

The Collected Letters of Wilkie Collins: Addenda and Corrigenda (11)

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Wilkie Collins Society
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Introduction

This pamphlet is the eleventh in the series of updates to *The Public Face of Wilkie Collins: The Collected Letters*, published in four volumes by Pickering & Chatto in 2005. This update is published by the Wilkie Collins Society.

The editorial principles, transcription conventions, and abbreviations employed here remain consistent with those described in pp. ix-lxii of Volume I of *The Public Face*.

During 2018 the editors hope to publish the entire sequence of the known letters online. As part of that process each letter is given a permanent, unique number. The numbers run consecutively in order as the letters have been published. So the 2987 letters listed in *The Public Face* are numbered as published in sequence in those volumes. The numbers then continue sequentially for the new letters in subsequent *Addenda and Corrigenda* in chronological order. The letters in ‘Last Things’ in *Public Face* vol. IV between WC’s relatives and friends during his final illness and after have also been numbered as X001 to X011. One more was added as X012 in A&C7. The table below summarises the numbering.

Publication	Sequence	Pages	Numbers
<i>Public Face</i> I	Chronological	3-335	[1]-[614]
<i>Public Face</i> II	Chronological	3-430	[615]-[1400]
<i>Public Face</i> III	Chronological	3-455	[1401]-[2245]
<i>Public Face</i> IV	Chronological	3-382	[2246]-[2972]
<i>Public Face</i> IV	Letter fragments	383-385	[2973]-[2981]
<i>Public Face</i> IV	Last Things	387-393	[X001]-[X011]
<i>Public Face</i> IV	Addenda	401-404	[2982]-[2987]
‘Addenda’ (1) 2005	Chronological	<i>WCSJ</i> VIII 48-54	[2988]-[2998]
‘Addenda’ (2) 2006	Chronological	<i>WCSJ</i> IX 59-68	[2999]-[3016]
‘Addenda’ (3) 2007	Chronological	<i>WCSJ</i> X 34-61	[3017]-[3076]
‘Addenda’ (4) 2008	Chronological	2-29	[3077]-[3116]
‘Addenda’ (5) 2009	Chronological	3-18	[3117]-[3146]
‘Addenda’ (6) 2010	Chronological	3-16	[3147]-[3171]
‘Addenda’ (7) 2011	Chronological in 2 sequences	5-36 37-45	[3172]-[3199], [X012]
‘Addenda’ (8) 2013	Chronological	3-22	[3200]-[3232]
‘Addenda’ (9) 2014	MacKaye Anderson Others	3-16 17-28 29-33	[3233]-[3248] [3255]-[3270] [3249]-[3271]
‘Addenda’ (10) 2016	Chronological	3-21	[3272]-[3310]

'Addenda' (11) 2017	Chronological	3-15	[3311]-[3339]
	Extracted letters	16-18	[3325]-[3330]

Any subsequent deletions or revisions to dating do not change the assigned number. Hence the four letters identified in *The Public Face* which were deleted by A&C3, pp. 68-9, numbered [0229], [2975], [2977], [2979], the letter [3097] deleted by A&C8, p. 25, [3294] deleted in this publication (p. 20), and three further letters [0100], [2184], [3198], deleted as part of the digital project, remain as blanks in the series.

Apart from deletions some letters have been unpacked into two or more separate items. This has happened following the review of the material for the digital project. The five new letters created are listed below, pp. 16-18.

This eleventh *Addenda & Corrigenda* has been updated to December 2017 and includes 29 new letters. They have been found at auctions, in book trade catalogues, in libraries, in collections of signatures, in nineteenth century publications, pasted into books, and separated out from other known letters.

The 29 new letters take the numbers [3311] to [3339] in chronological order. Deducting the nine deleted letters, there are thus 3330 letters in the sequence to date. A total of 352 newly identified letters have now been published in the Addenda series since the original four volume publication.

Letters marked * have not been published before. (Publication in auction house and dealer catalogues is overlooked). The editors are grateful to owners who have provided access to letters or given permission for their inclusion.

The Corrigenda section is divided into two parts. On pp. 17-19, part (i) comprises letters which have been unpacked from existing letters to form separate items. There are five of these. On pp. 19-21, part (ii) consists of two letters where the full manuscript has now been identified as well as one consequent redating and one deletion. Numerous minor corrections and changes are being silently incorporated in the digital edition.

The editors welcome all comments and corrections by e-mail to paul@paullewis.co.uk.

(A) Addenda

[3311]* TO S. C. HALL,¹ 18 MARCH 1847

MS: Lewis Collection.

1. Devonport Street | Hyde Park Gardens
March 18th 1847

Dear Sir,

Accept my best thanks for your kind letter of condolence.² I loose [*sic*] no time in answering it as satisfactorily as I can.

The enclosed page of the Literary Gazette of Feby 27th contains a notice of my father's life written by me,³ which is in substance and almost in form, identical with the M.S. I transmitted to you some time since.

