

Ref Code: S[RS/HWV]

Sneyd Papers

**Calendar of correspondence to
Ralph Sneyd
from Henry William Vincent**

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CORRESPONDENCE

To Ralph Sneyd (d.1870) from Henry William Vincent (d.1865)

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| 1. | Dalmeny,
Edinburgh.
5 Oct.
1822 | Henry [William] Vincent to
[Ralph] Sneyd, at Rome.

What a pretty idle summer Sneyd
seemed to have been spending.
Sneyd would despise him when he
told him that though he had come
to Edinburgh on the day the King
held his first drawing-room, he
had been so little moved by the
thoughts of courtly gaiety that
he had only slept one night there
and next day had gone to the
highlands, to the Vale of Tummel.
From there he had gone to Blair.
Had returned to Dalmeny the end
of the first week in September.
Had settled to be at Lord Howden's
in Yorkshire on the 18th, but
recent events had again undecided
him. Miss Coke was about to be
married to the eldest Mr Spencer
Stanhope, and she and Lady Anson
had pressed him so much to be at
Holkham at the time that he believed
he should. Thanks Sneyd for inviting
him to Keele. Should bear in mind his |
|----|--|--|

hint and make a visit to Staffordshire some day a specific object. Had already administered to himself 'in nearly the same words, the dose of consolatory reflection with reference to Id. Londonderry's end, that you so well Express;...'.
 2.

London.
 15 Jan.
 1823

The same to the same, poste restante Rome.

Reflects upon the popular censure of Corinne's Oswald. It had been delightful to have Sneyd's letter, and he rejoiced that Sneyd's allegiance to Rome was unimpaired. Echoes the pleasures of Rome, but would not dwell as long on the reverse of the picture he was undergoing [in London], houses and streets buried in snow, an east wind, fog, smoke, etc. Had been, to a certain degree, settled in that 'Malaria' since the middle of December, when he had left Holkham, and staying two days with the Cornwallises, had taken up his quarter 'in this foggy sepulchre'. Had been staying with the Freemantles and at Lord Sydney's. Comments on Sneyd's letter.

3. London.
 4 June,
 1823

The same to the same, at Paris.

It had been a long time since he had had any communication with Sneyd, whose fault was it? The year had been one of cold, comfortless weather, and had brought with it its full share of moral chill. The writer's aunt, Lady Rosebery, had died. More acute was the pang with which he had heard of the death of Lady Georgiana Quin. Advises Sneyd against staying at Florence, which was too fair, too gay. Describes how bored he was with both business and pleasure. Expresses his opinion of 'cooking up matrimony between children, who have seen none of the respective opposite sexes, & know no more what the world or the people in it are made of, than "I do of those mysteries which Heaven will not have Earth to know"...'. Thought Sneyd would scarcely approve of Lady Sandwich's behaviour since the consummation, ten days afterwards Lady Harriet had been 'walzing at Almack's with all the young men in London, her Husband absent, never with her, & Lady S. making a merit of cutting all his family completely, & a joke of running round the room to avoid, as she said, the invasion of her new Connexions; these Connexions being people whom she so lately pretended she could not actually live a week without!' Recommends Quentin Durward to Sneyd.

4. Montreal,
 Sevenoaks.
 [? 2] Aug.
 1823

The same to the same, at 'Kiel' [recte Keele].

Every proof he received of living in his thoughts was pleasing to him. Was sorry to hear of his rheumatism. Sneyd had asked concerning Lord Cornwallis's death and its effects. The latter had desired that everything might be sold for the benefit of his five daughters, and it was so peremptorily expressed that if Lady Cornwallis wished to retain anything she must buy it. What her jointure was, the writer did not know, but he

had not heard that she was to have anything else. Sums up his opinion of Lord Cornwallis, 'a man of engaging sweetness of disposition, & amiability of manners - obliging & attentive to all, though liking the Society of a very few - ...'. Was told that his place in the Household was destined for Lord Hastings. Lord Salisbury had also been named at first, but that the writer should not have thought likely. Had received a severer blow from the death of Lord Bayning. What could he tell Sneyd of the other things of which he spoke. His Staffordshire manufactories were brilliant compared to the dull receptacles which the writer had to go to for materials. To Sneyd the Trent was a Tiber. Lady Conyngham and her intrigues came not near the writer's ear. Heard nothing of Carlton House except when Knighton asked to have a cask of wine duty free for the King! As he never looked in a book it was the less astonishing that he never heard of Victoire de Soligny. At that place [Montreal], which was Lord Amherst's and had been taken during his 5 years in India by Herries, their Secretary, they were to a certain degree able to do what never could be done in London, 'to mix enjoyment with business'. Herries himself was very clever. It was impossible for the writer to be at Keele, having to be in attendance at the Treasury till the end of August. The first fortnight in September he had to devote to his father and mother, after which his first wishes would be towards Keele, if Mr and Mrs Sneyd would accept him at that time, to wit the middle of September.

5. Shugborough.
11 Oct.
1823

The same to the same, at Keele.

Invites Sneyd to conceive his dilemma at receiving a letter from (?) Mrs Stanhope, 'in a storm of rage at my having put off going to Bradby from Thursday to Sunday', and telling him that the only reparation he could make them was to meet them at Easington. Had to act Horatius in a play.

6. London.
12 Nov.
1823

The same to the same, at Keele, redirected to Eaton Hall, Cheshire.

How very long ago he ought to have written to him. He was to have written, Sneyd had said, when he had been delivered from the Philistines, 'and I wonder that in 4 quiet days which I passed at Easington, I did not - ...'. Remembered yet the curious effect it had had to be sitting down with 3 or 4 ladies and gentlemen, 'instead of the heterogeneous hurly in which one had lately been mixed up - ...'. Philistia itself was to be looked back to with regret from London, where he had been suffering 'with only occasional hours in the Country, ever since,...'. Complains of the dullness of finance. What Elliston and Charles Kemble were about, he could not imagine. Some people thought they meant to confine themselves to operas, others to harlequinades. Whichever was the case, certain it was that the writer was not engaged at either D. Lane or Covent Garden. Had been seeing plays, including As You Like It, which had been well

acted in all but Rosalind, played by a Miss Jones. Had long ago got Sneyd's sister's glass, but did not know how to send it. Had passed the previous Saturday and Sunday with Lord George Quin, who had established himself, with his children, in a house at Richmond, 'what a sad Contrast that dwelling presents to what it used to be!' What were Sneyd's plans? The writer had had thoughts of running down to Holkham 'for a little Shooting;...'. Had had a volume from dear Lady Anson. How stood Sneyd's disposition to the Barings? Had seen Lady Stafford at a distance at church at Richmond. Begs remembrance to Sneyd's parents and desires to know what Sneyd's father thought of him, 'being in some doubt whether he did not look upon me as a studied young gentleman, satirising for effect, & refining from affectation; fanciful rather than discriminating, and having a great pleasure in being what I called odd and original...'. Could afford to bet 6 to 4, as Lord Anson would say, that if Sneyd could read his heart's judgment it would say something like that.

7. Englefield Green.
24 Dec.
1823

The same to the same, at Keele.

Thought Sneyd was too hard on himself, for he had answered the writer as soon as could be reasonably expected. Had come down for eight and forty hours to Mr Freemantle's, to meet his [the writer's] father and mother. Had done nothing since he had seen Sneyd, but written such letters as that to Lord Belgrave. 'A pro tempore occupation that the Treasury have given me, by putting me, ad interim, in the office of King's Remembrancer in the Exchequer, vacant by Mr Steele's death, can scarcely be said to vary the tenor of the busy idlesse of my inglorious days;...'. Explains the purpose of the appointment. When was Sneyd's arrival to take place? Would go with him to see Sir Pertinax at Covent Garden, Young acted it well, better than Normanby's Sir Archy. Had Sneyd ever thought of running down to the Alexander Barings for 2 or 3 days and meeting the writer there?

8. London.
17 Jan.
1824

The same to the same, at Wherstead, Ipswich, redirected to Longleat, Frome.

Had sent for Jaquier. An extremely well dressed gentleman had walked into his room and told him that he knew nothing about the person in question, that a great many couriers had been at his house, 'of whom this might be one,' that a letter had been waiting for a courier, and that if he came he would send him to the writer, and the writer had waited but would wait no longer, lest Sneyd should think he had neglected his commission. Was going to Lord Sydney's that day. Had Sneyd read Hadiji Baba? The critics praised it, and abused St Ronan's Well. 'I do not say that St Ronan's well is of the highest order - I even suspect (to be just) that it is of the lowest - ...'. Considers the story and his reasons for disliking it.

9. London.
28 Mar.
1824

The same to the same.

Had not an idea why he should write to him from that place. However, illness and Sunday combined to give him a few hours' rest. Had come down to his Kensington villa the previous night, 'to ruralise in Snow, Hail, and a North East Wind!' The mortals appeared to the writer to be all still mad after Rossini. Considered Rossini's performance very like his music, 'brilliant, vivacious, spirited - with little or no voice; taste enough to please the Ear, but nothing that says a syllable to the mind...'. Lady Georgiana Ryder had sat near him on that occasion and the writer thought that if he had leisure and opportunity he should make a point of being in love with her, 'for I have long thought her the most attractive of the young ladies that I see about; & have admired her natural manners & pleasing Countenance;...'. Never heard such a Bill of Mortality as all the stupid members of society brought in of a day, before dinner. On Friday everybody had killed Scarlett. Heard tolerable account of Mrs Siddons. Could see out of his window the brick of Holland House and the Duke of Bedford's. Entreats Sneyd to come to London.

10. Dalmeny.
3 Oct.
1824

The same to the same, at Keele.

Had left London on the last day of August. Had been for a fortnight into the Highlands. Had passed a week at the Duke of Atholl's, and another at Scone, with the Mansfields. Lady and Miss Cornwall were at Dalmeny, and Douglas Kinnaird, who had come the day before, and the Liddells who had come that day. They were all to go on Thursday for a week's visit to Sir John Dalrymple. Could not see comfortably how Keele was to come into the future. Had more than half promised to spend Xmas at Holkham, and had drawn the Roseberys into a project of meeting him there. Had shewn Sneyd's diagram of the Baroness de Rutgen's bonnet to Lady R., who had been quite delighted with it, and quite astonished at its accuracy. Was it not the sort of bonnet that Mrs Major Waddell wore? Had he not talked to Sneyd about The Inheritance? It reminded him of 'Miss Austin'. Another book which had amused him was a collection of original letters from Henry V to the Chevalier de St George, published by Ellis of the British Museum, 'from the late King's Library, & th[e] Manuscripts of that Museum;...'.
 11. Lily Hill,
[Bracknell,
Berks.]
30 Nov.
1824

The same to the same.

Was with much sorrow that he had learned from the Stanhopes how unwell Mrs Sneyd had been. They had come home in raptures with Keele and all belonging to it. Had heard of some parts of Sneyd's progress through divers counties. 'Concentrate, I pray you, the spirit of a few of your days into a folio sheet for my Edification,...'. News of London, the opera and plays. Was there any chance of seeing Sneyd? The writer had no plans excepting going to Holkham and Lady Vincent ' & a few collateral Norfolk & Suffolk proceedings about Christmas;...'. Had entertained hopes of paying a visit to Keele some

time before Easter, but found himself rather more confined by his legal office than he had expected. Had a notion to go to the continent in the spring, which would 'not be a bad way of escaping Almack's & the other things into which one is gradually & absurdly led if within their influence; and they do really & positively, (tho' I say so as little as possible,) annihilate me - ...'.

12.

Dalmeny.
6 Sept.
1825

The same to the same, at Keele, redirected to Sandon Hall.

'Archery meetings, Keel, and the Miss Johnsons pour tout potage,' would allow Sneyd more time to hear what he had to say, and to tell him what he had to reply, than the writer could hope from breakfasts at Chiswick, Cumberland Street and the Harrowbys. Had dawdled a little while longer in London after Sneyd had left, had spent his last English days at Kenwood and had come into Scotland on the 14th August. In the Highlands he had found delightful weather. Had returned to Dalmeny to find himself alone with the Roseberys and Lady Anson. Had stepped in a wasp's nest when out shooting and was 'still in a very tingling State.' The gayest stranger they had had there was Toby, on his way from Drummond Castle to Doncaster. People pestered the writer to read Matilda, by Lord Normanby, one of those recommendations he disbelieved. Was Sneyd to be at Keele during October, and if the writer could get thither in the 3rd week, could they tolerate him?

13.

Dalmeny.
13 Sept.
1826

The same to the same, at W[ortley], near Sheffield, redirected to Castle Howard, Malton.

So generous a thing as a volunteer had been beyond his expectations. Sneyd deserved Vincent's gratitude and had it. The writer had done very well for 4 days at Lathom, on one of them he had seen the principal buildings, etc., at Liverpool. Had been rather disappointed in the town itself, but the situation was striking. Had slept at Carlisle and had arrived at Dalmeny the following, in the dark. Describes the local scenery round the Firth of Forth. Had had the Surreys there, 'in their way from Dunrobin, the Binnings, Ld. Aberdeen & his brother, the ArchBp. of Yk., Egerton & Georgiana Vernon - the latter rather pretty - & reminding me much of Ly. G. Wortley - but rather too much in the Roxana style of white hair, & blue eyes, & all that kind of Saxon stuff, to please me, who delight in more glowing & luxuriant charms...' Prays Sneyd let Walter [Sneyd] know that Lady Rosebery had forcibly ravished from him two of his devilish drawings, 'and that as this is a loss I cannot afford to sustain, I must beg of him to repair it at his Earliest Convenience by further Efforts in my favor.' Was to stay at Dalmeny till the 26th, and then go to Scone. Lady M[ansfield] had written him one of the best written letters he had ever read. Proposed to make a diversion in favour of Lady Ruthven, though he could ill afford the time, and after 3 weeks to return to Dalmeny, and to go south about the 25th.

Had been reading The Last of the Mohicans, an admirable storeybook. What manner of people had Sneyd been living with? 'Shake off your drowsy sleep, death's Counterfeit, & tell me something about them;...'

14. Frognal.
16 Mar.
1827

The same to the same, at Keele.

Considers the difference between their correspondence. Could hardly believe that he did not tell him of his fortnight at the Grange, and his other winter expeditions, and demanded in return 'some catalogue raisonné,' of Sneyd's proceedings. Lord Liverpool's illness, and the break up which it caused, occupied everybody. Considers the political situation. At Frognal he flourished much. 'It is true that dear old Sydney is dull & prolix - (how great a majority of one's hours one passes with persons unfitted to one in every way! persons so utterly dissonant from all that occupies one's own breast, that they might appear to be almost different animals!) but I have an useful Library & a delightful garden to myself...', got a gallop and luncheon, an excellent dinner 'and a certain Society, at 7 o'clock - ...'. Had been reading through Southey's great quartos of the Peninsula War, and some accounts of the Succession War. Southey's was the book of a partisan, a political pamphlet which lowered it as history, but the writer was always indebted to any man who would put a great many facts in array before him in a pleasing style. The Duke of Wellington had been disgusted and had said he would give him no more papers after his first volume. 'A Capt. Napier has since been employed in arranging a History of the war at Strathfieldsay, with his assistance, & under his superintendence - "a damned Radical", says the Duke, "but by God he'll tell the truth" ...'. Should be very curious to see his book. Desires Sneyd to insist upon Walter doing him some more devils.

15. London.
25 Apr.
1827

The same to the same.

Considers the political situation.

16. London.
28 Apr.
1827

The same to the same, at Blithfield.

[Letter headed 'Confidential']. Sneyd would think his opening 'a piece of official coxcombry', but he really meant to request by it that what he was going to say might 'be strictly considered as said only to yourself - ...'. The writer was told that Sneyd either had been or was to be offered a seat in parliament under the new government. The writer thought it very likely that Sneyd would disdain parliament under circumstances of that description, 'but you may not, with your present feelings, as Exhibited in your spirited sketch of them to me - & with this impression operating upon me, and being well assured that a great part of these feelings is founded on an Erroneous Conception of recent Transactions, I cannot resist Entreating you to pause for a space, before you commit yourself really with

the new System, lest you should regret it afterwards.' Explains his reasons, and desires Sneyd to suspend judgment, '& still more, any Resolution of Action which you may have formed', until he saw whether the ousted party would make any and what statement in their defence when parliament met.

17. Shugborough.
23 Sept.
1827

The same to the same, at Keele, redirected to the Earl of Jersey's, Middleton Park.

Sneyd could not conceive and would not believe how often he had been on the point of a letter to him. Canning's death and the subsequent arrangements had well nigh drawn upon Sneyd a torrent of disquisition. Had absolutely promised Mrs Sneyd at Blithfield to write to him immediately, but that resolution had gone the way of its predecessors. Had been at Hollybush and Ashbourne, and had done nothing in the world but ride, shoot, dawdle and play at whist and billiards. George Vernons, Waterparks and Cavendishes, Mr and Miss Phillips, Lord and Lady Belfast, George Anson, Frederick Anson and his daughter were 'the "pompous tidings I proclaim" - ...'. Reflects on Canning's death. 'Genius & Intellect are too rare, for one to be able to see their Catastrophe.' But if they descended to judgment, they must remain of opinion that he was a bad minister. What did Sneyd think of the present cabinet? 'I confess I am not much pleased with it - ...', and could not think it would last. Considers the situation. When was there a chance of Sneyd's being at Keele? Had had some thoughts of staying at Buxton.

18. Q[ueen] Anne St.
1 Feb.
1828

The same to the same.

Admitted it all. Had been idleness itself. Had left Keele the day before. Considers the political situation.

19. Q[ueen] Anne St.
7 Feb.
1828

The same to the same, at Keele, redirected to Lord Bagot's, Blithfield.

Considers Canning. In London, where he had been at intervals during the previous two months, everything had to have reference to Siddons or Siam! 'Fanny, the Boys, or the Elephant! - for they protest that Fanny is Equal to the first, and the latter the most favored productions of the Second!' Had not seen any of them. Considers the relative merits of the performances. Heard Miss Kemble 'praised for things that savour of violence and peevishness; - ...'.

20. Sherborne.
28 Dec.
1828

The same to the same, at Keele.

A whole autumn and winter without any communication from Sneyd was more than he could stand. The writer's journeyings had all been confined to Great Britain. Was to go to Bradwell Grove, to Mr Hervey [the writer's cousin] the following day, and should not be in Town till the end of January.

[The Editor would find that the two references which of this letter do not belong.]

21. Edendon Lodge.
28 Aug.
1829

The same to the same, at Keele.

Did not mean this for a letter, only to announce that he had sent him down a box with 3 brace of ptarmigan that day. Had spent a day at Bretby, two at Keswick, three at Lowther, and two at Buchanan. They were to decamp the following day, dining and sleeping at the D[uke] of Atholl's, and proceeding on Sunday to Scone, where the writer should probably be for a week or ten days. Comments upon French politics. Desires news of Sneyd and Keele.

22. Lily Hill.
28 Dec.
1829

The same to the same.

If anything could add to the criminal character of the negligence, ingratitude and impolicy with which the writer neglected Sneyd's correspondence, 'it would be the breaking of my "Cold chain of Silence," in an hour when one's thoughts & notions are like to be as numb & torpid as the frozen words of Nova Zembla!' Had passed through the usual phases from August to December - 'rambling, Ravensworth, & Rheumatism, of which last I still remain in undisturbed possession,...'. Sneyd's sketch of his visit to Shugborough was excellent. He must have suffered. Envied Sneyd having had Lady Gower's charms and Lady Stafford's talents to fall back upon. 'They belong, I think, to the very small Class of persons among Some of whom I should like to have lived a little; - persons who live more in an atmosphere of their own, and to a certain degree independent of External circumstances,...'. It was lamentable to think how little of one's life was passed with those who conferred much gratification upon one! Reflects upon the nature of good society. [Letter incomplete].

x See note on 19.

23. Lily Hill.
21 Jan.
1830

The same to the same, at Keele, redirected to Sandon Hall.

Thanks Sneyd for his magnanimity. Sneyd had written a very excellent letter. The writer was to go to the Freemantles the following day, and should probably be in Town by Monday or Tuesday, 'to sit between Ld. St. Helen's & the Dowr. Ly. Salisbury at dinner with the Stanhopes!' Should like to see what Sneyd did at Keele. Believed he should be obliged to go into the north early in the spring, would Sneyd let him come to him? William Anson had seriously asked his advice 'about the Expediency of getting attached to Leopold if he goes to Greece!' Gives his views. Reflects upon the death of [Sir Thomas] Lawrence. Doubted whether any painter whatever ever came up to him.

24. Q[ueen] Anne St.
(?) 29 Mar.
1830

The same to the same, at Keele.

Sneyd would not see him at Keele on the following Friday, but he should be his way 'in a few days'. Should leave London by a certain Eclipse coach early on the Thursday and reach him the following day.

25.

Dunmore.
29 Apr.
1830

The same to the same, at Keele.

Expresses his pleasure at their meeting. Manchester manufacturers and Cumberland cow keepers had been kind to him on his journey, and between gossip and good nature had led him lightly to Carlisle. 'From Carlisle, on the top of the Cumberland Heavy to Edinburgh, I made a Presbyterian Minister Shew Cause against Good Friday; (upon which & Easter they revenge themselves for their extravagant saddening of Sunday which they love to dress-up as much in Crape & black feathers as they can;) This he did with creditable zeal - & several incidental thrusts, well put in, against Choirs, Canons, & Cathedrals. - Rule refused: which brought me to Edinburgh, (tho' my Elder was not treated half so ceremoniously & philosophically as he had been by me, when he must needs try his hand on the Creeds of two or three young Advocates, true Scions of the Blue - & Yellow School, who had been fishing, & got upon the Coach to return to Edinburgh within 15 miles of that chosen Seat of Architecture & Arianism - The whole Eloquence & Sneer of the Court of Session & Edinburgh Review were at his heels & about his Shoulders & down his back, with the momentum of a Douche, in no time. - I should have pitied my polemic, if he had not himself so very wantonly pulled the String which let down this Showerbath! - As it was, it seemed as if he had wanted a wetting; - so I only grieved for his Cause; which, as usual, suffered grievously by his Zeal having come passed [sic] the betting stand, while his judgment was yet far behind the Distance post! "There is nothing so independent & delightful as a Stage coach!" Have you not often heard this dogma advanced with a kind of Citizen-of-the-world Complacency by that select portion of mankind who never go anywhere, or anyhow, but in a Chaise & four? - the only portion, I believe, who puff Steamboats & Diligences - Howbeit, the "Independents" upon the Carlisle Heavy were drenched to the Skin, (after a morning positively sultry in the Vale of the Esk,) by a furious thunderstorm on the top of the hills between Selkirk & Hawick, during which it was thought dangerous, from being so near the lightning, to put up our Umbrellas!" What with the heat and the cold of the journey, the writer had been a poor concern for a day or two. Had come on to Dunmore on the 14th and found Miss Callander and her sister staying there alone with Lord and Lady Dunmore. Was sorry to say she had lost a great deal of her good looks since he had left her, which made him think still more how very impertinent he had been in describing her as something between Lady Ellenborough and Lady Uxbridge. Hoped to be married in a few months, probably at the house of Sir James Stuart, a near relative of theirs, in Lanarkshire. What became of their trip to the Hague? Would like to bring his bride to Keele and show her to Sneyd before he went. Was to go to Edinburgh on Monday and London by the steam boat on Tuesday.

26. 'Blenden.'
[recte Blendon].
8 June,
1830

The same to the same, at 6 Sackville Street, London.

Sneyd certainly dared not think that the writer had been in London ever since he had seen him, without making another attempt to pass half an hour with him. In fact, he had been at Blendon. When he thought of the spirit in which Sneyd had conceived the writer's last sentence, when the doctor had provokingly turned him out of his room, the writer's innocence had stood him in no stead, for he had felt that if his words had left the undue impression, he had appeared ungrateful, and he had been vexed. Did not believe it was necessary to assure him that he had nothing in the world in his head but that it would have been unfair to have detained him until after their colloquy. Had been in London the day before. After calomel he was to go to quinine. Had been for an hour to Lawrence's pictures. 'The King's picture of Hamlet, I look upon as by itself in the Collection; and belonging to a Superior Class to anything Else he ever painted; - In Conception and in Execution, - In sentiment, elevation, - tone & handling, - it really appears to me as far above his other works, as his own worst picture is above the prosaic level of ordinary painters of portraits:....'. Comments further upon Lawrence's technique.

27. Q[ueen] Anne St.
7 May,
1831

The same to the same, at Keele.

The writer did not come into parliament, so Sneyd could embrace his alternative, and by way of clearing the ground before him, the writer would tell him what he meant by having no personal predilections. In the first place the writer had never seen that government or set of public men whose political views and sentiments were entirely in unison with his own. Recites instances and describes his own personal feelings towards successive governments and individuals, and the Reform Bill, the secret of which, it appeared to the writer, was 'that they have not been able to resist the temptation of Endeavouring by the most short sighted & disastrous policy in the world, to secure a permanent Triumph over their Opponents, & by cheat Establish the preponderance of a few great Whig families, at the Expense of all moderate & rational ideas: - ...'.

28. Q[ueen] Anne St.
25 Nov.
1831

The same to the same, at Keele.

Was just come from a month's training of the Berks. Militia, which made him write very much in the style of Caesar's Commentaries. Barring those 28 days at 'Head-Quarters, Reading', the writer had scarcely stirred from Lily Hill all autumn. They swaddled in all that followed in the train of Papa-ship. They were now settled in Queen Anne Street. How he wished Sneyd would walk in some day and say he would dine with them, instead of the Travellers'. Considers

the political situation and Sneyd's view of the House of Lords. Had been at Covent Garden the previous night. Was the cholera at Newcastle-under-Lyme?

29. Kenwood.
2 Feb.
1832

The same to the same, at Keele, redirected to Blithfield.

Considers the political situation. Was at Kenwood for that week, 'with Madam & Miss;...'. Had passed Xmas with Mr and Mrs Campbell at Blendon. The strides of reform were so gigantic that Lord Mansfield was no longer in Hessian boots but appeared in trousers, and short ones. Did Sneyd read any story books? What mere dotage and drivelling poor Scott had fallen into. Had the Duchess of Richmond's affair reached the iron mines - 'or did it come out of them?' They said it was all a lie, 'but I believe Ld. George is "allowed" to be never out of the house; - ...'. Always pitied a woman when such things were said, either truly or falsely. Desired Sneyd to come to Town, he had been among the pots long enough.

30. Q[ueen] Anne St.
5 Feb.
1832

The same to the same, at Keele, redirected to Capesthorpe.

Sneyd had anticipated the writer's 'dread exploits'. If the writer had been one day later, the voluntary character of his missive would have been lost - 'which wd. have been a pity.' Had been doing nothing. Was "uxorious & bambinicus" rather in principle than practice: - by which I mean that I don't believe my ladies take up an unreasonable & puerile portion of my time: - Sometimes, indeed, I think not Enough: - for I very often see very little of them in the day: - but a certain busy idlesse, devoid of the Spirit of occupation, and the dignity of Rest, runs away with my day, & leaves me at the end of it with nothing to shew for it!' Was it possible Sneyd did not find his life dull at Keele? When the writer had been young he fancied he could live alone. Now he was sure he could not with pleasure. He needed the sound of voices, 'the mechanical impressions of Society!' Had Sneyd positively made himself so superior to the herding tendency as to be quite independent of that? Had been excessively amused with both his points 'in the matter of Caradoc versus Cradock!...'. The Duchess of Richmond had been reluctantly absolved and let go by the fangs of scandal. Did Sneyd happen to have kept a certain letter which the writer had written to him from the Highlands in August 1829? Had a great desire to see it.

