

Ms Louise

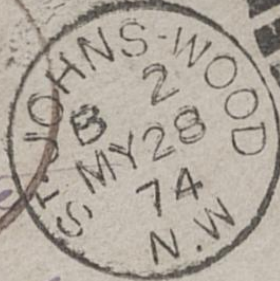
Bea Estlin

Care of Etes & Lauriat

143 Washington Street

Boston

U.S.A



The Priory,  
21 North Bank,  
Regents Park.

May 28. 74

Dear Madam

I value very highly, & I shall bear in mind very gratefully, what your letter tells me of the feelings with which you regard my books & in consequence, the unknown remainder of myself. That my work should have made any happy difference in your life is a joy to me of the kind I most care for, & the modest tone of affection which your letter breathes is very sweet to my inward ear.

We are often out of town for some months together, & the frailty of my health obliges me to limit as narrowly as I can my reception of strangers; but after your letter I will not

12 50  
449

call you a stranger, & if I am in  
town when you visit England I shall  
be much pleased to shake hands  
with you. But pray remember that  
the best of an author is, or ought  
to be, in his books.

Believe me, dear Madam,

Yours faithfully

W. Jewes

W. Louise Reid Estes

ELIOT, GEORGE (1819-1880). Novelist. London.

A.L.S. (M. E. Lewes) to Mrs. Louise Reid Estes.

28 May 1874. 2p. (double sheet, 12mo.)

With embossed address of The Priory, Regents Park, with envelope.

Mrs. Estes, of Boston, had written a "fan letter", and this letter is in answer to it, telling her how much the author appreciates her kind opinions, and urging her to call on her when she comes to England.

May 28.74

Dear Madam

I value very highly, & I shall bear in mind very gratefully, what your letter tells me of the feeling with which you regard my books &, in consequence, the unknown remainder of myself. That my work should have made any happy difference in your life is a joy to me of the kind I most care for, & the modest tone of affection which your letter breathes is very sweet to my inward ear.

We are often out of town for some months together, & the frailty of my health obliges me to limit as narrowly as I can my reception of strangers; but after your letter I will not call you a stranger, and if I am in town when you visit England I shall be much pleased to shake hands with you. But pray remember that the best of an author is, or ought to be, in his books.

Believe me, dear Madam,

Yours faithfully

M. E. Lewes

Mrs. Louise Reid Estes

Mrs. Estes, of Boston had written a "fan letter" to George Eliot, to which this is the reply.