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## THE LAMBERT FUND.

LETTER FROM MR CHARLES READE.

Sir,-The present condition of James Lambert is this. He is in an almshouse, safe from the worst storms of life. I conclude he is well fed; and I know he is well clothed, because the worthy treasurer holds money and clothes from me, and is instructed to draw on me at discretion. But this condition of life lacks two things—independence and liberty. These things, I think, the man has earned. Therefore, my desire is not to disturb his mind or his condition till I can really better the latter; but in canting to raise a fund, and buy a Governmen t Annuity of £40 a year. Should I succeed, this fundwill be handed over to trustees, to be paid weekly to James Lambert. These vrustees must be Glasgow men; and I shall not scruple to ask the chief officers of the burgh to assist or advise me in that detail. The Lambert Fund at present hangs fire at £150, which is scarcely one-third of the sum required; but this is only a temporary chill I hope. It has been caused by the unhappy spirit of jealousy and detraction in two Glasgow papers. These have set it about that James Lambert wasted the first subscription, a very noble one, raised in Glasgow alone; and have said other things Things that are distinct to lower him. should be kept distinct; certainly James Lambert has less claim on Glasgow now than on the other cities of the Empire; but that is no reason why the English subscribers should be chilled by a false statement, that James Lambert wasted the last subscription. How can that be, when he never controlled it? It was paid weekly by a trustee, and it lasted eleven years; and eleven years are 572 weeks. If people will only take all the figures into consideration, they will find that the money went in the rent, food, and clothes of a blind man and a helpless woman. Having now declared my views, permit me to express a hope that if anybody in Glasgow or Scotland is willing to co-operate in them, he will be good enough to send his donation to "The Lambert Fund," Messrs Herries & Co., 16St James's Street, London. At the same time, I will ask him to send me a line notifying the payment; because it is my wish to print in my next edition the names of all the donors. And I fully believe that the descendants of these ladies and gentlemen will point with some satisfaction to their progenitors' names as the names of people who were before their age, since they had brains enough in their skulls to see that a man may be a hero without a red coat, and blood enough in their hearts to feel for a great human benefactor whom God has afflicted.—I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant, CHARLES READE.

2 Albert Terrace, Knightsbridge, 30/12/74 London, Dec. 26. N.B. Dai & MAIL