31. Q[ueen] Anne St.
14 Mar.
1832

The same to the same, at Keele.

'Heavy as the Sin of my ingratitude was even now upon me, you have heaped Coals of fire upon my head by a fresh title to my thanks: - ...'. Sneyd was immortalising himself in epigrammatic pamphlets to the writer, and doubtless to still worthier recipients. Could have wished Sneyd had sent him the little bit of 28 August 1829, 'if only to inform me whether my imagination had really magnified it into

the splendid piece of prophecy which I conceive myself to have given birth to!' Was sorry Sneyd had forced him to believe he was indeed all sufficient to himself. Reflects on the effects of solitude. Compliments Sneyd on his letters.

32. Q[ueen] Anne St.
3 Apr.
1832

The same to the same, at Keele, redirected to Brighton. Would positively 'have a Letter upon the Stocks at least; and I may be able to 'turn her off' in about the period of time taken for a 74 at Woolwich, even tho' I should get no further at this present sitting, than the mould-loft-floor!' Considers the Reform Bill.

33. Kenwood.
25 Apr.
1832

The same to the same.

Chides Sneyd for having been in London at the wrong times. Mrs Vincent already thought him the most detestable of human beings for not appearing, '& Miss V. is imbibing in her education a Punic desire of Vengeance for your multiplied delinquencies.' Comments upon the parliamentary recess. God forbid he should disturb their slumbers. Likens Titian's Conquering Bacchus with the attitude of the aristocracy. Comments upon the writing of Channing. The review of Byron he had not seen. Comments upon Mrs Trollope. 'We have been reading, as in duty bound, the Memoirs of our Grand Papa, Sir Jas. Campbell; - who was, I believe, a great swindler & Neir-do-weel;...'. Somebody or other said that Sneyd's arrival in Town had been in the newspaper. Wished they could meet. 'My Vanity will have some Consolations; - for it could have wished you shd. have seen my wife & Child when both were looking better than they are now; - The first, in fact, has completely lost the luxuriance of tint &c. that she originally had; - & is now no more than nice looking; wch. I hope you will think her: - "The bud, the bloom, the fruit, & then we fade;" - The process of preparing & producing Miss Mary, has effectually deteriorated her, Externally. - As for the latter, she has taken advantage of her first Spring to devour wallflowers & Polyanthuses; & has the Complexion and Treatment which such Condiments deserve: - ...'.

34. Lily Hill.
10 May,
1832

The same to the same, at Keele, redirected to Mivart's Hotel, Lower Brook Street.

Was not going, at least he did not know that he was going, 'to enter into very full observations upon the new Kettle of fish that Ld. Grey's poisoned Cauldron has turned into: - ...'. Comments upon the Reform Bill.

35. Lily Hill.
25 May,
1832

The same to the same, at Keele, redirected to Mivart's Hotel, Lower Brook Street.

Comments upon the Reform Bill.

36. Ballikinrain,
Balfren.
4, 5 Aug.
1832

The same to the same, at Keele.

Had spirited himself away, with his wife and child. Did not the name at the head of his paper tell its

own story? They had come there the previous Wednesday. Had paid a visit at a place called Bounds, in Kent, near Tonbridge, a very pretty place belonging to Sir Charles Hardinge, whence they had been to see Penshurst, Somerhill and Redleaf. [Their host had been] a Mr Napier, who had married Bessie's sister, a cheerful, hospitable fellow, with lawns, cornfields, 700 acres of wood and the immeasurable hills, and two or three pretty sisters. That day Bessie had asked the writer to read the Allegro and Penseroso to her, and he had thrown her Cowen into the bargain. Describes a visitor he had had, 'to solicit a Vote as the Candidate for the Honor of representing Ten pound opinions of the County of Stirling!' As soon as the writer had been convinced it had not been a man with the cholera, which he had looked like, he had thought him a perfect madman, and had been glad when such a fellow was out of the house. [Letter continued 5 Aug.]. Had broken off, unable to finish by post time, and the interval had brought Sneyd's epistle. That day he had a violent cold. Comments upon Sneyd's letter. 'I...swear at you for declining your District! 'ods Humes and Humbugs, if our few Catos thus decline the small Uticas which present themselves, we have indeed nothing to do but to hang up our harps on the willows, and leave our Salem to its fate!' Sneyd had no right to till his Sabine farm at the expense of the Republic. Chides him for having refused to stand for the county seat. Reflects upon the times he lives in. Thanks Sneyd for remembering his dear ladies. They were both very blooming. They should probably stay at Ballikinrain during the greater part of August. Bessie's elder brother, James Callander, was coming in, they said, for Argyllshire 'on the wrong Side, I am sorry to say.' He had just built and furnished a new house in Stirlingshire, and his plan was that they should all go to take possession of it in the beginning of September. From thence they should probably go to Lord Dunmore's, and cross over to the Mansfields at Scone, come to Dalmeny towards the end of September, and be at Ravensworth about the middle of October, on their way home.

37. 9, Portugal St.
20 Nov.
1832

The same to the same, at Keele.

The writer's wife had been safely delivered a few days previously of another girl, and both had been doing as well as possible. They had achieved their three months' tour very prosperously and had finally landed there on 2 November, for they had at last parted from their house for the remainder of their term in it. The plot thickened in Belgium and the writer dared say Sneyd believed as much of the probability of peace as did the writer. London was very empty and trade was at a standstill, '(except that Ly. Bagot buys up all the Buhl Clocks & Cabinets;)...'. The Whigs had been deprived of even the Stanhopes. Had Sneyd seen the new Travellers' [Club]?

38. 9, Portugal St.
15 Jan.
1833

The same to the same, by hand.

What would the writer give to find Sneyd actually on the pavé at 7 that day. Did not expect it, but there was a bare possibility. Howbeit, meeting Sneyd's servant in the Strand had saved Sneyd a shilling and the writer a back ache, for the pamphlet he had been about to fire at him Sneyd would be spared, for see him he would.

39. Warren Wood,
Hatfield.
8 May,
1833

The same to the same, at Keele.

If Sneyd had not chanced to see two speeches made by Sir George Murray at the Highland Society dinner, he would thank the writer for sending them. They struck him, especially that on proposing the Duke of Wellington, as most finished specimens of oratory. Comments upon the political situation. The writer's domestic history was almost as diseased as his public. Had been anything but comfortable. His father, at 84, had been lingering in a state which was such as to deprive life of all enjoyment. Describes their relationship, and the situation of his mother. At Christmas, his two little girls had thought fit to get whooping-cough, and his wife had had a violent attack of influenza. Hoped to stay at Warren Wood till Whitsun. If Sneyd came to London he would find a day to run down there.

40. Bradwell Grove,
Burford.
23 Sept.
1833

The same to the same, at Keele.

It was quite clear that wherever there was an archery or a race, there Sneyd would be found! Had been amused at hearing that Sneyd's next apparition was at Abingdon Races. Dared say 'Ly. Elizabeth thought she had done the kindest thing in the world, in Cheating you from your melancholy solitudes to be "a little gay with the young people", - & giving you a chance of settling in life; - ...', and dared say that "Belinda Atkins" had been convinced, on seeing him enter the Abingdon ballroom 'that the fame of her Exploits had attracted thither one of the most Signal Votaries of Toxophilism.' Hoped Sneyd had danced with her. They had been liberated 'from a little walled-in Box at Acton' at the end of August, and after a few days with his mother at Lily Hill, had passed a very agreeable week with the Barringtons at Becket, then they had come on to Mr Hervey's, and the following day were to go to Lord Ducie's, at Woodchester. They had given up Wye, Chipstow, &c. They had driven over to see Lady Sherborne, and had seen all their works. Comments upon the latter. Believed Sneyd had gone over to look at it from Nuneham. Had been amused by Rush, who was intelligent and observing, and there were few strangers who appreciated more correctly 'the tone of External manners & Society in England,...', and an appreciation of them was less likely in an American than a Frenchman. The writer's two ladies were tolerably prosperous.

41. Lily Hill.
3 Nov.
1833
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Had at last bought a house, 'Loudon Lodge', not to be read 'London Lodge', on Camden Hill, at least 58 years of it. Describes the property. Sneyd would take them occasionally in his way to Holland House. They were just back from a second visit at Bagshot Park. The poor Duchess [of Connaught] had been very ill but had rallied. After he had written to Sneyd they had gone to Woodchester. Had had no idea of its beauty. From Cheltenham they had gone to see Toddington and had been delighted with the very beautiful proportions. Had been reading Moore's Christian Gentleman in Search of a Religion. It was to prove that the early fathers of the Church were Roman Catholics, which the writer for one had always believed. Considers the book, and their own religious views. Their house in Portugal Street was let till the end of November.
42. Portugal St.
5 Dec.
1833
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Writes about the death of his mother. She had power over about £30,000 stock. Had always thought that one of the last acts of his father, the depriving of the writer of £10,000 which he had left him from 1819 to 1831 and sold out of the stock bequeathed to him at the latter date, had proceeded from a conviction that his mother would do everything in her power for him. His mother had in every respect, except for Lily Hill and the furniture, followed the same principle, and had directed all her property to be divided between the writer's brother and himself. Feared that the result should be that he should be utterly unable to keep Lily Hill. Considers his own indecision in the matter.
43. Portugal St.
10 Jan.
1834
- The same to the same, at Keele, redirected to Blithfield.
- Writes about the death of his elder child.
44. Loudoun [sic] Lodge.
12 May,
1834
- The same to the same, at 'Cheverills' [recte Cheverells], Rickmansworth.
- Was not going to trouble him with much, but had to tell him that they had often adverted to him and his feelings ever since they had heard of his poor mother's state. Uttered no wish for him but that his health might not suffer by distress.
45. Loudoun Lodge.
28 May,
1834
- The same to the same.
- Sneyd's concluding paragraph made him answer his letter sooner than Sneyd might be prepared for, as his wife had been confined, though it had not been in the papers. She had been delivered of a girl, but the writer had been dreadfully uneasy about her.

46. Loudoun Lodge.
6 Oct.
1834
- The same to the same.
- Grudged him the merit of having first broken a silence which had pressed heavy upon his own conscience. Wished Sneyd would enter into a bond with him, in £500, to write once a week, or fortnight. It was but very lately that he had been relieved as much as he then was about his dear wife. Describes her medical history. Latterly she had had her sister with her. The writer had been into Hertfordshire to shoot partridges, and had ridden to Luton, which he had wanted to see. Describes a house [? Luton Hoo] at Luton, 'Enormous, & detestable', 'the whole frittered away in the vile thin style of Adams & Leoni,...'. The pictures were splendid. Had been reading the dispatches of the Duke of Wellington in India. News of the Stanhopes.
47. Loudoun Lodge.
23 Nov.
1834
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Sneyd would expect, perhaps, a remark or two 'on this sudden freak of our Reform Billy!' The writer thought it would answer and that the Duke might make as strong a government as they had ever had. Comments upon the political situation. Had been to Audley End for a week's shooting. Always found Lord Braybrooke an agreeable companion. The writer's wife advanced, but slowly. She had her sister with her and the writer had read Hamlet and Coriolanus aloud to them in the evenings.
48. King's Rem[embrancer]'s Office, Temple.
25 Nov.
1834
- The same to the same, at Keele, redirected to Gopsall.
- Must thank him in two lines for his letter. Comments upon the political situation.
49. Temple.
11 Dec.
1834
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Sneyd must certainly find his letter as hard to digest as a truffle or a hard egg, or he would have poured out his comments before. Was he canvassing a fragment of his county, or what? Comments upon the political situation. Was to dine with the Stanhopes that day. Would Sneyd were to.
50. Temple.
25 Mar.
1835
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- So Sneyd had slipped through his fingers. Consolated himself when he thought what a poor apology for a visit it would have been. Comments upon the political situation. Was sorry to say his domestic spirits were scarcely better than his political, for his poor wife had been unwell. Expresses concern for her future. His little conservatory was getting so pretty and sweet. Mrs Stanhope had been unwell and reminded the writer too much of her elder sister's vividness of sensation and apprehension to leave them comfortable. Was going to dine at the Travellers' [Club] before jumping into a Twickenham stage, to go to Richmond.

51. Temple.
27 Mar.
1835
- The same to the same.
- After the writer's letter 'the other day', Sneyd would be glad to hear that Mrs V. had received already astonishing benefit from the change of air. Comments upon the political situation.
52. Temple.
30 Mar.
1835
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- They always "anticipated" one another's dread Exploits! Comments upon the political situation.
53. Temple.
8 Apr.
1835
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Comments upon the political situation.
54. Temple.
9 Apr.
1835
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Comments upon the political situation. His wife was better.
55. Temple.
11 Apr.
1835
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Comments upon the political situation. Was going that day to Kenwood, till Wednesday. Poor Bessie was quite unable to accompany him, though going on pretty well. Tom Liddell was one of the five commissioners for (?) settling the Houses of Parliament 'in their Outsides'. How gladly he received Sneyd's promise of a visit, before Sneyd plunged into the mire of London.
56. Temple.
29 June,
1835
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Complains of Sneyd's unfairness in escaping from London in the night. Had made as sure of finding him at 12 that morning as of seeing Charles on his horse at Charing Cross. Thomas and the writer were to go to Wimpole on Thursday - 'The Northumberland, Ld. Camden &c. are to be the party, vice Duke & Peel - It sounds more grand than gay - & it seems very doubtful if we small ones shall go to the Cambridge Affair, at all - ...'. They should amuse themselves elsewhere, probably at Audley End, Lord Hardwicke's plan being that they should return to make part of a drama. The Duchess of Gloucester had bullied the writer and his wife into going to Bagshot Park, to meet Sneyd's sisters, 'and what, except talking occasionally to them, I am to do from morning till night, without horse, man, or object, - I don't well know! - I shall devote myself to attempts to steal plants in the garden, if I find the terrain at all favorable for that Undertaking[.]' The Barringtons had been to luncheon with them. The ministerial majority increased and the writer did not much like the look of things. The Municipal Reform Bill struck him 'as calculated to make a great Change - & to be a great Step in Mob Government! - I can't help having some misgivings as to the prudence of Peel in going along with its principle so very heartily!'

57. Kenwood.
5 Aug.
1835

The same to the same, at Keele.

Had come there on Monday and had proceeded to Wimpole that day. They were due at Cannon Hall, near Barnsley '(Spencer Stanhope's)' on the 11th, after which their movements were uncertain, depending on what quarter the members of Bessie's family, whom she wished to see, might be living in. Supposed Scone, Dunmore and Dalmeny would 'bring up the rear of the Autumn, & we shall work our way gradually to Camden Hill,...'. Comments upon the political situation. Had read extracts from Coleridge, from The Quarterly Review, and bits at odd quarters of hours, and looked upon him 'as a very profound & original thinker - ...'. 'Another little book' had been Fanny Kemble's journal, which in spite of its vulgarities and bad taste he had read with pleasure. Poor Bessie had been a good deal tired with her drive, and was not strong, but not ill. Lady Hardwicke was singing very well there, 'in a vaulted music Room disgraced by all sorts of Soane's frippery, but admirable for sound,...'. They were to sleep at Alcanbury Hill the following night, and intended to be at Cannon Hall on Tuesday.

58. Temple.
1 Nov.
1835

The same to the same, at Keele.

If there were truth in newspapers Sneyd was in England. If there were truth in St James's Street, he was in Staffordshire. If there were truth in Lewis he was at Keele. Going the other evening to Lewis, to desire him to bind a book, the writer had seen one or two he had done for Sneyd, which had led to that piece of information. They had arrived at home after their travels on the 5th. They had been a month getting to Scotland, a month there, and a month working home. His wife was not the worse for it, '& on the whole better than when she set out - ...'. Considers her condition. It had been a step to dine with the Stanhopes, the previous Wednesday, though it had been rewarded by a cold. 'Little Susie' had been so admired that the writer had threatened to whip her regularly every other day after she came home, 'to bring her mind back to a proper State of discipline!' She had been three years old the previous day. Had read Milman's History of the Jews, and two odd volumes of Mme. de Levis (? and) a book called Physiology Applied to Health and Education. Comments on Milman.

59. Loudoun Lodge.
5 Dec.
1835

The same to the same.

Had seen the model of Costessy, by Dighton, whom he had liked. Had subscribed to a print he was to bring out, of the Cambridgeshire installation the previous summer. Had fallen in with a young and, he feared, starving sculptor in Edinburgh, of the name of Steel, and had seen a colossal group, of Alexander and Bucephalus, and other work. Tom Liddell had dined with them two days before. When they had consulted on his taking the commissionership, and the writer had pointed out the drawbacks ' - that it must preclude any plan of his own; - ' and had asked him whether there was 'any ground for the report of his sitting in judgment on his own productions', he had positively disclaimed

such an idea. The writer had been told that Robert Cockerill's plan 'is so extremely beautiful that he has no idea that any other can surpass it;...', but that if any plan did, 'the winner must be one of the finest things in the Kingdom.' Feared that when taste had been satisfied, finance would step in. Was very glad to hear of George Fortescue's prospects. Writes of progress in the garden. Had been vexed that [Sir Francis] Burdett had not written a better letter to The Times. Comments upon the political situation. They were to stay at home all that next week, but were to go to Audley End on the 16th, and believed they should go to Wimpole for three days first. They were to come back before Christmas for Harriet Primrose's marriage. Sneyd would guess how shocked they had been 'at poor old Sarum's Exit!'

60. Loudoun Lodge.
18 Jan.
1836

The same to the same, at Newnham Courtenay, redirected to Oatlands.

Hoped that in directing to Nuneham he should have calculated the distance of his shot in front of his flight forward enough to have hit him. Had been intending to pull the trigger before then and scatter a few pellets at the topics of Sneyd's last letter. They were available for all such London purposes as Sneyd could have at that time of year. Wished to show him his preparations for a garden. Madam and the writer had been that morning over Stafford House and had admired much there. Tom Liddell was to have gone with them, but had not appeared. Desired to know something of what had been done at Nuneham. Had been told it was very good.

61. Loudoun Lodge.
2, 14 Mar.
1836

The same to the same, at Keele, redirected to 83 Jermyn St., St James's.

'Good! - my Powderflask needed Some Such Spark to fall upon it in order to ignite - & it Explodes at once; - ...'. Comments upon the political situation. 'Thomas o'Becket' [? Thomas Liddell] was very busy, but they were using him ill, he was tortured by the sort of suggestions made, and Lord Grey had suggested a totally different arrangement of rooms and the introduction of a staircase, which was a complete bouleversement of the original design. Barry's boat sailed with wind and stream. Somebody had told the writer that Sir R. Smirke would have the building of it, which the writer thought unfair. They were going to Hastings for Easter. The writer's wife was very delicate and much needed a change of air. Planta had lent them Fairlight, a beautiful abode. Believed that the King was worse than ever 'as a useful Element of Preservation!' They looked upon Sneyd as due at Loudoun in May or June, when the writer would have much to show him in his garden.

62. Loudoun Lodge.
19 May,
1836

The same to the same, at Keele.

Their expedition had been a complete failure and had proved 'most pernicious' to his wife. The weather had been 'most savage', the air 'too keen &

stimulating for her; - ...', added to which the medical man had done his wife some mischief, so that she was unable to stand, or bear any food with impunity. Describes her condition and the measures he has taken for its treatment. When did Sneyd come to him? Considers the political situation. R. Jenkinson was coming to luncheon that day, to survey the writer's infant efforts in geraniums.

63. Temple.
15 June,
1836
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Could not say anything favourable of his poor wife. Describes the garden. Invites Sneyd to come to him in July.
64. Temple.
27 June,
1836
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Could not say anything comfortable about the state of things at home, his wife had made no progress. He saw nobody, read less than ever, and had not even seen the exhibitions. Had got rid of his gardener and got in his place a quiet, sober, sensible and willing man. Tom Liddell and the writer had dined a little while before with Robert Jenkinson, on the occasion of a joint Visit to (?) Walton. Had been very much pleased with the garden. The counties were returning Conservatives and the writer did not think the country liked the baseness and the danger of the coalition, yet the House of Commons still supported and strengthened it
65. Temple.
15 July,
1836
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Since he had last written he rejoiced to say that real symptoms of amendment had manifested themselves in his beloved B. Describes her condition. Sneyd would not be in the way if he visited them. Explains the routine. They were horribly burnt up, the roses withered, and all their freshness gone. Had been 'at the Boys' Breakfast at Chelsea' the previous day, it had been very well done, ' - Bedouin Arabs, (as they are called, but to my mind no more Arab than I am,) feats of horsemanship, Band of Music, - an Excellent dinner;...'. If Sneyd did not appear before the end of the month the writer should write and tell him what they were to do, when they did anything, but his wife would have to winter and spring in Devonshire.
66. Temple.
1 Aug.
1836
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- They had been proceeding quite well. The writer's wife had been urged to go to the Rhine, where they were going on the 14th. Was there no chance of a glimpse of him before they went? London was almost empty.
67. Wimpole.
22 Dec.
1836
- The same to the same, at 'Cheverills' [recte Cheverells], 'Not Know[n] at Rickmansworth try Chenies', 'not at Chenies'.
- Sneyd had every right to pretend he thought the writer to be at Frankfurt. Nevertheless, they had

come back the beginning of November, and his invalid 'so far better than when she went, that she had continued slowly to advance in flesh & strength during the trip, upon Grapes & bread,...', but the root of her sufferings, the local injury to the nerves of the spine, had remained untouched, and she had returned as much a cripple as when she had gone. Describes their journey. Had come to Wimpole three days before, where they had a son of Lord Melville, a son of Lord Grey, a Member of Parliament, a sea captain, two females and a painter. Lady Hardwicke sang to them in the evening, and they debated and dawdled very tolerably. Believed he should go to Audley End for 2 or 3 days, 'before I go to my Household gods;...'.
 68. Temple.
 1 Feb.
 1837

The same to the same.

Refers to an enclosure he had sent Sneyd but had received back from Lord Hardwicke. Old as it was, Sneyd must still swallow it 'as an Evidence of my December intentions.' They had been all ill, but were better. Considers the political situation. Was Sneyd coming to them? Had turned his dining-room, which they never used, 'into a sort of mixed sleeping, sitting, writing Apartment for myself;...'. In the process, two places had accrued which he thought needed busts, indeed four, 'two for large ones, which I designed to make Public deities, two for smaller, which I meant to make literary.' Had anchored on the Duke of Wellington and Burke. In the other department he had been satisfied with Shakespeare and Milton.

69. Loudoun Lodge.
 '(or rather
 "Temple".)'.
 19 May,
 1837

The same to the same, at Keele.

Considers the weather, and Sneyd's intention of going abroad, but as consolation lurked under all regrets he was 'glad to think that it will assuredly give us a little Visit from you before the Summer is over.' Considers the Westminster election. Tom L[? iddell] was gone to Cheltenham. Lord Hardwicke had been entirely satisfied with his drawing. Agreed with Sneyd about Murillo. The writer's poor Bessie was such a cripple, but better than when Sneyd had been there. Had that day received news of the death of her sister in India. Dared not tell his wife till he had prepared her mind for the possibility of the event, 'for she had [a] most comfortable letter abt. her Confinement &c. from her only a few days ago!' It made the writer very uncomfortable.

70. Loudoun Lodge.
 20 June,
 1837

The same to the same, at Keele.

Sneyd had a heart of flint to insist on uprooting and transplanting him. Intended being with him on Tuesday. Had been detained by various little matters, among others by fluctuations in his wife's state, who had not been so well. 'So the Windsor Catastrophe is arrived!' Considers the death of William IV and its effects. 'I am not one of those who am Eagerly desirous of Seeing the Queen, at 18, just and barely out of the Schoolroom, impossible to be instructed in

real principles, & facts, & characters, - shew so little mental modesty or temper, as flying violently in the face of her mother wd. imply! - nor wd. willingly owe to the personal piques of the Anti-chamber, which would Evince passion rather than prudence or principle, - a rash embarkation in Counsels, which I wd. rather see Time & expanding Intellect foster & mature.'

71.

Lily Hill.
23 June,
1839

The same to the same.

It was not surprising, with such a heart and head as Sneyd's, he should have found means to say a few words that were soothing to his bruised feelings. Reflects upon the suffering and death of his wife. The Hardwicks had been very urgent with him to leave home and take his children to them, to Wimpole, but the writer had had no desire to leave home. They had been at Lily for the last six weeks, for the writer's tenants of the previous four years had left the place in so wretched a condition that he had found it absolutely necessary to tidy up. Found the taste for out-of-door occupation advancing on him daily, or his taste for indoor study and improvement declining. Their desolate hearth at Camden Hill, '(which is now called Thornwood lodge, as we got rid of Loudoun which we thought it had no business with,)' was in great beauty and gaiety, and the writer's gardener was miserable at their having deserted it in its bloom. Adds a postscript, on the findings at the post-mortem examination of his wife.

72.

Clarendon Park.
28 Sept.
1840

The same to the same, at Keele.

Sneyd's letter found him at Clarendon Park, 'beyond the terminus of Railroads, - other, alas, than Yours!' He was to stay there until Thursday, when he was to go back to his household gods. Had been away from home since the first week in September. Supposed that the faithful Vivian had told him that they had gone together to the Grange, and discussed Wilkins and Cockerill, and had had Croker and Lord Sandwich, and had gone on discussing matters, high and low. Should have liked to have seen Sneyd's works at their present point of half way. One would never have half the credit one deserved for the beauty one produced, unless one imbued people a little with the sense of the plainness one removed. Believed Sneyd should have kept open house at Keele for a couple of years before he 'began taming the stubborn genius of yr. plain, dancing the Hays with your large Oaks, & removing your Quarries bodily for Rock-work; - ...'. Discusses what he has been reading, some (? German - MS. imperfect) translations of Shakespeare, and an ill-written novel, The Young Prima Donna.

73.

Thornwood Lodge.
4 Nov.
1840

The same to the same, at Keele.

Hated Sneyd for his constant anticipations of him. There the writer was, and in a pretty mess, his conservatory painting, scaffolding and hods in all directions, shrubs whitewashed and dusted, and his

gardener wringing his hands. Discusses repairs and alterations to the house. Must soon move to Lily Hill. Was no judge whether Sneyd's description of Holland House was just, but was sure it was very pretty and well expressed. Considers what constitutes good society, and what the present Ld. Holland proposed to do with the site of Holland House. Considers the situation in France, Syria and Turkey. There was no one in Town that the writer knew or Sneyd cared a farthing about.

74. Thornwood Lodge.
28 Nov.
1840

The same to the same.

Advises Sneyd not to come to London, where the 'Fog is fouler than Vulcan's Stithy, and cuttable with a Knife!' Meanwhile, the women had cut off another very large slice off the fronts of their bonnets, their next move 'must certainly be to wear them slung down their backs;...'. Was going to bolt, to Hertfordshire, and then to Wimpole. Had been reading Mason's poems, whose elegies were better than either his odes or his dramas, and who had a most refined ear.

75. Milland House,
Liphook [and]
Thornwood Lodge.
17, 26 June,
1841

The same to the same.