Such additions to that short Memoir as I can readily furnish you with, I now enclose.⁴ They are written as notes and illustrations to the facts contained in the Literary Gazette, in order that you may experience every facility in making use of both together. This mode of transmitting you your materials is, I know, confused; but I have borne in mind your recommendation to me to be speedy in my communications, and have sacrificed order to promptitude accordingly.

You may find what information I have given you, deficient in quantity and little available in quality; but it is all that I can immediately provide with the certainty that it is correct.

I have begun the examination of my father's papers with the ultimate view, if I can find materials enough, of writing a Memoir of him – to comprise possibly anecdotes of his contemporaries and some investigation into the state of Art in his time. But my leisure has not hitherto – and will not immediately – allow me to pursue my investigations so far and so uninterruptedly, as to render them usefully available either for your information or for mine. Fragments of letters and journals I have found – but the links to connect them and render them comprehensible – even to me – are still scattered among his voluminous collections of papers; and are only to be discovered by long and systematic examination.

What I have told you, then, is derived from what I have heard from my father's own lips – from my mother's recollections – and from the communications of old friends. It may consequently be depended upon.

I hope (and think) that you will gain from the Athenæum,⁵ the Literary Gazette, and the enclosed M.S. information enough to aid you

sufficiently in the Biographical part of your Memoir.⁶ For the Critical part, your knowledge of Art and your just and generous appreciation of my father's genius, leave me no anxiety or doubt whatever.⁷

Whatever further additions or explanations on the subject of my enclosed packet you may require, I will make it my duty to supply to you – as completely as possible – immediately. Any communication I may receive from you shall have my prompt and careful attention.⁸

With our united kind regards to Mrs Hall and yourself

believe me, Dear sir, | very faithfully yours | W. Wilkie Collins

To/ S. C. Hall Esqr

1. Samuel Carter Hall (1800–1889: *ODNB*), Irishman who edited the *Art Union Monthly*, later known as the *Art Journal* (1839–1880), ‘a publication which made high-quality pictures available to the general population’ (Sutherland, p. 271). See also Hazel Morris, *Hand, Head and Heart: Samuel Carter Hall and the Art Journal* (Norwich: Michael Russell, 2002).

2. On the death of WmC a month earlier: WC writes on full mourning paper.

3. See *Literary Gazette*, no. 1571, 27 February 1847, pp. 177-178. A footnote on p. 177 reads, ‘Received from his son; who is thanked for the communication. – Ed. L. G.’. WC’s short biography also includes a list of some of WmC’s major works roughly sorted by date.

4. The enclosure is no longer with the letter.

5. Referring to the obituary of WmC in the *Athenæum*, no. 1008, 20 February 1847, p. 200. The author remains unknown but the many accurate details strongly suggest WC’s involvement.

6. Hall’s memoir has not been traced. But many years later he did write *A Book of Memories of Great Men and Women of the Age* (London, 1871), which has a short paragraph on WmC at p. 482: ‘He was a scholar as well as a gentleman, graceful and gracious in manners, considerate and kind to all who approached him.’

7. Hall also edited the *Amulet: A Christian and Literary Remembrancer*, an annual which contained improving poems and works of art. The editions of 1829, 1830, 1834, and 1835 had all contained an engraving of a WmC painting. Hall’s wife Anna Maria [*née* Fielding] (1800-1881: *ODNB*), also a writer, edited the *Juvenile Forget Me Not*, a similar annual aimed at children and young people. It had published an engraving of a WmC painting in 1831, and possibly two others, which are untraced but are mentioned in *Memoirs*, II, p. 354. In the year following WmC’s death the *Art-Union Monthly Journal* published engravings of two of his paintings (1848, vol. X, pp. 144 and 250).

8. No other letters in this exchange are known; the next extant letter to Hall is [0165], 3 May 1854.

[3312]* To [THOMAS L.] ALDRIDGE, JUNE 1856 TO AUGUST 1858¹

MS: Lewis Collection.

Harley Place

Sir,

I shall be very happy to become a Subscriber for Three Copies of the new work.²

With my best wishes for the speedy filling of the Subscription List, and for the success of the Poems.

I remain, | Faithfully yours | Wilkie Collins

To | Mr Aldridge

1. Dating from the address only.

2. The only available collection of poems seems to be G.L. Curtis and T.L. Aldridge (of 3 Cardigan Street), *Fear-Nac-Flu, a Combat; and other poems* (London: Alfred W. Bennett; Oxford: Slatter & Rose, 1857), which bears the dedication, 'To the Working Men of England, this little volume is fraternally inscribed By Two of Their Order'. Aldridge would thus be Thomas L. Aldridge, recorded in the 1861 Census as a compositor born in 1835 and living at 5 Cardigan Street, Oxford, with his father, Michael, his wife, Elizabeth, and their son, Thomas (RG 9; Piece: 896; Folio: 90; Page: 24). However, unlike that of CD who signed up for five copies, WC's name is not found in the list of subscribers to the book (pp. 139-143), while no copy is recorded in Baker (2002).

