

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS  
PUBLISHERS  
153-157 FIFTH AVENUE,  
BETWEEN 21ST AND 22ND STREETS.

*New York*

Hotel Iroquois, Buffalo,

March 16, 1901.

Mr. E. V. Lucas,

#86 Great Portland St.,

London, Eng.

Dear Sir:

Your courteous note of Feb. 22, reaches me here in this city on Lake Erie where I am away from my desk and surroundings for a brief time. I am so far from resenting your letter that I take great pleasure in starting even a brief correspondence with any body who loves Saint Charles, as Thackery calls him. Concerning your questions I have to say this, that I was asked by Messers. Archibald Constable & Co about two years ago, to edit an edition of Lamb's works for them but, upon careful inquiry, I found that there were some

matters still in copyright, notably letter<sup>s</sup> and notes, etc., that would at best make their edition a *misculled* one, and I therefore decided that I did not care to have my name associated with any such edition.

Since that time, as you know, Canon Ainger has edited the new, and I am bound to say, definite edition of Lamb in 12 volumes published by Messers. McMillan & Co.. I cannot see, therefore, where there is room for another edition. If you can satisfy me on this point I will be glad to ~~communicate~~ <sup>write</sup> with you further.

Concerning your question about the original manuscripts, letters, etc. in this country, *I will state that* I have carefully copied every letter that has come upon my horizon for the last twenty years, and have in my possession careful manuscript copies of all the letters owned by Augustin Daly, as well as many others. Strangely enough, in this

city of Buffalo, in what is known as the  
"Gluck Collection" is the original manu-  
script of Lamb's Theses, <sup>Quadam</sup> ~~Quadam~~, Theolo-  
gicæ, as you know, these were quoted in a  
letter to Southey July 28, 1798, as well  
as in Cottles "Remincences;" Coleridge,  
and Southey. The text varies slightly from  
that printed by Cottle. I enclose herewith,  
an exact transcript, punctation, spelling,  
etc., just as Lamb wrote it. *Resides other*  
*matter* I have in my possession what seems to  
me an interesting lot of data relating to  
the whereabouts of Lambs' books that were  
imported and sold <sup>in</sup> ~~in~~ this country by  
Bartlett and Welford in 1846; I my<sup>2</sup>self  
having bought and sold <sup>the</sup> ~~with~~ a copy of  
Chaucer <sup>which is</sup> "Full Annotation?" etc.  
Frankly, I am bound to say, that the  
material I have in hand has a financial  
value <sup>as</sup> ~~and~~ I have been collecting it for  
some time with the view of some day incor-  
porating it in a volume with some such

title as "Charles Lamb in America" embody-  
ing some unpublished letters, etc.

If Messers. Methuen & Co. are dis-  
posed to make me a definite offer for my  
material and <sup>publish</sup> ~~have~~ such notes, data, as I  
can furnish, I would be glad to consider  
the matter but, I cannot see my way clear  
to handing over to them such material with-  
out some compensation.

As you know, I have long been a devot-  
ee of Lamb, and because of my relation to  
him have been considered in this country,  
at least, an authority. I have much mater-  
ial to add, to the <sup>bio</sup> ~~bio~~graphy which I publish-  
ed in Martins "In the Foot-prints of Chas  
Lamb," some years ago.

Pray do not consider your request as  
refused absolutely, but simply held in  
obeyance until I shall hear from you again  
The manuscript of "John Woodville" I bought  
and sold but, as you are aware, all the  
*matter*  
literary importance was used in an article

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// //  
in the Athenaeum some years ago by Dykes  
Campbell. Your ~~tradition~~ <sup>contribution to literature</sup> of literature is  
well known on this side of the water and  
we all feel very grateful to you for your  
researches. Mr Luther S. Livingston is a  
personal friend of mine and I was rejoiced  
over his discovery concerning John Lambs'  
phamplet and had only one regret, namely  
that I had not been the discoverer myself!

Trusting that you will realize that  
this is written in the spirit of friendli-  
ness and with regards to Mr. Humphrey and  
<sup>also to</sup>  
Mr. Fitts when you see him, I am,

Yours very truly,

P. S. I have an Ernest Dressel North  
inexperienced  
Stenographer  
as you will note.