Had hoped to have obeyed Sneyd's summons the previous Sunday. Describes the 'great square uninteresting lump of Petworth,... Ennobled Enough by 32 Sir Joshuas,... heaps of Vandykes, & that large silvery Claude...'. Had been to the Isle of Wight, to his brother-in-law John Callander, and to Ryde, to hear Sibthorp. Describes what 'Saint Sib' had done to St James' Church, 'the whimsies of a foolish fellow, & a feeble thinker; - but au reste, he did & said nothing to repeal; - preached a clever, & a good Sermon upon prayer, - & did not call upon us for more credulous Concessions than many, or most, of his less Levite bretheren; - & on the whole I rather liked him; & his Singing, - or rather that of his little boys, Excessively.' Puseyism appeared to the writer one of the most injudicious and nonsensical vagaries possible, but he would 'rather pass a couple of hours with Sib's Eagle, Organ, & Surplice, than with the iconoclast barrenness of the presbyterian Barn, & the puritan drawl of their nasal Psalm - '. His royal dinner had taken place the day before. It was incredible how much trouble it was to keep a cabinet of 12 people together for a dinner, and muster a respectable division '(or diversion)' for the evening's debate. The Duke of Cambridge had fancied himself obliged to dine at P[rince] Esterhazy's and had sent an excuse. The Wharncloffes had been sent for by the Q[ueen] Dowager. The writer had replaced them by the Hardwickses, Barringtons, Sydneys and Roseberys. Princess Sophia and about 30 more people had come in in the evening, '& both the Princesses said they didn't know when they had Enjoyed themselves so much; - Especially the poor blind one, - who was quite touchingly gratified by being invited to meet her Sister; so that altogether it "went off" very

well, & I had reason to be gratified by the kindness of my "monde" towards my small Efforts.' There had been an advertisement that Strawberry Hill was to be sold. Had been there with a party, but they had been refused admission by the housekeeper, but had carried their point ' & a very agreeable couple of hours the carrying of it gave us; - ...'.

76. Lily Hill.
15 July,
1841

The same to the same, at Keele.

Had committed a rash act and let his house to Lord Alvanley and his sister. Desired Sneyd to visit him if he should come to Town. Considers the question of Gothic architecture and cordially concurred in Sneyd's opinion that ecclesiastical Gothic was entirely unfit for a residence. All the writer had meant to say was that it was strange that Horace Walpole, having adopted that style, had completely perverted and misapplied his elements and details. Considers the results of the elections, and the political situation. [MS. mutilated].

77. Lily Hill.
23 Aug.
1841

The same to the same, at Keele.

So Sneyd thought him rash 'in making unto myself Tenants of the Mammon of Unrighteousness; - ...'. It was due to a great and much injured name, however, that he had received more than half his rent soon after his house had been taken. Was sure Sneyd would have read 'the Extraordinary "Bogle" Case.' Suggests a visit from Sneyd and a joint visit to the Ashburtons. Sir William Freemantle and the Cambridges at the Duchess of Gloucester's had been his chief social life since he had been there. Considers the question of the Speaker. It had been a pleasure to see Sneyd's sister, Mrs Bouverie, who had come there last Sunday with the Duchess of Gloucester and the Duke of Cambridge. Had been glad to learn from her that Sneyd's brother was the better for being abroad. Prays Sneyd write to him and, if possible, visit him.

78. 38 York Place,
Portman Square.
9 Sept.
1841

The same to the same, at Keele.

Describes his state of ill health following a railway journey. Should have no difficulty going to Lily Hill with Sneyd in the following week. Did not regret his visit and had been charmed 'to have replaced all my Vague Notions of your Lakes, Hills & Rocks, by specific identities.' Had looked at Barry's free school the previous day, during his half hour of Birmingham, and had thought it had considerable merit. It seemed that the D[uke] of Rutland was not Chamberlain after all, but Lord de la Warr, which seemed to him a very good appointment. Adds a postscript, about a book called Ollivier, which he had found on Sneyd's shelves and had been unable to finish. Desires to know what happened.

79.

Temple.
23 Apr.
1842

The same to the same, at Keele.

By the terms of the 'Treaty of Thornwood' the writer was to let Sneyd know that he was alive. But was he? Mighty grievances had fallen upon him, finding himself suddenly compelled to attend the Court of Exchequer every morning before 10 o'clock and to sit there during the day, after which he had to go to his office and dispose of whatever official business might be there. Sneyd might guess what a large portion of his leisure thus became sacrificed, at least during the term. The writer had set his heart on the little expeditions Sneyd had spoken of. If Sneyd delayed his visit till after the 9th May, that was what the writer should prefer. What condition Lily Hill might be in, he did not know, for some villains had set fire to his neighbour Sir John Walsh's plantation, and had burned a great deal of it along the writer's bank. As to Sneyd's gite in London, Vivian's lodging in Albemarle Street was to be had. Considers what was to be seen at Strawberry Hill. The prints, it was said, were to be sold separately in London. What the writer was about, he had told Sneyd. Hardly anyone dined with him. Found it cheaper and pleasanter to dine with other people, and when he was at home he played with his children, read Shakespeare to them '(which they have a passion for, -)', listened to their governess's bits of Mozart and Rossini after they had gone to bed, while he read the Quarterly Review, '& then, for the additional hour before I go to bed myself, read, aloud to myself, some hundred lines of an old Latin favorite; -'. Considers his philosophy of life, to fight was vulgar and disagreeable and violated the only principle on which mere society should come together, the desire of making one another happy and comfortable, while you were together. Had liked Vivian's wife excessively. Was not so sure about his place. His house might be a town hall at Bath. Thought Beckford's house at Bath better worth seeing, 'I never saw greater Evidence of a Man's being all over Eye & Apprehension; - Every Cabinet & Shelf a lesson in design; - Principle in Art everywhere visible, Exempt from the Pedantry of rules, - flowers, pictures, Colors, all well disposed, - in short, - Sodomy must be the most instructive & inspiring thing in the World!' Had been to Bristol and seen the iron steamer, and 'a Norman Chaptery or whatever you call it, quite perfect of the Sort; -'. At Sherborne he had met his decorator. Now how could Sneyd ask him about Lord Rolle, he knew very well he knew nothing about it.

80.

Court of Exchequer.
3 May,
1842

The same to the same, at Keele.

Replies to Sneyd for the latter having taken him to task for abandoning him for Augustus Barrington. There [? in London] they had been in a state of continuing sunshine, without blight or burn on any blossom. That deserved some gratitude. Was excessively jealous and unhappy at what Sneyd said about his own rhododendrons, hybrid and legitimate. Hybrids, the writer had given up. It was the same with the finer kinds of exotic roses. How very unfeeling Sneyd was not to say one word

about his new slavery and victimization in the Court of Exchequer. The fact was, nobody pitied the writer so much as he pitied himself. Tommy Liddell '& the regular idlers, are as sympathizing as my Grief can desire; - ...'. Asks Sneyd to defer his move from the 10th to the 12th, for it seemed probable that the writer should have to attend at the sittings after term for those two days, and he was already engaged for dinner.

81. Court of Exchequer. The same to the same.

30 May,
1842

If Sneyd could resist the quiet unostentatious graces of Lady Shelley, he was indeed inexorable. Very few novelties had accrued in the writer's corner of life since Sneyd had gone. 'Here I am, in the fresh of the Morning, in the fust of the Court; - and a sea of Cauliflower'd heads floating before me, to which yours, (Even if you could Condescend to them instead of double gorse & hybrids,) are far preferable, & contain fewer maggots.' The writer had, however, a great pull over them, in being occupied in writing to Sneyd instead of in an argument on a bankrupt and his assignees. Was grateful for having seen Sutherland House. Macaulay's article on Frederick the Great would amuse Sneyd. Considers Macaulay as an historian. The Hardwicks and Vivians, Baron Parke and his wife, with a very pretty daughter and some youth the writer could not remember, were to dine with him that day, and the writer's brother also came to him that day, for a week. Had asked the Moylans to come in the evening. Was prepared to lay down one general principle about a dinner or social meeting - everybody should know somebody of those present well.

82. Court of Exchequer. The same to the same, at Keele.

2 June,
1842

Sneyd would have seen his volunteer efforts in his favour before he received his little stimulus. The catalogue should be cared for. Relates his experience in making a bid for a property owned by Lord Bute. The writer's two elves kissed Sneyd's hand. The writer was going to take them to the Christening of the Hardwicks' child, at which the Queen and the Duke of Wellington were sponsors. He made a sacrifice to do it, as he had been bidden to a breakfast at Mrs Lawrence's, of Ealing Park, a mighty florist. As the Queen had been shot at '& behaved, it must be warmly felt, with all the norve & royal Prudence as well as Courage, of her Spirited Race, - & as I felt sure the Attorney & Sol^r Genl. would be absent fm. this Ct. to go to the Levee, with the address, I resolved in a moment of Enthusiasm to go too; - but knowing there must be an Enormous crowd, resolved to be at the Tail of it; - In consequence of first Encountering the string of Lords & Commons going up in a file interminable as Banquo's issue, - and waiting till it was over, I was too late; - They shut the doors...'

83.

Temple.
10 June,
1842

The same to the same.

They had told the writer that Sneyd had fallen from his horse and damaged his leg. Wished to know about it. Was at present no nearer to Bute than - Arran. Had heard nothing in reply to his post-auctional proposition. Sneyd should know what he knew when he knew it. Wondered Sneyd had not heard his 'God Save the King'. All the Liddells, Miss Moylan, Lady Essex and Miss Johnstone, Parry, Balfe and many in the room had sung it just before 'the Royals' had gone away, '& all were much gratified by it.' The whole affair had gone off with the vivacity of a squib. The dinner had been Seymours, Ingestries, Roseberrys, Lady Georga. Bathurst and Lord Abinger. The Duke of Cambridge had been quieter than usual and always goodnatured and cheerful. Could not find Sneyd's catalogue. The Sherbornes had had a magnificent dinner for the Duchess of Gloucester on Tuesday, but the writer thought it had 'hung on hard' more than his 'humbler proceedings.' At (?) Humphy's the day before they had had (?) Lord Ashbr. and Miss B., Paulet Mildmays, C. Percys, Fox Lane and Gersdorff. Charles Percy had asked the latter who the King of Saxony was, and whether it was the same as in the time of Napoleon. The writer thought it a bold exposé of one's ignorance to ask a foreign minister who was king of his country. Describes [with sketches] his rhododendrons and roses. They told the writer that Howden's black flag had not been piratical but for his father's death, which mended the matter. [MS. incomplete].

84.

Temple.
23 June,
1842

The same to the same.

Had that morning become the owner of Lord Bute's. Describes the details of his purchase. The world had all gone down to the great 'Buccleughery', the fête at Richmond to the Queen and Albert, Belgiosi, etc. The Cambridges had invited themselves to the writer the other day, and had come with their two daughters and the Duchess of Gloucester. Trusted heartily that it wound up all his exhibitions for the season, for he had had enough of it. The way in which common sense and the habit of one's wits about one seemed to have come to Sneyd's assistance in regard to his crushed leg, was truly edifying.

85.

Court of Exchequer.
7 Nov.
1842

The same to the same.

Sneyd's letter had reached him when he had been in the middle of tumultuous social life. Had gone to Raby. Describes the visit. They had stayed at Lily Hill till 1 November, then to 'the Palazzo'. Everybody seemed to admit that Chatsworth had been the most perfect thing in the world. The Duchess of Gloucester had told the writer that she had met Sneyd there, and that she could not get on with Sir Robert Peel. Considers Alton. Considers the situation in Canada and America, 'our very growing & filling out daughter'. A rich old lady had been playing fast and loose with the writer as a candidate for the occupation of 'Buteland'. It was astonishing how much the writer had done for Thomas [Liddell] in the way of ecstasy over specimens at

Ravensworth. Had gone over with the Duke of Cleveland, and Wiltshire, from Raby, to see a modern castle called Brancepeth, belonging to a Mr Russell, which the writer thought the 'best modern Pile of that erroneous adaptation,...' that he had seen.

86.

Court of Exchequer.
23 Jan.
1843

The same to the same, at Keele.

Complains of the manner in which he is being treated by the Treasury. Sneyd's last letter contained an erudition which overwhelmed while it edified him. It was true then what he had heard, that in the remote districts there did still exist curious country gentlemen who read books instead of the reviews of them. Macaulay, perhaps, but Lady Grosvenor was out of the question. Quite agreed with Sneyd about Mahon writing [Essai sur la vie du Grande Condé] in French. Had been something astonished by Tommy's marriage. Should have expected him to have chosen something rather younger, fresher and more stimulated and stimulating, but she was a woman of great sense and spirit, and Lady Ravensworth had wished the arrangement very much, long before it had taken place. The writer's 'Bairns' were quite well. Had not yet nailed a tenant at Buteland. Sneyd would guess how they had all been 'Excited & grieved by poor Edwd. Drummond's Catastrophe;...'

87.

Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
10 Feb.
1843

The same to the same.

The remodelling of the writer's office had been not a matter of option but necessity. Explains the circumstances leading up to his present position as Queen's Remembrancer. Sneyd's description of Tom [Liddell] was very exact. How little the "Serious" of life had touched him. Comments upon Sneyd's reading. To name Madam d'Arblay with Miss Austen, '(a writer of Great tact & finesse, & broad general appreciation of human nature, -)' would be absurd. The anti-Elfenboroughs, the writer thought, had the best of the conversation the previous night. Adds a postscript, that he has had a fall from his horse, but had later dined out.

88.

Court of Exchequer.
20 Apr.
1843

The same to the same.

Wished Sneyd to come to him between the 11th and the 16th May. The Tom Liddells would come about the same time, either during or after Sneyd's visit, as he preferred. Fancied his new neighbours would by that time be next door, and flattered himself they would be an additional inducement to Sneyd 'to Campdenize Considerably;...'. Another reason was that he would be sadly wanted to help Lady Caroline to lay out her garden. Had not stirred that Easter. Had taken his little maids to the opera - Norma. Describes the performance, and considers the finest composer of operas to have been Mozart, particularly Don Giovanni.

89. London.
27 Apr.
1843
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- The conclusion of the term was put off to the 15th. Invites Sneyd to join them in the week beginning the 15th May, and the writer might be able to go back with him for 48 hours, to see his hybrids. Thought the Times on the Duke of Sussex the most ridiculous thing he had ever read. Considers the Duke's habits and attachments, and the Marriage Act. Considers Macaulay's article on the 'Tractists'. 'A great deal of his Satire & argument against Puseyism, wd. be equally applicable to anything Else;...'. Wished he could meet Sneyd on his biographies, but he read no books. Had removed his office from the Temple to Duke Street, Westminster. Considers the question of his salary. Begged pardon for his opera "article". His neighbours were not yet come. She had had laid out one of the worst walks the writer had ever seen.
90. Court of Exchequer.
29 Apr.
1843
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Had determined to write to him that day upon a matter he was very earnest in. Desired to name Sneyd as sole guardian of his children, and gives details of their circumstances. Enclosed a copy of a minute the Treasury had sent him. Sneyd would see how unfair it was.
91. Thornwood Lodge.
3 May,
1843
- The same to the same.
- Would have been stultified as to half the grounds on which he had made his request to Sneyd, if the latter's letter had not been exactly what he had expected, 'both in sterling kindness & sterling sense.' Expresses his appreciation. Was delighted with the prospect of his week's visit to him. Considers further the question of his official position. The House of Commons seemed to be coming out 'rather thinner in some of its details than it should;...' [in respect of the Queen's Bench Officers' (Salaries and Allowances) Bill], and the added length did not improve it. Thought Lord Westminster's Doric screen to Grosvenor House better than he usually got anything. Had thought 'of slipping Tom after Ly. Caroline Las: in her sylvan aberrations; - but I am always afraid of Tom's sweeping tyrannies disgusting a Novice with Amateurship altogether;...'. Rather looked to Sneyd.
92. Thornwood Lodge.
3 July,
1843
- The same to the same.
- It was only lately that he had learned how unwell Sneyd had been. [In London] there were 'many tongues lamenting yr. absence, & many arms open, (morally,) ready to receive You.' They had some things to see, too - a roomful of Sir Joshua at the British Gallery. Describes some of the exhibits. Considers events in Spain. The cabinet were in the greatest perplexity about Sind, and differed over Ireland. The King of Hanover had fallen down at Kew and was inquired about. He would die there at last.

93.

Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
25 July,
1843

The same to the same, at Keele.

Sneyd was very provoking, he wrote in time to deprive the writer of the voluntary merit of the letter he had been intending to write; and then he described Denton in detail and left the writer nothing to say about it. Had been delighted with his two days there. Describes the visit [to the Rev. Walter Sneyd]. From the fact that a man could not surround himself with the pensive poetry of life and not have a woman and child come into part of his contemplations, the writer derived consolation touching the [continuation] of the house of Sneyd. Nor could he yet bring himself to look upon them as nugatory in Sneyd's own case. Felt the boundaries of Denton a little too obvious for his own taste. Suggests that Sneyd comes to Mivart's the following day and dines with Walter, the writer and Lady Effingham, who would be at Thornwood Lodge at half past seven. Should like to do something with him but feared he was engaged in a visit at Twickenham, and had more than half promised to go to Brighton afterwards. Did not know if Wimpole would be open.

94.

Lily Hill.
14 Oct.
1843

The same to the same.

Sneyd's long looking letter had alarmed him. Concluded he had been made a Secretary of State, and that he had lost one of the few remaining rational people who would condescend to talk to him. Found that very few of those who knew much about anything would condescend to talk about it to those who were lay. Chantrey used to talk fishing and steam engines, but the devil a word on sculpture, though a little on architecture, of which he knew little and felt less. Judges spoke to him of the opera. Was enchanted to find, on opening Sneyd's packet, a much better cause for its official appearance than so ominous an appointment. Sneyd's frontispiece was excessively pretty, and quite a Turner-like reminiscence of the place. Quite agreed with Sneyd about Highclere. Had never seen a place he should like better to possess. All he knew of Lord Carnarvon's new house were Barry's drawings of it. To Wimpole, he admitted, he had not gone, any more than Sneyd. Had been very unwell after seeing him. Had received a severe mental shock. Had therefore preferred coming to Lily Hill. Had then yielded to an adjuration of the Sydneys, and had stayed at Frogmal. Wished Sneyd had told him to do the Grange. Would run to Sneyd and his brother if he had not been seduced by invitations to visit relatives in Berkshire and Oxfordshire. Considers Ireland. Considers his neighbour's gardener's shortcomings. The writer's lodge was finished. Comments on his garden and children. Adds a postscript, desiring Sneyd to write to him again 'upon one of those Trentham sheets of Paper, without writing on the back of the Engraving; that I may embalm it in an Album;...!.

95. Court of Exchequer. The same to the same, at Keele.
8 Nov.
1843
- Sneyd's skill in hieroglyphics was equal to Wilkinson's. Wondered if one might rely on the latter's solutions of obelisks as safely as on Sneyd's solutions of Almanacks. Describes the situation around him in the court. Never sat there without a sentiment of humiliation at feeling himself in the presence of so many who knew more on one subject than he knew on every one. Thought it disagreeable to see or read of the more prominent of the human race and to be aware that one could do nothing to earn a place in the story. Believed professional eminence to be most satisfactory to a high and practical mind. Would rather have been Lawrence than Canning. His wonder was quite equal to his content that Sneyd should have found anything in his long pamphlet worthy of his appropriation. London seemed to him emptier than usual, 'but a mere pendulum between Westminster and Kensington sees, I admit, but little of it;...'. The new club on the site of the Thatched House [St James's Street] was not turning out well. Criticizes the architecture. Considers Ireland.
96. Thornwood Lodge. The same to the same.
19 Feb.
1844
- Quotes authorities on the office of sheriff, all that he would find 'absolutely necessary for a right understanding of your new functions;...'. But there was one point to which he wished early to draw his attention: 'If a woman be taken in Execution by the Sheriff, & the Sheriff marrieth her, it is held AN ESCAPE; and he shall be answerable to the King; for that a wife cannot be prisoner to her husband;...'. The last the writer had heard of Sneyd he was propping up Lady Holland's pillows on a journey into Wiltshire. Sydney Herbert had asked the writer to go to Wilton at Xmas, perhaps they should have met. Considers the political situation. Had read nothing new but a few articles in the reviews and the first volume of Louis Blanc's Dix Années. He looked very green and flourishing out of doors.
97. Court of Exchequer. The same to the same, at Keele.
18 Apr.
1844
- It seemed time to write again a little to him. They had passed Easter at their small wild Lily, 'enjoying it uncommonly;...'. His children were there still. At the end of the following week they should probably be all re-united at Thornwood Lodge. Hoped Sneyd was prepared to come for a handsome visit on 9th May. If it pleased Sneyd's double furzes and hybrid rhododendrons to be in bloom out of term, the writer should want of all things to see them. Had Sneyd ever made a pond? Describes his experience. The Treasury had at last fired a hostile shot. Outlines the current situation of his difference with them. Had known so little of London for the previous three weeks that it would be impertinent to talk about it. The Haymarket Theatre was extremely amusing, the opera excellent. Did not know what else people

were doing. Baring Wall had asked him to eat one of his excellent dinners. Had read nothing, heard nothing, almost thought nothing, but he had made a pond!

98. Lily Hill.
28 Apr.
1844

The same to the same.

Describes in detail the difference between himself and the Treasury over the nature of his office and his accountability to the Treasury for the fees of the Registrarship of Middlesex. Considers his pond. If he had money he could make a lake, but it would have to wait, 'like many other things, for Miss Burdett Coutts's becoming, to her infinite delectation, - Mrs Vincent;...'. How ridiculous the House of Commons had been and continued to be, and would be.

99. Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
17 May,
1844

The same to the same, at Keele.

Thanks him for his suggestions in regard to his [? memorandum] and comments thereon. What was it about Sneyd's foot? At his peril he would be well on Monday. Baring Wall had gout, '& if B. Wall had not the gout, one may as well give up all notion of retributive justice in this world at least;...'. How glad Sneyd would be to receive a letter from him that required no answer. Walter was gone that day. He was to have run down to Lily Hill the day before, where they had all spent the day, but had discovered overnight that it was Ascension Day, which, it seemed, rendered such things impossible. Describes Lily Hill.

100. Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
8 Aug.
1844

The same to the same, at Keele.

Was going posthaste to the Argyllshire Highlands to meet his brother-in-law, James Callander, for ten days' shooting on his hills. The writer had not got up his strength and needed something to make him feel more comfortable. Had been for a week with the Hardwicks, at their place near Southampton. 'The Hamble is as sylvan & solitary as a bit of the Ohio might be!' The Duke of Rutland had come in his yacht 'Resolution' from Cowes, 'to persuade the whole party to go down to Spithead next day;...'. The writer had backed out and missed a storm. Considers a reply he had received from the Treasury. What did he do next? What did Sneyd think of their foreign prospects? Considered they were nearer war than they had been for 28 years.

101. Thornwood Lodge.
10 Oct.
1844

The same to the same, at Keele.

Had fished and fowled 'with more pleasure in the Endeavour to demolish animal life, than is Easily accountable for in a rational being of some 48.' Had come down tanned and prosperous to Dunmore and Dalmeny, where he had met Sneyd's sister and Arundell Bouverie, who had told him Sneyd had been ill. Prays Sneyd tell him it was all over and that he was well. Had intended to have shirked a ceremony in the Court of Exchequer, but it had been thought he had better not absent himself. Had caught a chill and lumbago,

and Tom Liddell had taken him at Ravensworth. Was back and about again and thought of going to Lily Hill. What was Sneyd doing? Was excited at the King of France's visit. London was emptier than could be described. With thankfulness he escaped from it to his garden. Thomas's hall at Ravensworth was turning out well. The monument to W.Scott at Edinburgh was very beautiful. It was unfortunately put in a place where nothing should be allowed to be, but that Sneyd would appreciate when he saw Edinburgh, as he surely would before he died.

102. Court of Exchequer. The same to the same, at Keele.

9 Nov.
1844

Had asked for bread and had been given a stone. Still wanted to visit him. Had left his children and governess at Lily Hill. The campaign of the Treasury Shabberoons had been opened. Describes the course of action he intended to take. Had been using his bachelor state 'to go constantly to the play, after my Club dinner.' Describes Don Caesar de Bazan. Mrs Glover was a capital actress. Fancied there were very few people in Town, but all his daylight was passed in a court or office. Had dined with nobody but the Duchess of Gloucester. Envied Sneyd the power of reading books. What did Sneyd think of Macaulay's article on Chatham? Had found it amusing. Had read a most admirable analysis of Lord Ellenborough in a Calcutta Review, which had been copied.

103. Court of Exchequer. The same to the same.

21 Apr.
1845

Describes the situation in regard to his difference with the Treasury. Lily Hill was so sheltered from the North and East that they never suffered from it, except it continued very long and dried them up. At Camden Hill they were tolerably well off, but it had been a horrid winter for evergreens. A Thalaba had come next door where that lovely garden had been, and destroyed the whole thing. Comments on the political situation. [Letter incomplete].

104. Court of Exchequer. The same to the same.

22 May,
1845

Was sorry Sneyd would not come at a minute's warning to see his lilacs. Sent him his 'Case & opinion' which decided his course [of action with the Treasury]. London talked and thought of nothing but how people dressed in George II's time. Believed that Peel invented the ball 'to divert the Grand monde at least from Maynooth & Agriculture;...', and it seemed to have succeeded. The exhibition of the Royal Academy was not a good one, though there were some good things in it. Considers some of the exhibits. Believed his neighbour would turn out better than might be predicted of him. The Lascelleses were going on, too, much better. Their gardener had died and the successor had much better notions.

105. Thornwood Lodge.
2 July,
1845

The same to the same.

Gathered that Sneyd had no immediate thoughts of coming that way, but meeting his sisters at a concert and calling upon them the previous day, he found Sneyd was actually expected. Invites him to stay with him. London seemed to be perfectly mad with gregariousness. The Duchess of Bedford had had one of the prettiest balls he had ever seen. She seemed to have permitted none but the prettiest girls in London to have come. The attitude of the polka astonished him not a little, 'as nobody Ever saw women so near other men, - Except when Ld. Stuart peeped thro' Keyholes at Paris.'

106. Lily Hill.
27 Aug.
1845

The same to the same, at the Clarendon Hotel, Bond Street, London.

Where was Sneyd at that moment and what was he about? The writer had been stationary at Lily Hill since they had parted. Walter had stayed with him till Friday the 15th. They had achieved the two expeditions which he had projected for him, which had included a visit to Bramshill. The day they had left Denton they had sauntered in the Oxford college courts and gardens. Thought Walter had been pleased with Lily Hill, but not the meagre poverty of the tenement itself. The only fault the writer had to find with him was his intolerable trick of singing to himself all the time he was with one. Since then the writer had been over to see the new gardens at Frogmore and the old at Dropmore. What did Sneyd meditate? Invites him to stay. Could they not go to Badger together, in the way to Keele? His damsels were prosperous and desired their particular regards.

107. Lily Hill.
1 Sept.
1845

The same to the same.

It was a pity Sneyd had put 'Staines' instead of 'Bracknell' because his letter had only found him that morning. The writer had gout, and had had a twinge of lumbago into the bargain. The Duchess of Gloucester had told the writer that Miss d'Esté's marriage 'with Wilde' had taken place on 13th August, which he supposed Sneyd knew. Comments upon this marriage and the coming marriage of Georga. Harcourt and George Malcolm. Had been reading Smythe's Historic Fancies.

108. Lily Hill.
[c. 9 Sept.
1845]

The same to the same, at the Clarendon Hotel, Bond Street, London.

Was better, but not well. Had got out of his cloth shoe but only into a slipper. To talk of gout as if it were a boon and a tonic, was to talk of it as, the writer thought, nobody who had had it would talk. What was 'all this Revolution in the tranquil monarchy of Keel?' The writer must have Sneyd at Lily Hill for a day, to keep him au courant of their small sylvan progresses. [MS. mutilated].

