

conservative in  
the matter of Glance

you may take no  
account of sponsors  
(got by proper names)  
& the direct branches of

double, & you bring to  
present motion. Perhaps  
they are right - when the  
ambit is not too stiff

Ever yours  
George Mendenhall

Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> '01

BOX HILL,  
DORKING.

My dear Colvin,

W. P. Binyon's  
Poems are known

To me, & I think hopefully  
of them. I do not  
hope for work of mine  
to be brought before

the public, but if  
he has taken heartily  
to the notion in his  
case - not merely  
following a hint -,  
I shall not object.  
As to his verse -  
Supposing that he

chooses verse - I  
would counsel him  
not to be guided by  
his master, though  
for me, I catch  
the dramatic accent  
intended by Mr.  
Bridgeman in the run  
of his lines. Recitatives  
of the public are

MEREDITH, GEORGE (1828-1909). Author. Dorking.

A.L.S. to Sir Sidney Colvin (1845-1927).  
24 Nov. 1901. 4p. (double sheet, octavo).  
With embossed address of Box Hill.

If Mr. Binyon wishes to go ahead, he may; Meredith then comments on the use of blank verse in drama, and gives some extended remarks on metrics. Robert Bridges is mentioned. This letter is not printed in the 1912 edition of Meredith's correspondence. It is known that Laurence Binyon wished to dramatize Meredith's **story** of the Guidascarpi (in prose) for Mrs. Patrick Campbell, and this note reflects the early arrangements for that work.

Nov. 24th, '01  
[Box Hill, Dorking]

My dear Colvin,

Mr. Binyon's Poems are known to me, & I think hopefully of them. I do not gape for work of mine to be brought before the public, but if he has taken heartily to the notion in this case - not merely following a hint-, I shall not object. As to the verse - supposing that he chooses verse, - I would counsel him not to be guided by his master, though, for me, I catch the dramatic accent extended by Mr. Bridges in the run of his lines. Reviewers & the public are conservative in the matter of blank verse: they take no account of spondees (got by proper names) & the ducks & drakes of double pyrrhics to present emotion. Perhaps they are right - when the iambic is not too stiff.

Ever yours

George Meredith