

Paris. 48 Rue de Coucailles, St Honoré.

Saturday night 2nd of December 1846.

Dear Sir

In consequence of your letter having been addressed to the
Apostate, where I seldom send, and not having been forwarded here by
the authorities (as it should have been) with my Secretary's correspondence, your
letter has remained unanswered longer than I - or you, I have no doubt - could
have wished.

I regret very that I cannot make so sure of my arrange-
ments, as to please myself to be in London to preside at a dinner of
the General Neutrality Society, in Paris next. If the dinner had been
contemplated for any day in May, I should have been delighted to
engage myself to occupy the chair. But as the date is necessarily
fixed, for such a purpose, to a particular season, I fear I must, this
year, most reluctantly decline the honor the Directors offer me.

In case I should return to England in time, I will attend
the dinner, certainly. And may assure the Directors, if such an
assurance be necessary, that my interest in their success, and my
desire to promote it by any means in my power, continue unabated.

I may mention to you, in conclusion, that I have already re-
turned an answer similar to this, to the Painters' Pension Society, who begged
me to preside at their dinner in April.

I am Dear Sir

Your most obedt Servant

Charles Dickens

William Cullenford Esq.

BB
150E15
1846

Any letters.

M: Cullenford

Paris

M. de Regent Adelle

France

Mr. Cullenford

Charles Dickens

Acc. No. 11,293