[1. Postmark].

109. Lily Hill.
17 Sept.
1845

The same to the same.

Advises Sneyd to come by a later train. The abominably equinoctial behaviour of the weather made it more than probable 'that the 'Skiey Influences' will not be sufficiently tempting to induce the Effort...'. The bone of the writer's great toe was gradually contracting within its legitimate dimensions, and he walked like a man again. The writer's cousin, Lady Knightley, had just had a severe illness, from starving and reducing herself to keep free of the gout. They were all to go to Oxford the following week.

110. Lily Hill.
19 Sept.
1845

The same to the same, at the Clarendon Hotel, Bond Street, London.

Had not in the least expected him the day before, and had been more consoled for his absence than friendship should have been by thinking how ugly they looked! Considers the damage done to the garden by the gale. Sneyd should visit Lily Hill in June, 'when the resinous firs first begin to smell, - & the Furze, broom, & Rhododendrons are so happily purple & yellow together,...'. The writer's letter had been a humbug if it had painted him sad. What did Lord Lonsdale's 'Nolo Garterari' mean? 'To be sure he is not much calculated to set it off; but he can't be supposed to think so.' Wished Sneyd well in his sale of his Kentish land. Would post the letter in London. Was obliged to go to his office for a few hours, and should 'take a look at my wife, Thornwd. Lodge.' Wasn't it a shame that with so well behaved a spouse as that, with his family and limited means... [MS. mutilated].

111. Lily Hill.
16, 18 Nov.
1845

The same to the same, at Keele.

How was the man without maids? 'Has the Chief of the Eunuchs at the Sublime Porte of Keel still a sinecure? - or is the Harem refurnished, - with new Scenery, dresses & Decorations?' Princess Sophia had told the writer that Sneyd had been seen in those latitudes; the Duchess of Gloucester had told him she had met him at either Tottenham or Grove, the writer forgot which. Describes a visit by [? J.P.] Drew. Describes him. Had been running up a little bit of building at Lily Hill. Had read nothing but a few articles in reviews and a life of Lord Hill. Had received Sneyd's letter. Had had no more 'gout proper'. Was charmed to hear of his fortress no longer holding out, '& of the Ladies having in person Sate down before the place! - write me word the moment that Ly. C. Greville or Mrs Percy set foot upon the wall; - for from that moment Keel is no more secure than Cindad Rodrigo,...'. Thoroughly understood what he said about Lady Holland. Sympathize with it he could not, but if he had been petted by her and derived all sorts of social benefits, he was quite certain he should. Grandes dames eschewed the writer. Did not think he suited them. Sneyd's recommended reading should have a

hearing. Begrudges Sneyd tearing off the other half of his writing paper instead of writing on it. [MS. mutilated].

112. Thornwood Lodge.
14, 15 Dec.
1845

The same to the same, at Keele, redirected to Badminton.

Comments upon the resignation of the cabinet and the issue of the Corn Laws. Comments. Had read Perez with great interest and pleasure. Thanks Sneyd also for having introduced him to Prescott. Was to go the following day to Wimpole, for a week. Should be at Lily Hill for Xmas, and afterwards at the Grange. Adds a postscript, that from the tone of Clarendon's conversation, he was much inclined to believe that the Whig difficulties had been found insuperable.

113. Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
11 Feb.
1846

The same to the same.

Thought he might be well satisfied [with the reception given his pamphlet]. Comments thereon. Did not know how Sneyd had seen him [in London]. Had been to the British Institution, it was below the average of exhibitions, one picture was beautiful, Goodall's 'Conscript'. Considers other works in the exhibition. Was taking some lessons in colour from a drawing master whom the children had begged to have. Was humiliated and disgusted with the figure he cut.

With, (i) copy letter, Charles Greville to J. Hatchard, 7 Feb., 1846, acknowledging a pamphlet called Corn and Consistency, and commenting thereon.

114. Thornwood Lodge.
14 Feb.
1846

The same to the same, at Keele.

After he had written to Sneyd he had sent a line to Charles Greville, to tell him how much he had been pleased by receiving his letter from Hatchard, and had had the answer which he sent Sneyd. Considers the pamphlet. Considers the political situation. Had had a letter from 'Thomas o' Ravensworth', enchanted at the notion of their joint pilgrimage. The writer was to go to Sneyd after the 24th, they were to go together to Thomas, Sneyd was to return to Keele, 'to see if there is a Railroad running thro' his [sic] drawingroom, - and to project palaces & hanging gardens without end;...', then Sneyd was to visit Thornwood Lodge after 10th May. Had laughed at Sneyd's comments on his painting.

With, (i) copy letter, C[harles] G[reville] to [Henry William] V[incent], undated.

115. Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
17 Feb.
1846

The same to the same.

Sneyd would not have had long to chew on his '"insulated ignorance"'. He must needs throw a stone at the writer for having learned of his confession. Considers the position of Peel. Adds a postscript, asking Sneyd to tell him what people said about his pamphlet behind his back.

116. Queen's Remembrancer's Office.
24 Feb.
1846
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Sneyd's speeches had hit his thoughts. Saturday was in his head as the writer's day for him. Could not and would not believe that Sneyd did not go to Ravensworth with him. Pleads with him to go. Had been delighted to find that Peel's speech had made exactly the same impression on Sneyd that it had upon him. Considers the political situation at home and comments upon the Sikh War. Comments upon the case of Miss [Mary] Smith, 'most people look at her as a clever bitch, bent upon knabbing an Earl; - this is not quite my notion,...', and [Washington, Earl] Ferrers.
117. Queen's Remembrancer's Office.
26 Feb.
1846
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Should postpone his arrival till Tuesday. It would give the writer 2 or 3 days more, and Sneyd a little time to reflect whether a further delay would not enable him positively to go to R[avensworth] C[astle]. Comments upon Hardinge's dispatches from India, and the political situation at home. Had been reading the beginning of the "New Timon". Had Sneyd seen it? Had met the Hardwicks, Barringtons, &c. at dinner at Gloucester House. Lord Barrington had liked his pamphlet but not its long sentences, and had told the writer it was like his conversation! Had not known he was so heavy in hand as all that.
118. Thornwood Lodge.
1 Mar.
1846
- The same to the same.
- They were constant for Tuesday. Sneyd's watch was not done. Comments upon Hardinge's dispatch on the Sikh War.
119. Clarendon Hotel, Leamington.
8 Mar.
1846
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Describes his visit to Leamington spa and meeting with Dr Jephson. Had decided to stay there for the necessary time, so there was an end of Ravensworth. Thought he should probably have the children with him. Missed Keele every minute.
120. Clarendon Square, Leamington.
15 Mar.
1846
- The same to the same.
- Had no great progress to report. Describes the course of his treatment under Dr Jephson, who had invited him to luncheon and shown him his pictures. Had just got into a house at Leamington, and the children were with him. It had been high time to get out of the Clarendon. The Charles Percys had asked him to dine, but he had declined and had ridden over to luncheon. Guy's Cliffe had a character about it, but was not quite satisfactory. Stoneleigh was a very handsome place. Had been interested about the Poles. Considers their situation.

121. Leamington.
23 Mar.
1846
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Describes his health and treatment at Leamington. Prays Sneyd tell Walter he had given £4.10. for his 'done up' Buhl inkstand and had got it home, but did not like it near so well as Walter's 'undone-up' one, which was darker and told its tortoise-shell tale more decidedly. Had seen a few very remarkable pictures and drawings at the house of a Mr (?) Fareham, at Leamington, with some 20 or 30 very fine drawings. He was a clever, intelligent man in that line. The writer had been taken to his house by a Miss Knight, who used to live with the Duke and Duchess of Atholl, of whom she was a relation, in the days when the writer used to frequent Blair. Entirely agreed with all Sneyd said about the Poles. The Indian news was a great relief.
122. Leamington.
4 Apr.
1846
- The same to the same.
- Could not answer his letter as it deserved. Had received intelligence of the death of his sister, Mrs Callander. Reflects upon her character. Could not speak of much progress in his medical affairs. Had been proceeding tolerably. Had a strong impression that he should be better when he got to his own house, his own doctor, and more of his usual habits.
123. Leamington.
11 Apr.
1846
- The same to the same.
- Was going on much as heretofore. Continued to feel little more than the discomfort of the process. Expresses his gratitude to Sneyd for his sympathy on the death of his sister. Reflects on her death.
124. Leamington.
3 May,
1846
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- 'These Rails' kept Sneyd from stagnating. Would not his lawyer grapple with them more in their own way? Had been 'not quite easy' about his elder child. First they had said it was measles, then chicken-pox, but it was probably the latter and she was quite well again. Describes his own condition and treatment, and Dr Jephson. Was glad he had stirred up hostility against the intention of setting the Duke sideways, 'riding off the Arch.' Had ridden about in all directions with Charles P. and seen some odd houses, Wroxhall Court, and 'Badsley Clinton' [recte Baddesley Clinton]. Scott and Moffat had built a very pretty little church for Lord Leigh, beyond Kenilworth. Had been much disgusted by the factious folly of the Irish scoundrels.
125. Thornwood Lodge.
24 June,
1846
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Had just been to Lily for the day, with Thomas Liddell. Considers the political situation. London was full of breakfasts.

126.

Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
10 July,
1846

The same to the same.

Sent him a plan concerning alterations to Lily Hill, to have some details worked out by Sneyd's man, of whom the latter had spoken. Had sat next to Blore the other day, at Crewe's, who had 'got together the oddest Seven in the world;...', Captain Greville, Blore, Twopeny (a clever gentleman of Northumberland), Brande the chemist and Sir George Black, the navigator. It was wonderful that Crewe found any pleasure in their conversation. Blore was jocose 'and somewhat tedious therein.' Considers the political situation. Had let Lily Hill for four months, from 1 August. They should pass some shooting visits in September and October, in some of which his daughters would participate. They had all been at the opera, Castellan had sung the Sonnambula extremely well. Compares her with Persiani. Had sent in a representation to the Barons, 'to Endeavour to Enlist them in a Remonstrance to the new Treasury in my behalf.' The Chief Baron had written him a most courteous letter.

127.

Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
21 July,
1846

The same to the same, at Keele.

Had misunderstood the affair. Had thought the man who was to have done the drawing 'was a cunning Subordinate somewhere in the Keel department;...'. As it was the writer should certainly have an interview with Mr Deason in Keppel Street, when he had thoroughly definite ideas of what it would be fit to do. Sneyd's remarks had made him rather unhappy, especially as they fell in with misgivings the writer had had before. Considers the issue. Meanwhile, he believed he had told Sneyd he had let the house for four months, '& perhaps some amiable house maid may set it on fire, & settle the question for me, with the help of the Insurance office.' Had been at Ravensworth for a week, to meet the Duke of Cambridge, and had hammered his plans [for alterations to Lily Hill] into the 'pericranium of the vivacious & volatile Tom,...', who was bitten by the general notion. Describes Ravensworth. Considers the political situation. Pitied Sneyd his influenza. Had Sneyd rather go to Town than come to him?

128.

Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office
4 Aug.
1846

The same to the same.

To spite them for being out of Town during Sneyd's week, the latter had gone away they day they had come back. Had called at the Clarendon that day. They had all enjoyed themselves at Shrubland, the garden was perhaps the best he knew, and the country engaging. Thornwood had looked humble 'after the Aldobrandinian Splendours' the writer had left. Charles Percy was vague and mysterious about his movements. Wanted to dine with him, with some of their Shrubland party, but he demurred. The writer should be pretty stationary in August, in September he was taking 'the young ones' to visit the clergyman of a parish in which the writer's Sussex farms were situated, and to William Law's, to shoot partridges. What were Sneyd's plans. Comments upon the King of France.

129. Bradwell Grove.
24 Oct.
1846
- The same to the same.
- Considers his dispute with the Treasury on the issue of the office of Queen's Remembrancer, and encloses a letter from the Chief Baron of the Exchequer. Should like, of all things, to see a parish church which Sneyd's critical eye found "the most beautiful specimen" he had seen. Could understand what he said about the Stanleys. It was a pity. Thought many eminent statesmen had vulgarities, 'but not perhaps such as you mean in him.' Had read Morpeth's speeches at the dinners with pleasure. If the other members of the Hervey family cared no more for Lord Fanny's posthumous reputation than the writer did, it was astonishing how tranquil they would remain under infliction. Cared more for the Upton's having spoiled the breed. Smythe was right not to marry Dolly. They were to go home on Friday. [Letter mutilated].
- With, (i) letter, 20 Oct., 1846, [Sir Jonathan] Fred[erick] Pollock to 'Wm. Hy.' [sic] Vincent, concerning the latter's dispute with the Treasury.
130. Queen's Remembrancer's Office.
6 Nov.
1846
- The same to the same.
- Considers his dispute with the Treasury. Comments upon the affair of Smythe and Dolly, 'I shan't go on arguing a point abstractedly which will make me appear to be retained for The debauchers of people's Daughters & Sisters;...'. A man who once got into the scrape of being invited by a pretty woman, was in an awkward perplexity. Comments upon Palmerston and the Montpensier issue.
131. Court of Exchequer.
25 Nov.
1846
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Considers his dispute with the Treasury. The term, thank God, ended that day, 'with very tolerable smoothness and Complacency;...'. The following day and Saturday he was to dine with the Duchess of Gloucester, who had a little fête for the Princess Mary's birthday, which the writer had 'helped her to concoct,...'. Describes the programme. Fancied the Queen had been frightened out of her wits lest the Portugals and a whole nursery of little Braganzas should walk in at Windsor, after a cruise in an English ship. Had been grieved by the horrid accident to Charles Lascelles. Was still at home till the 7th, when he was to go to Wimpole for a week, and on the 16th he hoped to get to Lily with the children for Christmas.
132. Thornwood Lodge.
24 Dec.
1846
- The same to the same.
- Upon the whole Sneyd had probably done well to escape. Sneyd had got out of the smoke and fog, evaded his doctor, got home and had got a change of air. Had great faith in the latter. Did not Sneyd feel lonely? Was an utter stranger to 'Ennui' but could not so cheerily go through the day without 'the fresh bright phizzes at their tea, and our joint lectures and Chatterings afterwards!' Had been prepared for his dissatisfaction with the notice on

Mr Grenville. Had sometimes thought that in the phrase of other mortuary notices of the Times he had seen something of Brougham, one of the worst and most uncandid of biographers. Had only known [Thomas] Grenville from knowing his friends and meeting him occasionally at dinner, but had so much respect for him that his death had given him a sort of pang. Grudged the diffusion of Grenville's treasures into the 'Great Deep's bosom of the Oceanic Library of the Museum!' Did not want to palliate Lord Maidstone, 'I think of it as you do; - only, that his Case, - (or any Case,) might have been better stated than he stated it.' Had been reading Fouché's memoirs. Considers the charm of books. Could only concentrate on them when he was sick.

133. Wimpole.
16 Jan.
1847

The same to the same, at Newcastle-under-Lyme, redirected to 16 Bruton St., Berkeley Square, London.

Had been laid up with gout at Wimpole, 'alone in another man's great house, with the Constant feeling that you ought to be elsewhere!' Considers Fouché's memoirs. There had been a Mr Harris there, a barrister, engaged in the MS. Room in collecting materials for a life of Lord Chancellor Hardwicke. Considers the Irish situation. One could not go to Louis Phillippe's and Guizot's quibbles after Ireland, but had been much amused with the papers and thought, on paper, that Guizot had had the best of it.

134. Thornwood Lodge.
1 Feb.
1847

The same to the same.

By his own fireside, the writer was, and it was about the best thing he could tell Sneyd of himself. Had come back 10 days before, as soon as he had been able to stand. Was getting on, by slow degrees. Considers his condition and treatment. His official affairs with the Treasury had not been at all promising, and though he did not quite give up the matter, perhaps he ought to. Considers the situation. Reverts to the matter of Palmerston and Guizot. Did not perceive the faintest glimmer of light in the proposed measures for Ireland. Gives his own views. 'As I have got the Gout & Rheumatism, - & you live in the Country, - I don't see, under these Circumstances, who is to govern the Nation!' The Lascelles were back. Had been reading a book called Characteristics of Men of Genius.

135. Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
6 Feb.
1847

The same to the same.

Sent him the correspondence with the C[hief] B[aron] and Wood. Considers the situation between himself and the Treasury. Was getting on, but his physician said his pulse was still quick and irregular. Had Sneyd ever read that wonderful book The Emigrant? 'I own it made my blood boil within me; & left me with a most painful impression of

the thanklessness of serving the Kind of Government we now have in this Country, - or doing anything spirited and Chivalrous for the Fatherland!' Thought the Duke of Wellington's protest against the Canada Bill,...[Letter incomplete].

136. Thornwood Lodge.
11 Feb.
1847

The same to the same.

Entirely agreed with Sneyd's view of '"The Case"'. Describes the present situation in regard to his difference with the Treasury. Was feeling better. Had been frightened out of his wits two days before by being told that Lord G[eorge] B[entick] would have 324 votes for his bill, for the writer disapproved his plan and should have been sorry that he carried one against a government which he could not displace, but he heard now that he wouldn't muster more than 200. Had not read The Marquesas, 'tho' the young ladies have had it in their possession for some time, with the design of making me give it them aloud as our Eveng. book;...', but they had been occupied with Mme. d'Arblay.

137. Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
10 Mar.
1847

The same to the same, at Keele.

Considers his difference with the Treasury. Considers the character of Viscount Sidmouth. 'I won't ask you to read these 3 heavy Vols; - which have lead enough in them to sink the whole Kit of Addingtons to still lower depths with you; - but if you ever find the 2d Vol. lying about in a Country house, read in the Appendix, a paper of Walter Scott's on the foundation of a Literary Committee, or Commission, for giving public rewards to men of Talent; for it seems to me, admirable; - ...'. Was glad Sneyd tossed him a crumb of comfort as to The Emigrant. Was going on tolerably and was just going to ride home in the snow. In two of his possessions he had Spring before him - his conservatory and his children. Both were blooming and gay.

138. Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
16 Mar.
1847

The same to the same, at Keele.

Considers his difference with the Treasury, and the possibility of approaching Lord Brougham. Had just been to an Exchequer ceremony connected with the coin. Comments upon the Privy Councillors who were present. The sunshine gave him a yearn for Lily, but they were all brighter and cheerier in their little 'Cottage-hole, than Even at Campden Hill:...'. Had been amused with the 6th volume of Southey's Doctor. There was a great glass candlestick to be seen in Oxford Street which was splendid. [Letter mutilated].

139. Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
20 Mar.
1847

The same to the same, at Keele.

Had written to Lord Ashburton since he had received Sneyd's letter, making the request very much in the words Sneyd had put it. They would go and see two or three little matters the following week - the cleaned pictures. Comments upon the effects of this. Had been on Thursday with their friend Grace to see

the House of Lords. Grace had the painting part of the decorations. Comments upon the result, and comments adversely on the situation of the reporters' gallery - 'a set of anonymous Spies, responsible to nobody,...'. [Letter mutilated].

140. Thornwood Lodge.
2 Apr.
1847

The same to the same.

Had written to Augustus Liddell concerning Farrell. The Duchess had been besieged with personal applications and the writer had recommended her to put the whole matter into A[ugustus] L[iddell]'s hands, '(who is a good judge of household [sic] men,...)'. Describes his attempts to see Lord Brougham. They all had colds and could not go to Lily.

141. Court of Exchequer.
15 Apr.
1847

The same to the same.

Comments upon Macaulay, and the case of the Earl of Banbury and the order of the House of Lords. Had made a sorry trip of his visit to Lily. Had caught cold before he had gone and had been confined the whole time he had been there. Moved to and fro in a carriage, and lived on toast and water. Concluded that Brougham would return before the following day. Hoped to get hold of him.

142. Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
27 Apr.
1847

The same to the same, at Keele, redirected to Blithfield.

Describes his attempts to see and talk to Lord Brougham, about his difference with the Treasury. They were quite ready to receive Sneyd at Campden Hill. The Duke of Cambridge was to dine with him on 8th May, and Clare and Lady Isabella, among others, were to meet him. Wanted Sneyd to come about the beginning of the week, and remain over the end of it. Advanced in health very slowly. Was excessively amused with the Marquesas book.

143. Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
28 Apr.
1847

The same to the same, at Keele.

Enclosed Pollock's note and the reply he had written. Supposed Sneyd knew that Lord Bessborough was really dying. Clarendon had been first talked of as his successor, 'but they say he cannot be spared out of the House of Lords.' Morpeth had been since named. Thought Wood's loan to a few Irish railways a miserable affair and more vicious in principle than George Bentick's. The whole world had been at The Amateur play the previous night. Mrs Butler was one of the worst actresses he had ever seen. Hoped that in the 'Councils of Keel' the march southwards was resolved upon. Was to meet 'our Tim' at the water colour exhibition.

144. Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
3 May,
1847

The same to the same.

Complains of Brougham's behaviour towards him in putting him off, but preferred 'these multiplied Adjournments to a short summary disposal of the

matter...because they at least look like an intention of really looking into it,...'. The T. Liddells were much disappointed, and the Duke of Cambridge was to dine with the writer on the 8th, when the latter had reckoned on Sneyd as an agreeable guest. Reverts to the Marquesas. Adds a postscript, that the tenant of Percy's Cross was an old widow, Mrs Gore Langton.

145. Thornwood Lodge.
10 May,
1847

The same to the same, at Keele.

Reports on his progress with Lord Brougham, in connection with his difference with the Treasury. Wished to see Lord John Russell, could Sneyd suggest a good way of getting at him? Adds a postscript, giving the text of Lord Brougham's opinion of his case.

146. Court of Exchequer.
9 June,
1847

The same to the same.

Had made excuses for Sneyd and mourned over the absence of his May flatteries of his abode. Considers his garden and the cost of imported plants. Should certainly go and make his bow to the Duchess of Sutherland. 'The Elevated Vision of H.M. does not stoop to so low a level, as to recognize the Obeisances of loyalty so near the Earth as mine.' The Duchess of Gloucester had also a 'The dansant' but the writer did not believe that the Queen was to go. On the 18th the Duchess of Gloucester and the Cambridges had promised to come 'to a small, slight Musical Entertainment, of very moderate pretensions, chez moi; It is to begin at 9, & be over at 11; - & I have limited, (I hope,) the invitations to such a number abt. 60, as can sit down & listen comfortably in our not very capacious drawingroom. - I have likewise Endeavoured to confine them, (with a few necessary Exceptions,) to those, (proper to be there,) who really like to listen to Music; - It is an attempt to give an idea of "Egmont" (an opa. of Beethoven's not known in this Country, - & wch. the Musical world feel deeply about,) by P. forte & Violin, trios, - with the Songs, & recitation, given in the intervals, to vary the attention, & make a continuous Story. - The whole does not take an hour & a Quarter; - the plan is not common, - & on the whole people seem to fancy the notion, & be eager to come.' Wished Sneyd would make up his mind to be among them. He would smile at the five occupants of Lily Hill for Ascot, ' - Not Albert & Victoria, I admit; - (because they've a house in the neighbourhood; -) but folks who made me tremble nearly as much for what they might think of our ranshackly [sic] little Cabins; - Ld. Jersey, Ld. Villiers & his wife, - Fredk. V. & Ly. Elizabeth; - & I am even told there was a third Couple; - who must certainly have slept in the Shoe-hole.' Reverts to his difference with the Treasury. Had furnished [Sir C.] Wood and [C.E. Trevelyan with copies of Lord Brougham's and Pollock's letters. Hoped Sneyd had found Clare and Lady Isabella more cheerful than when they had left them. Had seen Jenny Lind once. Considers her.

147.

Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
5 Nov.
1847

The same to the same, at Keele.

They had parted on the steps of Norman Court. The writer had made a week's visit at Clarendon, a short one at Lord Mansfield's, a short one to the Hardwicks, 'at their place' on the Southampton Water, 'had rejected certain Isle of Wight propositions, and had rejoined the main body at Lily. Had been there all October, excepting a week with the Duchess of Gloucester at Richmond. The D[uke] of C[ambridge] had given him excellent shooting in Richmond Park, and for 2 days they had had the Duchess of Kent, 'a dull, & Even Shy, woman, who adds nothing to Society,...'. Was living in an apartment in Harley Street. Was achieving his addition to the conservatory. The loss of Sneyd's extracted trees was as necessary as the expense of the French war of their youth: 'No hope for the future Wood, but in the unshrinking Sacrifice of 9 tenths of it!' Sneyd was right to veil his sentiments, on a sheet of notepaper, on the monetary crisis, which was scarcely to be despatched in an epigram. Gives his views on the subject. Wished they had had a compromise in 1819. If Sneyd had any game he would appreciate being sent some.

148.

Lily Hill.
18 Nov.
1847

The same to the same, at Keele.

Thanks him for the game. Had been ill and was now recovering. Admired Sneyd's discretion 'in declining to pull the String for another Douche of bullion and bank notes, by a single remark!' Heard he had been helping his sisters to finish their packing and flit. Hoped he should be available when Sneyd did appear in London. Did not wish to see Macready in Cardinal Wolseley and Miss Cuckman in Queen Catherine. Comments on the first volume of St Roche, which he had found tedious, but the women were 'Excessively pretty, graceful, & good; - without any defects at all - ...'. Was all for having his heroines perfect angels. How long were they 'to look on with Sang froid at the Spectacle of Life & Property more insecure at our doors, than it was in the days of K. John,...'.

149.

Lily Hill.
6 Jan.
1848

The same to the same.

'True, true - it is a long time a coming!' Excuses himself for not having written. Sneyd seemed to be getting violent colds rather often. Complains of his own health. Deplores the snow at Keele. Had not been quite satisfied with Lord Ellesmere's letter, which had seemed 'scarce to breathe a British Spirit;...'. Was glad Cobden had been goose enough to put his foot in it. Liked John Russell's final letters to his clerical supporters as little as he had liked his others. One's newspaper seemed rather fraught with incident, murder and suicide seemed everywhere to be becoming the rules and quiet life the exception. They all moved to Thornwood Lodge on the following Monday. They had had no snow. Had passed his last December days in London, 'winding up the last Acts of my Tragedy with the Treasury.' Should some day send Sneyd the last scenes in MS.

150.

Thornwood Lodge.
9 Feb.
1848

The same to the same, at Keele.

There was a pleasing immunity in the consciousness of being owed a letter. Influenza had had the writer in its clutches since the previous Friday. Why was not Sneyd Chief Baron or Chancellor of the Exchequer? Reflects on his dispute with the Treasury. Had been glad to find Cobden making a foolish speech, 'it would have been disagreeable to have had one's justice compelled to find him a wise & great man;...! [Part of the letter missing]. Was broadly convinced that every revolution corrupted and unhumanized the national mind, and retarded the improvement of the men, and the institutions, of a state. 'The hopes that an opening had occurred by which it might be avoided in the Case of Italy, the too Eager manifestations these have, I fear, dispelled.' Thought they agreed that they could not muster a great amount of interest in the Jew question, his own indifference being simply grounded on the remote probability of any practical effect from it. 'Rothschild, therefore, (vulgar, stupid, obstinate, un-condition'd fellow as he seems to me to be,) has yet my tolerably free leave to sit in any house he can get into, - tho' I shan't cry my Eyes out if he is Kicked downstairs in anyone, public or private.' Had never read two stupider articles than the two in the Times that day, ' (for I am finishing this on the 10th.)', on Jews and influenza. [Letter mutilated].

151.

Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
18 Feb.
1848

The same to the same, at Keele.

Should assume that Sneyd would be glad to know that he was about again, with no more to complain about than 'much as usual' implied. Was going for a few days to his neighbour, Sir John Walsh's. Comments upon the previous night's division in the House of Commons, and current financial issues, and events on the continent. Considers Canada. Had also read a volume or two of Horace Walpole's Memoirs of George II - 'The gross Annals of a brothel would be less fatiguing, at least less wounding, to the Spirits,...'. Had seen Mr Brooke, the new Othello. He was better than Macready, but the writer doubted his doing much more than 'First Sufferer' in a tragedy. Desdemona had amply revenged herself in all the vowels and most of the consonants that had come her way. [The Earl of] Charleville, they said, had been walking about, with the announcement of his wife's death in all the papers, but had first flown to the feet of Julia Bennett, 'the Haymarket Heroine, & settled his Marriage with her. - Another story is that the damsel, (and i'faith she's a dainty one,) is privately married to somebody Else.' Did not like Sumner being the Archbishop. Comments upon religion, preferring Tractarians to 'Barn & the Conventicle;...'. Was going to dine that day at Sir W. Freemantle's. Writes of his children. Was trying to organize, with Lady Essex, a double box at Covent Garden, at £50 a piece. How he wished Sneyd would come to Town '& belong to us!'

152. Queen's Remembrancer's Office.
29 Feb.
1848
- The same to the same.
[The letter is a comment upon the revolution in France].
153. Thornwood Lodge.
7 Mar.
1848
- The same to the same.
[Further comment upon the revolution in France, and references to the Chartists].
154. London.
15 Mar.
1848
- The same to the same, at Keele.
[Further comment upon the revolution in France, and an appreciation of the situation in England].
[MS. mutilated].
155. Queen's Remembrancer's Office.
12 Apr.
1848
- The same to the same, at Keele.
[Comments upon the Chartist demonstration].
156. Queen's Remembrancer's Office.
17 Apr.
1848
- The same to the same, at Keele.
Had intended sending the enclosed when he had last written. The idea had arisen out of a conversation with a few people dining with him, which made him write down what he should advise Sir George Grey and Lord Burleigh. Desires Sneyd to return the enclosures as he had no copy. [See S[HWV/RS]/]. Considers the situation in France and Europe generally, and at home. Had dined at Devonshire House. Describes the decorations. The Duke of Devonshire had asked when Sneyd was coming to visit the writer and him.
157. Thornwood Lodge.
24 July,
1848
- The same to the same, at Keele.
Should be delighted if Sneyd would drop in on Friday. Till then Tom Liddell was in his room and William Campbell was in the other. Had been in the Isle of Wight with the Francis Harcourts, at St Clare. That week the writer had his guests with him, and 'a dinner or two.' The following week he was to go to Shrubland for a week, so did the Charles Percies. Soon after he was to come home, stowing away the household at Lily. Walter [Sneyd] had told the writer that Sneyd was to go to Denton, and the writer had promised him, if he could, to talk with Sneyd there 'on his "little Effects"; his "archbroken wall", - his honeysuckles - & antiques.' Had been with the Duchess of Gloucester, seeing her share of poor Princess Sophia's things. Sneyd had never beheld such a collection. The Duchess was almost as pleased with them as if she had been 13. Considers the political situation. Peel had made a very good speech, 'and he actually condescended to say a word in favour of an English Monarchy for the present.' Could not help thinking that if there was an outbreak in Ireland 'our own "Choice Spirits", will attempt something of a demonstration, simultaneously, here;...'. Most people seemed to

regard them [the Chartists] as utterly suppressed, 'but if Ever there was a Snake Scotch'd & not kill'd, it is Chartism.' Adds a postscript, that he had met that morning with Thomas Liddell to see the half finished model of the equestrian statute of the Black Prince, which Marochetti was doing for him, and which the latter hoped to get, in colossal size, for the square of the new Houses of Parliament. Liked Marochetti very much. He had had in clay an admirable bust of P. Albert.

158. Thornwood Lodge.
29 July,
1848

The same to the same.

Wasn't Sneyd ashamed of himself, to keep on thus, in an alteration of hot and cold? Thought he might have contrived 'a scappatella', with deed or without. Was vexed that he had not, because they were so very pretty just then. Hoped that the deed might "remain with its uncertainty" far beyond Thursday;...', and till the writer could come back from Shrubland or the Arundel Bouveries. Wished he was not going at all. Had wanted to take Sneyd to Marochetti's clays, but that Thomas had crammed his merits and charms into the writer's throat. They had summer again and he believed it would last a week. Hoped it would for the sake of the dripping hay at Lily. Had been as incredulous as Sneyd about the Irish hoax. It was all serious enough. Hoped the leading villains might put themselves in a condition to be, not arrested, but shot.

159. Court of Exchequer.
6 Nov.
1848

The same to the same.

It was long since they had intercommunicated. Since they had parted late in August the writer had been to [his cousin John] Hervey, in Oxfordshire, where life was 'somewhat shy, dry, & silent;...'. Describes his visit. Had been to Lord Baynings in Norfolk, and seen the 'Somewhat grotesque pile put up by Buckler for half the new house, (for there is as yet no front,) of Ld. Stafford at Costessy;...', a very pretty place between Honingham and Norwich. On going back to London the writer had passed the best part of a week with the Duchess of Gloucester, at Richmond Park. Among others, he had met the Prince and Princess of Parma, ' & found a great deal to be pleased with in her: - She has a natural & cordial Ease of address, - a quick apprehension, - & a spiritual turn of Expression, - which with great gentleness, & consideration of her Companion, are very agreeable & Engaging...'. He was somewhat civilized since his marriage. Had been for a week to the Sydneys and finally rejoined his family at Bradwell Grove, taking them up to their cousins the Effinghams, in Yorkshire, where the writer's daughters had found a pony made over to them, on which they scampered about Wentworth Park and the rest of the country. Describes Wentworth. Had been to see their friend Tom at Ravensworth. Another thing they had done at the Grange had been to go over to see Chatsworth. Describes the house and grounds. Its great defect was the want of the look of antiquity.

160.

Court of Exchequer.
16 Jan.
1849

The same to the same, at Keele.

Where had Sneyd been bowing the old year out? Had been often going to write to him. They had been passing a Christmas month at Lily Hill, returning on the 10th 'for this very Hilarious Term!' Had been unwell. The fact was it was a season in which the body would not bear relaxing and letting down at all. Whenever he was at Lily and saw its various 'ranshacklinesses', he occupied himself with plans for a decent abode and almost worked up his resolution to do it. Did consider that he had concocted on paper a most excellent small house. Thought that the government had probably done as well as they could for themselves in appointing Fr. Baring to the Admiralty. He was as safe a man as they had. It was much more creditable to all parties than if Sir James Graham had gone there. Some said that Peel had prevented him. Had Sneyd read Macaulay? Comments [? on The History of England]. Found it amusing and agreeable, though 'as a historical style, far below the faultless tone & structure of Hume's.' The Quadrant was gone and the place looked too wide, and the 'little Catherine wheels' he had told Sneyd of, were removed, the quizzing of them being too much for the architect. Flattered himself nobody went to the shops. 'The pavement [of Regent Street] is a good wide one to cross in wet w[e]ather; & as we seldom have any dry, - by God's grace the Anti Colonnaders will be all bankrupts by the Summer.' Talking of Regent Street districts, was Sneyd's friend Scherer there a knave or an honest man. Had lately taken watches there and thought his charges 'mighty large'. Was Sneyd likely to come their way?

161.

Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
17 Mar.
1849

The same to the same.

Thanks him for the application of the spur. Incidents and adventures he had had as few as Sneyd, or fewer. Reverts to Macaulay. They said Croker had written a very good analysis of it, ' - "a friend", (I suppose Lockhart, who is an Enthusiast for the book) said "Don't publish it, at least at present;...". Refers to the 'Navigation' matter and the situation of the government. An even temporary resignation would be a pickle to be in, 'Even if a breaking up of Peelites, (which in that way is improbable) produced a semblance of a power to form a Conserv[ati]ve Cabinet;...'. Every Conservative move to bind the party to 'protection in the abstract' he believed to be erroneous. Thought very differently of Disraeli's plan and speech. It was the only attempt at distinguishing between Government and Opposition. Was so glad Sneyd had had Marochetti and that he felt as he did about him. [Letter incomplete].

162.

Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
16 Apr.
1849

The same to the same, at Keele.

Had nothing to say for himself but the constancy of his intentions. Had only been away three days, to Sir John and Lady Jane Walsh, whose shrubberies joined Lily's. Had wanted to look at Lily, which he had found all in a glow. His aspirations in the

direction of the new buildings there had not been sufficiently matured and decided upon to submit to Sneyd's optics. Describes his plans with the house. Had got the Clerk of the Works at Ravensworth to draw out the final working plan in detail, with Tom [Liddel's] assistance. They had him with them for a few days, and the writer's brother[-in-law], James Callander, and his new wife. It was past time, 'so Cobden, Croker, & all the rest of it, tomorrow. - You smile - but you shall positively have 'Em!'

163. Thornwood Lodge.
19 Apr.
1849

The same to the same.

Explains his address. How did Sneyd like 'my lady Weather, "in the manner of Ackerman's dresses for May"? Had only read half of Croker's article. Comments upon the same. That was the only bit of the Quarterly which he had read, plans and estimates for his small works had taken up all his leisure. Gives his view of Cobden, whom he believed to be more of a knave than a fool. Explains why. Wondered that Sneyd could view with indifference the sale of the whole of Town and Emanuel's effects. There were a few desirable things. Wanted one table for his new room at Lily. The Hollands had taken a house in Paris for 6 years. Hope's 'great lump of a house' was nearly finished. Bridgewater House came out not quite satisfactorily. Did not think it so effective as Spencer House. Had been the other day with his new sister[-in-law], Edith Callander, to luncheon with Sneyd's magnificent friend, the Duchess of Sutherland, at Stafford House. Describes the visit. 'Do not say I seek to console the jealous Spite of Poverty, - if I say, that the subtraction of two thirds of them would unspeakably improve the Taste & Effect of the remainder.'

164. Lily Hill.
22 July,
1849

The same to the same.

They had been a good deal backwards and forwards there for 2 or 3 days, in consequence of the building in progress. Had had a model of the outside shell made to scale, in deal, which had gratified him by its prettiness but had frightened him by its extent. They had been in great beauty in a small way, all hay and roses. They had read the Quarterly Review article on Campbell and it had interested the writer. Gives his impressions of Lord Campbell. Had lately absolved himself from a great deal of the Times. It interfered too much with summer idleness. Comments upon events in Europe. They were all thinking of going in a body to Scotland. The Callanders had wished them to go with them in Ayreshire and take possession of their shooting and fishing. They had been talking of going at the end of that week, but there was a chance of their journey being retarded. They were to return to Thornwood Lodge the following day and the young ladies had been bidden to the marriage of Netty Lascelles.

165. Thornwood Lodge.
24 July,
1849

The same to the same, at Keele.

It appeared that while the writer was claiming Sneyd's spiritual presence on paper, he was 'meditating an Apparition bodily, in the flesh.' There was no probability of their going north very soon, so if Sneyd had any definite day on which he would naturally come that way, he should tell him as soon as it was fixed. They were all just returned from the Lascelles' wedding breakfast. All had gone off fluently and well. Had almost grudged the bride 'to fat, florid, & goodnatured Wm. Cavendish.' Describes her. It seemed that parliament was positively to be up on the 31st. Comments upon Brougham in the Lords. Their roses there were all gone. Was told that Sneyd's garden was beautiful.

166. Thornwood Lodge.
27 July,
1849

The same to the same, at Keele.

Nothing could suit better than what Sneyd proposed. Was to go to the Duchess of Gloucester at Richmond Park on Thursday 2nd, and would stay until Saturday. Should like to be one of Sneyd's 'artistic groupe!' His own 'poor little Landscape views and Experiences' were 'no fit Company for such Grandee Imaginations as will disport themselves at Trentham.' Thomas Liddell had written 'in praeter-Thomasian raptures' on the gardens at Drummond Castle. Sneyd's moderate and just rejoinder on the counter-revolutionary side to the writer's not very furious 'liberalism' was just what the writer would have said on the other side. Was astonished at the levity at which he spoke of special juries, but as he was ready to part with his £10 so freely he might laugh at 'shew cause', etc. What a storm there had been the day before. It had broken with great violence over London. Hoped the sky and earth had settled their balances 'in a way which will prevent that want of Electricity in the latter to which some of the Scientific attribute the Cholera. - The Sage of the "Times" will hear of nothing but drains & Cesspools.' Thought there must be a good deal of exaggeration.

167. Eslington,
Alnwick.
15 Oct.
1849

The same to the same.

Before he had left Dalmeny on the Saturday morning he had received Sneyd's letter, and appreciated the comprehensiveness, in parvo, of his report. Comprehended Tynningham[e House] in Sneyd's picture. 'It would require more kindness & hospitality than I shall ever experience from them, to reconcile me to the combined acid, & arid, of the Haddingtons!' Allowed Sneyd to be lenient, even pleased, especially as he was in love with Mrs Hamilton. Their quinquagenarian loves were pleasant. Had been sorry to leave the 'Easy Cousinage' of Dalmeny. Reflects on its associations. Considers Eslington. Henry Liddell was clever but conceited. Was looking forward to their doing Ravensworth together. Believed he should be obliged to give up Raby as he should have so few days at the Grange, with his children. Feared there was not a chance of his having a moment for Keele, for which 'regret' was a word not half strong enough.

168. Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
14 Nov.
1849

The same to the same, at Keele.

How was he getting on? ' - Nous voici, since the 31st October; - & I have forgotten the look of a lake & the measure of a mountain!' They looked still a little yellow and scarlet in the garden. Had no spite against November. It was less sad than a summer's evening. The iron at Ravensworth and the Grange had made him more or less ill, 48 hours of Camden Hill air and water had restored him, but the extravagant heat of the [Exchequer] Court, helped by gown and full-bottomed wig, had given him a cold. Considers the situation in France. Had seen Marochetti the day before, who had brought over two or three things from Paris, casts of things he had done in France, with the stamp of genius on them, including a statue of M. de Latour Auvergne. He and his wife and daughter were to dine with them the following day. Had been to Lily once. The half that was built was coming out very good-looking. The writer's 'sweet Susie was yest[erda]y 17 years old; - a kind of epoch in a maiden's life. - She has made them 17 years of unvarying, - but joyous, obedience, - devoted affection, & studied comfort to me; and her mind is most sensible, - delicate, & intelligent.'

169. Thornwood Lodge.
4 Jan.
1850

The same to the same.

A sprain in Sneyd's hand was a public calamity. There had been a report of his having had the gout. Wishad him too well to hope it was not so. They were just come back from a Christmas trip for a fortnight, with Lady Mansfield and her daughter, at Fern Hill, in Windsor Forest, about 3 miles from Lily Hill. Lady Caroline still sang 'without a voice' [sic] all sorts of songs which her exquisite taste and judgment in music still made interesting and agreeable. They had gone afterwards for a week to Sir John Walsh's, their nearest neighbour at Lily Hill. All went on at Lily Hill 'horrible slow'! By the time the writer was there all the good company of England would be bankrupt, for nobody got any rents. Comments upon Free Trade and its effects. Had been amused with Ruskin's Seven Lamps of Architecture.

170. Thornwood Lodge.
17 Jan.
1850

The same to the same, at Keele.

Was truly sorry to hear of his being made over to chronic gout, and the remedies of it. Both were diseases. Had himself been confined to the house for the previous week. Besides the architectural metaphysics of Ruskin, the writer had done wonders with the opportune reviews. Comments upon reviews on Venice, in the Quarterly, and on Lamartine in the Edinburgh. Comments upon the situation in France and the possibility of protection having brought about the condition of the French.

171. Court of Exchequer.
29 Jan.
1850

The same to the same.

When he had written to him last he had unaccountably

omitted to mention Sneyd's Cobden parody of Peel's letter. What a pity Sneyd had burned it. Desires him to recollect it and dictate it to Edward, and let him have it. Much rabid protection was abroad. Considers the political situation and the situation abroad. Was out and about again, as strong and fresh as before. Heartily wished Sneyd might be able to tell him the same. Questions Sneyd's treatment. Had seen nothing and nobody. Spent two hours over the Times. The Lascelles' were home again and were to dine with the writer. Invites Sneyd to stay with him.

172. Court of Exchequer.
31 Jan.
1850

The same to the same, at Keele.

An hour or two after the writer had posted his "little bit of nonsense" in London, he had received his letter at Campden Hill. Was glad to see 'that old "Chronic"' permitted him to get to a second sheet. When Sneyd came to his doctor he should come to the writer. Edward Bouverie was coming with Lady Frances and Fanny B. the following week, that was the only obstacle to receiving him. If he would come on Monday 11th his room would be as warm and comfortable as possible. Surely the writer of 'Venice' had not written 'Rome'. Had thought the latter violent and personal and altogether Crokerish. Should have to get hold of the Examiner and read Mrs (?) N. Had not read the Cloncurry article. Was to dine that day with the Duchess of Gloucester and Duke of Cambridge, '& some other one', and they were to play at whist in the evening. Played the trick on himself of believing that, but for having been ordered to do that, he had intended to jam himself into the House of Lords to hear Stanley's speech, as people were rather more excited than usual on that opening. They should not know the real truth about Hungary in their time. Believed it to have been a national insurrection. 'Think not that I am bought over by the beasts Cobden & Bright - but I believe these rebelling Countries will have gained something, (I say nought of their own losses,) by their struggles.' A permanent return to absolute despotism as a system was impossible in any country but Russia, or perhaps France. They said Bright was buyable and was to become a Whig, Cobden not.

173. Frognal.
17 Feb.
1850

The same to the same, at Keele.

The writer's date was almost an answer to Sneyd's kind enquiry. Was again at ease about his darlings, whose progress had been not only favourable but rapid. They had had there William Stopford '& the Vyners'. Had liked Lady Mary. The previous day and that day they had Enfields and Lord and Lady Ashley, Bob Dundas and young Sturt, 'a rum, fast fellow, but lively & available withal; - and rather good fun with his "fastness". Ashley's ragged-school Stateliness, & Factory Pomp, amuse me.' They had also the William Cowpers. Describes Mrs Cowper. Was going back to his household gods the following day. So Sneyd had come for a day and a half. Why could not he stay a little? Had heard of him at dinner at Wall's, and at a party

at Lady Granville's, so he concluded he was up to a thing or two. Should like to be with him and Walter. Was fond of Walter, but the latter's anxious notions made him fidgety about himself when he need not be, the writer was convinced. Grieved over Sneyd's trees. Bob Dundas and the writer had been together to Chislehurst church, 'which one "Ferry", (a great Puseyfier of Churches, I believe,) has charmingly doctored; - very simply and judiciously, - with nothing foolish in it but a blue sort of Chandelier which they call a Coronal, I believe, - a flimsy fanciful thing with illegible Saxon letters upon it in new gilding, - & that looks like a Chimneysweeper's Effort on the first of May, - instead of a handsome old brass thing, - but not mediaeval Enough, - wch. hung there before...'. Such things were pedantries. Lily began to look amiable. Reports on progress. Shame on Sneyd, he had never seen even his model. Had he read Guizot's preface to his Revolution of 1688. Thought it good. Thought there would be some fun in the House of Lords the following day.

174. Travellers' [Club].
22 Feb.
1850

The same to the same.

Was sure he would be glad to hear that his little maids were going on as well as possible. Did not the Times 'vous tombe des mains' that morning. Could not understand it. Comments on the outcome of the debate [on Disraeli's motion on the relief of the poor].

175. Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
25 Feb.
1850

Should like, of all things, to do as he proposed, but so many obstacles opposed themselves to it that he had to give it up. The world there was wild about the Great Exhibition of 1851. William Lascelles, whom Prince Albert had told to agitate Kensington - '(a place which manufactures nothing, Except perhaps little children out of Schoolgirls,)' - had wanted to associate the writer with him in calling on the authorities to convene a meeting. Had misgivings about the exhibition, but should like to see it. Did not think there was any probability of their being absent from home on the 8th or 9th of March, or thereabouts. His young ones went on prosperously. Sneyd would have heard that Charlotte Barrington was to marry Lord Strathmore.

176. Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
4 June,
1850

The same to the same, at Keele.

June 4th! What a variety of emotions, male and female, had been associated with that date in their time. Now it said nothing to anybody. Had been promised forth to meet Sneyd at dinner on the following Monday, and Sneyd would be in a hurry. Desires him to give him a day for Lily if he could. If Sneyd were to be made over to six weeks of alkali, why not lay in a good stock of acid at Baring Wall's dinners, and give it something to do? It was by no means fair by Vichy to go there three-quarters cured by three weeks temperance at Keele. Was glad the Bishop of London's bill had been thrown out. They

had had another little party for the Duchess of Gloucester. The things chiefly run after were 'Rum Jung Bahauder Quatty, or whatever his name is,' [Jung Bahadoor Koorman Ranagee, Prime Minister of Nepal], and the hippopotamus. Felt that one ought to see the latter. Supposed Sneyd would be there [? in London] on Thursday, with his sisters, but there was a report that the great Edward, Black Prince of servants, was indisposed and that Sneyd was already detained.

177. Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
13 July,
1850

The same to the same, at Vichy, France.

Where were those dispatches from Vichy? Nothing less than an answer that he was very well would make up for his exile, just when they were to visit him at Keele. Hoped he enjoyed himself. Had hardly recovered from the profound emotion with which poor Peel's death affected him. [Much of the letter is taken up with this event]. The Duke of Cambridge's death was a different affair, but still a sad one. He had been a kind of man to do much for royalty in England. They had had two dinners of sixteen in the new dining-room at Lily, where they exulted in their new Carthage. They had seen Rachel in Adrienne la Recouvreur, a detestable play but a wonderful performance. Had also assisted at the martyrdom of Pasta, who had played her great scene in Anna Bolena. Comments upon her qualities.

178. Thornwood Lodge.
1 Sept.
1850

The same to the same.

Their friend Marochetti was in what he considered to be a crisis of his destiny. A party at Manchester was anxious to give him the statue of Peel, but waited 'for a suggestion of some Great Man, to shift off the responsibility of the decision on other Shoulders; - The D. of Sutherland, Ld. Lansdowne, & Ld. Ellesmere are specifically named as persons, a word from any one of whom would, according to Marochetti's informant, decide the matter in his favor at once.' Would Sneyd approach them? If Marochetti obtained the commission, and that for the statue of the Queen at Glasgow, 'his Success, & final triumph, both here & elsewhere, are inevitable.' Bob Dundas was back from Berlin, 'raving of [?] Rant's Equestrian Statue of Frederick the Great,...'. Describes it. They were to go to Wimpole on Tuesday or Wednesday and to leave it on the 12th. Their intention had been to go to the Waterparks at Doveridge, on their way to Keele, but they were going to the Highlands, so the writer had proposed a visit to James Stanhope in Lincolnshire, whose new house he wanted to see. Had been to Brighton for a few days, where he had seen Charles Greville and the Duke of Beaufort. Lami, the French artist who had done Stafford House and Buckingham Palace staircases, and Mme. de Flahault's salon, had just finished for the writer a drawing of their salon, 'with our 3 Selves, Mademlle, Ld. & Ly. Effingham, & Marochetti, introduced as a conversing Groupe, in the same way;...'. Marochetti was miserable because Sneyd was not in it, and Lady

Carolina Lascelles had said of course Vincent would get him into it, but even for the two days when he might have been feloniously seized on, Lami had been sent for to Osborne, where he has been doing some little matters for the Queen; - ...'. He was about to leave England and pass a year at St Petersburg. He had been a constant companion of Louis Philippe and the princes and had gone with Marochetti to Claremont for the funeral. Sneyd had not told him what he had thought of Mrs Fanny's King John. Had been amused with The Life and Correspondence of Robert Southey. Comments upon Southey. Had heard the day before of Walter, at the marriage of "Monasteries" [the Hon. Robert Curzon]. He seemed to have envied the bridegroom but failed to appropriate a bridesmaid himself.

179. Court of Exchequer.
18 Nov.
1850

The same to the same, at Keele.

What an exemplary character Sneyd had been instantly to have volunteered a second letter. Comments upon Thomas Moore and Byron. Considered Childe Harold 'by far the most beautiful & thoughtful of his works, - Don Juan perhaps the Cleverest.)' They were still 'all Bellarmine & John Knox;...'. Bennett made discourses on the persecution of God's chosen vessels, and spoke of himself as an early Christian, and the ladies of Belgravia took out their handkerchiefs and retired to their homes to do penance. Had had an account of the scene from a lady of 55 who ought to have known better. Did not think that folks were as yet at George Gordon heat, but they had had a force of police at [St Barnabas '(or some St Bennett's)' church]. Windsor was furious at the Papal aggression, where Puseyism was detested and the Bishop of London in bad odour. Comments upon the government. Had believed for at least a fortnight in a Germanic war. Bob Dundas had always said that neither the Emperor nor the King meant to fight. Supposed he must now believe so too. Palmerston's appointment of Shiel was, on the surface, so wanton a freak that the writer had been 'driven to fancy the real reason to be, the Supposed Expediency of having a Romanist who may not have a Romish conscience, (or rather who may,) auprès du Pape.' William Lascelles had come home, enchanted with Paris. He swore that the President was extremely popular, Changarnier not so, and that the Assembly was more alarmed at the idea of a military coup d'état than an extension of the power of the President. Had not seen Marochetti. His Manchester fate would not be known till January. He was employed on the model of a colossal group, of Richard Coeur de Lion, and his accessories, for the '51 Exhibition. Marochetti had thought the French would not have liked Edward, the Black Prince, and that the English would not have liked Napoleon. Was going to Wimpole, to shoot.

180. Court of Exchequer.
25 Nov.
1850

The same to the same, at Keele.

Considers Wiseman's 'Manifesto'. Did Sneyd ever read Carlyle? Had read through one of his Latter-Day Pamphlets on 'Hudson's Statue'. Had been very much amused by it. Comments upon Californian and Siberian

gold. Sneyd's sister had done from memory a very clever portrait of the Duke of Cambridge, which the Duchess of Gloucester had. It had a little lacked vitality, but the resemblance was very striking. The moment was come for going to King's Cross station, on his way to Wimpole.

181. Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
13 Jan.
1851

The same to the same, at Keele, redirected to 9 Eaton Square, London.

The 27 November had been a long while ago. Had been wishing to write to him because he was sure he must have been uncomfortable about Lord Clare, who seemed to have been seriously ill. Hoped Sneyd was more in ease about him. They had 'tided down the Eddy of the old Year into a fortnight of the new one' quietly at home. How was Sneyd's gout? The writer had been tolerably prosperous. Had been more comfortable in the evening since he had almost abandoned the use of wine and substituted soda water and brandy. What a curious aspect matters had again assumed at Paris. Comments upon Louis Napoleon. Walter had been in Town the previous day, but was gone again, to Becket[t House]. He had been complaining of his health, but had looked as if nothing was the matter with him. They had been mad, during the winter, for the love of a poem by one Longfellow, 'an American', called Evangeline. Comments. Was in the middle of David Copperfield. How he wished he had been killing Sneyd's pheasants.

182. Court of Exchequer.
31 Jan.
1851

The same to the same, at Keele, redirected to Badger, Shifnal, Shropshire.

