

To Lady Carlisle

5 Jan 1829

My dear Lady Carlisle --

Still no better tidings of Douglas -- Gout in both feet --
and dimness of Eyes -- I have desired Hibbert to go down to
him -- and to give me an ^{accurate} ~~adequate~~ report -- In the mean time
he is in the hands of kind & excellent friends -- I hope
Blanche is better -- well -- ----- I have always said
that if Entanglements can be avoided it is better to remain
Single like a monument in plain [sic: poss. middle page
missing after in] -- Change of Livings still envelopd in
the deepest Mystery. -- Ever my dear Lady Carlisle your
affectionate Clergyman & Slave --

Sydney Smith --

We are going to the Thompsons tomorrow -- heaven send I may
succeed in Charades -- . God save us all from being dissected. --
Jany 5. 1829 --

Text from Castle Howard photostat. CH 1/142(55)

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CH

To Lady Carlisle

7 Jan 1829

Dear Lady Carlisle --

Douglas is a great deal better -- and we are at our Ease about him -- I never need apologize to you for communicating any News agreeable to your neighbors & friends -- pray tell the Duke -- that it is/ not my fault that there are so many poachers at Londesbrough -- I have preachd several Sermons about the Birds in the Air, & the beasts of the field, stating that they all belong to his Grace -- I shall be under the painful Necessity hereafter of mentioning the Pheasants by name

-- I have no doubt however that with three or four Sermons I ^{can} ~~shall~~ disperse the whole Gang. --

most truely Yrs

Sydney Smith --

Jany 7. 1829

Escrick Park --

Text from Castle Howard photostat. CH/142(54)

486

To Lord Lyndhurst ~~Lyndhurst~~

25 Mar 1829

My dear Lord --

I have just received the presentation to Combe Florey and I beg you to accept my hearty & most sincere thanks. -- I remain always with the truest sense of the obligations I owe you -- ever yours --

Sydney Smith --

20 Saville Row Bond St --

March 25 - 1829. --

20 Saville Row Bond St -- [sic]

Text from Trinity College, Cambridge, MS. O. 16. 38⁵⁹. (Xerox).

Copy in Lyndhurst papers, Glamorgan R.O.

487
To Lady Mary York

[after 15 Apr 1829]

Many sincere thanks my dear Lady Mary for your most kind [&] friendly Letter.

Our Loss, -- and our Sufferings have been very severe.

Mrs Sydney is dreadfully nervous -- and I have experienced a Shake fm which I think I shall never thoroughly recover ---- -- I have fits of Spirits come across^s me after my manner -- but I am very often and very suddenly overpow'd --

I have a real regard & affection for York & you & shall regret your Loss very sincerely -- I hope fm time to time to revisit Yorkshire and I assure you the West of England and our part of it particularly is worth seeing -- I need not say what pleasure it would be to us to see you under our roof --

God bless you dear Lady my fervent prayers and earnest Wishes will follow you wherere you go --

S S. --

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

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CH

To Lord Carlisle

17 Apr 1829

5 New Cavendish St
Portaldn Place —

Apl 17. 1829 —

My dear Lord Carlisle —

I have this day resign'd Londesbrough my resignation is gone to
Mr Burden 27 Parliament St who will lay it before the Archbishop —
[space] I have written to the Duke of Devonshire — many hearty
thanks for that kindness which first suggested the idea of
giving it to me — You will be glad to hear Mrs Sydney is more
compos'd — Ever yrs my dr Lord Carlisle with every feeling of
the truest respect & regard ↘

Sydney Smith —

Text from Castle Howard photostat. CH1/142(14)

He was succeeded at Londesborough by the Rev. J.N.Wright,
who acknowledged the presentation (conditional on holding
it until William Howard came of age) in a letter to Lord
Carlisle of 1 May (C.H. ~~mss. 7~~ 1/142).

489

To Francis Wrangham

[9 May 1829]

Foston York --

Dear Sr. --

I have to apologize^z to you for not having before answered your Letter -- My Excuse is unhappily for me too good. -- In answer to your queries I have changd my Livings here for others in Somersetshire -- and Devonshire -- where I trust I shall soon be -- my Living of Foston is given to a Mrs Estcott -- & the fate of Londesbro I do not know -- As to the Catholic question I dare say you have on all occasions done what you thought was right -- happy the man who can look back -- to it -- and believe that he has always been liberal -- and consistent -- Thank god there is an end to it -- and an end at the same [sic: sc. time] to a great part of the power of fools -- and Knaves the movers of fools. --

God bless you my dear Sr

Sydney Smith

[Addressed.:] To the Revd / Archdeacon Wrangham / Hunmanby, / Yorkshire. --

[Postmarked.:] York 9 May 1829

What does this mean? WT

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

490

To Benjamin Agar

10 May 1829

Foston York - May 10 1829 -

My dear Sr. -

Many and sincere thanks for your kindness - I am in all ^tthe Agony of packing:
and being alone ^mby incessant care and Superintendence is requird -- . My
Spirits too are very uncertain - & are very apt to give way so that I am unfit
for Company I should have likd very much under other circumstances to have
paid you a Visit - whether I am able to do so or not - I shall always entertain
for you sincere respect & regard.

very trueely Yrs

Sydney Smith -

I beg my kind regards to all your family.

