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1.
Berwick, 19 May 1836

My dear Sir

I am much obliged to you for your Letters & Essays.

I wish there were more of them.

In what you say about the use & abuse of oration (pp. 21. 2) I entirely agree: & you observe that it is 'the endow, the struggle, the endurance' which ought to be praised & rewarded; & on such I have long held, & shall I shall endeavor to enforce this way the life of any poor old friend be well. My hours before breakfast have been exclusively devoted to his papers & correspondence for the last two months.

Herschel's remark (p. 30) I suspect must have been made at Berwick, where besides the general character of cloudy weather, & wind that brought the smoke from London would obscure his permanent

Your remarks upon Debating Societies, & upon the ~~complete~~ use of knowledge in society & men eminently mischievous, are very just.

I have undertaken to edit an edition of Cooper's last works, & it is monthly volumes, - & of course to intertain it with a life. You also were

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WY

WILSON'S

15 MAY 1836

To Richard Sharp Esq.

Park Lane

London.

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intimate with Henderson may probably have heard him read John Gilpin,
& if you could let me any way concerning their reading, & the effect they pro-
-duced, I should be much obliged in making use of that information, & expressing
my thanks for it. Henderson I used to hear of in my youth, - an Aunt
of mine shew'd me a portrait by Gainsborough you have seen here, was well ac-
-quainted with him when he was upon the Bristol ship, & I must often have seen
him at an age just beyond my distinct recollection. - My direction was
of a very dramatic kind. I had the use of the British & Bristol Theatres, &
was well acquainted with Pakenham & Beaumont & Retcher, as with Robinson
Crusoe & the Pilgrims Progress.

My housewife has been demorish'd since you saw it last, & will appear
be depend on it entirely, she may run into a Paper, to be prepared
by her brother-in-law for Bedford. I shall miss her greatly. It has long
since she I shall be left almost wholly to the society of books. Thank God
my eyes & health both out well, & even these times have not deprav'd
my constitutional cheerfulness.

Present our good remembrance to your Ladies.

I believe me always,

My dear Sir

Yrs with sincere regard

Robert Southey.

You will be sorry to hear that your good old brother at the Swan had had

a paralytic stroke last week, & that - in the language of the Place, has a little better yesterday
she is 'very ill thought of.'



Robert Southey to R. Sharp of Mark Lane London.

Keswick. 13 May 1834.

My dear Sir.

I am much obliged to you for your Letters & Essays & wish there were more of them.

In what you say about the use & abuse of emulation (p.p. 21-2) I entirely agree, & your opinion that it is 'the endeavour, the struggle, the obedience, which ought to be praised & rewarded' & one which I have long held, & which I shall endeavour to enforce when writing the life of my poor old friend Dr Bell. My hours before breakfast have been exclusively devoted to his papers & correspondence for the last twelve months.

Herschel's remarks (p 30) I suspect must have been made at Slough, where besides the general chances of cloudy weather, & a wind that brought the smoke from London went obscure his firmament.

Your remarks upon Debating Societies, & upon the use of honesty in making a man eminently mischervous, are very just.

I have undertaken to edite an edition of Cowper's whole work, in monthly volumes, & of course to introduce it with a life. You who were intermate with Henderson may probably have heard him read John Gilpin; & if you could tell me anything concerning those readings, & the effect they produced, I should be much gratified in making use of that information & expressing my thanks for it. Henderson I used to hear of in my youth,— an Aunt of mine whose portrait by Gainsborough you have seen here, was well acquainted with him when he was upon the Bath stage, — & I must often have seen him at an age just beyond my distinct recollections — My education was of a very dramatic kind I had the run of the Bath & Bristol theatres, — & was as well acquainted with Shakespere & Beaumont ' Fletcher as with Robinson Crusoe & the Pilgrims Progress.

My household has been diminished since you saw it last, & will again be lessened in the Autumn when my son will go into Sussex, to be prepared by his brother - in - law for Oxford. I shall miss him greatly. The time may come when I shall be left almost wholly to the society of books. Thank God my eyes & health hold out well & even these times have not depressed my consitutional cheerfulness. Present our joint remembrances to your Ladies,

And believe always