

Mr. E. Evans
No 1 Great Queen Street
Lincoln Inn Fields
London
Paris

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135176

Woodbridge 8/25th 1857

My dear friend

I am much obliged to thee for the additional Plate of Lamb, which came to hand quite safely -

When I proposed a short pictorial Illustration, I by no means meant to be understood as suggesting its being appended to the Print - because I think any such accompaniment would be the most libelous plan in the world to render so offensive - The thing is obviously a few dashes, bordering on a caricature, though, I fully believe, never intended as such, or so construed, in an illustrated sense, at least by Lamb; still any one well acquainted with that Gentleman, even in admitting the likeness, would instantly say, it was no complimentary one - Now to append to such a sketch, four lines seriously deprecating any designs of ridicule, would rather border on the ridiculous; and would tacitly imply, rather an

unknowing conceivings, or apprehensions
at least, of having incurred offence,
& wishing to apologize for it - Surely
the better plan is to let it pass as
a joke, a mere jeu d'esprit, a playful
effort to convey, a caricature & slight
resemblance of a Man of Genius
& worth respecting whose personal
appearance interest might be very
naturally supposed to exist, and which
it was the aim of the print innocently
& goodnaturedly to gratify - Viewed
in this light the thing is a Compliment,
for who would think of drawing or
publishing a Sketch of any one whom
nobody cares about - but the very aim
at proving the Sketch to be designed
as a mark of respect would be only viewed
as burlesque, and would be considered as
mere Spunge by Lamb, who I am sure
is quite incapable of being seriously
offended by it - if he were he would
have expressed something of the kind
when I applied to him to know where
I could get one, & not have told me

where there was a chance of procuring
it - I do not write thus to evade my
proposed Verses - which I mean to write
& send thee a copy of, but not for
the press - for that reason I have al-
ready given - I merely meant them
for thy own perusal - or at most to
show to a friend or two, or a cautious
customer who might view the
Sketch as a mere caricature only.
A few lines would suffice
for this purpose better than more -

The first leisure evening
can command & will see what can
be done & forward thee the result

Thine in haste
B.B.

Bernard Barton

To Mr P. Evans

No 1 Great Queen St
Lincoln's Inn Fields
London.

Woodbridge 8/23rd 1827

My dear friend,

I am much obliged to thee for the additional Plate of Lamb which came to hand quite safely - When I proposed a short poetical Illustration, I by no means meant to be understood as suggesting its being appended to the Print - because I think any such accompaniment would be the most likely plan in the world to render it offensive - The thing is obviously a jeu d'esprit, bordering on a caricature, though, I fully believe, never intended as such, or so construed, in an illnatured sense, at least by Lamb, still any one well acquainted with that gentleman, even in admitting the likeness, would instantly say it was no complimentary one - Now to append to such a sketch four lines seriously depreciating any design of ridicule would rather border on the ridiculous; and would tacitly imply rather an awkward consciousness, or apprehension at least of having resigned offence, & wishing to apologize for it - Much the better plan is to let it pass as a joke, a mere jeu d'esprit, or playful effort to convey a caudles & slight resemblance of a man of genius & worth respecting, whose personal appearance interest might be very naturally supposed to exist, & which it was the aim of the print innocently & goodnaturedly to gratify - Viewed in this light the thing is a compliment, for who would think of drawing or publishing a sketch of any ~~one~~ one whom nobody cares about - but the very aim at proving the sketch to be designed as a mark of respect would be only viewed as ludicrous, & would be considered as mere fudge by Lamb who I am sure is quite incapable of being seriously offended by it - if he were he wd have expressed something of the kind when I applied to him to know where I could get one, & wd have told me where there was a chance of procuring it.

I do not write this to evade my proposed
Verses - which I mean to write & send them a copy of, but
not for the press - for the reasons I have already given -
I merely ~~mean~~ meant them for thy own perusal - or
at most to show to a friend or two or a captain's customer
who might view thy (word missing) as a mere caricature
only (word missing) few words would suffice for the
purpose better than more -

The first leisure evening I can command I
will see what can be done & forward thee the result

Thine in haste

B B