[3313]* To F. [G.] WHITELOCKE,¹ 21 APRIL 1859

MS: Lewis Collection, with attached copy of unrelated extract. On sale: Waverly Rare Books, Falls Church, Virginia (auction, 8 June 1987), in a lot of three letters, again with unrelated extract attached.

2.a.New Cavendish Street | Portland Place
April 21st 1859

Dear Sir,

I have much pleasure in complying with the request which you honour me by making. On the other leaf, you will find a passage which I have extracted from "The Dead Secret"²

Faithfully yours | Wilkie Collins

F. [G]. Whitelocke Esqre

1. The only possible candidate found in the 1861 Census is Geo. F. Whitelocke, a 53-year-old army officer lodging at 34 St James's Place, London.

2. No longer attached. However, a copy of an unrelated extract, taken from *The Black Robe* (1881), is now attached to the letter with stamp edging – see [3339] to Unidentified recipient of 8 January [1882-1889].

[3314]* To G. W. HEYWOOD,¹ 28 JULY 1860

MS: Lewis Collection.

12. Harley Street, W. | London
July 28th 1860

Sir,

I hope you will excuse the long delay of this reply. Your kind letter, addressed to me at the Garrick Club, (which I have not lately attended so often as usual) was only placed in my hands today. I hasten to comply with the request which you honour me by making, and very gladly add my autograph to my apology.

Faithfully yours | Wilkie Collins

To/ | G. W. Heywood Esqre

1. George Washington Heywood (1842-1896) was a papermaker, the son of Abel Heywood (1810-1893: *ODNB*), publisher, bookseller, radical politician and Mayor of Manchester from 1862 to 1863 and 1876 to 1877. At this time George was nineteen and living at home. See also [3330] of 8 January 1881 to his brother Abel Heywood Jr.

[3315]* To ALFRED E. GALLOWAY, 9 AUGUST 1862

MS: Lewis Collection.¹

The Fort House | Broadstairs
August 9th 1862

Dear Sir,

Your kind note has been forwarded to me at this house.

I regret to hear that your connection with *The Spectator* has come to an end. The marked ability with which the paper was written would have made the success of a new speculation. But a newspaper which has once sunk, is of all the weighty literary objects I know of the heaviest to lift up again. I am on every account sorry for the failing fortunes of a paper which set an excellent example of honest, as well as able, journalism.²

Pray accept my thanks for the courtesy which placed me on your Free List,

And believe me | vy truly yours | Wilkie Collins
Alfred E. Galloway Esqre

1. Tipped into an extra-illustrated copy of Frank Archer, *An Actor's Notebooks* (London: Stanley Paul, [1912]), fp. 280, together with 22 further letters and cards from writers and others, generally those mentioned in the volume.

2. In January 1861, the liberal weekly *Spectator* had been taken over by the journalists Meredith White Townsend (1831-1911: *ODNB*) and Richard Holt Hutton (1826-1897: *ODNB*), and their strong support for the North in the American Civil War led to a downturn in the paper's circulation; however, this proved short-lived, and the Townsend-Hutton editorship continued successfully for over a quarter of a century. Moreover, the weekly still thrives today, though now as a conservative organ. Galloway's departure from the journal may then have been due to other factors. He appears in the 1861 Census living in Finsbury with his wife Ellen, with his occupation given as Newspaper Manager (RG 9; Piece: 148; Folio: 105; Page: 55), while in the 1871 and 1881 Censuses he appears as a Journalist. Despite the formal salutation, WC had known Galloway from his days with the *Leader* in the mid-1850s; see, for example, [0190] to Pigott, [1854].

[3316] * To DOCTOR [RICHARD] DEAKIN,¹ FEBRUARY 1864

MS: Unknown. On sale: Houle Rare Books & Autographs, California (September 2017, inventory #224949, <https://www.abaa.org/book/257274449>).²

Rome
February, 1864

To Doctor Deakin
from Wilkie Collins

1. Given the name and location presumed to be Richard Deakin M.D. (1818-1873), physician and botanist, whose best-known work was *Flora of the Colosseum of Rome* (London: Groombridge, 1855).

2. Inscription on the half-title page of the first one-volume edition of *The Woman in White* (London: Sampson Low, 1861). The transcription is that of the bookseller who has confirmed it is 'Deakin'.

[3317]* TO UNIDENTIFIED RECIPIENT, 14 MAY 1864

MS: Unknown. On sale: eBay (25 September 2017, #33238974937, George Houle).

May 14th 1864

Very sincerely yours | Wilkie Collins

1. From the format, a note for an autograph hunter. The date is written below the valediction with a diagonal line drawn across the bottom right-hand corner.

[3318]* TO MISS BECK,¹ 21 OCTOBER 1864

MS: Unknown. On sale: Sotheby's (22 February 1972, lot 615).

