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(^{Aug}[1817] cont.)

planet which is no longer doubtful. Michel Angelo the great and the little are here the only persons of any note, and very angry that Bobus should be called by the Postwoman the Member. We are about to condense all these good people into our Parsonage next week — a process requiring some ingenuity on our part and some indulgence on theirs. It would give us pleasure if the inhabitants of Little Holland House were of the number: in that case the packing would be perfect, and the Parsonage house might travel behind Lady Holland's carriage without the danger of interⁿal friction or derangement of parts.

God bless you both. I shall consider the comparative value of the two countries to be deranged when you cross the water.

Sydney Smith

Text from Edward Cheney's in Miscellanies of the Philobiblon Society, XV (1877-84), section 7, pp. 18-21. Not apparently in N.C.S. Dated from the reference to the nomination to Winchester, cf. NCS. no. 278. *Must be written from Scarbro'*

236

To Edward Davenport

15 Aug 1817

Scarbro' -- August 15 1817. --

My dear Sr. --

I receiv'd your Note at Scarbro' where I am with my Brother his family and my father: from this place they all go to my home at Foston and stay till the middle of October and there they must be pack'd by Sabatiers Condensing machine -- under these Circumstances it will be quite impossible to enjoy the pleasure of your Company -- some other time I hope I shall be more fortunate, and I am truely obligd to you for your friendly intention & recollection of my invitation --

Our friend Philips is getting much better and is making very laudable resolutions of intemperance, having been very much blam'd by Baillie for his abstemious habits --

Nothing can exceed the dreadful Ennui I suffer here -- or should suffer were it not for the occasional Society of Mr Michael Taylor. ~~ff~~ I am truely sorry not to see you at my house & I remain dear Davenport very truely Yrs.

Sydney Smith. --

I put it to your good sense whether it is not more trouble to you than benefit to your friend to send Game but -- if you feel yourself in an energetic mood -- never mind the color of the Game, but send me what you will. --

Text from photocopy of John Rylands Library, Bromley-Davenport muniments, Letters of Sydney Smith, 1.

= N.C.S. 279, to which above offers ~~substantial~~ additions.

✓ 239

To Francis Cholmeley

[15 Oct. 1817]

My dear Sr. --

I am excessively annoy'd by your method of spelling Spittal Bridge --
according to you Saliva Bridge as if Officers of dragoons were quarter'd there --

Will you do me the favor to dine and sleep here Saty to meet the Davy's -- Lady

Davy delights in you ^{and} ~~and~~ says you are meum Sal. ever yours very truly --

S S. --

Endorsed: Octr. 15 1817 / Sydney Smith

Addressed: Francis Cholmley Esq / Bransby

Postmarked: YORK 15 OC 15 1817 196

Watermarked: R & T (script) 1813

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