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post 1829

From Alexander Baring

25 Apr [1832]

Piccadilly, 25 April [1832]

The explanation you were good enough to make my Dear Sir so far is a great satisfaction to me as it leads me to flatter myself that you attach some value, as I do a very high one, to an intimacy which I hope I may call a friendship, of no short duration. -- I give you my word that it never crossed my mind to take offence at any ^Squibs you may let off at me in my new character of a Conservative. In the first place I am not at all susceptible on such subjects, and provided the joke be a good one, I have too often enjoyed the amusement of your good humoured raill^lery not to be most ready to sacrifice any peculiarities appertaining to my ways for the benefit of others, & especially to my old friends at Taunton who were long oppressed with a stale & heavy wit until you fixed yourself among them. I can most unfeignedly therefore beg that you will not spare me, and Mrs Baring desires me only to say that when the Spirit moves you to any good hit at me she may be indulged with the means of joining in the laugh. You do me no more than justice in your interpretation of my motives for separating myself politically from old friends. It has been by very much the most painful incident in my life and will continue more or less to embitter it to the last; for although my personal feelings towards most of them remain unchanged, and I am, whatever others may be, of a

/disposition

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(25 Apr ?1832)

disposition the most largely tolerant of political differences, the breach of social habits becomes inevitable in a country where what are really public questions soon of necessity become personal. I struggled some time before I finally took my leave, but finding that the general course & ^rcurrent of the party was towards the movement I had no other alternative but to act as I did or to quit public life, & to say the truth I am not always satisfied with myself for the choice I ultimately made. Pray my Dear Sir continue (your to me) friendship. You may laugh at me as much as you please on condition that you permit me as often as you can to laugh with you, for I hold laughter to be wholesome both for the outer & inner man.

(Illegible salutation)

A Baring

New College Oxford, Archives 4429, no. 55. (Transcript in my NCO notes)

To Mauley

21 May 1832

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My dear Sr.

You were good enough to undertake to see me justly treated -
as far as the question of Apprentices is concerned - I learn from
Mr Wright that it is intended to put an Apprentice upon me Tuesday
nd not knowing the method by which these things are regulated I cannot
say whether this is fair or not - If I am forced to take it pray find for
me some Master for the Child - & I will pay whatever you fix upon
and employ Wright or Fennimore or any Attorney to get the Indenture
transferred so as to save yourself trouble - & pray write me a line to
say what has been done - I know but of two pleas - the one is the act
says Inhabitants or Land ~~owners~~ holders - ~~and~~ and I am neither -
the other is that I am half the year in London -

I remain my dr Sr very truly Yrs
Sydney Smith

May 21 1832

Combe Florey

I will compromise with the Overseers if they are willing and if that will
do so as to exempt me & to pass for a Juror

[Add:] ~~Mr~~ J Mauley Esq / Mauley House / Halberton / Tiverton
[Pmk:] TAUNTON My 21 1832 [Wmk:] J WHATMAN / 1831

MS.
PML
NYPL
Harvard }?

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T
To Cecil Smith

21 Jun 1832

My dear Cecil —

on the other Side I send you a draft for fifty pounds which settles our account up to Midsummer 1832 — accept my best thanks for your kind attentions — I am sure you have too much kindness towards me to mention my objections to anyone but I would rather Escott did not do duty at C. Flerey — he is really quite a disreputable person — and (too much) bad to be able to say he has been noticed by you or me — If you should happen to be ill — I had much rather the Church should be shut up — than owe anything to his assistance I am sure you will not be offended by these remarks — but consider them as emanating from that good natured & affectionate freedom inq which we have livd — and am sure shall always live together. My remarks do not extend of course to any engagements you may have already formd with Escott — but to future Engagements.

I have no news to tell you a dead calm has followd the Storm — perhaps another Storm may follow the Calm.

Ever very affectionately yrs

Sydney Smith —

June 21

30 Old Bond St —

1832

New College [Bod.]

546 To Lady Farquhar

26 Jun 1832

My dear Lady Farquhar,

You are very pleasing - and I like dining with you very much. but I am engaged to dine with on Monday with Admiral Martin. I will climb up some morning to the Top Windows of the Bazaar - & see if you are at home - That inexorable Servant (a Dissenter I am sure) will never let me in -

ever yrs

Sydney Smith

30 Old Bond St

June 26
1832

Text from xerox of Ms. Yale (Osborn)

Seen by ASB at Yale, X.76. Osb. no. 75.522. No Wm

548

To Lady Seymour

3 Jul 1832

Dear Lady

I name Wednesday the eleventh for admitting
into the Christian Ward the member of a family
which has belong'd to that faith from a more
remote period than any other family with which
we are acquainted.

I am as much hono^{ur}'d by the Office as ~~I~~ I am
pleas'd by the gay - and good natur'd manner in
which it has been tender'd to me &

I remain dear Lady Seymour always very
truly Yrs.

Sydney Smith /

July 3. 1832 /

[Add:] Lady Seymour / Spring Gardens. / 18 /

Text from xerox of MS. Sir William Pennington-Ramsden,
kindly secured for me by John P. Matthews.

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To T. R. Malthus

31 JUL 1832

July 31
1832

Joseph had a good reason for leaving his
Garments. I hope that no Lady of my
family does

Whether Joseph ever recovered his we know
not - but yours set off by the North Devon Coach
tomorrow will arrive at the Bull & Mouth August
28 - and be forwarded as you have directed

If you were pleased with the place - The place was
much pleased by with the philosopher - & begs to see
him as often as parental affection leads him this
way

yours my dear Malthus
very sincerely

J.S.

Text from Xerox of Ms. Marshall Library, Cambridge

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To Bishop Copleston

11 Oct 1832

My dear Lord --

Weigh well what you write was a proverb of an antient Sage --
whether this precept extended to the weighing of franks is doubted by the
Learned -- ~~the~~ ^{If you} had ~~had~~ been partial to this construction of the Case --
I should not have paid 3 S. for your inclosure -- however such accidents
will occasionally happen to the most experienced frankers -- and I am obligd
to you for the transmission of the papers which I will talk over with
Hodgson -- on Saty. having appointed to meet him that day at Warburton['s]

I am off tomorrow for London -- have command[ed ?] several persons to
meet me at the Chapter House about necessary [two words missing: ms. torn]
-- The most anti prandial person [~~whole line~~ ^{Passage} missing at end of first page]
offer to each individual ? -- Pray give me your opinion on this point. --
I shall be at 3. Weymouth St Portland Place -- and if I can do any thing
for you private or public -- have the goodness to lay your Commands upon Me --
beleiving me always my dear Lord very truely Yrs --

Sydney Smith --

Combe Florey -- Taunton November 11 - 1832 --

From xerox copy of N.L.W. MS. 11980. The MS. is endorsed 'Ansd. Oct 17.
[Revd Sydney Smith] to Bishop Copleston', and the date corrected November*/
*meaning October.