

Washington Friday
Seventh February 1868.

My dear Mr. Phillips.

I owe you a thousand
thanks - and I pay them
in the readiest money - for
your sympathetic remem-
brance of my birthday
and for the elegant token
of remembrance received
this morning. Believe me
I shall always treasure it
highly. It fits into a notch
in my travelling bag as
though it were made ex-
pressly for the place and
it shall hold the place
against all comers. When
you next come over to
England I hope you will
come to God's Hill to see how

The pretty little wears, and
to make whether it is kept
bright or no. Whenever you
come, you will find that
I have not forgotten so much
as one of the many sponta-
neous acts of kindness
good will and good help
for which I stand indebted
to you and your partner,
and for which I heartily
thank you both. And
so I shall do all I can
(until I see you among
the Scotch troops, and for
an indefinite time afterwards)
to continue the exemplary
custom of having birthdays
and consequently to remain
Faithfully yours
Charles Dickens.

Washington Friday
Seventh February
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Dear Mr. [],

I owe you a thousand
Thanks – and I pay them
In the readiest money – for
You sympathetic remem-
brance of my Birthday
and for the elegant token
of remembrance received
this morning. Believe me
I shall always esteem it
highly. It fits into a nook
in my travelling bag as
though it were made ex-
pressly for the place and
it shall hold the place
against all comers. When
you next come over to
England I hope you will
come to Gad's Hill to see how

the pretty bottle wears, and
to note whether it is kept
bright or no. Whensoever you
come, you will find that
I have not forgotten so much
as one of the many spon-
taneous acts of kindness
good will and good help
for which I stand indebted
to you and your partner,
and for which I heartily
thank you both. And
so I shall do all I can
(until I see you among
the Kentish hops, and for
an indefinite time afterwards)
to continue the exemplary
custom of having birthdays
and consequently to remain

Faithfully yours

Charles Dickens.