

Belleville. N.J. Thursday.
July 15. 1840.

My dear Mr Harrington.

I'm looking over Mrs
Hemans' the other day. an idea struck me that
a good article might be written, upon the following
extracts: viz:

"He came back to Abbotsford, where we were
to pass the remainder of the day. partly along
the Ettrick & partly through the Wood: on the
way we were talking of trees; in his love
which Sir Walter is a perfect Elyon...
tioned to him, what I once spoke of to you
The different sounds they gave forth to the mind,
which he had observed, and he asked me
I did not think, that an union of music
poetry, varying in measure & expression, might
in some degree imitate or represent those 'voices
of the trees'; & he described, to me some Highland
music, of a similar imitative character: called
the notes of sea-birds! —"

Mrs Hemans' Letters.

"If I were an Enchantress I would certainly
put a spell, and a voice in all the trees, & streams
& flowers, and make them say the prettiest thing
imaginable about me to those in whom I am inter-
ested. —"

Ibid.

" ————— The soft winds wake,
Fill every string of Nature's solemn lyre
Is touched to answer its most secret tone
Drawn from each tree, for each hath whispers all
its own —"

"Forest Sanctuary."

I think to make a sonnet or verse upon each
tree, & to set them to music, would be a good
idea. Will you let me hear from you about
it, whether or no it is possible. I want some-
thing for the August number of "Burton's Magazine"
something theatrical or a good prose article.

I shall be in town, on Saturday 18th
& Wednesday 22^d. pray let me hear from you.
I am, in sincerity, most truly yours

Charlotte Cushman.



Charlotte M. F. Jones

From the original painting by Chappel, in the possession of the publishers.

Johnson, Fry & Co., Publishers, New York

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Ms. Ch. G. 1.26

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