[Addressed:] Benjamin Agar Esq / Brookfield / York. -

[Postmarked:] YORK MY 10 1829

[Endorsed:] Sydney Smith

MS. Gordon N. Ray.

✓

492

To Lady Carlisle

7 Jul 1829

My dear Lady Carlisle —

dont be angry with me for liking Combe Florey how is any body accountable for likes, and dislikes ? It is really extremely beautiful. — and makes me feel romantic — expect Poetry Trees, Bees — Zephyr, heifer — Leaf Beef — &c — Vide Rogers and Luttrell —

I take it for granted that Blanche is to marry Sir Isaac Newton Cavendish — She must Tambour Triangles to please him — and mix Algebra with affection, — and Science with Sighs and call him her beloved Euclid — and weave Parallelograms of flowers ^{for} ~~in~~ his hair —

Castle Howard is a perpetual Sorrow to us I often say here are Woods — and Hills and a fine Climate but where is Castle Howard & its Inhabitants. — and yet do not imagine me of a generally discontented disposition — for I bear the distance from Wrangham like an antient Stoic.

I am quite vexd for my poor friend Zenobia Lady Lyndhurst — She has faults (even Lady Holland has faults) but is quite incapable of such crimes as to sell the patrimony of the Church. She will be compelled next to swear she has not committed Murder — the whole is an Experiment of the press to see what generous good natur'd forgiving people will bear —

Commend me if you please dear Lady Carlisle to the prodigal Son — tell him how happy we should be if as he

/spreads.....

(7 Jul 1829)

spreads himself over the Earth he will revisit his early and affectionate friends here — Who knows but that one day or another we may see here the Lord & Lady of the Castle in their Way to that attractive & lepid Athenian the Earl of Morley. —

We are all pretty well — and are engagd in digesting our furniture — no easy matter to find where things ought to be plac^d — still more difficult to find where people ought to be placd — I know bye — and bye where you will be placd — and hope (though feebly) that I shall see you there — [space]
I never ate such fish ^{as} ~~in the~~ ^{is} Country nothing surprises me so much as the excellence of the fish — the poor people are all starving. — Lord Carlisles bust is now staring me in the face in our new drawing room — health happiness and every blessing to his relations and descendants from your sincere and affectionate friend —

Sydney Smith —

July 7. 1829 —

Text from Castle Howard photostat. CH 1/142(56)

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To Philip ^{Henry} Howard

13 Aug 1829

August 13 - 1829.

Dear Philip Howard. —

Many thanks for the honor you have done me in reprinting my Speech — but you have been more zealous than correct for there are many Errors — I always thought Philip Stourton [a] a sensible young man he has now shown it in the most sensible action of his Life — my kind regards to him and his helpmate — I am very sorry to lose so many good friends in Yorkshire — The only acquaintance I have made here is that of the Clerk of the Parish a very sensible man with great Amen-ity of disposition If you come near come and see me and convert me to the Catholic religion — or be prepared to be converted yourself. & remember me with great kindness to your excellent father the very model of what an high minded Gentleman should be — ever yours very truly

Sydney Smith

The translation is very interesting.

Corrected from copy given by owner.
 Text from Mr Ernest Dilworth's printing of the original in the possession of Mr Walter Leuba of Pittsburgh, in Notes and Queries CCIX (1964), pp. 419-21. Dilworth notes that Philip Howard was the son of the second wife of Henry Howard of Corby. His sister Catherine married in 1829 the Hon. Philip Stourton, brother or son of Lord Stourton (Dilworth is not sure which). The two sentences beginning 'I am very sorry' ~~and~~, and ending 'amenity of disposition' are in Reid, , and appear as NCS no. 537. Sydney was now at Combe Florey.

Is this the reprint done in a Catholic repository. of which C.W. has a copy?

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To George Tierney

23 Nov 1829

Dear Tierney —

There is no proposition in Euclid of which I am more certain than that you are at Brighton [I wish - ms. torn] I was as certain that your health was [compl] etely restord. & that you felt like one about to contend at the Olypmic Games —

This is the most beautiful Country in England & nature in imitation of the Sheppard Paris has given it the Apple — an accursed Gift: every body is drunk from the 1st of January to the last of December -- in every other respect it is enchanting — pray take care of the enclosd for me — and beleive with [sc.what] great respect I regard you

Sydney Smith —

November 23d 1829 —

Combe Florey

Taunton. —

Text from xerox copy of original in Hampshire Record Office (Tierney papers, Bundle C.). John Dinwiddy told me of this letter.

