

author of the

Elderfield,

Otterbourne, July 4<sup>th</sup>

Winchester. 1842

My dear Mr James,

What past ages that Trusty  
Servant recalls! He had not  
been in the house half an  
hour before I struck him -  
not in his old place - but  
upon the oval screen which  
I keep in my own abode -  
He was Trusty indeed to  
find his way back after  
so much more than seven  
years - Thank you much  
for thinking it worth while  
when he came in sight



it has been a pleasant cause for  
hearing of you again - ~~Other~~<sup>Other</sup>  
is so much altered altogether  
that I shall soon have to  
set up for the oldest inhabitant  
Mr Wittes grieved much over  
his migration into Buckingham  
shire, but he has found  
so much to do, in stirring  
up a much neglected parish  
and the people responded  
so well that I think he is  
a good deal comforted now  
and he is in the act of  
thoroughly restoring or

rebuilding his Church, having  
already built a new school.  
If you come to Rochester  
I shall be very glad indeed  
to see you, but after the  
22<sup>nd</sup> of this month I am  
going from home, and  
shall not be back till  
near the end of August, but  
if your Rochester nephew  
is your object of course  
you would not come  
then. The Miss Pattersons  
have just been staying  
with me, they have been



at Nice all the winter, and  
are just returned to St Mary  
Church - I think the return  
to England brings the cold more  
sharply than they felt it  
when abroad, and out  
of their usual habits - My  
brother and his house are  
all very well thank you -  
there are five fine children  
who are a great pleasure  
to me - If you recollect  
any distinctive traits of dear  
Coley Patterson I should  
be very thankful for them  
as contributions to the  
memoir I am trying to  
write

Yours sincerely  
C M Gouse