

you know that he was never allowed to receive a letter until it had been opened and examined by W.?

I should not think it worth your attention to tell you this were it not for the rancid cant that the newspapers talk about the "wonderful self-sacrificing friendship" of W. As a matter of fact his business & almost his sole business, for ^{years} 30 $\frac{1}{2}$ was to look after S.; and he was amply - munificently - paid for doing it. Yours very sincerely
Edmund Gosse

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27. 3. 17

Dear Spielmann

When the exodus to Putney was made in 1879, the proposition was that the two should share all expenses. Doubtless W. meant to carry this out, but he was almost without resources at the time, and S.'s extreme simplicity in putting all his affairs in his companion's hands, was too great a temptation.

When S. died in 1909, by a will drawn up by W.,

W. was left sole legatee.
He inherited about £17,000 in
investments, besides ~~about~~ M.S.,
books, pictures, letters etc.,
which produced about £5000
more.

When W.'s executors
looked into his estate, they
were astonished to find no
investments or securities of
any kind, except those bequeathed
by S., on whose dividends
the household (or households)
had been carried on for
close on thirty years. A
small sum was doled out

to S. at intervals, as pocket-
money. But he died, quite
unaware that all had been
his, all along.

You will perhaps now
understand why no one, -
not his sister or his mother,
was ever allowed to see
S. alone.

At first, there is no
question that S. was looked
after with great devotion &
care. But finding no resist-
ance, the care degenerated
into tyranny. I suppose