✓ 498
To Richard York

18 Dec [1829]

All except signature in hand:

of Mrs Sydney

Combe[✓]flory Taunton, Decr. 18th:

My dear York

That we shall do one day or another what you so kindly require us to do next year, I consider to be a fixt point in Mathematics; but next year, I have my house to finish, my lands to get in order, a Ball to give, to prepare for an archery meeting, (self-dressed as Apollo) to receive my daughter Emily with husband & progeny, to receive that eminent Patriot Sir George Philips & ^divers other persons who are set^tting their faces towards Combe[✓]flory. You must really come down & see this country; -- it is the garden of England, & our Parsonage is extremely beautiful & convenient. -- Mrs. Smith upon the whole is much better, & I think the climate will agree very well with her complaint. Mrs. Hibbert is not very well just now for good reasons but is improving & is upon the whole in a very highly prosperous position. --

Our neighbours here, are in the common line, Port & Sherry for dinner, hail rain & snow for conversation, but the best people in any place come slowly to light [&] and lye, like Maccar^yoon Cakes at the bottom of an italian cream; last & best. --- Commend me with all kindness to those excellent Thompsons, full of goodness & hospitality; they made an effort to detain me in Yorks^hire which I

/shall

498.1

(18 Dec 1829)

shall never forget, not imitated by the Archbishop from whom I have two written & distinct promises of preferment.

We were all very sorry my dear York to quit you & your good family, & we often make warm & honourable mention of Wighill; I shall not easily forget the many hearty laughs we have had together, & your amiable toleration of my incessant nonsense. Pray write me a line every now & then, to tell me how the hounds are going on; & send us a better acct. of Lady Mary, upon whom we set a great value. I am just come from paying a visit to Lord Bath & Lord Bathurst; Long Leat is the place in England which in my estimation most nearly rivals Castle Howard -- tho' still inferior to it. -- You should not come to the West of England without seeing it.

The Peasantry & horses of this country are dreadfully inferior ^{to} ~~to~~ those of the North. The former are all drunken & the latter 14 hands & $\frac{1}{2}$ high without a good point about them; in revenge the climate is very soft & mild; magn^oifias hydrangeas & Myrtles live out of doors all the year, & snow seldom lies above 2 or 3 days in the winter. I go to [town] for my residence the begin[ning] of the year, & stay till the [middle] of February, when I shall return & rem[ain] till the iniquitous season begins in [London]. My handwriting is become so very ille[gible I am] sure you will excuse me for my employing an excellent &

/well

ms
tom

498.2
✓

(18 Dec 1829)

well known amanuensis. God bless you my dear York. Ever// most sincerely
yours

Sydney Smith

(also by CAS)
Addressed: Richard York Esqre / Wighill Park / Tadcaster
Postmarked: TAUNTON and TAUNTON DE 19 1829
Penny Post

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

221 499
Lines on the York Fancy Ball

N.D.

Answer to an Invitation to the Fancy Ball,
in Irregular Metre.

"Tell me where is fancy bred,
Is it in the Lord Mayor's head ?
Did Tyrconnel give it birth,
Or Grantham bring it upon earth ?
Did Stourton, Bosville, or did Cayley,
Invent it all to please Judge Bayley ?
Was it Sir William Clarke's fine taste, or
The thought of Major-General Maister ?
Did Colonels Clifton, Hale, and Coore
Arrange it to relieve the poor ?
Did Hewgill, Norcliffe, Captain Slegg,
First plan this sympathy of heart and leg ?
Or Sympson, Denison (whose names are Bob),
Bring forth to light the jovial job ?
Do we come forth at Robert Cracroft's call ?
Or does Rookes Crompton rule and manage all ?
Or Joshua* chuse a double skill to prove
And make at will celestial bodies move ?
Did Lawson, Legard, or did J.L.Raper,
Commit the pleasing thought to paper ?
Is it McDonald, Foulis, or Francis
Cholmeley, who loves these Fancy Dances ?
Whether 'twas Fairfax, or 'twas Clough,
We shall be with you - that's enough.
Three female tickets and one male
Be pleased to save us without fail.

*Crompton ['W.C.']

First published by 'W.C.' in Notes and Queries, 23 Jan 1869, pp. 79-80, who refers to the grand fancy dress ball announced to take place at York in the first assize week 'about forty-five years ago'. In the lines ascribed to Sydney Smith, the name of every one of the patrons is introduced.

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To Francis Wrangham

N. D.

My dear Sr. --

Don't use hard Words -- and say odd things in the pulpit --
 as you ask me for my Critique it is this -- and I say it because no man
 respects more your attainments, and liberal Sentiments than I do -- but
 in Words -- you have peregrinity and Sesquipedality and it is very odd to
 say that Cain and Abel sold things to each other and to talk about
Ardent Spirits. -- I give you great credit for honesty. and preservation
 of your principles -- which I believe you will maintain to the last --
 and this in men who are marketable [?] is a great merit -- I have been in
 Town these 3 Weeks -- and remain some time --

sincerely Yrs

Sydney Smith --

20 - Savile Row Bond St

R Smith Esq --

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

Somehow I am due help much.
 vol I only 277 315 Dec 1818. - 325 Feb 1819

509 Sep 1827

381-318 20 Apr

406-7 May 1822

447 1825 May