2° Dec. 79

My dear Charles,

You mention only the rest of one of mine, tho' I answered every one of yours. Why did not you give me your particular address? For I suppose the general one was the occasion of the postman's delay. I hope you received the certificate in time. I have since given Ermine three guineas for the steward.

I am sorry to find that the bill is to be brought in before Xmas, as I intended to draw up a state of the case, that would have obviated every argument used by the renter and other claimants. However, I have just now scribbled a few heads for that purpose, to be made use of by such of the advocates of our side. I wrote to you at first pressingly that you would have a new edition of my Appeal to the public printed and distributed; I had strong reasons for this, whichever way the King turned, tho' I did not communicate them to you, and you should not have neglected it. But I now tell you that you should immediately collect what number you can, and put them immediately into the hands of all who are to speak to the point at least. The whole subject relative to the Irish stage is there fully discussed, and it will give great advantage to our advocates over their opponents. I fancy you will find what number you may want a
four; if not you may get some among our friends. It is highly probable my sister Betty has none. The I am certain a republication, if there be time for it, would be of great use. It had the most remarkable effect of any pamphlet that ever was published; for the there had been a number of interested and wily writers against me for several months upon the appearance of this answer to all they had ever writ; they were so totally disappointed, that the they held several meetings for the purpose; they were obliged to give up all attempts to a reply, and there never was a pamphlet published against me afterwards: At whatever may be now writ again, we will probably be a revival of some of the old calumnius. This would be the best method to obviate their malevolence. Have you got the English act relative to the Theatres? Don’t you think it would be proper to send you that when they can come to it?

As to writing to Members, I have been discouraged from it, by the fear of giving umbrage to such as might be omitted, and who might think themselves equally entitled to a personal application. You took away my Irish Almanack, which would have been my best guide on that occasion; but indeed I could not have had time to write to so many as I must have done, had I went to any. Perhaps I may send you a form of a letter in a post or two, to be printed and delivered to all the members independently, etc. I shall see Mr. Smirke at town as possible and speak to him about the business you mention. Do you know

That it was my good friend Jeffers, who put Coleman upon this wild-goose chase? I suppose he meant to be concerned with him in the patent, as I formerly received, but whilst some proposals from him of that sort. The last sheet of my work is gone to press. I shall send it to Ireland as soon as possible, that it may come out there at the same time that it does in London; which will not be till the 20th of next month, by the advice of my publisher. Why don’t you send me regularly, the Irish paper? you see how regular I am with regard to you. You have now two every post. The London papers begin to make a great noise. It is the work of very able hand. They let me have no more apologies about postmen &c. My nature is very jealous, but more so with regard to you than all the rest of the world. You might have writ within the fortnight the you had received no letter from me. Don’t remember me affectionately to my nephew Richard. I love that young man because he is good, and it is not in my power to love any one who is not; however amiable they may be in other respects. I have not time to look over this serious 30. Adrian Morrow

Dec 2nd

your affectionate father
J. V.
Thomas Sheridan
To his son
Char Francis
Dec 2, 1779.
My dear Charles,

You mention only the rest of one of mine, tho' I answered every one of your's. Why did not you give me your particular address? for I suppose the general one was the occasion of the postman's delay. I hope you received the certificate in time. I have since given Cruise three guineas for the Steward. I am sorry to find that the bill is to be brought in before Xmas, as I intended to draw up a state of the case, that would have obviated every argument used by the renters and other claimants. However I have just now scribbled a few heads for that purpose, to be made use of by such of the advocates of our side. I wrote to you at first pressingly that you would have a new edition of my Appeal to the public printed and distributed; I had strong reasons for this, whichever way the King turned, tho' I did not communicate them to you, and you should not have neglected it. But I now tell you that you should immediately collect what number you can, and put them immediately in the hands of all who are to speak to the point at least. The whole subject relative to the Irish stage is there fully discussed; and it will give great advantage to our advocates over their opponents. I fancy you will find what number you may want at Hoays; if not you may get some among our friends. It is highly probable my sister Betty has one. Tho' I am certain a republication, if there be time for it, would be of great use. It had the most remarkable effect of any pamphlet that ever was published; for tho' there had been a number of interested and virulent writers against me for several months, upon the appearance of this answer to all they had ever writ, they were so totally discomfited, that tho' they held several meetings for the purpose, they were obliged to give up all attempts to a reply, and there never was a syllable published against me afterwards. As whatever may be now writ against me will probably be a revival of some of the old calumnies, this would be the best method to obviate their malaice. Have you got the English act relative to the Theatres? Don't you think it would be proper to mould your's upon it where they can coincide? As to writing to Members I have been discouraged from it, by the fear of giving umbrage to such as might be omitted, and who might think themselves equally entitled to a personal application. You took away my Irish Almanack, which would have been my best guide on that occasion but indeed I could not have had time to write to so many as I must have done, had I writ to any. Perhaps I may send you a form of a letter in a post or two, to be printed and delivered to all the members indiscriminately. I shall see McGuire as soon as possible, and speak to him about the business you mention. Do you know that it was my good friend Jefferyes who put Coleman upon this wild-goose chase? I suppose he meant to be concerned with him in the patent, as I formerly received but coldly some proposals from him of that sort. The last sheet of my work is gone to press. I shall send it to Ireland as soon as possible, that it may come out there at the same time that it does in London; which will not be 'till the New Year.