Hoped Sneyd had a better reason for not writing than a gouty hand or wrist. They had been in great discomfort for the previous ten days, expecting to hear of the death of the writer's brother-in-law, James Callander, who had been taken ill at Newcastle. Poor Dalmeny's sudden death had been a great additional shock. They had just finished reading the two volumes of Cardinal (?) Pacea, 'a rare old Twaddle in his writing & Theology, - but I suppose not so in his Actions & Advice, - or Bonaparte wouldn't have thought it worth while to shut him up.' Lord Holland had certainly done his father no good by his Reminiscences. Comments upon [Lord] Redesdale and Lord Wharnccliffe. Thought the government would be in a great state of embarrassment as to their theological arrangements. Had seen the Duchess of Gloucester for an hour the day before. She had been better and stronger than when he had seen her last, but made progress very slowly. Had had so strong a notion in his mind about the colouring &c. of the Glass Palace that he had ventured the previous day to state them in a letter to Lord Granville. Hoped he would not consider him an impertinent coxcomb for it. Had thought it more respectful than to write it to the Times.

183. Queen's Remembrancer's Office.
17 Feb.
1851
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Had not been let into the secret till that morning, 'that Susie's Evangelical Enthusiasm had actually impelled her to invade your Profession of faith with a remonstrance!' For his own part he gave up proselytism as hopeless. Sneyd would easily suppose that it had been an unspeakable relief to the writer, with reference to his dead brother-in-law's affairs, to find that the D. of Argyll had been left sole guardian and director both of children and property, but the writer had been annoyed at finding that his brother-in-law had not previously consulted the Duke. Considers the situation. What did Sneyd get out of Holford? He had mismanaged the site of the house. It seemed an enormous concern. Often wondered whether, if he were a millionaire, he would bother with a huge place. Sneyd would, he knew, 'but then You are a Magnifico; - ...'. Considers the British Museum - utterly tasteless. The government had had a narrow squeak 'the other night.' One did not think much of a minority reinforced by the Catholic and landlord spite of Ireland. They had serious thoughts of passing March at Lily Hill, if they could.
184. Thornwood Lodge.
17 Mar.
1851
- The same to the same.
- Was truly concerned to hear of his having been in the grip of influenza. [In London] the stage was strewn with prostrate sufferers. Comments at length upon the political situation. Was glad Sneyd had read Copperfield. Was not Agnes a darling? And 'isn't Dora a charming provoking little monkey, with whom one could spend whole hours in alternately kissing her & boxing her ears?' Susie and he were going the following day to Lily Hill, to see if they could not put up some papers and lay down carpets.
185. Thornwood Lodge.
2 Apr.
1851
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Harriet and the writer had been at Lily Hill the previous week, '& owing to Scandalous missending, & maltreating, on the part of the Post,' the writer had only just received Sneyd's letter of enquiry. Could not write much because he was to set out for the day at Lily Hill. W[illiam] L[ascelles] was going on well. They called it epilepsy, it seemed more like apoplexy. Much doubted if office and parliament would be for him again, but that was not the view of anybody connected with him. Had not seen or written to Lady Caroline, but they heard constantly from the children of his progress. Netty Cavendish had been allowed to be with him all day, and the Duchess of Sutherland had been there the previous day, but the writer did not know whether she had seen him.
186. Thornwood Lodge.
5 Apr.
1851
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Had seen William Lascelles the previous day, and had found him, to all appearances, quite well. There

was no perceptible difference in him. The Times had just come in and informed them of their financial fates for that year. Comments upon taxation and Lord Stanley. Susie had been presented on Thursday, and all had gone off very well for her. Comments unfavourably on the reception. They were all going, bag and baggage, to Lily the following week. Had put up cheap, light papers, 'with Enlivening borders', except for a red paper in the dining-room, because in northerly rooms you needed warmth on the walls, not to look chilly. They were all going to Semiramide that night. There was a very good play acting at the Princess Theatre, called Love in a Maze.

187. Lily Hill.
27 Apr.
1851

The same to the same, at Keele.

Had received his letter there. They had been there for three weeks, but had had so many breaks and days in London that the writer hardly felt to have had the holiday he had wanted. Had had 'a nasty influenzaish Cough'. Considers the political situation, and particularly 'Protectionism'. Was glad Sneyd was coming to Town. He must visit Lily. Did not mind how long he deferred his visit to 'the great shop'. Expected to be a good deal amused and interested there, if he was ever permitted to see it. Had been to the Duchess of Gloucester's birthday. The writer's family all had season tickets. Describes their plans to see the Great Exhibition. Did not at all like poor William Lascelles's state. Comments upon 'the Enormous power possessed by this Romish System,...'. Would not bother him about the new Lily, though he was very full of it.

188. Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
13 June,
1851

The same to the same.

Had been sorry to receive so poor an account of him. Hoped that by that time part of his discomfiture at least that arose from influenza, was killed. That hope prevented him from enlarging upon grievances which he trusted, 'ere then, were extinct. Firmly believed in the splendours of Keele. Sneyd would live to finish a picture if he restrained his palatial imagination. Takes Sneyd to task for trying to attempt too much. Perhaps he would deride his poor notions as much as he did his 'Providential Averages'. Had gone to Thackeray's lecture. 'He said it was to be Pope & Gay, - but it was Congreve & Addison.' Comments. Grieved to say there was no longer a ray of hope for poor Lascelles. When was Sneyd coming to Town? Did a certain amount 'of the London Business' and hated it.

189. Thornwood Lodge.
5 Dec.
1851

The same to the same, to Keele.

[Most of this letter comprises a consideration of the situation in France].

190. Thornwood Lodge.
24 Mar.
1852
- The same to the same.
- Was much grieved to find that Sneyd had been a fellow sufferer [from gout]. Had rather looked for him on Sunday, but concluded he had fled. Was himself slowly recovering. Had been amusing himself with a book Sneyd would think a queer one, the life and times of Edward Baines, M.P. for Leeds, 'Enough to make you turn up Your aristocratical & Critical Nose; - ...'. Had been interested in it 'as a picture of a Sober, industrious, conscientious mind working itself, modestly & temperately from nothing, (he was an Apprentice printer in the Newspaper Office,) to a position of considerable influence & Eminence, in his own Sphere,...'. Considers the political situation.
191. Thornwood Lodge.
5 Apr.
1852
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Did not think himself ungrammatical, that he would not construe was unpardonable. Considers Sneyd's criticisms of his style. Comments upon the political situation, and upon [? Spencer H.] Walpole's 'most unconstitutional & revolutionary announcement... that he meant to move a Clause in the Militia bill to give the Elective franchise to Militiamen who had served 2 Years!' Had never heard such an idea. Was on his feet again, nay, on his horse, but feeble and infirm. Had heard Sneyd's hand was bigger, redder and goutier than it had ever shown before. Was that so? Hadn't the gout in his thumb at present, but felt he should have if he didn't stop.
192. Thornwood Lodge.
14 May,
1852
- The same to the same.
- Stood aghast at the visitings of Sneyd's nightly muse. It did Sneyd credit. Thought the Sapphic stanzas had been Lord Grenville's. Had been sorry to have missed him at Eaton Square. Had had another relapse of gout. Considers the political situation.
193. Queen's Remembrancer's Office.
29 May,
1852
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Had expected the distinction which Sneyd had drawn as to Quaerere and Tangere. Had not supposed him ignorant of the gender of sedes, but in altering a word one constantly forgot to adapt the rest of it. Had meant nothing more pedagogical than that and not to teach Sneyd his accidence. Could not say how sorry he was for poor John Talbot. So they had got Rangoon and a good many guns, but the Times would not let them be glad. What a miserable mess they had made of the 'Res Mather!' Mme. de Lamartine had lately passed a day with them. She had given them a very interesting account, in defence of her husband, of their version of his fall in 1848. The Bonaparte revolution had ruined them in a curious way. He had been making £6,000 a year by his writings, especially by the editorship of a journal which the Decrees had silenced. There was also an estate in Syria. Was glad Sneyd was coming and hoped they should have together some of their usual little gallery expeditions. As yet the writer had only seen one, 'The Amateurs'. Mrs

Bridgman Simpson's drawings were by far the best, next Miss Blake, as before, and some very clever, very sketchy things of Eliot Yorke. The Thomas Liddells had been there, he far from well. Thought that the sooner there was a dissolution of parliament the better for the government. Had again repelled the enemy and had got his boots on again. They had rambled about at Lily Hill the day before, and very pretty it had been.

194. Lily Hill.
25 Aug.
1852

The same to the same, at Keele.

Thanks him for the grapes. They had little to report of themselves. Had been very much interested in the article on Count Mollien in the last Quarterly Review. The enormous expenditure of Louis Napoleon must sooner or later present to him the alternative of bankruptcy and fresh taxes, 'or the Rapine of war;...'. They had there [at Lily Hill] a M. Mountfort, Susie's French drawing-master, a clean, sensible and pleasant man, more like an Englishman than a Frenchman. It seemed that their difficulties with America were likely to be adjusted, but in a way which was generally the fate of their adjustments, ' - our giving up Everything clamoured for by those of more-passion, & less "philosophical" Apathy than ourselves; - ...'. When did Sneyd set out for Dunrobin? Their horoscope foreshadowed a visit Oxfordshire way in September, unless Walter's funds had oozed out in missals. It was probable that after a little trip westward, (Clarendon &c.), they might return home, which the writer thought he should prefer to anything else, but it was 'the period, to the young ones, of making intimacies; - Visits at people's houses are the most effectual way of doing so, - and I don't like, from a selfish indolence, to deprive them of it, while I can go about, - ...'. Did Sneyd happen to know anything of William Burrell's will? Had a reason beyond mere curiosity for asking.

195. Lily Hill.
27 Aug.
1852

The same to the same, at Keele, redirected to Dunrobin Castle.

Reiterates his thanks for the gift of grapes. Sneyd had been worse used by thunderstorms than they had. Had one field of wheat in the world, and one field of oats, worth at least £11. 3. 6. Relates what he has been told about Sir J. Graham and the marriage of his eldest son. Had lost the goose who was weekly laying the golden eggs at Camden Hill, the writer's tenant's doctor having told her that it did not agree with her on account of there being too many trees. If Sneyd could find him a new tenant, 'deerstalking in Sutherlandshire, (wch. is the most likely thing in the world,) pray do.' [MS. mutilated].

196. Lily Hill.
8 Sept.
1852
- The same to the same.
- Now knew the reply to the query concerning William Burrell's will. Had had his brother and his wife, and two eldest daughters with them. During part of their visit he had had David Cox junior, the artist, there. Had offered him £10 apiece for a couple of drawings of Lily Hill and had been well pleased with what he had done. They were to go to the Duchess of Gloucester at Richmond, then Eliza Hervey and Selina Bathurst were to come there, after which they were to go to Mr Hervey's, in Oxfordshire, to Bradwell Grove, and to the Effinghams in Yorkshire.
197. Lily Hill.
13 Sept.
1852
- The same to the same.
- Had written to him a day too soon. Had since received his letter. His account of Dunrobin was much as he had expected, 'having perceived, from a model shewn me at Stafford House, (with comments, I think, from the Duchess,) what a Town of a Residence was contemplated there;...'. Sneyd seemed to be a little oppressed with his mountain landscape. It was all clear to the writer. What a principality Sneyd described! 2,000 square miles! Such potentates might be excused if they could take no interest in small people, but it seemed to the writer that it made them uninteresting and oppressive for small people to live with. Had come to the conclusion that there was seldom any real community of sentiment, any true mutual interest, any thoroughly natural interchange of thoughts and social habits except among equals. Their little beauties at Lily Hill were improved by a premature autumn, which was befalling the chestnuts. June and November were the real pretty months there.
198. Richmond Park.
15 Sept.
1852
- The same to the same.
- Reflects on the death of the Duke of Wellington. Had letters from poor Marochetti, who thought he should lose his only daughter. The Duchess of Gloucester had been remarkably well, and had been occupied with the Liddell children. Wondered whether Sneyd was 'still "in Northern Realm of ancient Caledon";...'. Imagined that, once there, in spite of his sense of the desert without, the paradise within would tempt him to be in no hurry to leave it.
199. The Grange,
Rotheram.
21 Oct.
1852
- The same to the same.
- Explains their failure to visit Sneyd on their route to Rotheram. Thornwood Lodge was in a chaos, so that the writer must locate their household at Lily. Did Sneyd know of anyone in Town that would neither stifle nor ruin him? They had enjoyed their visits. Babworth (B. Simpson's) was a pretty, bright, moderate house, just finished, all in very good taste. At Thoresby old Manvers had been in his usual vociferous vigour, making the writer laugh heartily. They had had the Newarks, and Hathertons there, 'a few stray men', and the Lumleys. Comments upon the new Lady Hatherton, 'a clever, conversible, & well mannered woman, & must have been handsome in her youth,... a little more

passée than I expected, and I am not sure that I quite liked her Expression, which is rather stern & tragic.' At Rotheram they had fine oak woods and well conditioned relatives, 'Suffolks, Gosfords, (with a very pretty daughter, Ly. Gertrude,) a stray Howard or two, & Lucy Kerr,...'. They had passed an afternoon at Wentworth. Describes it, including 'a great prancing bay Horse in a Pannel [sic] in the drawingroom, as finely drawn & painted, by Stubbs, as the mere transcript of a fine horse is capable of being drawn or painted:...'. Describes the country round Rotheram, 'ungodly Pandemoniums of Chimnies and Steam Engines.' Thought of their parliamentary prospects much as Sneyd did. Considers the situation. Felt convinced that peace would not long survive the assumption of the Empire by Louis Napoleon. Should not be surprised to see him place himself at the head of a Roman Catholic crusade. Was sorry to hear Sneyd speak of swollen hands and the necessity of Bath. If it really did him so much good, he should go at once and get it over. Complains of his feet.

200. Lily Hill.
21 Nov.
1852

The same to the same.

Comments upon the Duke of Wellington's funeral. Saw as yet [in the nation] 'no signs of that material, or moral, decay, - which precedes the fall of States.' Tennyson's ode had contained some striking ideas and expressions, 'the reverse of common place;...', but there had been an air of effort after novelty of thought and style, which had alienated and repelled. Considers the form of poetry, and Wordsworth. Had sifted Dizzy's reputed theft and did not know how much of the accusation was true or not. Thought some excuse might be found. Comments upon the debate in parliament. Comments upon the weather. [Letter incomplete].

201. Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
30 Nov.
1852

The same to the same.

If Sneyd had any of his reprints, by Westerton, of the original article in the Times on the Duke of Wellington, he would like one, for they were out of print. Wished he could find out who had written the first. Henry Greville knew but would not tell, which seemed very absurd. Had waded 'not without pain & disgust, through the Derby dirt; - & feel as if some mud, was sticking to me.' Not because he cared 2d about Beresford or the case, but because it was an additional stain on a government which had 'no great amount of Elevated Appearance to (what Ld. Manvers calls) "cut to waste" just now!' Did not see how Derby was to get out of it. Comments upon Dicky Milnes's lines on the 'Berries'. The cleverest female notability the writer ever associated with was Catherine Fanshawe, 'a most agreeable Specimen of a class not often attractive, - the "clever woman" of mixed Society. The weather was cold.

202. 8 Cook St.,
[? London].
5 Dec.
1852

The same to the same, at Keele.

Sneyd asked him a question, and he would answer it, but in confidence, because he meant his new room to

be a surprise to his friends and relations, and to escape criticism and advice. Describes the alterations to Thornwood Lodge. Henny Mitford had 'made a pretty enough bijou of a house at a small Gîte in Wilton Place.' Believed he was ready to subscribe to pretty well all Sneyd had said in praise of Miss Berry. Must acquit H. Greville of any plot to imply Charles as the author of the article on the Duke. He had said it was not Charles, but that he was not at liberty to say who it had been. Did not see why anybody should any longer make a mystery about a thing which all the world admired. Sneyd should not let him omit to thank him 'for the bis as well as the Cito of your dativ in the matter.' Did not much fancy Disraeli's budget. Comments. Comments upon the situation in France. They were to go to Bradwell Grove, Mr Hervey's, in 10 days and pass Christmas there. Had rather be at home.

203. Lily Hill.
16 Dec.
1852

The same to the same, at Keele.

Sneyd's plan, which the writer had received the previous morning, had many great merits, but he had kept to the old project. Expected to give him gratification by telling him that he was likely to get 'the "Angulus ille" of Scotch firs,' which, he would remember, prevented the completeness of Lily. Describes the circumstances. Considers Disraeli's budget. They were to go to Bradwell Grove, Burford, on Saturday, for Xmas and some time afterwards. Complains that Sneyd's 'wee bit Notie' was 'somewhat impudent after the many rhapsodies' which he owed him.

204. Bradwell Grove,
Burford.
21 Dec.
1852

The same to the same, at Keele.

[The letter is taken up with a consideration of the political situation].

205. 41 Harley St.
1 Jan.
1853

The same to the same, at Keele.

Had been driven into that part by stress of weather, and had been in dock to refit. Describes his illness. Was allowed to dine with the St Germans's that day, and expected to rejoin his children at Bradwell Grove on the 9th or 10th. Considers the new government. Had just been made miserable by a note, which informed him that an offer of £15 which he had made for a picture for which £25 had been asked, had been accepted. Falcke had called it a Cuyp. Sneyd would not suspect the writer of believing that.

206. Lily Hill.
6 Feb.
1853

The same to the same, at Keele.

Had arrived at Lily, after a month's lodging in London, the previous night. Had gone from Harley St. to Bradwell Grove, where they had stayed with their Hervey cousin. Describes the latter, and the visit. Had found capital lodging in Town at 37 Sackville St. The writer's two daughters would have remained till then, but had come away for a little fête their neighbour, Lady Jane Walsh, was to have on her daughter's 18th birthday, and they had found a card for the Windsor Castle play the

following night. 'The Queen more gracious & pretty behaved in the Circle afterwards, (a very small one,) than I have seen her before, - but not quite so much as she might be - and as our old friends used to be! Albert speaks to nobody, except a great lady or two who may be staying there; - and seems to be utterly unconscious, (as far as I could see,) of the presence of any stranger Visitors at his House. - This may be German; - I am not sure it may not be English; but I am sure it is not gentlemanlike. It must be a very trying thing for the Actors. - A stately & Royal Center [sic], (with about 3 people in it only authorized to speak,) a droite, of Household, - & a gauche of about 25 or 30 priés for the Eveng.; - no applause beyond the tap of a fan, - smiles for laughter, - & a nod for approbation; - & a space, in which Every movement, & Every utterance, must be contracted from their usual habit, to fit it. - One saw that they felt it, - & that a flatness was the result. - They contrived, however, to play Paul Pry very creditably;...'. There had been a very clever play, Masks and Faces, at the Haymarket. Comments upon Sneyd's reading. Had written an elaborate panegyric of the article on Wordsworth to his children. Sneyd's short sentence on it saved him a world of disquisition on the writer's part. It was clear that it would be only a repetition of their mutual thoughts. With Ford's article he had been not so well pleased. Comments. Had been provoked to find that Marcellus was out of print. Camden Hill came on 'wicked slow'. Could not bear the sight of it. Considered going to Paris for a month. Thought Sneyd's Torquay notion more rational. Comments upon Lord John Russell's [Memoirs, Journal and Correspondence of Thomas] Moore [the poet].

207. Lily Hill.
28 Feb.
1853

The same to the same, at Keele.

Had some consolation for not having been in the opposite arm chair 'in the Entertaining document of which I should have been deprived if I had!' Considers Lord John Russell on Thomas Moore

208. Lily Hill.
1 Mar.
1853

The same to the same, at Keele.

Did Sneyd think that Fleming could turn him out a gardener? Explains the circumstances of the dismissal of his own gardener. They still talked of going to Paris for a month, which would cost him £250. Felt convinced that the British government would never have entered with such vigour on military preparations, without some reason to expect an outbreak. Comments upon Lord Aberdeen's reply to the peace address. Had cut down more trees. 'The Caffre business' seemed as far off settlement as ever.

209. Lily Hill.
6 Mar.
1853

The same to the same.

And Sneyd talked 'of coming in to write,' no wonder the postbag overtook him. Unless the writer wrote his 8 or 10 as soon as breakfast and Times were

over, he would never do a thing. Considers the question of his obtaining a new gardener. Paris was at that moment rather 'no' than 'yes'. Really could not afford his £250. Sneyd's [figure of] £500 is mere Sneyd magnificence;...'.
 10

210. 41 Harley St.
10 Mar.
1853

The same to the same.

Comments upon the matter of his gardener. Could readily believe Sneyd's weakness, and respected him for it, in regard to his oak trees. The writer should have no such qualms. Approved Sneyd's tactics - mutilate and you would soon execute. There was nothing that paved the way more smoothly for the removal of an old friend, than by making him unfit to remain alive. People dealt in that way a good deal, in regard to their acquaintances. Very much agreed with the view Sneyd took of the refugee question. Thought that the debate in the Lords established the foreign case rather than the English one.

211. Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
11 Mar.
1853

The same to the same, at Blithfield.

Complains of Lord Canning's postal arrangements. Should be very glad if Sneyd would have a little discourse with Fleming on the practicability 'of making the Spirit of my Camden hill gardener, pervade Lily also.' That night they were going to see Macbeth at the Princess, because Charles Kean had laid out £3,000 on the scenery, witches and apparitions. Complains of his present accommodation. The previous night the writer and his daughters had been at Mrs Seymour Bathurst's ball.

212. Lily Hill.
18 Mar.
1853.

The same to the same, at Keele.

Thanks Sneyd for the trouble he had taken over his gardener. Had interviewed him, and engaged him. Was perished with cold. Was just finishing Stirling's book [on Charles V] and found it one of the most amusing he had ever read. Comments. They were to have the Roseberys and 'Lou P.' there for Passion Week. Had asked Marochetti to meet them, but he was gone to Paris. Their library was as warm as toast, but not without the help of the stove in the niche, but the writer's bedroom was cold. Had taken care of that at Thornwood Lodge, but believed it would be 'Dog-days' before they got there. They had had a glimpse of Walter in London.

213. [c. 20 Apr.
1853]

The same to the same, at Keele.

[First part of the letter missing]. Describes what he would like the chancellor to do, and comments at length on taxation. Was to go to London the following day. Nothing was out, one could hardly get a primrose.

[1. Postmark].

214. Queen's Remembrancer's Office.
29 Apr.
1853
- The same to the same.
- Comments at length on the Budget. Considers Gladstone as the future Peel of the House of Commons. Had taken a little villa of Lewis, the artist, for 3 months. Liked Cope, who had the nicest, most cheerful little country girl of a sister. Took it for granted that she was his sister.
215. 6 Hornton Villas.
25 May,
1853
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Had received no application to subscribe to such fund as Sneyd mentioned, for the purchase of Richard. 'I share with you, a dislike to paying my money for an Object, of which the non-paying Public is to have more than half the benefit, & all the Credit, (under the general Head of "English Subscription") while they turn upon their heel with an absolute, "Sir, Not I," - in regard to any real participation in the procuring of it.' Considers the question. Had not yet seen the two additional volumes of Tommy [Moore]. Had no doubt they would amuse his 'facile amusability;...'. Had great doubts whether he should ever read them. His small surplus leisure was entirely consumed by the Times. Sneyd was rich enough to buy the Duchess of Bedford's villa. The writer's next neighbour, Broadhurst's, was also to be had. Urges Sneyd to think seriously of it. The water colour exhibition was very good. Comments upon the work of F. (?) Tayler, and Richardson, and Cattermole's absence. Had been to a lecture by Professor Ayton, ' & did not mind, when I had heard it, that I had not been at the other four.' It had been on the dead poets of that century. Describes his reactions, 'but a few depreciatory remarks which I made on coming out, were so ill-received, - that I speedily desisted;...'.
216. 6 Hornton St.
29 June,
1853
- The same to the same, at 36 South St., Grosvenor Sq.
- Invites Sneyd to dine and comments upon three new purchases by the National Gallery, a Zurbaran, a Giorgione and a Velazquez.
217. Slinfold Rectory,
Horsham.
16 Aug.
1853
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Sneyd's 'amiable little grape-shot' had hit him on the Saturday, at Thornwood Lodge, on his way to Lily. They were all looking Staffordshire-ways. Could not at that moment say when they would be there, because a visit at Richmond Park was not definite. They should only be too grateful for a box [of grapes]. Before they had left Town they had seen the Germans in Faust and Othello. Comments. They had visited 'certain Stirlings in Kent, who have got a very pretty place near Tunbridge Wells.' Had been dissatisfied with the house Lord Hardinge had built at South Park, not far from Penshurst. Describes his sister-in-law, 'a clever, intelligent woman' who would 'make an Excellent mother in law to Six Children she found ready made, if she were not Eternally Engaged in manufacturing more!' It seemed the crisis was to receive a pacific solution. If they really did pass

over that agitation without fighting, one might positively conclude that war was henceforth impossible. Supposed the French had had their review of 100,000 men, 'by way of quizzing Chobham;...'. Was really ashamed of never having achieved Chobham, it was stupid never to have looked at it. Was just about getting possession of his hill of Scotch firs. Should like Sneyd's help, when the moment arrived.

218. [ante 22 Aug.
1853]

The same to the same.

[First part of the letter missing]. Had treated Chobham 'much as Addison's Ned Softly might have done, who piqued himself upon "never having read a gazette in his whole life, troubled his head very little about armies, whether they win or lose, - or in what quarter of the world they may be encamped."' Was not yet a believer in the peace. Considers the situation of securities. The Bridgewater affair was no doubt justly decided. They had all spent the previous day with Lady Carnarvon at Highclere, 'one of the finest, & most beautiful, places I know in Gt. Britain.' Describes Barry's architecture and the garden. Liked the young owner, who had 'the ready address of Eton nurture'. Was not quite so much in heart about Moldavia as he had been.

[1. See letter of Ralph Sneyd to Henry William Vincent of that date].

219. Lily Hill.
9 Sept.
1853

The same to the same, at Keele.

The writer's idea was to be with Sneyd on the 24th. Asks whether he might leave his children at Keele while he returns to London, and explains why. Meant to go on to Crewe, who had asked them to go to him in October. Comments upon the weather, and his health. Comments upon the international situation, and gives his view of what would happen. Turkey would be left to fight her own battle and be worsted, and Europe would negotiate rather than dictate 'an abstinence from further aggression, to which Nicholas will, for a time, consent.' Could not believe that he would now return to a mere status quo. Comments upon 'the very disreputable Norton Correspondence' in the Times, and the comments of Sir John Bagley. Had been mutilating his chestnut trees to improve the view. [MS. mutilated].

220. Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
11 Nov.
1853

The same to the same.

Perceived Sneyd was still at Keele and inferred that he had given up his Welsh expedition. Comments upon the death of [Baring] Wall. Their history, after Badger, was soon told. They had remained with the Effinghams till the end of the month. Had dined at the public dinner at Wentworth, with the Fitzwilliams. Comments on 'these houses of 5 or 600 feet long,' and their neglect by their owners. Comments upon Kedleston, which they had visited, Hardwick, and Wentworth Castle, where one of the finest galleries in England,

180 feet long and 26 feet wide, had been 'undergoing the awful process of doing up, - generally another word for "undoing"; - & in the female Sense! - & they have first made the whole of the Vault, a very dark blue, which looks like black, - & then studded it over with a set of uniform, & carefully Equi-distant, Stars, - which look much more like those of the Bath or Garter, than the aborigines of the Sky; so that Even the poor Conceit of the nocturnal Firmament, is lost; & as the walls are all tricked out, the whole way along, in a thin white & gold, - no Colour, or balance, Even in the pannels [sic]; - this heaviest of superincumbent weights above, appears to have no mass or support whatever below, - & looks as if it must fall on your head, before you get to the other End.' On the 1st he had left his children at the Grange and betaken himself to his bachelor life at Thornwood. His children had gone to Scotland. Considers the international situation.

