



E. D. North Esq

Charles Scribners Sons

153 Fifth Avenue

New York

U.S.A.

MASTER'S HOUSE,
TEMPLE. E. C.

Oct: 20 - 1897 -

Dear Mr. North:

I am exceedingly sorry
that you have been put
into a difficult position
by having published a letter
in w. some copyright exists.
I am afraid I must say
that I never saw, or heard of,
the letter in question before;
and I think that if it
had been already matter of
general knowledge among
literary men, I should have
heard of it when engaged
in editing Lamb. Your
old friend, Dykes Campbell,

MASTERS HOUSE,
TEMPLE F.O.
has been still living, he
would have been the ~~best~~
most likely to know all
about it.

I heard yesterday from your
friend Mr. Pollard, on the
same subject, & have returned
him the same answer.
Horace Smith's daughter
is still living at Brighton -
a very old lady, of course.
Would you mind my showing
her the letter? She might
possibly know some thing of
the letter.

I have shewed the letter
to our friend Mr. Bain, of
the Haymarket - and he

has shown it (I believe)
to Mr. B. Dobell (the book
seller & collector) - but
they have never met with
the letter before.

I wish of much I could
have helped you -

Yours faithfully
Alfred Crompton.

I should quite hope that
your Law Courts will not
estimate the inquiry you
have done to the value of
the letter, at a very high
figure!