

Yeddington July 4th
1884

My dear Dr. Cook

I am preparing to be
off for the West, after a
period of drought & disaster
unparalleled in all my disastrous
career. The wood garden is
now become herbaceous, mandrake

I shoud better to see; & my
only advice is - burn it up, if
the sun has left any combustible
element unconsuamed. How the V.S.

Succession year I am vexed with
the besom of destruction, & shall
not pay my wages the best of
the year, but lose at least £100.

I hope you have better things to
write of. How can be worse than
Jack & garden.

With kind regards to M^r. Cook
Believe me truly yours
R. D. Blackmore

BLACKMORE, Richard D. Noted English Novelist; Author of "Lorna Doone."

A.L.S. 2 pp., 16mo. Teddington, July 4, 1884.

§

INTERESTING LETTER. "I am preparing to be off for the West after a period of drought & disaster unequalled in all my disastrous career. . . . For the 3d successive year, I am swept with the besom of destruction & shall not pay my wages one week of the year, but lose at least £800." Blackmore was a noted horticulturist.