221. Travellers' Club.
30 Nov.
1853

The same to the same.

Trusted Sneyd was well again. The writer oscillated in the mild drizzle between Kensington and Westminster 'as regular as a planet;...'. Describes the progress at Lily Hill. Considers the international situation. Perceived his notice of Baring Wall fell coldly on Sneyd's ear, which he was sorry for. No acquaintance could keep pace with a friend. Had read both the reviews of [Benjamin Robert] Haydon, and was deep in his book. Comments. The writer's term was over, and though he had taken that pretty easy, he was taking its "Sittings after" much easier. Hoped soon to bolt, and after a week's looking about at Lily, to fetch his 'Chickens' home from Bradwell. Hoped to be settled at Lily about 10th December, and to pass Christmas there, migrating to Camden Hill in the second week of January. Wished there was a little more rest in the world. Did not wonder the Countess Purgstall took to her bed and remained there several years.

222. Lily Hill.
8 Dec.
1853

The same to the same.

Enjoins Sneyd not to mind the debit and credit account. Thought but little of it, and was as lenient to Sneyd's silences (which were never very flagrant) as was consistent with his desire to receive what gave him more pleasure than most things he read. Was at Lily, though not settled by his fireside, there was plenty to attend to in the office after term was over, before he could fairly make holiday. Was going to Thornwood Lodge the following day, for two days, and on Tuesday to Bradwell, to bring home his two for Christmas. On 10th January they should all migrate to Camden Hill. Had been at Lily during the last week, sitting like Marius, among the ruins not of Carthage but Rome. Lived on the hopes that his grandchildren would say "After all, the old Boy was clearly right in making this sweep!" Was so much obliged to Sneyd for his two pages on Haydon. Comments at length. There was no news.

223. Thornwood Lodge.
10 Apr.
1854
- The same to the same.
- Comments upon Sneyd's abrupt departure [from London]. Comments upon the Crimean War. Had been to see F. Tayler's drawings for the Exhibition. They were by far the best he had ever done. Considers his work. Had been much struck with his superiority, after a previous visit to Richardson, who was nevertheless 'a very admirable Artist in Landscape.' Considers the prices paid for Tayler's work. 'Trade has always been the great Picture-buyer; - which seems odd; - the leisure, - the Education, - the Sentiment, - and the refinement, being all Elsewhere.' They were going to Lily Hill for a quiet week or so. Had not heard 'whether the report of Burgoyne's unfavourable picture of the Seat of War is confirmed or not. - But I learn, I fear truly, from an Artillery Officer, who has been long Superintending details at Woolwich, that the Artillery arrangements here are so backward, & still so defective, - that so much difficulty Exists about horses, & transports to take them, that there is a great probability of that important Arm not being in a Condition to take the field, before July or August!' Comments upon Napier's having seen the King of Denmark.
224. Warfield Park.
21 Apr.
1854
- The same to the same.
- They were all in the same boat. Had been weary beyond belief 'of this Tinsel Sunshine, with its harsh, parching, suffocating wind; the repelled, insulted Spring unable to do anything:....'. Had received Sneyd's letter on Wednesday morning, before setting out for Paddington, 'to go & open the detestable Court of Exchequer,...'. Sighs for the days of Horace Walpole, 'who got bet: £6000 & £7000 a year (according to Croker's Cocker,) out of the Exchequer for doing nothing, - & thought himself abominably ill used about it!' Had come down there, to Sir John Walsh's, to dinner. Walsh had been to Paris. 'He rather demurs to the Anglo-maniac reception that has been talked of:....'. Every day seemed to develop more and more 'the non-preparedness of all our Services!' Walsh told him that the French difficulty was as great as their own. Had been very much provoked with the senseless ovation which the House of Commons had decreed to John Russell. Comments upon the Duke of Portland's will. Was grieved at what Sneyd had told him of Walter. Comments upon the difficulties of gardening in that weather. They were to go home on Tuesday. Their cousin, Annie Tufnell and her husband were keeping the house for them. There was to be a drawing-room on Thursday, a day he had 'no great fancy for.' However, the young ones liked it.
225. Court of Exchequer.
16 Apr.
1855
- The same to the same.
- Describes at length a visit to Paris. They were all going to Lily Hill that day. Had to dismiss a peccant bailiff, '(a minor Peake)' and find another. Comments upon the war. Sneyd was going to be 'very magnificent' after all. Enjoins him to bring the plans [of the new Keele Hall].

226. Thornwood Lodge.
19 May,
1855
- The same to the same.
- Had been expecting to be called to account. Considers the conduct of the war, Lord Ellenborough's resolution, and other political issues at home and abroad.
227. Queen's Remembrancer's Office.
29 May,
1855
- The same to the same.
- Comments upon the debate in the House of Commons. Had been to see Henry VIII at the Princess Theatre. There was an admirable model of Sebastopol and the Crimea 'in Leicester fields; (how old & infirm it proves one to be to call it "fields"!)...'. An additional commentary upon that well thumbed text appeared in Burford's Panorama. The water colour exhibition was one of the best, and the Royal Academy one of the worst, he had seen. Comments. Was bothered to death with the continued illness of his clerk, 'occurring at the same moment as mighty Changes in the Constitution of Lily Hill!' Peake minor was on the point of departure, and his accounts were unseizable. The writer's old dairywoman, who took care of everything, was politically defunct.
228. Lily Hill.
4 Nov.
1855
- The same to the same.
- Had got down to Lily Hill the previous evening. Congratulates Sneyd on 18 Berkeley Square, and comments upon it. In the matter of the play Sneyd had behaved ill. Had ordered him to go to Still Waters, why had he disobeyed? Unless he was in love with Miss Blanche Fane he had no excuse, except that the Haymarket was at 6d distance from the Travellers', and the Olympic 1/-, which was probably what determined him to Miss Fane. That little treasure the writer had not seen. Comments upon his [own] age, there was small remnant of comfort in being 59, which ten months more would deprive him of. Sneyd had ignored their travels. Had been at Amptill Park, and had had luncheon at Woburn, where the Duke and Duchess of Bedford had been 'very civil'. Had also visited Wrest. Since Amptill they had been ten days at Wimpole. The young ladies had had the benefit of a Cambridge ball, and had danced with "Eligible" undergraduates. Was much bothered about his office, where he had not found anyone to replace his dead clerk, and parliament had passed a bill to assimilate the old Exchequer proceedings on the writer's side of the court to the practice of the Common Law and civil courts, and the writer had to lay before the barons the requisite regulations. Had to swear in a Jew Lord Mayor and was busy organizing a new 'Exchequer Pentateuch, in blue Morocco & with the Queen's Arms, - as the only instrument of securing his adhesion to what is required of him!'
229. Thornwood Lodge.
18 Nov.
1855
- The same to the same.
- Replies to Sneyd's comments upon his original impressions of Woburn and Wrest. Apologizes for writing of Sneyd '"cutting a figure"' and justifies

his using the expression. Admits that some of his fir trees had died and would 'Examine the next Martyr with a Microscope!' Was much harassed with the position of his office, 'and that singularly offensive Jack in Office, Sir C. Trevelyan, has stepped in, in a way very much calculated to augment my difficulties in finding a fit Successor for my Chf. Clk. & personal Satellite, by insisting, in the face of my telling him I had no one in my office who was not utterly incompetent for his duties, (tho' good and well conditioned men in their own places,) that "the Treasury", (meaning he), would "Expect me" to promote someone in the Office. - By the advice of Judges & others, I have laid the whole Affair before the Chancellor of the Exchequer, - & hope that Sir Geo. Lewis's good sense & proper feeling may induce him to take the View which Everyone else does of this transaction.'

230. Thornwood Lodge.
1 Aug.
1856

The same to the same.

How did he go on at Bath? Comments upon the heat. They were to break camp on Monday and go to the writer's brother, in Sussex, and afterwards to Lily. London was emptied out in a way the writer hardly ever saw it. Goodwood had helped the process. Mrs Fox had contrived to muster 15 people at dinner the previous day. They had had a cheerful dinner themselves on the Monday, the C. Percys, two Cheneys, two Crimean Colonels, Lady Georgiana Bathurst, Redesdales and Miss Mitford. Was uneasy about the Duchess of Gloucester. Comments upon the international situation. Suspected that Louis Napoleon had fomented the coup d'etat in Spain. The state of Italy was detestable. Had never seen so many legislative measures strangled in their cradles, but as most of the bills were exceedingly bad ones, he could not say he was sorry for any of them.

231. Lily Hill.
29 Feb. or
1 Mar. 1
1857

The same to the same.

Admits to having been niggard of his speech. Comments upon the morality of the government's action in China, and politics at home. Comments upon his own health, which gradually advanced. They had been reading with great interest the articles in the Quarterly on Sir James Napier and Lord Raglan, and had turned to what was light and amusing. They had fixed on Miss Austen, and had been reading Northanger Abbey and Persuasion. Comments. Was reading a book at which Sneyd would turn up his nose, a review of the life of Napoleon III, by Captain Collins. Bowring was a conceited coxcombe. Had once had 'a curious little passage of Arms with him, - among a set of Strangers, in which, Exasperated by his Self-sufficient impertinence, I obtained a signal triumph, & left him in the mire.' It was a long story, but some day he would impart.

[1. Writer's uncertainty].

232. Lily Hill.
6 Mar.
1857

The same to the same.

Considers the political situation. Went on tolerably well as to health. His doctors had told him to drink chablis as an anti-gout liquor. Did not like it so well as claret.

233. Lily Hill.
11 Mar.
1857
- The same to the same.
- Comments upon the debate in the Commons. Was happier and better off as to air and exercise there than he should be at Camden Hill. Had to be in Town for the last ten or twelve days of March. Was 'neither "unreasonable" or "impatient"; - I only state a fact, and compare it with another fact. - I am not complaining, - I am only affirming truths.' [- About his rate of recovery].
234. Queen's
Remembrancer's
Office.
8 July,
1857
- The same to the same.
- Returned Sneyd's manuscript. As Sneyd said, they would say something civil whatever they might think. The writer supposed his saying anything was not of much use - 'Liberare animam meam, however, - I will say, that it is most neatly, tersely, & agreeably, done; - and presents as lively a portrait of a remarkable member of Grander Society, as any that has been drawn by the skilful sketchers of French Notabilities of that kind.' Whether she deserved all the good things Sneyd said of her, the writer was no judge. 'To the mere wanderer, unnoticed, through the Salons in which she figured, - the picture scarcely recalls the impression of Ambassadorial assumption, - of scornful disdain, amounting to an appearance of ill temper, - of inaccessibility to all but potentates, - of cold Ambition, and of polite intrigue, - which she left upon the eyes & mind of such Casual observer, - and indeed, (to judge by many opinions current in Conversation at the time of her long sojourn here,) upon many who lived more intimately with her.' Had Sneyd been to see Ristori in the Great Murderess?
235. Dalmeny.
19 ~~Mar.~~ Nov.
1858 JK.
- The same to the same.
- Sketches his journal since the beginning of October. Describes Dalmeny, Scone, the David Murray's cottage at Taymount, a visit to Mercer Henderson at Fordell (which property included the whole of St David's Bay), a visit to the Fergussons at Raith, and a visit to Wishaw, where the Belhavens were going to do nothing with their house 'but what is perfectly sensible & rational.' They had left the Belhavens the previous day. They would visit Lady Ruthven at Winton, then Wishaw, then home by Crewe and Badger, should they have them. Sneyd had been much talked of and wished for, both at Dalmeny and Wishaw. M. Henderson had told the writer he had once met Sneyd at dinner at the Flahaults', in London. Thought Sneyd would like him. Comments upon Sneyd's letter. If Sneyd had surrendered his opinion to Salvin's in any matter but those of technical construction, he had done wrong. Would back Sneyd's eye against Salvin's for any sum. Comments on his own building. Trusted its departments would all be much too near each other and themselves to need electric wires, 'which I feel would be sure, somehow or other, to be an hour in bringing one the Coal-Scuttle.' Wished to know about Sneyd's news and reading room. Should like to talk to him about Montalembert, John Bright, Gladstone's odd appointment, '& the treason of some...' [Letter incomplete].

236.

Winton.
29 Nov.
1858

The same to the same.

His letter had found them there and Susie was already engaged on her commission. They were bound to Oxenford Castle (Lord Stairs) for luncheon that day, and Heaven knew what else the following day. 'In the freest Communities which one Visits, there is a good deal of Slavery!' It was to Wishaw that they were to go on Wednesday. Comments upon Sneyd's dislike of the household, where the writer was always contented. The characteristic of the country was to have nothing finished, but it was all mending, ' - and will vanish under their gradual amalgamation with the more rangés & fastidious English.' Describes the countryside and the house, including that part by Inigo Jones. Had made up his mind that of the two sisters, Lady Belhaven, though the least clever, was the more agreeable. Lady Ruthven did not converse, she ran on. Comments upon Mercer Henderson. None of them knew of any quarry garden at Scone worth going to see. They had had the Duchess of Richmond and Lady Cecilia L. there for a night. Comments. What in the world was Salvin going to do at Windsor? Wished they would not meddle with the old wooden clock tower on top of the big stone one. 'I have no opinion of P. Albert's taste! - I must go & see after him!' The cold was a matter of history. Sneyd spoke as of a dearth of companions. He had a few good associates, what more of society could be wished for by a sensible man. Adds a postscript, 'All sorts of things to you fm. Ly. Ruthven.'

237.

Thornwood Lodge.
13 July,
1859

The same to the same.

Desired to know the title of a French book on the Italian war, which he had seen on Sneyd's table, in Dover Street. It was time they heard something of him. The accounts of him and Walter which had reached the writer while Sneyd had been at Denton, had not been very satisfactory. Comments upon the prospect of peace in Europe.

238.

Thornwood Lodge.
3 Aug.
1859

The same to the same.

They were to break their camp there the following day and go to Lily Hill. Wished he could think that they should long be left in peace there, but Lady Catherine Harcourt summoned them to St Clare and the writer believed they should be there about the 12th or 13th. After Strawberry Hill. They had dined at the Jerseys' and the Norths'. Describes Lady Jersey. Comments upon the death of Lady Clementina. One of the latter's last appearances in London had been at Thornwood Lodge, when they had dined with the Duchesses of Cambridge and Mecklenburg. Those 'Royals' had not been there that year. Had not had energy to propose it. 'As an annual acquaintance, it is rather an unfruitful bore; If they had shown any wish to continue the friendship, it wd. have been another matter.' Had been excessively amused by About. Had Sneyd read Stapleton's volume on Canning? Stapleton had got into a scrape with Lord Granville for publishing letters addressed by Canning to Lord Granville's father.

Considers the question of his younger daughter Harriet's conditional engagement to Captain Campbell, a cousin of the Duke of Argyll, and nephew of Lady Belhaven and Lady Ruthven, and the Captain's lack of money. He was 34 and she 25. It was all a lottery. Should give her £300 a year during his life, and settle Thornwood Lodge on her. After the writer's death she would inherit a due proportion of his personalty, 'but I shall never let anything or anybody interfere with Enabling Susie to live creditably at Lily Hill, & keep all the family things, &c &c together; which I am certain will be the best in the End for all parties.' The writer's Sussex estate and Lily Hill were settled on Susan, and £2,000 a year. Wonders, though did not regret, that more people 'of pretension, (there have been plenty of others,)' had not sought to make themselves agreeable to her. Unlike the other, who was volatile, she was difficult to please and had no vanity of attracting where she was not prepared to attach herself.

239. Lily Hill.
9 Aug.
1859

The same to the same.

[Almost the whole of the letter is devoted to a consideration of the writer's younger daughter Harriet Maria's proposed marriage to Captain James Carter Campbell R.N.]. Concludes by expressing his disgust at the small amount of progress in his buildings since June.

240. Lily Hill.
18 Sept.
1859

The same to the same.

Comments at length upon Sneyd's suggestion concerning a clause in his will. They had been back above a fortnight, their ten days in the Isle of Wight having been most agreeably passed. Afterwards they had spent a week at Clarendon. Describes the visit. They had had the writer's brother at Lily Hill, and then the Charles Bruces. The writer had been sent half a buck from the Duke of Cambridge, and a haunch of Windsor venison from Frances Seymour, '(who puts on a proper grave face when Ld. Hy. Seymour's death is alluded to) for the other;...'

241. Lily Hill.
2 Oct.
1859

The same to the same.

It was quite true that having nothing to say was no excuse for Sneyd. Was delighted he had got on so far as to lodge Walter and his wife, and glad to hear of the benefit to him from Buxton. Had a thing to say to him on that score, having lighted upon a man who had performed the most wonderful cures of gout and rheumatisms. Agreed with Sneyd about Stapleton's letter. Comments upon events in China. Sneyd would not hear without interest that James Campbell had got his appointment. They had made the writer president of the Windsor Forest Agricultural Association for the year, and his speeches had been well received. They had met at Lord Downshire's, who was building a very large house. Had been with James Campbell to see The Willow Copse at the Adelphi. 'It is a heap of inconsistent, incongruous, unintelligible rubbish!'

242. Slinfold Rectory,
Horsham.
26 Oct.
1859

The same to the same.

Had thought of writing to ask if the premature snow had followed the inconvenient precedent of breaking his oaks to pieces. By Sneyd's silence on that subject the writer flattered himself that no such catastrophe had occurred. They had left Lily and its climate 10 ten days before, and had gone to Nuneham. Describes their visit. Had spent an hour or two at Oxford. 'They have put up a very strange & fantastical building for the new Museum; a sort of Caricature of Byzantine, or Saracenic Gothic, I think I must call it, - overladen with Efforts at originality; very Elaborate, and I think, upon the whole, very ugly; and still more, inconsistent.' The new chapel at Exeter College was very beautiful, but 'rather a servile Copy of the Sainte Chapelle at Paris;...'. Describes the company at Slinfold. They were to stay until the 5th November, when they were to go to Buxted, which enabled the writer to look at his small possessions. He had some fine tombs 'in a little old Chancel belonging to me, of some Shirleys, or Shurleys, in Elizth's. & Jas. the 1st's time,' which were worth looking at. From Buxted they were to go to Sir W. Stirling's, near Tunbridge Wells, then to Thornwood and Lily. Explains about a professed cure for gout, discovered by a Dr Melhardo of 9 Princes Square, Bayswater. [MS. mutilated].

243. Thornwood Lodge.
2 Dec.
1859

The same to the same.

Had been longing and intending to write, but did not expect Sneyd to be so green as to believe it. The writer, who used to write so fast, wrote with considerable pain and very slow, coupled with which he required twice the time. After a longish visit at Buxted he had been seized with an attack of gout. That he should live to be observed by an "Architectural Observer"! It was too true. About 9 square feet of ceiling had fallen. Describes the circumstances. On the 12th they were to go to the Van de Weyers, 'at the very pretty house they have built in Windsor Forest, New Lodge; about 6 miles from Us.' It had been one of the old Windsor Forest lodges. George III had once offered it to the writer's father, before the latter had bought Lily Hill. Describes its history and how he had known it as a child. Was excessively jealous of hearing of all those favoured visitors of Keele and finding the "Odi et arceo" applied to himself. It would serve Sneyd right if the writer were to die without seeing it at all. The book he had not read. Was 'always amused by all real traces of bygone human beings,' but had the knack of forgetting everything about them. What a wretched critique it had been in the Times upon Stapleton's book, 'with the obvious intention of depreciating & smashing Canning, (of whom, moreover, he plainly knew scarce anything,...'. Had had a correspondence with C. Greville, about Melhardo and his pill, when he had been at Buxted. Greville had said he had shown some remarks the writer had made 'about the L: papers' to George Lewis, 'who had desired him to suggest to me getting leave fm. the Harcourts to Edit them.' Had

given him several reasons why he would not. Appearances as regards France were a little better. But how was Europe ever to get out of the Italian mess? Comments.

244. Thornwood Lodge.
8 Dec.
1859

The same to the same.

Prays Sneyd always to be 'as perversely & Capriciously' prompt.' Acknowledges Sneyd's joke and his own dullness. Comments at length on the Italian question. The writer's brother and his wife had been staying with them, and they did nothing but go to plays and operas, 'with little dinners of Six,...on the alternate nights.' The day before Frederick Taylor, who had 'taken one of the new houses just at the bottom of our garden,' had dined with them. Had given him a key of their garden gate, and meant to go in constantly 'to see him draw.'

245. Thornwood Lodge.
29 Dec.
1859

The same to the same.

Comments upon the death of Macaulay. Comments upon the Italian situation. Rejects 'the imputation of quasi-treason in Shewing your "heretical confessions" to a Minister's Wife &c.' Sneyd's literary and political reputations were, the writer suspected, very safe in his hands.

246. Shrubland,
Ipswich.
14 Jan.
1860

The same to the same.

His letter found them there. They had come on Tuesday and were to stay till Monday, when they were to go to Wimpole, and on Friday to Van de Weyer's again, who were to have a grand ball in their new house. Comments upon the Pope. Had the same doubt that Sneyd had about Macaulay's having fulfilled their idea of a real genius. Had become much enamoured by The Saturday Review. Had never read President Le Brosse's book but would. 'It seems at any rate that he is no authority for present Italian feeling.' Further comment upon Italy.

247. Thornwood Lodge.
5 Feb.
1860

The same to the same.

Comments upon the methods of Louis Napoleon. Protests against what Sneyd calls his 'Italian enthusiasm' and considers the Italian situation at length. Comments upon the commercial treaty and the principles of free trade. Speculates on Gladstone's budget. Did not believe in a graduated income tax. Mrs Percy was with them. They should go to a 'Pantomime' the following day.

248. Thornwood Lodge.
14 Feb.
1860

The same to the same.

It had to be owned that the the throat had at last been cleared to some purpose. "We" had been furious because the postponement of the budget and its cause had not been communicated before Palmerston's announcement in the Commons. Comments upon Gladstone's speech. Had no penchant for him or his budgets, but was bound to say it appeared to be one of the cleverest, most ingenious and least offensive budgets

he had ever read. Heard on good authority that the Conservative tactics on Reform were that if Palmerston would disregard 'all the more violent suggestions of his radical allies, & firmly resist what all but they, know to be objectionable, and bring in a bill proposing an amount of franchise sufficiently high, (to be previously agreed upon,) not to swamp any of the Constituencies by numbers of the lowest Class, they will support him loyally through it,...', but it had been more than suspected that there had been an under plot of Dizzy's to under bid him and establish a more advanced party with the help of Lord Stanley, Graham and others. Walter had come to them the day before.

249. Thornwood Lodge.
25 Feb.
1860
The same to the same.
The results of the Conservative tactics 'have not been quite so mischievous as if they had been more successful;...'. Comments. Considers 'the Continental question' [but letter incomplete].
250. Thornwood Lodge..
1 Mar.
1860
The same to the same.
Comments upon the Conservative budget.
251. Thornwood Lodge.
20 Mar.
1860
The same to the same.
Comments upon the Italian question.
252. 101, Rue n[ouvelle]
des p[etits] Champs.
6 June,
1860
The same to the same.
Describes Paris under Louis Napoleon. Inclined to a conviction that Napoleon's personal wishes were in favour of peace with England, but there were difficulties in his position in France that made it necessary for him to appear less favourable to peace with England than he was. Louis Napoleon had sent the writer word that he hoped to see him on his return from Lyons. Had been to the Louvres and had admired the magnificent Veroneses. There was an old Mr Fitzwilliam there, who had come there 'about 1825 for 3 months, & remained here 35 Years;...'. Did Sneyd know anything about him.
253. 101, Rue nouvelle
des petits Champs.
5 July,
1860
The same to the same.
The writer also hated thin paper. Describes his impressions of, and activities in, Paris. What pretty matters he had seen in windows were so ridiculously dear that one was discouraged from putting such questions [as Sneyd had asked, concerning furniture].
254. 101, Rue nouvelle
des petits Champs.
11 July,
1860
The same to the same.
Comments upon political events in England and abroad. [Letter incomplete].

255. 101, Rue nouvelle
des petits Champs.
23 July,
1860
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Comments upon the question of Sneyd's tapestry and what is available. Had decided against going further afield because of the expense and other commitments, including Harriet's increased allowance. The writer's daughter, Susan, had enjoyed her trip and had been complimented. Sneyd would forgive the writer's 'paternal puff'. They were to visit the writer's daughter, 'Hattie', and her husband, and the writer had to have 10 days or a fortnight at home before going to them, and they would therefore have to go home at the beginning of the following month at the latest. Comments upon the question of parliamentary reform, and Italy.
256. 101, Rue nouvelle
des petits Champs.
3 Aug.
1860
- The same to the same.
- Had further indoctrinated the brothers Braquenié, who entered, con amore, into all Sneyd's wishes and criticisms. Had come very near to buying a panel of hollyhocks himself, but it would have killed everything belonging to him. It was a great pity that Sneyd had not come over for a few weeks earlier in the year, while they were there. Comments upon their activities and the weather. B. Greville had written to the writer from Lily Hill that the writer's hay had been carried 'in capital Condition', which could not have been done in any week in Paris! Sneyd was quite right in supposing the theatre to be in no very palmy state in any of its departments that the writer had seen, but its mediocrity was 'good Enough to be interesting & agreeable, - were it not for the great physical discomfort which attends the visiting it.' Describes a play he had seen - La Fille du Diable - Hannah More might have written it. Comments upon (?) the Emperor Louis Napoleon's policy towards England. The English official opinion in Paris was that Palmerston's speech had done a lot of good. The Emperor's letter was looked upon as the direct result of it. The more strictly neutral England kept in the Italian affair, the better. [Letter incomplete].
257. Thornwood Lodge.
10 Aug.
1860
- The same to the same.
- Expresses his appreciation of English comfort. Outside, the French beat them hollow, inside, they were at least a century behind. Had received his letter that morning. Had seen, done and learned nothing in Paris. Had told Sneyd what he thought of the shops. Suggests certain possibilities. Did not know if the Duchess [of Sutherland] had seen the Hôtel de Cluny, but thought she would find it worthwhile, also the Hôtel de Ville's interior. Thought she would be interested in going round the Algerian collection in the Palais d'Industrie.
258. Wishaw.
8 Nov.
1860
- The same to the same.
- Sneyd's letter of the 10th October had duly found them in the beginning of their visit at Dalmeny. They had passed 5 weeks with the writer's younger daughter and son-in-law, who had accompanied them in a visit to

Lee Castle, in Lanarkshire, belonging to Lady Macdonald Lockhart, a handsome widow, with a group of tall daughters. Thence they had gone to Dalmeny, where they had remained three weeks. Describes the guests. Had met Lord Stratford [de Redcliffe], with whom he had discussed the affairs of Europe. The writer and his daughter Susie were to stay at Wishaw until the following Saturday, when they were to go to a sister-in-law of the writer's at Strathblane. They should go to Dalmeny again, and Winton, and then turn their heads southwards. Must make an attempt to stop at Crewe, if only for the sake of a day at Keele. Then, if they did that, they should have to go to Badger, to the Cheney's, then Shifnal. Describes their visit at Wishaw, the hospitality of Lord and Lady B[elhaven], the goodness of their cook, the unfinished state of the house, and the mile long walk, wet or dry, to the water closet. Comments upon the Road murder. Believed himself that the father had been in the nurserymaid's bed, that the child had made a demonstration of having discovered him, that in covering him up the father had suffocated him, and that he had afterwards cut the child up. Could not give Sneyd the credit of an initiative in the matter of The Warden and Barchester Towers. Comments. Comments upon Italy and Louis Napoleon. Thought John Russell had much better not have written any despatch. Heard that the Duchess of Sutherland had been so charmed with the flowers at Paris that she had sent her gardener to look at them. If that were so, they must have made great progress since they had seen them. There had been nothing to compare to the brilliant flower gardens of the south of England.

