

(copy 107-1800)

Sunday.

If you wish to see my honest face (P
 'tis a very honest face, but I may be
 a damned rogue for all that for as the
 learned Author of the *Latin Grammar*
 judiciously observeth "fronti nulla fides")
 You must come to Cambridge - if you
 wish to give me a particular satisfaction,
 you must come to Cambridge - if you
 wish to give me no cause of dissatisfaction
 you must come to Cambridge - Give me
 a line tomorrow saying that you'll come
 yourself on Tuesday & I'll prepare a
 lodging for you - or come without
 announcing your intention, if you doubt
 chuse to write - & we'll see what we
 can do - I shall be very much dis-
 -engaged this week - so I shall next-
 after that I cannot promise - The very
 thoughts of your coming makes my
 keg of Rum Wobble about like a
 porpoise & the liquor (how fine it
 smells!) goes Gultch squalluck against
 the sides for joy - just (if I may
 compare great things with small -
 my rum - punchon with old Zacharia's
 haus in Kelter) as St. John wobbled

in Elizabeth's womb, when Mary, beg
with ⁴It by the holy Ghost, walked into
her Cousin Betty's parlour.

What a while You took, Lamb, to
mend your pen this last time - I
should have been glad of a scrawl with
the old one (old scratch) in the interim
- indeed I began to think you had fairly
& most foully, cut the correspondence -
whereby I was not a little rejoiced to
see your blessed hand once more - indeed
your letter was a great comfort to me.

I'll be much obliged to you to put
my name down on Dyer's list of Subscri-
bers or desire him to do me the favour
of enlisting me just as you think proper -
I wish I could send him any other names
from Cambridge, but tis difficult to make
people subscribe to poetry especially during
the present high price of provisions. Give
my very best respects to Dyer, when
convenient —

Come soon, & stay as long as you like.
I'll take no excuses but real
un-putoffable business - mind that —

Thine, J. M.

(Addressed) Mr Charles Lamb
India House
London.