

Freemore House  
Rox  
Newport News  
August 23-78

My dear Sir,

By "your  
words" I am aware  
of the interest you  
take in political matters,  
and that, like myself,  
you are all on the  
side of Liberalism. Has  
the parallelism between  
the present time and  
that of the first Charles  
occurred to you? It  
strikes me most forcibly

a likeness almost identical. The encroachments of the throne in the form of the three Staffs represented, connected, by the doctrine of Divine Right, the corruption of Court and Society by the Prince of Wales, into the apprehensions of the Roman Catholic religion, all had their parallels in the days preceding that short but glorious epoch of the Protectorate, which gave the English people the only glimpse of real liberty ever vouchsafed to them.

Now, Sir, I wish to write a novel of the Parliamentary war times, laying the scene in these western shires, so rich in the lore relating to them; and if I can but secure a "Syndicate" will do so. With the Birmingham Post forming the chief and head of that Syndicate it would then be possible, and worth my while to labour hard upon the task. And, if I may, I could make a splendid story of it; not alone interesting as a romance but calculated to serve another and better purpose, by striking a blow in defence of liberty, and our civil

rights so rarely threatened  
and gravely in peril of  
extinction. I should point  
out the parallelism I  
have spoken of, and as all  
the "Gorgons" of to day  
think that "the days of  
Caroline Rex, with their scummy  
rabble of so called "evolutionists."

I ask them, whether you would  
be disposed to my doing this  
in the columns of the "Post"  
and if you say "yes" I shall  
be happy to communicate  
all particulars as to the  
scope and character of the  
tale.

Yours ever faithfully  
Mayne Reith

J. J. Jaffray Esq

F. L. Planchard  
F. L. Planchard  
No. 122-X

Frogmore House Ross Herefordshire August 23'78

My dear Sir

By "your worth" I am aware of the interest you take in political matters, and that like myself, you are all on the side of Liberalism. Has the parallellism between the present time and that of the first Charles occurred to you? It strikes me most forcibly, a likeness almost identical. The encroachments of the throne in the person of the Queen herself. Stafford represented, or rather caricatured, by the loathsomme Jew Disraeli, the corruption of court and society by the Prince of Wales, with the aggressiveness of the Roman Catholic religion, all had their parallell in the days preceding that short but glorious epoch of the Protectorate, which gave to the English people the only glimpse of real liberty ever vouchsafed to them. Now, Sir, I wish to write a novel of the Parliamentary war times laying the scene in these western shires, so rich in the lore relating to them; and if I can be secure, a "Syndicate" will do so. With the "Birmingham Post" forming the chief and head of that syndicate, it would then be possible, and worth my while to labour hard upon the task. And, I fancy, I could make a splendid story of it; not alone interesting as a romance, but calculated to serve another and better purpose, by striking a blow in defense of liberty, and our civil rights so surely threatened and gravely in peril of extinction. I should point out the parallell I have spoken of, and assail the Toryism of to-day through that of the days of Carolus Rex, with their scurvy rabble of so-called "cavaliers". I ask then whether you would be disposed to my doing this in the columns of the "Post" and if you say "yes", I shall be happy to communicate all particulars as to the scope and character of the tale.

Yours ever faithfully

J. Jaffray Esq

Mayne Reid

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(Collection of Captain F. L. Pleadwell)