

John Hopkins (Dear)

Parker - Boston. Mass. July 11, 1876

Dearest friend - I have been so very ill & suffering - that your request through dear Miss Stebbins - for an introduction to Booth - had passed out of my sad - sore sick mind - until your letter met me this morning I hasten to send it - if you read it before delivery - you may think I say more than it would be modest for you to deliver in person. Therefore if you just <sup>close</sup> the envelope - before putting in another with a line from yourself asking him to allow you to present yourself in honor of my note at any moment most convenient to himself - he will send you a line - perhaps your messenger may wait his answer - if you send your note to his residence by 10 1/2 or 11 o'clock in the a.m. I have not the courage or the heart to tell you how I have suffered of late. Now I am still daily & hourly suffering. I have felt many times that what little I can have remaining to me of ~~my~~ life even if I am cured - if in God's wisdom I am to be cured - cannot be worth what I have suffered & gone through in the struggle for it. I love, dearly, my own friends - I am happy when with them. I have tasted all the joys and sweets of rewarded toil - can there be anything to me worth all this that I am & have been suffering. This is a purely selfish consideration - but suffering has made me very selfish & I hardly know myself. The Dr. thinks that his treatment has culminated - but I am certain, 'it is not now'. Feelings are as sure as science to some minds - & the day of culmination is not to day. But you will let me hear from you - & you will be sure to get a line, if only a line, in reply. I am so delighted about the compliment of the Cantata. I had yesterday mentioned it - as a possible thing to Mr. Perkins. but I don't think it will

reach anybody through me. ~~Dear~~ Miss S. is writing to you.  
God love you & yours. prays 'Every day in the hour' your  
true & loving friend - Cushla -

[Postscript]

Parkers, Boston, Mass. 6<sup>th</sup> Feby / 76.

a day free from chance of interruption (though I grieve  
to say not free from extra pain though the pain be salutary)  
have given me the opportunity of studying the caustic - &  
I am more than delighted - it is infinitely higher & ~~far~~ <sup>higher</sup>  
than I thought it at first, I make to you my warmest con-  
gratulations & admirations! I want you to read 'Essays &  
Studies' by Swinburne - It has not been re-printed but  
perhaps you may get it at the Institute - It is full of irony &  
arrogance & contradiction, but there are some magnificent things  
which you - of all men - should read. Let me know if you  
can get it & also if you can't get the 1848<sup>th</sup> no<sup>o</sup> of

Little's Living Age - with an article from the Contemporary  
Review by Peter Bayne, on Whitman & the Book &  
Balderdash of such men as Poe & Dowden - who  
endeavour to foist his affectation on a public who are  
able to take their word.

If you can't get the latter I will send it to you.

God bless you - I am I hope progressing! Very  
slowly but I hope surely - Your faithful -

Cushla.

Addressed:

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