259. Thornwood Lodge.
14 Mar.
1861

The same to the same.

Describes his illness and relapse, and progress towards health. Expresses surprise that the Duke of Sutherland's estates had no debt on them. It had been a queer debate and division the previous night. Comments upon the Italian situation.

260. Thornwood Lodge.
13 Oct.
1861

The same to the same.

It was long since they had exchanged a word with one another. They had had ten enjoyable days with the F. Harcourts at St Clare, and then 3 or 4 with the Hardwicks, at their villa on Southampton Water, then three weeks at Lily. Had been sorry when the time had come to make the first steps which were to lead them to their child and her baby in Scotland. Had scarcely stomach for it. Had accepted an offer of 300gns. for Lily Hill for 3 months, and one in addition, and they had begun with the Effinghams at Tusmore, then to the writer's old cousin, William Hervey, at Bradwell. The physical derangement which had begun at Tusmore, had there made him seriously ill. Was a little alarmed lest it brought on the gout. Had been engaged in a clandestine correspondence with Mr Hill, about a gardener, but the latter could do nothing for him and the writer had got a young man

from Holland House. Was in a great confusion, horticulturally, being obliged to do up the conservatory, which would cost him £150, so that the rent of Lily Hill was very necessary to him. When he could move, he would go to his brother, but it was a different thing pottering about one's own house.

261. Thornwood Lodge.
26, 29 Oct.
1861

The same to the same.

Sneyd had kindly desired to hear of his condition, he had continued to improve and was pretty well, but not quite. Describes a visit to Lily Hill, where they had seen their tenants playing croquet on the lawn. Had gone down 'chiefly to organize some Anti-coneycal Cradles', in which to plant young trees, 'which I intend to be, in some part of the 20th., or, at farthest, twenty first, century,...'. [Letter continued 29 Oct.]. Describes at length Charles Fechter's Othello, with John Ryder and Carlotta Leclercq. Adds a postscript, that the notices of [Sir James] Graham, in the Times, he had thought rather good. They were going that night to see their dear [Mr and Mrs Alfred] Wigans, in his English version of Les Pattes de Mouche, which they had seen the previous year at Paris. London was a desert, but they were to dine the following night with the Duchess of Inverness, 'to meet some foreign diplomatists.'

262. Thornwood Lodge.
6 Nov.
1861

The same to the same, at Keele, redirected to Teddesley, Penkridge.

Comments upon events in Europe and America. Fechter had published a book of Othello. Comments. The Wigans and John Leslies had dined with them on Sunday. Describes the Wigans. [Letter mutilated].

With (1), copy [made by the writer's daughter Susan], of a comment made by the writer in de Tocqueville's De la démocratie en Amérique, in 1836.

263. Thornwood Lodge.
28 Nov.
1861

The same to the same.

They were all in a state of great excitement over the Trent affair. Comments. Had been ill again but was better.

264. Thornwood Lodge.
2 Dec.
1861

The same to the same.

Comments further upon the Trent affair. Comments upon Austria and Hungary. Comments upon his own health.

265. Thornwood Lodge.
6 Dec.
1861

The same to the same.

Comments further upon the Trent affair. Had been very much entertained with [Abraham] Hayward's two volumes of Mme. Piozzi. They were well done. Comments.

266. Thornwood Lodge.
14 Dec.
1861

The same to the same.

'What a serious Calamity is impending over the Country, in the illness of P. Albert!' Trusted it might be averted. Comments upon remarks made by [William Henry]

Seward, reported to the writer by Lord Hardwicke. What a detestable fellow Seward was. Could not gainsay Sneyd's hypothesis of Lady Elizabeth Whitbread, 'in the matter of Thrale & Piozzi.' Comments upon the parts played by Johnson and Boswell.

267. Wimpole.
2 Jan.
1862

The same to the same.

Had been for some days meditating 'Wilkes-wise'¹ a shot across Sneyd's bows, to compel him to surrender some of his imprisoned thoughts. Comments upon Othello. Had once 'said' nearly 4 Acts of it without book,...'. Croker had once asked the writer which he thought the finest play of Shakespeare's. The writer had answered '"Oh, - the last I read."' Croker had scored that up to his account as an epigram. They had come to Wimpole on the previous Friday and were to remain until Monday 6th, when they were to go to an old Treasury friend of the writer, who lived near Hitchin. At Wimpole they found Adeans and Normanbys. Normanby was curiously Austrian and reactionary, and hoped 'for German Grand-Dukes back again, & all the Italians in dungeons, before long!' They indoctrinated the writer with anti-Piedmont stories. Found it rather amusing to find Normanby a thoroughgoing Conservative. Comments upon a pamphlet he had made him read. Another book he had been reading was a volume of notes by Sir R. Heron, embracing the writer's own experience of London life, 1812-51. They still languished 'for the definite Clearing up of the American Suspense;...'.
[1. Charles Wilkes, commander of the San Jacinto, which intercepted the British steamer Trent, 8 Nov., 1861].

268. Newbold Revel,
Rugby.
24 Jan.
1862

The same to the same.

Sneyd's letter of the 9th had reached him in his suburb on the 10th, but not long after they had come down to Newbold Revel, to Charles Ramsden's, and there they were till the following day, when they were to go to the Van de Weyers, and after that to Lily Hill. Had been tempted to go to Crewe Hall and spend a morning looking at Keele. Reverts to Othello. Comments upon the Trent affair. Pistol had contrived to swallow his leek, with the help of his friend Seward, in as graceless a way as he could. Comments upon the likely outcome of the war. Describes Newbold Revel, built by Vanbrugh. The Ramsdens had bought it five years previously, but as they never stayed long in one place, had, after laying out £12,000, sold it. One day they had been to see the Denbighs, Nuneham Paddox. Lady Mary Fielding had shown them over the house, which was a bad and rambling one, 'with a good room or two, and a certain number of beautiful pictures; including one of a full-length Mother, (some Denbigh or other Countess,) & her Child, the latter looking up in her Mother's face as only Sir Joshua's Children look, - which is one of the best I Ever saw; painted in his Earlier day, before his colours faded, and before his accessories were abandoned to pupils;...'. Another day they had gone over to Coombe Abbey, 'a dull flat

place, but the House, tho' not very well adapted for modern inhabitancy, has more that is striking in it than I expected.' Describes it. The Cravens were coming to live there, no wonder that whenever one asked the price of anything in curiosity shops, one was told that it was sold to Lord Craven. Had almost given up going into such places. Had seen two pier-glasses in a shop window, but had been told that they were sold to Mr Sneyd. The Ingestries had a place within a few miles of Newbold Revel and had dined there, and Susie had gone to luncheon afterwards. Lady I. was certainly very pretty, and had brought to Newbold a very pretty Miss Lamb - 'a daughter of the late Lamb & Ly. Montgomerie.'

269. Lily Hill.
13 Mar.
1862

The same to the same.

They had been there three weeks and should be so all that month. Inclined to the~~x~~ going to Thornwood Lodge for two or three weeks, and coming back for Easter. The east wind had made him unwell. In the odd half hours before dinner he had been reading Fielding's Amelia. Comments. Comments upon the American Civil War. They were leading a quiet life, but not a solitary one. They had dined with the Murrays, Walshes &c. Elizabeth and Caroline Murray dined there. The writer's nephew, Willy Vincent and Lady Margaret were with them. Proposes to Sneyd that he comes to them for a week at Whitsun.

270. Thornwood Lodge.
30 July,
1862

The same to the same.

Sneyd should not be startled to read of their departure for Lily Hill, they were to return on Monday. The writer's younger daughter and child were to leave that day, for Scotland. Comments upon the battle of Richmond. Had Sneyd seen Lord Derby's volume of translations? There were some very pretty things in it. Quotes six lines of his own translation of Cinque Maggio. The Duchess of Argyll had just been there to tell them that the prettiest of the writer's three pretty Callendar nieces was to marry Charles Sartoris. He had, it was supposed, £5,000 a year, and had bought Willy Craven's place in Hampshire - Bambridge. They all thought it an excellent thing for her, 'as she has next to nothing of her own, - liked flirting, - and was regularly fallen in love with by all the Officers of all the Regiments of all the Garrisons within 25 miles of her.' Edward Cheney had dined there two days before, coming from Holland House. Had wanted the villain to meet Sneyd at Thornwood Lodge, 'but he is going to bask in the grimaces of my accomplished Cousin, Ly. Harry Vane, at Battle; - & then to Chevening.' As to the writer's 'Crurals', his leg was somewhat in the condition of Lady Macbeth's hand, but would not prevent his trotting about exhibitions with Sneyd. Feared Lady C. Greville's death would throw some damp over his party at Wrest.

271.

Lily Hill.
26 Aug.
1862

The same to the same, at Keele, redirected to
Tulliallan, Kincardine, N.B.

Had not been able to write to him from London, to catch him before he left Keele. On the whole Sneyd's whole proceedings were not very antagonistic to the writer's. Mary Callendar's marriage, for which they were bidden to Inverary, was expected to come off on 16 September, and they should like first 'to repose a few days with Hattie & Co.!' Outlines their programme. Was not his present intention to stay late in Scotland, especially as he feared there was little or no chance of the Roseberrys being at Dalmeny, 'poor dear Lou continuing very unwell.' Sneyd was very amiable in what he said about his visits to the writer and his daughter. He had left them on the eve of a visit to Newdegate, at Harefield. Describes the location, and his host. Was glad Sneyd was not disappointed by Mrs French. Comments. They were having glorious weather for the harvest and Lily Hill was very pretty. Had the greatest desire to see the D[uche]ss of B[uccleuch]'s garden and to show Drumlanrig to Susie, and should be obliged to Sneyd if he could tell him the name of the nearest quarter to it, at which they could put up. The Charles Bruces were with them for that week, and they were all going over to a rural fête at Lord Eversley's at Heckfield.

272.

'Ardkinlas'
[recte Ardkinglas].
25 Sept.
1862

The same to the same.

Had been surprised at not receiving an answer from Sneyd's usually punctual pen. It had sketched his intended proceedings up to about that point. At Inverary the writer had learned that Sneyd had not left home for Scotland, 'but had gone with the D[uche]ss of Sutherland to Lilleshall.' What had become of him since? Had thought it possible, when he had heard that the Duchess was coming to Roseneath and Inverary, that Sneyd might come north with her. But did not find him. They had hitherto accomplished their expedition prosperously enough. They had passed 4 days at Badger, with the brothers [? Cheney], pleasantly, though it was a matter of regret to the writer that the advancing years and circumstances rather increased in them dogmatism and irritability. They had slept at Carlisle, and passed in sunshine through Dumfriesshire to Paisley and Greenock '& my Child's little Cottage on the Clyde.' Four or five days afterwards they had all migrated to Inverary. The Duke and Duchess [? of Argyll] had arranged their family wedding and all had gone off to perfection. Since then the writer and his daughter had been staying with the writer's son-in-law's sister, and were now staying with his nieces. They were to return to Hattie the following day, 'hoping, but not certain, to get a few more days with her before the Advent of Master Campbell puts us to flight.' They meditated a visit at Mr Finlay's, at Castle Toward on the Firth of Clyde, and a few more days at Wishaw would complete their Scottish pilgrimage for that year. They had a visit to make in Lancashire and

were pledged to Crewe. Whether they had any chance of thoroughly inhaling Keele must depend on Sneyd's movements. The safest direction would be 'Brookfield, Greenock'. The poor Roseberrys were in the greatest affliction at the loss of their daughter Anne Tufnell, and poor Lou [her sister] continued very unwell. Should be very glad to get home. Had been reading Guizot's fifth volume - his embassy in England.

273. Guy's Cliffe.
6 Nov.
1862

The same to the same.

Expresses his pleasure on having visited Keele, and his appreciation 'of our sense of the kind & affectionate way in which you had acceded to Harriet's bold request, that you wd. guarantee the future Christianity of Miss Edith Campbell.' Describes Arbury [Hall, co. War.]. Astley Castle, whither they had gone after Arbury, was a much more romantic abode. Describes it, and the church. Describes Merevale, Mr Dugdale's. At Guy's Cliffe they had found Walter and Mr Gooch, the latter a capital mimic. They were to stay till Saturday, when the writer trusted they should find themselves at Lily.

274. Lily Hill.
17 Nov.
1862

The same to the same.

The writer had cut down 20 or 30 growing oaks and chestnuts and regrets having had to do so, but it had let in new prospects. They had had a pleasant visit to Guy's Cliffe. Charles Percy's youth and energy were incredible. They had been to Town on Saturday and looked at 'the Expiring Agonies of the Exhibition.' There had been pretty things left, but the writer could not discover any reduction in prices. They had met Lord Granville there. They were going to Thornwood Lodge the following day, for the remainder of the week. Comments further upon Arbury. Held that battlements were inadmissible in anything but a fortified castle. Comments upon current affairs mentioned by Sneyd, including Sir Charles Trevelyan's appointment [as finance minister] in India. Comments upon Russia and France, and the American Civil War.

275. Lily Hill.
1 Jan.
1863

The same to the same.

Knew Sneyd would some day be forestalling him in the letter he had long been intending. Reciprocates Sneyd's good wishes. Was sanguine in the hope that, when Sneyd's charming house was finished, they might contrive a mutual week or 10 days in each other's abodes. It was only a few, he thought, who took pleasure in where their friends lived, and what they did there. Explains his building plans for Lily Hill. Had read most of the book on Prince Albert and had also become aware of the history of its concoction. Was much struck by the ability and tact of the Prince's speeches. 'There is an Earnestness, & even a vigour, in the Queen's share of the matter altogether, which tell very favourably for her Character, & Even for her Capacity;...'. Was glad to have heard a good account of the Queen, from those who had seen her. Describes their activities at Lily Hill. They had been for 4 or

5 days with the Van de Weyers at New Lodge. Had read two or three 'amusing little matters' at Van de Weyer's suggestion, one entitled Richard Cobden, Roi des Belges, in which he recognized the hand of their 'sharp little host himself', the other a comedy being played at The Français at Paris, Les Fils de Giboyer. It was (?) Auzier's. Before he had gone to New Lodge he had been engaged 'with an affair in a different atmosphere' - Bishop Colenso. His preface had been deeply interesting to the writer. Discusses what he had been reading. Considers the Federal defeat in America. It was 'remarkable how unable the Confederates always are to follow up their Successes.' Confessed to a little disappointment at the sex of Walter's new baby. Henry Lane had been over to dinner, from Windsor, and they had been pleased to hear from him how good a thing Sidney's marriage was for him.

276. Lily Hill.
2 Jan.
1863

The same to the same.

His letter No.1 having been too late for the post the previous night, he had that morning achieved a rough plan of the projected extravaganza. Comments.

[Letter enclosed with letter of 1 Jan. above. Incomplete].

277. Lily Hill.
31 Jan.
1863

The same to the same.

'To 'Pindarum quisquis studet emulari', we know, (at least a few of us still do, -) what happens. I shall therefore here confine myself to plain prose.' Comments upon Lily Hill and his plans for building. Had had gout in a big toe. They were to have gone to the Tauntons, at Stoke, but had been obliged to send an excuse. Would go on Tuesday. Reverts to his plans for building. Comments on the lavish scale of Sneyd's decoration. Explains about the different varieties of Kalmia. Reverts to the subject of Dr Colenso. [Letter completed at Thornwood Lodge]. Wanted to talk about Lord Lansdowne's death and Thouvenel's speech.

278. Thornwood Lodge.
11 Feb.
1863

The same to the same.

Had nothing very good to tell him of his condition since he had written. The gouty symptoms had clinged, and lamed him, but then there had been a gradual subsidence. All that week they should remain at Thornwood, then Lily Hill. Hounds, travels and dinners ate up capital. 'Luttrell, in accounting for the penniless condition in which a Certain hospitable Dean of Salisbury had died, laid Equal blame upon the Fish-knife & the Trowel; but the Superior merit of the ruin by the latter, is, that it leaves you at least something to shew for your Money.' So Sneyd read De Quincey. Should have thought he would have been too metaphysical for him. Relates an experience at Wishaw concerning a young minister who had admired De Quincey, to whom he had explained that the Scotch liked metaphysical subtleties provided they fell within their own preconceived notions and convictions. Comments upon Kinglake on the Crimean War. The Duchess of Argyll had

told the writer that Palmerston had said in his off-hand way, "Well - its very amusing; & I'm sure tells me a great many things I never knew before, - especially about myself!" Sneyd would have to read it. There was a very pretty little book compiled by Lord Stanhope, which he called Miscellanies.

279.

Lily Hill
25 Feb.
1863

The same to the same.

Had been doing tolerably well since he had come back to Lily Hill. Comments upon his condition and his medical advisers. His building at Lily would not be that year. Reverts to the subject of Bishop Colenso. They had nearly finished Kinglake. Could not but consider it 'a very faulty history.' The Duke of Cambridge had been furious with what he had said about his division. Comments upon the French and American correspondence. Had thought somewhat ominous the attitude of the French in the Russian and Prussian matter. They were to have a dinner at Bracknell, 'for our labouring people on the Wales Wedding day;...'. As a result of that there had been an agitation concerning Lent, but it had been overruled.

280.

Lily Hill.
3 Mar.
1863

The same to the same.

Describes pulling down the coach house, loft and store-room at Lily Hill. They were to go to Camden Hill for good the following day, 'very much contre coeur'. The affairs of the Poles kept alive a very serious anxiety for its effect in Europe.

[Letter-head lithograph of Lily Hill].

281.

Thornwood Lodge..
9 Mar.
1863

The same to the same.

There they talked of nothing but the [wedding of the] Prince and Princess of Wales, which they had watched from the Roseberrys' house in Piccadilly. Comments. The writer's gout was getting better.

282.

Thornwood Lodge.
6 Apr.
1863

The same to the same.

Had not omitted to examine the tree moving machine. Describes it. Had Sneyd never seen the old lithograph of Lily before? It had been done from a drawing concocted between Susie and himself, a year or so after the house had been built. It was too big and pretentious and had never been repeated after the 'first "Edition"'. Describes the progress of his building. How abominably written John Russell's circular to Lord Napier was. 'The resolutions of the Democratic meeting at New York, are at least very remarkable, as Evidences of a great Change of Opinion there; - But of what real Use, with a view to Peace, is the growth of any party unless prepared to frankly recognize the independence of the South?' They had had a visit from the bride and bridegroom of Strawberry Hill. Comments. They had dined several times with the Roseberrys, 'to whose clouded prospects, poor Waterpark's death has been a great additional discomfort.' Had not yet done talking about the Prince and Princess of Wales. Adds a postscript, that he has sent Sneyd some Confederate stanzas.

283. Thornwood Lodge.
20 Apr.
1863
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Comments upon the death of Sir G. Lewis, a truly just man. Was recovering from catching cold. They had had their first asparagus from Lily the day before. Comments upon Gladstone's budget and taxation generally. Comments upon the American Civil War, and Kinglake's Crimea.
284. Thornwood Lodge.
6 May,
1863
- The same to the same.
- Wrote a hurried line to let him know that his old cousin, Mr Hervey, of Oxfordshire, had died, and left the writer his chief heir. His W. India estates had been left to the Beckfords. His Oxfordshire estates, with two excellent houses '(his own residence at Bradwell Grove, and Filkins Hall,...)', came to them, the principal house had been settled on Susie, the Filkins '(worth about £27,000)' on Harriet after the writer's death. The Oxfordshire gross rental, the writer imagined, was between £3,000 and £4,000, but there were considerable charges and incumbrances.
285. Thornwood Lodge.
19 May,
1863
- The same to the same.
- Communicates further details of his inheritance. His younger daughter, by a codicil to the will, was to inherit Filkins Hall at once. The whole of the estates together were estimated at about £5,000 a year, of which the writer would get something towards £3,000 a year.
286. Lily Hill.
13 Sept.
1863
- The same to the same.
- Had been wishing to write Sneyd. How enjoyable it had been when they had first come to Lily, and still was. [The age of] 67 struck on the writer's bell the previous Saturday. They had had visitors, and the writer had been out shooting, and had been laid up as a result. 'We have been seeing a good deal of Jupiter Temporum, [John Thadeus] Delane. - He has a little place near here; & had so very much cultivated Susie and on 3 occasions when she met him; that at last I called upon him; & since, he has been here frequently; taking us much En amitié, & always sending us books &c. - He is a decided Acquisition; by no means so clever as one should Expect the Caterer of Thunders for the "Times" to be, - but quick & observant, - knowing Everything that goes on, & Everybody, - & adding a good deal to Conversation.' The previous week they had visited Judge Erskine, and had met Kingsley, Benson, the headmaster of Wellington College, and a Col. Napier, who had been in the Crimea. They had had a few Beckfords with them. They were to visit Nottinghamshire, to, among others, the Granville Vernons. Could not Sneyd meet them there?
287. Thornwood Lodge.
25 Sept.
1863
- The same to the same.
- Had been vexed at not being able to write to Sneyd the day before, but had become ill. Was up and tolerably well again. Why he had been so desirous of writing was because he had wanted to tell him that Susie was going to marry Henry Lane.

288. Thornwood Lodge.
26 Sept.
1863
- The same to the same.
- Thanks him for his letter, 'which you will not doubt our having read with the liveliest Emotions of pleasure and Gratitude.' Comments upon the forthcoming marriage of his elder daughter to Henry Lane.
289. Thornwood Lodge.
27 Oct.
1863
- The same to the same, at Keele.
- Was better. Describes his condition. Pined for Lily Hill. Why did Sneyd go from the enjoyable apartment they had found him in? Had long ago thought about Chateaubriand. Had been reading Romola, about medieval life in Florence, and a book on the subordinate characters in Shakespeare. Comments upon articles in the reviews.
290. Thornwood Lodge.
7 Nov.
1863
- The same to the same.
- The writer advanced, but slowly. Describes his progress. His 'dear Susie's bright face & happy Anticipations' had been 'the greatest comfort' to him. They had had rather better accounts of Jim Campbell. Comments upon the French Emperor's speech, upon an article in the Edinburgh Review, and upon current gossip.
291. Thornwood Lodge.
25, 26 Nov.
1863
- The same to the same.
- Could confirm the report of the eulogist of his condition to a considerable extent. Describes his progress. Considers the European situation. In Pam's affair, he entirely agreed with Sneyd and not with Charles Greville. Supposed that as it was to come into court, that a prevalent rumour that he had paid £6,000 'to prevent it doing so' was untrue. Heard that at Broadlands it was all treated as a good joke. [Letter continued 26 Nov.]. Had been interrupted by a visitor, and had then gone down to Wimbledon, to luncheon with the Roseberrys. Since the Times announced 'the great news of the final refusal being gone to Paris', the writer was most curious to see how it would be taken, and how the rest of Europe followed the lead of England. They were reading a book of Lady Combermere's, Our Peculiarities. Recommends a pamphlet from Paris, Paris en Amérique. Campbell was recovering.
292. Thornwood Lodge.
10 Dec.
1863
- The same to the same.
- They had not been able to go to Lily Hill the previous week, as they had intended. The writer had had a little relapse, but had emerged once more. Hoped to go the following day. They had been in expectation of Henry Lane joining them at Lily before Christmas, but he had postponed his return. Comments upon courtship. The female looked upon it 'as her period of homage and Consideration.' The writer and his daughter had been to the Adelphi on Tuesday night 'to see the American actress in Leah, (an illused & persecuted Jewess,)...a remarkable

performance. Comments upon the Confederate reverse 'in this last defeat of Bragg.' It seemed to the writer that they were by no means out of the Danish difficulty. Some of the French journals still affected to speak of the Congress 'as of a fact to be, but I cannot suppose that L.N., with the Kings, Queens, Knights & Castles swept off the board, will condescend to amuse himself with the pawns.' Had had his first Bradwell half year's audit, the return of the balance sheet after payments was literally nil. Lady Sherborne had had a paralytic stroke. In her circumstances one could but suppose it must prove fatal, and he should soon lose his tenant.

293. Lily Hill.
28 Dec.
1863

The same to the same.

Sneyd told him to write, and there was Sneyd owing him for about 16 quarto pages. Comments upon the birth of twins to Mrs Walter Sneyd. Had been at Lily a fortnight. Comments upon 'our truant Captain' [Henry Lane], and the latter's mother's health. They had found Paris en Amérique boring. The writer grieved with Sneyd over Eason's illness. The controversy between Jupiter [Delane] and Cobden had been most enjoyable. Comments upon the European situation, with particular reference to Denmark. Had been reading Pericles, not the great orator but the Prince of Tyre.

294. Lily Hill.
7 Jan.
1864

The same to the same, at Keele.

Likens their correspondence to Lincoln's greenbacks and the gold he would never pay them in. The weather filled his bones with aches. That day they were to go out with the thermometer at 23° to dine with (?) Franco and Lady Emily Seymour, at Holly Grove. Comments upon the respite [? reprieve] of Townley. Comments upon the European situation. Thought the panegyrics upon Thackeray had been 'most absurd & irritating'. To the writer, there was a repelling element in all he had written, yet he was sorry for him. Reverts to the subject of Pericles.

295. Thornwood Lodge.
20 Jan.
1864

The same to the same.

'That a man should not leave his Chimney Corner, some 150 miles off, to come to such a wretched [illegible] mournful incident as a London Church Wedding in January, is too natural to be much wondered at!' Walter had been equally obdurate, but had put it 'in the fictitious ground of a rheumatism.' Was glad Sneyd was 'up to the treatment of a Walk for health!' The writer missed his country potter. Comments upon Townley and that kind of case. Comments upon the Danish question. Very much subscribed to all Sneyd said about Thackeray, '(perhaps you rather over depreciate the Calibre of his Talents,...)'. Comments upon France. Had had a folio volume published nearly 200 years previously lent him, full of maps, which had made him doubt whether Speke was right about his discovery of the source of the Nile. Paris en Amérique had been written by La Boulaye.

296. Filkins Hall,
Lechlade.
8 Feb.
1864
- The same to the same.
- Sneyd had the art or nature of saying very amiable and affectionate things. Expresses gratification at Sneyd's comments upon their 'Event of last week' [the marriage of the writer's elder daughter]. Considers the latter's relationship to himself. His younger daughter had applied herself 'to a cheery tendance & Consolation' of the writer's 'desolate state', and Filkins Hall was her place, where they had come to visit Mr Charles Smith, who rented it, and was the writer's agent for the Oxfordshire estate. Comments upon the state of the woods and plantations. The war [between Denmark and Prussia and Austria] had fairly begun. Comments.
297. Lily Hill.
20 Jan.
1865
- The same to the same.
- Sneyd would have felt the death of his old friend Charles Greville. Comments upon the latter's character.
298. Lily Hill.
23 Jan.
1865
- The same to the same.
- Considers at length Lord Derby's translation of the Iliad. They were as usual at Lily, except that the writer's two son-in-law captains had gone shooting at Bradwell Grove. Relates a story of two brothers who had stabbed each other. Did Sneyd know of it? Delane had told the story at a dinner at Sir John Walsh's.
- With, (1) notes on translating the Iliad, placed with this letter.
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