Catalogue entry: *'1 page, 8vo, 21 October 1964, to Miss Beck, as his contribution to her collection of autographs, stained, traces of former mount.'*

1. The identity of this autograph hunter is otherwise unknown.

[3319]* TO FREDERICK ENOCH, 11 APRIL 1865

MS: Lewis Collection.

9. Melcombe Place | N.W.
11th April 1865

Dear sir,

Many thanks for the proofs of No 9.¹

Faithfully yours | Wilkie Collins

F. Enoch Esqre

Excuse this half sheet, it is the nearest morsel at hand.²

1. One of the series of letters about the proofs of *Armadale* (see [3028] to Enoch, 15 September 1864). The ninth monthly instalment appeared in the *Cornhill* in July 1865.

2. On half a sheet of paper, torn neatly on the fold down the left hand side.

**[3320]* TO UNIDENTIFIED RECIPIENT,¹ OCTOBER 1857 TO
OCTOBER 1869²**

MS: Lewis Collection.

... me what you have done. I am only just back from Gadshill,
Ever yours | Wilkie Collins

1. A scrap cut from the end of a letter, presumably for the signature.
2. Dating from the Gadshill reference. WC's first visit is recorded in [0267] to HC, 5 October 1857, and his last known visit was in October 1869 (see [0918] to Frederick Lehmann, 25 October 1869).

[3321]* TO FREDERICK FOLLETT,¹ 9 DECEMBER 1871

MS: Unknown. On sale: Sotheby's (16 May 1972, lot 478).

Catalogue entry: '*... to Frederick Follett, agreeing that the "portrait absurdly described as mine is really the portrait of my old friend Holman Hunt..."*'

1. Almost certainly Frederick Charles Follett, a widower of 55 recorded in the 1871 Census as a 'Barrister not in practice' living in East Molesley, Surrey (RG10; Piece: 864; Folio: 31; Page: 7); Follett had married Sarah Roope on 21 February 1841 (*Times*, 27 February 1841, p. 7d). Also present on the 1871 Census night was Follett's niece Anne M. Bullar, identified as the daughter of barrister John Bullar Jr (see HO107; Piece: 1579; Folio: 17; Page: 27), who was executor of WmC's will (see [0711] to Bullar, 13 October 1866).

[3322]* CARRIE GRAVES TO JAMES REDPATH,¹ 13 APRIL 1873

MS: Lewis Collection.²

**90 Gloucester Place | Portman Square W.
13. April 1873.**

Sir,

I am requested by Mr Wilkie Collins to thank you for the proposal which you have been so kind as to address to him. He is not at present at liberty to enter into negotiations with you for a visit to the United States.

I have to add that Mr Collins is suffering from severe domestic affliction which will prevent him from having the pleasure of seeing you.³

**I remain, sir | Yours faithfully | H. E. Graves –
James Redpath esqr**

1. James Redpath (1833–91), Scottish-born journalist active in the abolitionist cause. In 1868 he had founded the Boston Lyceum Bureau, a booking agency used by many of the period's best-known public speakers. Despite the rebuff recorded in this letter, WC was to turn to him in America after falling out with his original agent, Charles Brelsford (see [1397] to Redpath of 9 December 1873).

2. On full mourning paper, in the hand of Carrie Graves.

3. The death of WC's brother on 9 April 1873 (see [1317] to W.P. Frith, 10 April 1873).

[3324]* TO UNIDENTIFIED RECIPIENT, 16 JANUARY 1874

MS: Lewis Collection.¹

16th January 1874

Very truly yours | Wilkie Collins | Chicago²

1. An album page for an autograph collector. The date is written below the valediction. On the reverse side is written in another hand, 'I am | Yours very truly | L.G. Holland', though there is no indication that Holland was the recipient of the autograph.

2. WC arrived in Chicago that day from Detroit after a 'gruelling overnight railroad journey' (Hanes, p. 72). He stayed at the new Sherman Hotel.

[3327] TO GEORGE STEWART JR, 13 MARCH 1879

MS: Unknown. Published: *Pall Mall Gazette*, 16 October 1889, p. 7, our copy text.¹

London, Thursday, March 13, 1879.

My dear Stewart, – A line to thank you for the *Canadian Monthly* – which reaches me regularly – and to say that I enclose three more revises of 'The Fallen Leaves,' in advance of the publication here on the 2nd, 9th and 16th April next. On February 13th I wrote to answer your letter – sending revise to the end of March, and asking for a line in reply to assure me that the business part of my communication was clearly understood between us.²

You will find that the 16th weekly part introduces a new character, belonging to a class which some of my brethren are afraid to touch with the tips of their pens. She is, nevertheless, the chief character in the story – and will probably lead me into another novel in continuation of 'The Fallen Leaves.'³ You will see (especially when you receive the revise of part 17, for April 23rd) that the character is so handled as to give no offence to any

sensible persons, and that every line is of importance to the coming development of the girl, placed amid new surroundings. But, perhaps, some of the ‘nice people with nasty ideas’ on your side off the ocean may raise objection. In this case, you are entirely at liberty to state as publicly as you please (if you think it necessary) that my arrangement with you stipulates for the absolute literal reprinting of ‘The Fallen Leaves’ from my revises, and that the gentle reader will have the story exactly as I have written it, or will not have the latter portions of the story at all. I don’t anticipate any serious objections. On the contrary, I believe ‘Simple Sally’ will be the most lovable personage in the story. But we have (as Mr. Carlyle reckons it) 30 million of fools in Great Britain and Ireland – and (who knows?) some of them *may* have emigrated.

