46 Marlborough All 21 Nov. 1900 NW. Mydear Wase, That 1645 Waller was taken out of the case as I came away because I thought at In moment, whout referring, tabit was identical with the Roseburgh opy, was not sure you has that, & honglet Joh might want to compare with Societs withing cong. tome at you convenience.

Jan not committed to it. Harper Joen new horan struck me approached me on the valore as being a very true and delight general question whether it ws. fully arranged woon: Thopes he apreable to me to edit some on all find at consucure Swerbrome MSS for his Society; to the production ga heap but of course it would not more good work - including he agreeable if the interests of any proper in se simbione Jon or Watts - Dunton were tobe talzon may be entertaining. in the remotest defoce prejudiced! That so idea tell your letter ony participation on the shatter of the other day came that you Thave more than plents to do had anything on foot beyond in the mediate piture. Idonde The production of the Stries of whether starper is as much gan truy fost dutions. Now that apressor as jon thuch. As to et seems Iwas mistaken Ishall Ilt afoot & hr. Harper. Fat made, Ishould can, as

Isaidto Brown, that he has no notion of treating it. He may he ignovant Inarrow on. that fout; but that is not gang consequence tous others Idaresas Fat Aladye is gent a good gorl + gute a good from , Ishall arged to see hor when her Mother knows She's out. It is not a return of the out trouble, dear bon; but the persistence of the two de trouble. At present dans not contemplating a further operation; but Ishall never be able to jet about as gold. Jours asever, all the same,

HENRY BUXTON FORMAN, A. L. S., 21 November 1910, to Thomas J. Wise.

46 Marlborough Hill N. W. 21 Nov. 1910

My dear Wise,

That 1645 Waller was taken out of the case as I came away because I thought at the moment, without referring, that it was identical with the Roxburgh copy, was not sure you had that, [above this word

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Transcription from:

Kendall, Lyle H., Jr. A Descriptive Catalogue of the W.L. Lewis Collection--Part One. Fort Worth: Texas Christian University Press, 1970.

a penciled cross, and at the bottom of the page, also penciled, Wise's "I have it."] & thought you might want to compare with Dobell's Walkley copy. Yespl [deleted] Yes, please post mine to me at your convenience. [p. 2] Your new library struck me as being a very fine and delightfully arranged room: I hope you will find it conducive to the production of a heap more good work—including any project in re Swinburne that you may be entertaining.

I had no idea till your letter of the other day (18th) came that you had anything on foot beyond the production of the series of tiny first editions. Now that it seems I was mistaken I shall withdraw entirely from the scheme set afoot by Mr. Harper. [p. 3] I am not committed to it. Harper approached me on the vague general question whether it wd. be agreeable to me to edit some Swinburne MSS for his Society; but of course it would not be agreeable if the interests of you or Watts-Dunton were to be in the remotest degree prejudiced by my participation in the matter. I have more than plenty to do in the immediate future. I doubt whether Harper is as much of an aggressor as you think. As to Fat Madge, I should say, as [p. 4] I said to Brown, that he has no notion of printing it. He may be ignorant & narrow on that point; but that is not of any consequence to us others. I daresay Fat Madge is quite a good girl & quite a good poem, & shall be glad to see her when her Mother knows she's out.

It is not a "return of the old trouble," dear boy; but the persistence of the permanent trouble that led to the old acute trouble. At present I am not contemplating a further operation; but I shall never be able to get about as of old. Yours as ever, all the same,

H. Buxton Forman [flourish]

ALS, 4 pages. Double sheet, 17.8 x 11.5 cm.

Laid paper. No watermark.

Provenance: Spoor sale, 4 May 1939. Inserted in no. 780, Forman's *A Memoir of Percy Bysshe Shelley* (London, 1892), with the Spoor bookplate.

Published, with one accidental variation from the Lewis MS, by Bratcher and Kendall, "Two Further Footnotes," pp. 67–68.

Notes: 1. Forman brought to Villa Grozzo, from his own library, a copy of Edmund Waller's *Poems*, 1645. Already in Wise's possession was the Roxburgh copy as well as "Dobell's Walkley copy" of the 1645 Workes, from the Henry Huth Library, the Huth copy to be described in the Ashley Library Catalogue

- as 1st ed., 1st issue, and the Roxburgh copy as 1st ed., 2nd issue (VII, 185–188).

  2. For more commentary on this important letter see "Two Further Foot-
- notes" and Bratcher and Kendall's A Suppressed Critique of Wise's Swinburne Transactions: Addendum to An Enquiry (Austin: Humanities Research Center, 1970).

From page 38 of Kendall, 1970