Nov. 8, 1874

My dear Browning,

I have only just read your article in the Fortnightly on the Study of Archaeology in Schools, which has interested me very much indeed, not only as recalling the matter of a conversation we had together at Stor when you explained to me your views on this subject, but also as a record of the facts and evidence with which you now urge...
I should feel grateful to you
if you would send me
the title of the best
German "atheneum of
art-mythology" to which
you allude. I have heard
about Sculpture has
been denied almost
exclusively just looking
at the Musaeums of
Italy & Germany. 1
Perhaps also like Clarke,
the Stockleader, publisher
of Dilettante Societies.

them in the public.
what you said at Stue
impressed me so much that
I am going to try to do
something for our School
here (Tipton College) by way
of putting up casts of
bas-reliefs or statues in
some of the higher class
rooms — I have persuaded the headmaster
to take my view.
Winckelmann, etc. I have drawn up among books of this sort, and I want much now to make over what I know. The work you allude to, which you showed me, I would like me just the help I want. I have not forgotten your kind invitation. Perhaps you will let me take you at your word some day this winter. I am very truly yours, J. S. T. [Signature]
JOHN ADDINGTON SYMONDS, A. L. S., 8 November 1874, to Oscar Browning.

Embossed heading: Clifton Hill House
Clifton, Bristol

Nov: 8 1874

My dear Browning

I have only just read your article in the Fortnightly on the study of Archaeology in schools, which has interested me very much indeed, not only as recalling the matter of a conversation we had together at Eton when you explained to me your views on this subject, but also on account of the force & vividness with which you now urge [p. 2] them on the public.

What you said at Eton impressed me so much that I am going to try to do something for our School here (Clifton College) by way of putting up casts of basreliefs & statues in some of the higher class rooms—provided I can persuade the headmaster to take my view.

[p. 3] I should feel grateful to you if you would send me the titles of the best German "atlases of art-mythology" to which you allude. What I know about sculpture has been derived almost exclu-

Transcription from:
sively from looking at the Museums of Italy & Germany, & from works like Clarac, the Denkmäler, publications of Dilettante Societies, [p. 4] Winckelmann, Museo Barracco, etc. I have grown up among books of this sort; & I want much now to methodize what I know. The works you allude to, & one of which you showed me, would give me just the help I want.

I have not forgotten your kind invitation. Perhaps you will let me take you at your word & come to you some day this winter.

I am very truly yrs.

J. A. Symonds.

Postscript, upper left corner of p. 1: I forgot to tell you how pleased I was by being mentioned—& in such fine company!

ALS, 4 pages. Double sheet, 17.8 x 11.2 cm.
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Unpublished.

Notes: 1. Oscar Browning was an expert on medieval Italian history, with several books on the subject to his credit, and a frequent contributor to the Fornightly Review.

2. The books Symonds refers to are Charles Clarac, Musée de Sculpture Antique et Moderne (7 vols.; Paris, 1826–1853); Denkmäler der Architektur . . . (Stuttgart, 1860); Winckelmann’s Werke, ed. C. L. Fernow (9 vols.; Dresden, 1808–1820). “Museo Barracco” is the collection of Giovanni Barracco in Rome, but the earliest book I have found on the collection is Wolfgang Helbig and Giovanni Barracco, La Collection Barracco, Munich, [1893].

3. Here published by permission of Dame Janet Vaughan, Principal of Somerville College, Oxford; and Herbert M. Schueller and Robert L. Peters, editors of The Letters of John Addington Symonds (Detroit, 1967—). This and the following letter were discovered too late for inclusion in Vol. II; the proper place of the Oscar Browning letter is after L949.