I intended to write a short letter. ‘Hell is paved—,’ you know the rest.— Yours very truly, WILKIE COLLINS.

George Stewart, Jun., Esq.

1. The letter is introduced thus:

WILKIE COLLINS ON “FALLEN LEAVES.”

An American journalist, while editing the *Canadian Monthly* ten or eleven years since, had the personal friendship of Wilkie Collins. He has just published a letter which he received from the novelist which refers to the story of “The Fallen Leaves,” published in 1879. It has never been published before: –

We have been unable to find where Stewart initially published the letter.

2. Presumably referring to [1823] to Stewart of 15 February 1879.

3. On WC’s plans for a second or even third book, see [1720] to Andrew Chatto of 7 January 1878. In fact the rather hostile reaction to the book (Page, pp. 2, 205-206) meant WC never wrote a sequel to the story, though it seems he harboured the desire to for many years. See [1968] to Charles Willes, 8 August 1881, [2168] to Ezra Bower, 19 June 1883, [2496] to Eleanor Selfe, 16 November 1885, [2505] to J. Saunders, 3 December 1885, and [2559] to S. Weeks, 7 May 1886.

[3329]* TO HOWITT FAMILY MEMBER,¹ [1870s]²

MS: Unknown. On sale: Dominic Winter (8 November 2017, lot 332, item 21), an album of 72 pages, containing signatures from a variety of literary and political figures.

Every yours | Wilkie Collins

1. Judging from other items in the same album, which relate to the family of authors William and Mary Howitt.

2. Speculative dating based on other items in the album.

[3330] * TO ABEL HEYWOOD JR,¹ 8 JANUARY 1881

MS: Lewis Collection.

90, GLOUCESTER PLACE, | PORTMAN SQUARE. W. London
8th January 1881

Dear sir,

The article called “The Unknown Public” was first published in “Household Words” twenty years since² – and is now included in a republished collection of my Essays and Sketches called “My Miscellanies”.

Three editions, in different forms, have been published of “My Miscellanies”. The first is out of print.³ The two other editions are published in one volume, as part of my collected works, by Chatto and Windus, Piccadilly London. The volume is sold, in the cheap form, at two shillings⁴ – and in another one volume form at a rather higher price.⁵

After the time that has elapsed, some of the estimates of the number of readers of “penny-novel-journals” will now be found far below the mark.⁵ In all other respects, my facts may be depended on.

I have not yet read my friend’s article⁷ – being very busily occupied [just now].

Faithfully yours | Wilkie Collins
Abel Heywood Jnr Esqre

1. Abel Heywood Jr (1840-1931) was a publisher and bookseller in Manchester. He was the son of Abel Heywood (1810-1893: *ODNB*), publisher, bookseller, radical politician and twice Mayor of Manchester. See [3314] of 28 July 1860 to Abel Jr’s brother, G. W. Heywood.

2. *Household Words*, 21 August 1858, vol. XVIII, pp. 217-240.

3. The two-volume edition from Sampson Low, first issued in 1863.

4. The ‘yellowback’ edition in pictorial boards from Chatto & Windus, first issued in 1877.

5. The Illustrated Library Edition from Chatto & Windus, at six shillings with illustrations by Alfred Concanen, issued from 1875.

6. WC uses the term ‘penny-novel-journals’ throughout ‘The Unknown Public’ to refer to penny entertainment papers like the *London Journal* and *Family Herald*, whose circulations had increased markedly in the intervening decades.

7. Not identified.

[3331]* To C. L. KENNEY, 9 JULY 1881

MS: Lewis Collection.

90, GLOUCESTER PLACE, | PORTMAN SQUARE. W.

9th July 1881

My dear Kenney,

For weeks past, one of my eyes has been disabled by rheumatic gout. In the day-time I am able to get out for a little while with a “patch” on – when the weather is in my favour. But the doctor won’t hear of my confronting gaslight and night air.

I can only thank you for giving me the chance of seeing Miss Kenney act – and regret that I have lost another opportunity. Let me have “another trial”, and believe me

Yours truly | Wilkie Collins

You will, I am sure, make my apologies to Miss Kenney

1. WC did finally see her act on 15 May 1882 (see [2027] to Rosa Kenney, 17 May 1882).

[3332] TO ANDREW CHATTO, 26 SEPTEMBER 1882¹

MS: Unknown. Extract: *Pall Mall Gazette*, 24 September 1889, pp. 1-2, our copy text.²

Rather more than two-thirds of ‘Heart and Science’ are completed – and I feel the want of a week’s rest. I go away to-day to the seaside.² If it is desirable to let the printers know that there will be no copy sent on this day week, will you kindly give instructions to have it done when you send the present supply? The terrible part of the story is now very near – and I want to write it with a brain refreshed.

