

Penn'd 3rd March 3rd

W. W. W.

Dear Sir -

It will give me great pleasure to comply with your request - though I hope there is still taste enough left amongst us to render it almost unnecessary - scold & interest & as - it must be admitted - many of "the trade" are whose circumstances give them an advantage. I trust you do not permit yourself to be deposed by the temporary partiality of what is called "the Public" for the favorites of the moment - all experience is against the permanency of such impopularity.

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you must have tried to see many of these
pass away - and will survive many
more - I mean personally - for poeti-
cally I would not insult you by a
comparison. — — — — —

If I may be permitted - I would suggest
that there never was such an opening
for Tragedy - in them there is an actor
worthy of expressing the thoughts of the
characters which you have every power of
embodying - and I cannot but regret that
the part of Ordono was disposed of
before his appearance at Drury Lane -
we have had nothing to be mentioned
in the same breath with "Memorie" for

very many years - and I should think
that the reception of that play was suffi-
-cient to encourage the highest hopes of
author and audience. - - It is to be
hoped that you are proceeding in a career
which could not but be successful. - -
With my best respects to Mr. Charles
I have the honor to be

Yr. Obedt.
& my Aunt's
P. S.

You mention my "satire" - lampoon or
whatever you or others please to call it -
I can only say that it was written
when I was very young & very angry -
and has been a thorn in my side ever

since - more particularly as almost all the
persons uninvited upon became subsequently
my acquaintances & some ^{of them} my friends - which
is "heaping fire upon an enemy's head" &
forgiving me for readily to permit me to
forgive myself. - The heart applied to
you - is just & petulant & shallow enough -
but - although I have long done every thing
in my power to suppress the circulation of
the whole thing - I shall always regret
the wantonness & generality of many of
its attempted attacks. - - -

1715
London March thirty first
To J. J. Coleridge Esq.
of
Salme
Wiltts

455-2
AHS

Byron

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AUTOGRAPH

of

Lord Byron

Born

Died

NOTES

A.L. 5. to Samuel Taylor Coleridge
In it he praises Coleridge's "Remorse" very
highly—

dated March 31st 1815

ROBERT H. DODD
RARE BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS
FOURTH AVE. AND 30TH ST.
NEW YORK

GEORGE GORDON, LORD BYRON, A. L. S., 31 March
1815, to SAMUEL TAYLOR COLERIDGE.

Piccadilly March 31st.
1815—

Dear Sir—

It will give me great pleasure to comply with your request—though I hope there is still taste enough left amongst us to render it almost unnecessary—sordid & interested as—it must be admitted—many of “the trade” are where circumstances give them an advantage. I trust you do not permit yourself to be depressed by the temporary partiality of what is called “the public” for the favourites of the moment—all experience is against the permanency of such impressions. [p. 2] You must have lived to see many of these pass away—and will survive many more—I mean personally—for poetically, I would not insult you by a comparison. — — — — — If I may be permitted—I would suggest that there never was such an opening for Tragedy—In Kean there is an actor worthy of expressing the thoughts of the characters which you have every power of embodying—and I cannot but regret that the part of Ordonio was disposed of before his appearance at Drury Lane. We have had nothing to be mentioned in the same breath with “Remorse” for [p. 3] very many years—and I should think that the reception of that play was sufficient to encourage the highest hopes of author and audience. — — It is to be hoped that you are proceeding in a career which could not but be successful. — — — With my best respects to M^r. Bowles I have the honour to be

Y^r. obliged
& very obtnt. Svt
Byron

P.S.

You mention my “Satire” lampoon or whatever you or others please to call it—I can only say that it was written when I was very young & very angry—and has been a thorn in my side ever [p. 4] since—more particularly as almost all the persons animadverted upon

became subsequently my acquaintances & some of them my friends—which is “heaping fire upon an enemy’s head” & forgiving me too readily to permit me to forgive myself.—The part applied to you—is pert & petulant—and shallow enough—but—although I have long done every thing in my power to suppress the circulation of the whole thing—I shall always regret the wantonness & generality of many of its attempted attacks. [Four dashes fill out the final line.]

ALS, 4 pages. Double sheet, 22.4 x 18.2 cm.

Laid paper. Watermark: J WHATMAN | 1815.

