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New York  
U. States -



THE CLADE,  
BRANCH HILL,  
HAMPSTEAD., London -

Dec: 23. 1890.

My dear Sir -

Your very kind note reached me about a week ago, and I only wanted to answer it, until the volume of your note should have followed it. That also arrived last evening; & I now lose no time in returning you my best thanks for the courtesy & thoughtfulness of your gift. Mr. Martin's picture I had, I think, seen before - I fancy in Scribner's Magazine - but your share of the work is in every respect the more valuable, and I am very glad indeed to possess it. Let me thank you, also, for the very kind & generous recognition

thought of what little I  
may have done in the course of  
Lamb's biography works - as far  
as I know yours is the first  
attempt to construct a complete  
Bibliography of Lamb - & if you  
are not yet quite complete, you  
are well on the way to it; & if I  
can help you to make it perfect,  
I shall be greatly pleased. I already  
(planning over it) note one or two  
omissions. For instance, you  
mention the sermon for 1830 as containing  
Saturday night; but omit to  
mention the sermon for 1820, as containing  
the beautiful lines "On an infant  
dying as soon as born". Again, in  
the Biogon for 1828 Lamb first  
published the finest allusion verses

he ever wrote - these beginning

"Fresh clad from heaven in robes of white"  
Again I notice in one place you  
give the date of your "Men of Letters"  
volume as 1879 - it should be  
1882.

I will note from time to time any  
other little matters that  
occur to me, & let you know of  
them. Meanwhile I am most  
grateful for your labours. I hope  
soon to write the life of Lamb  
for the Dictionary of National  
Biography, & what you have done  
will be of great service to me.

With renewed thanks,

I remain,  
Dear Sir,  
Yours truly,  
Alfred Austin