1. WC writes on a Tuesday and stayed in Ramsgate more than two weeks, returning on 12 October. Our dating is based on [2069] to A.P. Watt, 26 September 1882.

2. The extract is one of twelve to Chatto published in the *Pall Mall Gazette* the day after WC died. They are contained in the report of an interview with Andrew Chatto by a reporter for the paper as the news of WC’s death emerged, headed ‘Wilkie Collins. Some unpublished letters and memoranda’. The other eleven letters extracted are previously recorded. This extract is introduced:

FRESH BRAIN WANTED FOR THE DÉNOUEMENT.

When it came to the dénouement Collins took a fillip of fresh air, as will be seen by the following. “Science and Heart,” the novel he refers to, turns on vivisection, of

which the novelist was a vehement opponent. The doctor villain is a vivisectionist, and is suspected of cutting up his own child. If you want to know more read the book. Here is the letter: –

[3334]* TO UNIDENTIFIED RECIPIENT, 20 FEBRUARY 1888

MS: Unknown. On sale: International Autograph Auctions (16 August 2017, lot 171).

20th February 1888

Vy truly yours | Wilkie Collins¹

1. On a small piece of paper for an autograph collector, with the date written after the valediction.

[3335]* TO UNIDENTIFIED RECIPIENT, 24 AUGUST 1867 TO 24 FEBRUARY 1888¹

MS: Private. On sale: Michael Treloar Antiquarian Booksellers, Adelaide (auction, 10 December 2017, lot 6).²

90, Gloucester | Place | Portman Square | London

Wilkie Collins

1. Dating from WC's residence at Gloucester Place, probably from the later part.
2. On a small piece of card, the handwritten name is in fact on a line above the handwritten address. Sold with a card dated 29 December 1884 from Robert du Pontavice de Heussey, which is probably not associated with it.

[3336]* TO CARRIE BARTLEY, 6 DECEMBER 1888

MS: Unknown. On sale: Michael Treloar Antiquarian Booksellers, Adelaide (auction, 10 December 2017, lot 5).¹

6th December 1888

From | Wilkie Collins

1. Written in ink at the head of the dedication page of a first edition of *The Legacy of Cain*. The book was dedicated to Carrie Bartley under her married name of Mrs Henry Powell Bartley, in acknowledgement of what the author owed 'to the pen which has skilfully and patiently helped me, by copying my manuscripts for the printer'. Her calling card has remained with the volumes as they passed down through her family.

[3337]* TO HON. SECRETARY, COUNCIL OF WELCOME FOR THE AMERICAN EXHIBITION, 1884-1888

MS: Private.

FORM TO BE FILLED UP BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF WELCOME,¹ AND RETURNED AS PER ADDRESS ON BACK HEREOF.

*Do you approve of the Establishment of the suggested Club?**

Yes

*Are you prepared to become a Member, if the Club is formed?**

No

Name Wilkie Collins

Address 90 Gloucester Place | W.

**Please fill in "Yes" or "No."*

***HON. SECRETARY,
COUNCIL OF WELCOME FOR THE AMERICAN EXHIBITION,
VICTORIA MANSIONS, | LONDON, S.W.²***

1. WC had accepted the offer to be on the Council of Welcome for the American Exhibition which took place after a year's delay at Earl's Court in 1887 (see [2361] to John R. Whitley, 30 October 1884). It is not known if the Club whose establishment is referred to here was ever formed.

2. Return address on the verso, with cancelled postage stamp.

[3338]* TO [CARRIE BARTLEY], 1888

MS: Lewis Collection. On sale: Michael Treloar Antiquarian Booksellers, Adelaide (auction, 10 December 2017, lot 4).¹

Wilkie Collins 1888

1. Written in ink as the entry for 8 January in *The Charles Dickens Birthday Book*, sold by Timothy Iredale, the great grandson of Elizabeth Harriet Graves. Other entries concern the Bartley family and their relatives. The date and the context imply that this was also to Carrie Bartley, perhaps when he presented her with *The Legacy of Cain* (see [3336] to her, 6 December 1888).

[3339]* TO UNIDENTIFIED RECIPIENT,¹ 8 JANUARY 1882-1889

MS: Unknown. Copy in another hand: Lewis Collection.² On sale: Waverly Rare Books, Falls Church, Virginia (auction, 8 June 1987), with attached letter in a lot of three.

8th January³

A man of high intelligence – however he may misuse it, however unworthy he may be of it – has a gift from Heaven. When you want to see unredeemed wickedness look for it in a fool.⁴

(signed) Wilkie Collins

Extract selected by the author.

1. Attached with stamp edging to [3313] to F. G. Whitelocke, 21 April 1859.

2. The date and the signature are in red ink, the rest in black, but none of the document is in WC's hand.

3. Assuming this date – WC's birthday – is accurate, the document cannot date from earlier than 1882 and could be any year from then to that of WC's death.