Accompanied by address portion of cover sheet, in Byron’s hand:

1815 | London March thirty first | To S. T. Coleridge Esqr^e. |
Calne | Wilts [*Byron* in lower left corner].

Postmark: indistinguishable.

Provenance: Clements sale, Jan 1945. In Robert H. Dodd folder, within Parke-Bernet folder.

Published in *The Works of Lord Byron: Letters and Journals*, ed. Rowland E. Prothero (6 vols.; London, 1898–1901), III, 190–193 (no. 532), with 1 substantive and 44 (excluding abbreviations) accidental variations from the Lewis MS.

Notes: 1. The “request” was Coleridge’s letter to Byron, Easter week 1815, importuning assistance in publishing a two-volume edition of his poems, with a Wordsworthian preface. Byron, who had already been instrumental in bringing *Remorse* to the boards (Drury Lane, 23 January 1813), conveyed 100 pounds to the petitioner and persuaded John Murray to bring out a single volume in 1816 (Murray published *Zapolya* in 1817).

2. The postscript is of course on *English Bards and Scotch Reviewers*, Coleridge featured in lines 255–264, 918.

3. Here published by permission of John Murray, 50 Albemarle Street, London, W1.

Piccadilly, March 31st
1815.

Dear Sir,

It will give me great pleasure to comply with your request, though I hope there is still taste enough left amongst us to render it almost unnecessary - sordid & interested as - it must be admitted - many of "the trade" are where circumstances give them an advantage. I trust you do not permit yourself to be depressed by the temporary partiality of what is called "the Public" for the favourites of the moment - all experience is against the permanency of such impressions You must have lived to see many of these pass away - and will survive many more - I mean personally - for poetically I would not insult you by a ^{comparison} ~~comparison~~.

If I may be permitted - I would suggest that there never was such an opening for Tragedy - in Kean there is an actor worthy of expressing the thoughts of the characters which you have every

power of embodying - and I cannot but regret that the part of Ordonio was disposed of before his appearance at Drury Lane. We have had nothing to be mentioned in the same breath with "Remorse" for very many years - and I should think that the reception of that play was sufficient to encourage the highest hopes of author and audience. - - It is to be hoped that you are proceeding in a career which could not but be successful.

With my best respects to Mr. Banks.

I have the honour to be

Y^r. obliged

& very obed^t. Ser^t.

Byron.

P.S.

You mention my "satire" lampoon or whatever you or others please to call it - I can only say that it was written when I was very young & very angry - and has been a thorn in my side ever since - more particularly as almost all the persons animadverted upon became subsequently my acquaintances & some of them my friends, which^{is} "heaping fire upon an enemy's head" & forgiving me too readily to permit me to forgive myself. - The part applied to you - is part & petulant & shallow enough - but - although I have long done every thing in my power to suppress the circulation of the whole thing - I shall always regret the wantonness and generality of many of its attempted attacks. - -

Addressed to
S. T. Coleridge Esq^{re}
Calne, Wilts.

BYRON REGRETS HIS "ENGLISH BARDS AND SCOTCH REVIEWERS"

102. BYRON, GEORGE GORDON, LORD. A.L.s. "*Byron.*" 4 pp., 4to, about 550 words. March 31, 1815. To Samuel Taylor Coleridge. With address portion of cover sheet in Byron's autograph.

AN INTERESTING LETTER IN WHICH BYRON PRAISES COLERIDGE'S "REMORSE"; DEPLORES HIS OWN WORK "ENGLISH BARDS AND SCOTCH REVIEWERS"; AND DENOUNCES BOOKSELLERS to whom he refers as "the trade".

"It will give me great pleasure to comply with your request, though I hope there is still taste enough left amongst us to render it almost unnecessary—sordid & interested as—it must be admitted—many of 'the trade' are where circumstances give them an advantage. . . We have had nothing to be mentioned in the same breath with 'Remorse' for very many years—and I should think that the reception of that play was sufficient to encourage the highest hopes of author and audience. . . In the postscript he writes "You mention my 'satire' lampoon or whatever you or others please to call it [English Bards and Scotch Reviewers]—I can only say that it was written when I was very young & very angry—and has been a thorn in my side ever since. . . Although I have long done everything in my power to suppress the circulation of the whole thing—I shall always regret the wantonness and generality of many of its attempted attacks."

Clements, Jm, 45