

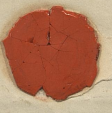
P.S. This letter does not specify in its date
where Belgrave Place is - I can only direct
as there is date - I should be glad if only of
a line just to know this comes safe - that if
I receive Lamb's consent I may transmit it
toward the agent without any misgiving of

45.00 net
no. 20

Alan Cunningham Esq

Belgrave Place

Randoro



reaching this in due course - Was there
ever a plate from Blake's drawing of the
vicinity of Hay?

Dear Alan

Woodbridge 9/24 50

I do not see that I can
consistently with the delicacy and
good faith due to such a friend
& correspondent as Chas. Lamb, give
you the extract referred to without
first having his consent, but I
write him by this night's post to
request him to give it, & have said
all I could to induce him to meet
my wishes & mine - For I could not
for five guineas, but then should
have it, as I consider it a sort
of miniature off-hand sketch of
Blake, in the very best of
style - and in my view it gives
no slight complement to Lamb's
critical taste & penetration to read
him writing of Blake in May
1824 in terms now applied to
him by the unanimous voice of Critics
& critical journals - Probably then
not acquainted with Lamb whose
present address is, Chase-side, Enfield,
if so perhaps a line or a call from
you may have more influenced with

again than another & enter upon - Do
now try & keep the proof sheets of
Blake back for a few days till we
can manage the matter - as a further
inducement for this to do, this, perhaps
I can give you a clue to such channels
of information about Blake.

Mr. James Esq. Moor,
(an intimate friend of C. Matthews) a Gent.
resident near here, says that Dawson
Turner of Exmouth was acquainted
with Blake, conversed with him
he believes, & has many or several
of his drawings or sketches - Moore tells
me too that there is a good deal
about Blake, in Dr. Malin's
Life of his son, B. Heath Malin,
who died quite a boy, & that a
Portrait or Portraits in that Volume
were engraved & designed by Blake.
The Book itself is published even
to be at sight of, & I dare say
its Author would be very willing
to give any information in his power.
I stated these trifles as Turner
& Malin are both persons of
considerable eminence whose testimony

to the talents genius, & worth of his subjects
any Biographer might be proud of,
and such as are worthy of pursuing if
they can be obtained without much delay
or trouble - I consider the Life of Blake
as the very gem of the Volume, good as
the others undoubtedly are - In a letter
I had this week from Martin (the celebrated
Printer & Engraver) he says - "It gave me the
greatest pleasure to find that your opinion
of the Life of Blake is entirely coincident with
mine for I have not been more
delighted with any work that I
have read lately than with these
Lives of the Painters, especially with
that of Blake - If therefore we can
in any way add to its interest by any fresh
accumulations, either of antiques, or of tributes
to Blake's honorable name, from persons of just
celebrity the delay of a few days would be
well compensated - Excuse the freedom I
take in thus offering my opinion another for
the sake of my desire to raise it higher
and thus to be happily rescued from con-
-terative oblivion - I shall be most grateful
indeed for any specimens of Blake's, nor will
its value be slightly enhanced by my being
indebted for it to his Biographer - I readily
I hear from Lamb, I will write there
I am most heartily B.B.