



SWINBURNE to THOMSON, 17 July 1870

To: John Thomson

Text: MS.,^a Princeton University

Holmwood

July 17th [1870]

Dear John

Many thanks for the ptmanteau-full of books wh arrived last night, as also the key. The vol. of Shirley^b came with my clothes. By the by, will you tell Mrs. T.^c that the stock of linen is far short of what I brought up to London, both in collars, shirts (night & day) & handkerchiefs? Now the only two places I ever slept out in or took things to, were the Arts Club and Rossetti's;^d & all I took thither I am sure I brought away again to Dorset St & most assuredly she has not sent me anything near the proper quantity of linen. I had a good lot (six shirts quite new [^]whereas the old frayed & <illeg.> worn ones are all right!^e for one item wh I dont find [^]<not even the> [?] here [^]<all of frayed ones are all right!> & have here a very short allowance. I can't afford this sort of thing, & it is at least singular how much I have missed in this and other ways during my residence in Dorset St. – The MSS. are all right in the main, but you have not sent the part of Tristram that you copied <fo> out for Jones – 'The Sailing of the Swallow' – wh I want particularly – & there are 2 short lyrics – 'Mentana: 1st Anniversary' – & 'England in '69'^e – (fair copies) wh, if you didn't find them with the rest, I suppose I must have taken to Ellis. Item – there was a lot of unfinished burlesque verse about swishing, such as I always amused my idlest minutes with – did you leave them there or confiscate them for Lottie's use? to keep company with H's [^]<school> pedagogic rhapsody^f & my unfinished story. If she likes (she asked me for it once) she is welcome during my absence to the loan of any of my drawings of flagellation, but great care must be taken <t> not to *rub* the pencilled ones. You can <take out> take out any you please from the desk for her. I only wish she could send me such another little Eton drawing as she once shewed me (afterwards torn up by the designer because stripes had been added by her & me in black instead of <whit> red!) it was charmingly *accurate*, and I shd much prize such another with the *names* inscribed by her hand.^g

Send Tristram anyhow & let me know that my MSS have not fallen into the hands of the Philistines.

Ever yrs

AC Swinburne

^aWith the letter is a typescript transcription which includes a note no longer present. Unsigned, but clearly from E.S. Ellis, the note identifies the recipient of the letter as John Thomson and directs attention to Thomson's address: 'Do you remember the note I wrote you about a year or so ago from

