

48 Doughty Street.

Friday Morning

(circa 1839)

My Dear Sir.

Supposing we arrange preliminaries to our mutual satisfaction, I propose to dramatise Olivia for the first night of next season.

I have never seen Mrs. Honnor to the best of my recollection, but from the mere circumstance of her being a Mrs, I should say at once that she was "a many sores to lay" for Olivia Trust.

If it is played by a female, it should be a very sharp girl of thirteen or fourteen - not more, or the character would be

Frederick Yates Esq.

an absurdity.

I don't see the possibility of any other house doing it before your next opening night. If they do, it must be done in a very extraordinary manner, as the story (unlike that of *Peterkin*) is an involved and complicated one. I am quite satisfied that nobody can have heard what I mean to do with the different characters in the end, inasmuch as at present I don't quite know myself; so we are tolerably safe on that head.

Any way, I am quite

sure that your name as the Jew and mine as the author would knock any other attempts quite out of the field. I do not however see the least possibility of any other Theater being able to steal a march upon you.

Deceive me always

Truly Yours

Wm. Dickens