

Redburn Oct 13, 1848

J. B. I imagine myself in a pleasant parlour pleasantly furnished
 carpeted with polished marble chimney piece & looking out on
 the great north road, withdrawn from it a few yards by a little
 garden paved in front. I imagine me now sitting at one of my Pen-
 garden tables, & Mr Lee, in his felt cap, at the window. I in a carved
 arm-chair I brought from China for a pattern (for it seems to
 be at least here, tho' originally from England) He in one of my neat
 light japanned bamboo chairs. I may see Mr Barford in the
 kitchen sewing & after some 2nd affairs - for there I left em just
 after having heard (or rather seemed to hear) the whole story of a
 chicken that died of the pipe - not likely but last year such a
 & happy memorial have they! I imagine Mr B., their father, a
 blunt & dry old man, to be gone out of the house - to have put his
 horse into his chaise, & have driven himself off - perhaps to St Albans
 - here to enquire & talk upon the subject he loves - rural economy
 - luckily he did not find me uttering ignorant of the terms - I
 with a fellow, aftermath, fodder, plowing & fencing out; nor of the various
 kinds of beasts. Runt's hoggets & steers & 3-year-olds - but
 I confess I was unable to satisfy him of as to the price of straw in the
 Haymarket. - I imagine the said Mr B. using the most broad
 Northamptonshire dialect - so much so as to & answer me some-
 times & to be utterly incomprehensible to Mr Lee. I imagine
 am now come in from walking in a sunny little walk in garden be-
 hind the house saying to myself, well! I'll write to Edward. I imagine
 me arrived but 3 days, & in great confusion, not being able to get the Carpen-
 ter to come near me. I imagine all this, & that I am quite satisfied
 with the people of the house, & you'll have something like a
 picture of my situation - I kept down my furnishing expenses
 within the limits I talked of, & should have had a good 10£ over above
 what I now have in my pockets but for a cruel mistake I made about
 the meaning of in an advertisement of the words, Bedstead & furniture com-
 pleat. I supposed a Feather-bed & many other things among the
 necessary furniture. It seems I was not acquainted with the technical
 meaning of the words - however I got through, & have a few pounds re-
 maining in my bag besides the ten I borrowed of Futhill for fear of acci-
 dents till I should write to you. I wish you to lay a mortgage on one
 of my castles, & send me a draft for 50£. If you think

& better to be at 10 Days or a fortnight instead of 3. tis all one to me.
 I forget whether we written to you since I received the Cash of p. you sent me
 there's no harm in thanking you for them twice. I suppose you'll write to
 Dick on Friday - Let them know that all is right. that we are all well. I &
 M^r for Lenny Dey, who is grown quite a beauty. as a proof of it Miss B says
 he is the ugliest thing she ever saw in her life. that is when I began by saying
 he was very ugly in answer to her observation that I must take care lest he should
 be stolen. She fully assented to it. with a good stone that implied all that for
 I'd have you to know she's too polite to run down a gentleman's dog before
 his face explaining that there were people went about beating dogs
 merely for their skins! - Mary, the servant girl takes to him huge
 she lent him her apron one night to sleep upon. She's a very good
 girl. Excuse my verbal simplicity in mentioning these "suckle-foot-
 chronicles & mill-beer" occurrences. I see 50 stage coaches pass
 by daily, but never stop one of them to ask the news from Leeds,
 Liverpool, Manchester, York, Edinburgh, Dublin or Doncaster. I take
 the "news" news paper. I received my first this morning tis a
 weekly by the way I find that the word goes on much the same since I
 retired from it. Don't buy this "T. M. Esq. Newhouse Redbourne
 Kurt's Halberns" it will come safe to y^r Affe Brother.

13061.1578

Written by W
 at Redbourne

Letter from T. M. to the Brothers
 Edward