

CHORLEY H.F.

17. Victoria Square. L.S.P. Thursday. March 7th 1830.

My dear friend  
I have had  
your note  
of the 5th  
of last month  
without your box  
just as you  
were in Paris  
I hope you  
have received  
it in this  
I'm sure it  
would arrive  
you in the  
best possible  
time  
I'm sure you  
will be  
pleas'd  
to see it  
I'm sure  
it will be  
a great  
help to you  
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I think my note to you had not reached you, when you wrote  
true from N. Braun on Dec. 7th of last month (without your box - just as you  
were in Paris) & hope you have received it in this: since it would arrive you  
in the best possible time - but that I can remember you - as  
well as you. With all my thanks & joy in the account do you send me  
of your drawings & successions - I had as much from Mr. Hauser whom I met  
the evening at Mr. Gibson's & who, after many struggles, spoke true, & bring  
not better, spoke again - c: c: c: c: c: c: c: - but I am truly glad to see the  
thing recorded in your own handsome hand-writing. - Only don't stop till  
you get £30,000. - because, perhaps, by that time you will be used not to want  
any more: that I should not like - since I shall ~~not~~ have seen America  
if you are very long of writing, you will hardly see me. I think, so worn  
the very bones of my mind do feel, without the possibility of slackening  
the reaction to rest on my legs. - You had well read to tell me how you  
found America. I am convinced having had your line I could read  
from your words: made friends with many <sup>from America</sup> that I have a true clear  
idea of what I should find there. - At all events 'tis just what you describe.  
I should enjoy the originals which such a world must yield - but I shall  
never see them - ~~no~~ no, not if Mr. Barnum will give me £1000 to put "Duck  
& Gravel" upon the stage! - I am getting old and sore afraid - Very much like  
the cottage maid "in the circulating library - all in pieces" - owing to much  
travelling. - Well, I am enchanted at your prosperity, & will now tell you a tale  
which I am vain enough on the other hand, to fancy that you will be amused  
to hear. -

My note to you, which I take it for granted that you got - told you that  
Gravick had accepted for the turky theatre "Punchbald" which is now called  
"Old Love & New Fortune". - The play was acted on the 18th of last month, with  
entire success. - I had fitted it up with a new prospect in two evenings - which  
now makes it much better: & had intimated it sorry where: & they took sorry

Paris that a theatre can take, to satisfy me: as to case in production, - rehearsed  
 obliging & good will. - I had had a very hard & anxious winter - in very respect  
 & got so seriously ill & harassed - bran & coughy - that I broke off in the midst  
 of the entire business, & went to Paris for a week, which set me on my legs again.  
 - Came back on the 11<sup>th</sup> - & came out, as I tell you, on the 18<sup>th</sup> - I have saw a piece  
 of the production the stage & more wonderfully acted. - The house was pretty well filled  
 with just five & twenty people in it, who knew my name (twelve of whom must  
 have paid) - since I totally declined all packing & crosses, as totally impossible  
 to me. - The same evening the Noble Heart by W. Lewis came <sup>out</sup> at the Olympic - &  
 none of the pros came to me - since he had been round, &c: &c: &c: &c: &c: &c: &c: &c:  
 & had the neighbourhood in my box, & stage today, was not in the least frightened  
 & for a few minutes in the fourth act, owing to a ~~small~~ little noise in the pit.  
 When all was over & the success sure, & I called for - by pit & gallery - violently  
 - them did get nervous. - but still strong in the satisfaction that I had made  
 people cry & laugh & like me - who could have no provocation (as we say in France)  
 in my favor - Well, you might have thought that one was over the bridge, then  
 but what think you? - absolutely the business had been forgotten. - & on the  
 Wednesday, down comes a note "in a pucker" to stop the performance. -  
 On the Thursday some of the big-wigs of the pros had come, & had poured  
 tepid water on the play. - they could not ignore its having pleased, but  
 not one would say so for four days. - The Director could not make out  
 what it was about &c: &c: - Will: I gave my poor self up for lost. & thought  
 the management ~~without~~ / or rather half of it in the hands of W. Skaps  
 back) wished to break my play. - However it got on its legs again for three  
 nights in all - perhaps, more to come. - As it is subject to a nightly  
 but some: & as they have let it stand alone during this far advanced  
 weeks of Lent, of course, they grow about 1000 "c:c:c" but had I stom out  
 for money at first - I am persuaded they would have run it, & rather

it will. I have had kind words & praise on some side: save from one or  
two from people - who have had their miserable reasons for writing being  
kindly nor praisely. I wish you could have seen my play -  
Meanwhile since I began this very epistle.

Down has come cradle & baby & all!

at the Olympic Skates! - down has smacked Mr. Watts & his champagne  
supper, which Mr. Deaunford did get a crammed his "Niadus" down the man's  
throat, in requital - down has tumbled Mr. Mowatt & his blue satin  
dressing gown, not to speak of his comedy called "Fashion" (which some  
found not comic in the least) - down has tumbled Mr. Dawsonport & c: c:  
c: c: - and the place thereof knoweth there no more -

Not Mr. Snow's play. Not Mr. Brooks's acting

could avail - the theatre shut on Wednesday

& we say, "What next?" - I am mainly sorry

for the brigades - whom it flings loose from their

mornings - for the rest I suspect, the play world is

well rid of such an unnatural, made-up business: - but it will

be hard for Western M: - to know brown" now - & this she must do. -

I am meditating now, - & very hard - a five-act comedy. - since I

have proved that I can make "grittle & simple laugh" - meanwhile I am

very nearly driven to my wits' end how to hold out - but through I get my teeth

in - God, for this is the sign of the Black Sorö!) I cannot hide from myself

weakness, advisers & charms, which I know not how I shall get over. - with a

feeling that health & spirits wits hold out much longer under the

strain.

Under these circumstances, I write to you as you would to me. I believe

was the matter round - had you "the wooden ladder" & I the silos

"poor" - supposing that you still retain "the ducks" as kindly as of old -

is it unfair to wish that you should make ke - you own thoroughly -

No! He will one day know - this will not happen till you have played  
the part so entirely wa it calculated for you - & as I believe that  
such transactions are habitual in our world - I feel that I can ask you  
to turn this in your mind, without any fear of my good understanding  
old friendship being disturbed; or without shame in so doing. - I was for  
while you were here - to follow the example of Lovell, Manston, & White  
who had all, I know, & really, thus secured plays of theirs - but I  
always said: No - I was then untired, & you not in that California

50  
march

Miss Cushman.



estate in which it was honorable & possible to me to tempt you  
the expenditure of a penny. Now, in both respects, is the case changed  
& I feel that without either ingratitude or vulgarity, I ~~may~~ may at least  
put the matter before you - I have learned much of my trade while  
putting "old Lovell" on the stage - & I could wish to touch "the Duke's"  
throughout, & see it acted: therefore, will you let me know if this