4. Referring to Father Benwell, *The Black Robe*, Book the Fifth, Chapter IV. This chapter was first published on 26 February 1881 (Law, 'Wilkie in the Weeklies: the Serialization of Collins's Late Novels', *Victorian Periodicals Review*, Fall 1997, 30:3, p. 247).

(B) Corrigenda

(i) Separated letters

[1349] TO WYBERT REEVE, [LATE MAY] 1873

II, p. 406.

New letter extracted from the second half

[3323] TO WYBERT REEVE, JUNE-AUGUST 1873¹

MS: Unknown. Extract: Reeve 1889, p. 4e, our copy text;² Reeve 1891, pp. 113-114; Reeve 1906, p. 460. Published: BGLL, II, p. 406 (incorporated in [1349] to Reeve of [Late May] 1873).

We have really hit the mark. Ferrari³ translates it for Italy, Reginer⁴ has two theatres ready for me in Paris, and Lambe⁵ of Vienna has accepted it for his theatre. Here the enthusiasm continues.

-
1. WC's *The New Magdalen* ran at the Olympic Theatre in London from 19 May until 27 September 1873, before beginning a provincial tour in Leeds on 6 October. We assume, though, that WC must have been writing rather before his departure for North America in mid-September.
 2. In Reeve 1889, the extract follows immediately after [1349] to Reeve of [Late May] 1873, with 'later on he writes me:–' interpolated between the two sentences.
 3. Presumably Paolo Ferrari (1822–89), the most popular Italian playwright of the second half of the nineteenth century.
 4. Thus for 'Regnier' in Reeve 1889/1891; Reeve 1906 corrects the error.
 5. Mistranscribed by Reeve in all three versions of 'Recollections'. The reference is to Heinrich Rudolf Constanz Laube (1806–84), German novelist, playwright and theatre director. From 1872 he was the director of the state theatre in Vienna. See the references to him in [1250] to Simpson of 5 August 1872 and [1251] to Lehmann of 15 August 1872.

[1696] TO [HENRY C. BIERS], [SUMMER 1877]

III, p. 167

New letter extracted from footnote 3.

[3325] TO [HUGH BIERS], [LATE SUMMER] 1877

MS: Melbourne (Box 502/3), note on slip 17 at head of galley proofs of final portion of *My Lady's Money*.¹ Published: BGLL, III, p. 167 (in note 3 to [1696] to [Biers] of [Summer 1877]).

Isabel Miller. | Continued from slip sixteen | (Christmas Story by Wilkie Collins)

To be Published in December 1877. | Exact date in December not yet settled

1. In WC's hand, this was perhaps sent from London by the Victoria Mail following that carrying [1696] to Biers of [Summer] 1877, and certainly before WC left for the Continent around the last week of September.

[2149] TO HENRY HIGGINS, 29 APRIL 1883

III, pp. 403-404

New letter extracted from footnote 2.

[3333] TO HENRY HIGGINS, 30 APRIL 1883

MS: Texas (Ms Letters, W. Collins), envelope only.¹ Published: BGLL, III, pp. 403-404 (in note 2 to [2149] to Higgins of 29 April 1883).

By Book Post. Registered 30th April 1883 | Manuscript.

Henry Higgins Esqre | 22. Oakden Street | Kennington Road | S.E.

Wilkie Collins | 90. Gloucester Place. W.

1. Postmarked: 'REGISTERED | E. 12 | 30 AP 83 | W. D. O.'

2. Presumably containing the second act of *Rank and Riches*, referred to in [2149] to Higgins of the previous day.

[2663] TO WYBERT REEVE, 1871-1886

IV, pp. 219-220

New letter extracted from second paragraph.

[3326] TO WYBERT REEVE, [EARLY DECEMBER 1877]¹

MS: Unknown. Extract: Reeve 1889, p. 4f, our copy text; Reeve 1891, p. 118; Reeve 1906, p. 461.² Published: BGLL, IV, pp. 219-220 (as one of three extracts in [2663] to Reeve on WC's health problems, compositely dated 1871-86).

I am away in France, so as to get the completest possible change of air and scene. God knows I want it.

1. Conjectural dating within the range of dated letters to Reeve, based on WC's last recorded visit to France, on his return from 'a three months tour in the Tyrol and in north Italy' with Caroline Graves (see [1714] to George Maclean Rose of 10 December 1877, where he comments, 'The change of air and scene has greatly improved my health.')

2. In Reeve 1889, the extract follows on directly from [2663] to Reeve, early 1885.

[2633] TO WYBERT REEVE, 1871-1886

IV, pp. 219-220

New letter extracted from third paragraph.

[3328] TO WYBERT REEVE, [LATE JULY 1879]¹

MS: Unknown. Extract: Reeve 1889, p. 4f, our copy text; Reeve 1891, p. 118; Reeve 1906, p. 461.² Published: BGLL, IV, pp. 219-220 (as one of three extracts in [2663] to Reeve on WC's health problems, compositely dated 1871-86).

