

I also saw your W. Amers  
announcement of the  
"Lays of Northwood" which  
you will perceive has  
induced to lay at your  
Layship's feet.

With a thousand thanks  
for your kindness

Believe me always  
your Layship's devoted  
W. A. Amersworth

27, St. Paul's Church  
May 20<sup>th</sup> 1824

*Handwritten note in margin*

Dear Lady Blessington

Next assured that my best  
efforts shall be used to  
make my illustration of the  
engraving you have been good  
enough to send me worthy of  
the pages of the "Book of  
Beauty." With the subject  
I will endeavour to do justice  
to it. The unknown dame  
has striking & beautiful features  
rich in expression and charged  
with nobility. Her dress  
& attitude is such as might  
belong to any lady of any  
modern European (since it  
that I may lay the burden  
of my story down. I please

Just I have no intention at  
present of taking her out of  
London. Most certainly however  
some will not be a Tale  
as it is called - of Sublime & the  
Life - be then some where it may.

I shall be glad to know  
you Ladyships wishes as to  
mine that I may be reputable  
by plain words.

The notice of our production  
- if I may venture to say  
that - is I imagine imprised  
in the introduction to the  
review of Moore and his  
Edgewood in the next Quarterly.

Of course it is only an  
incidental allusion - as they  
are not distinctly specified in  
the announcement.

I send you a Magazine which  
I have just received in which  
there is a notice of "Kobrow"  
which may perhaps amuse  
you. I am also happy to say  
that Devereux is about to  
produce Surprise's side  
at Alley's Amphitheatre on  
Monday night. - I doubt  
however if it will be well  
done. Nevertheless I should be  
delighted if you can patronize  
him - as if popular the  
piece may be very serviceable.

**AINSWORTH.**

I was at that time conducting)." To Lady Blessington he sends a review of "Rookwood" & asks Blanchard to write "a notice of the new No. of 'Jack' for the Globe . . . puff me to your heart's content . . . we are waiting for Dickens' article." Other letters refer to meetings with Lockhart, Lever, Barham, Jerdan & Bentley; "Guy Fawkes," "Mervyn Clitheroe" & illustrations by Phiz, Cruikshank & advertisements, Trollope, a romance by James. Ainsworth's time as a "troublesome" clerk at Alexander Kay's, etc., etc.; together with unsigned A.L.; Holograph Poem Signed, 1 p., 1845 "The Dirge of Bourbon": an unsigned Holograph MS. (verses on "Great Dunstan," 3 pp., 4to); and 2 A.Ls.S. to Ainsworth from Dudley Costello & J. Boyd of Cincinnati (1837). With newspaper cuttings, etc.

The collection of 30 items £42