I am cruising in the Channel, and getting back my strength after a long attack.

1. Conjectural dating within the range of dated letters to Reeve, based on the remarkably similar phrases 'cruising about the English Channel' and 'cruising about the Channel' found respectively in [1871] to George Bentley, 27 July 1879, and [1872] to George Maclean Rose, 29 July 1879.

2. Reeve 1889 introduces the extract, 'Another time he is in Venice, trying to shake off this continuous suffering; or', afterwards mentioning WC's 'habit of taking opium in considerable doses.' The visit to Venice referred to must be that of November 1877. This extract is the last of three concerning WC's health, which together follow [2663] to Reeve of early 1885.

(ii) Other

[0512] TO UNIDENTIFIED AMERICAN RECIPIENT, 1862

I, p. 286. The MS has now been located and the entry should now read:

[0512] TO CHARLES EDWARD BENNETT,¹ 12 SEPTEMBER 1862

MS: Lewis Collection.

12. Harley Street
September 12th 1862

Dear Sir,

I very gladly write these lines to comply with the request which you honour me by making, and to thank you for your kind letter. I owe a heavy debt of obligation to the sympathy and kindness of my American readers – and I should be miserable indeed, if I were not gratified by their friendly remembrance of me, at a time when their country is distracted by the most terrible war that has happened in my time.

I have read with great interest the news which you kindly give me of the state of this hideous struggle as it now stands. My horror of all war, my firm conviction that the remedy of fighting is the most devilish and the most useless of all remedies, may be misleading me – but it seems to my mind the interest of America, the interest of Liberty, and the interest of Humanity, that this strife should end – no matter how it ends. Better your one Republic should be two than that the cause of Freedom should suffer in American hands.

Believe me | dear sir | Faithfully yours | Wilkie Collins
To/ Charles Edward Bennett Esqre

1. Unidentified, but clearly an American fan asking for a response.
2. For an earlier comment on the American Civil War, see [0484] to Frederick Lehmann, 28 July 1862. There is an analysis of WC’s general attitude towards the American Civil War in Graham Law & Andrew Maunder, *Wilkie Collins: A Literary Life* (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2008), pp. 151-153.

[1621] TO NINA LEHMANN, 15 MAY 1876

III, p. 127. The MS has been located and the entry should now read:

[1621] TO NINA LEHMANN, 15 MAY 1876

MS: Lewis Collection. Published: BGLL, III, p. 127 (brief summary only).

90, Gloucester Place, | Portman Square. W.

15th May 1876

Dearest Padrona,

Here is a line of introduction for the Abishag of the American King David.¹ And if you tear off the next leaf, you can send the other lady her “bit” from “The Woman in White”²

always yours aftly | WC

N.B. Mrs Houston must write her address on her mss – and if it is “not suitable” must either send for it – or send postage-stamps. I return her address.³

1. On the relationship between the aged King David and the ‘fair damsel’ Abishag, see I Kings 1:1–4 (AV). Here, the ‘American King David’ must be the blind American author William Henry Milburn – see [1624] to Seaver of 20 May 1876. As WC’s postscript makes clear, ‘Abishag’ must be Mrs Houston, a writer acquainted with Nina Lehmann, who we are unable to identify any further. If the name is written incorrectly, however, this might be Mrs

Matilda Charlotte Houstoun, née Jesse (1811-1892), English author of the travel books *Texas and the Gulf of Mexico: or, Yachting in the New World* (1844) and *Hesperos: or, Travels in the West* (1850), as well as a long series of novels beginning with the anonymous *Recommended to Mercy* (1862) – see <http://orlando.cambridge.org/public/svPeople?person_id=housma>. If so, the biblical metaphor is rather misleading regarding the authoress, who was twice married and more than ten years older than both Milburn and WC.

2. The leaf has been torn off and is not found with the letter, but it must be [3104] to Unidentified recipient, 15 May 1876, which consists of a short dated quote from *The Woman in White*. Unfortunately, this ‘other lady’ – clearly also an acquaintance of Nina Lehmann – cannot be further identified.

3. WC writes the N.B. sideways up the inner margin of the letter, with a dotted saltire after ‘David’ and another at the start of the N.B.

[2663] TO WYBERT REEVE, 1871-1886

IV, pp. 219-220

Only the first paragraph remains after the extraction of new letters [3328] and [3330]; this is redated as follows

[2663] TO WYBERT REEVE, LATE JANUARY/EARLY FEBRUARY 1885

[3294] TO UNIDENTIFIED RECIPIENT, 18 AUGUST 1877

Originally published: A&C10, p. 14.

Delete entire entry as it has now been identified as a duplicate for [3253] to Unidentified Recipient, 18 August 1877, published A&C9, p. 31.

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21 HUSON CLOSE, LONDON NW3 3JW
4 ERNEST GARDENS, LONDON W4 3QU