

Philadelphia, Jan'y. 21st 1845.

Dear Sir,



I received your letter of the 17th and communicated the contents to Thomas. He says he has forwarded a letter to Van Winkle Wiley signed by his assigns, ~~which~~ containing terms which he thinks will perfectly secure them. He has also written to you on the subject of the Magazine. As to my conduct towards him it has not been such as to call forth any particular expressions of gratitude. I promptly signed off whatever was due to me, because I thought him unfortunate of the victim of other people's misconduct - and I told him that should he continue the magazine on his own account, I should cheerfully contribute to it gratuitously for the purpose of getting him a going again. I however would never again undertake the editorship of that or of any other periodical work. I at the same time told him that I thought it probable you would be willing to continue the Editor provided you were secured in a proper ~~recompense~~ compensation for the irksome labour of the business; and indeed I believe you would find it greatly to your advantage to keep

the work up, until some satisfactory arrangement
can be made. The subscription list is so large that it
would take a long time to get any other work into so
prosperous a circulation.

For the sums which Thomas is indebted to you, you will
have your chance with the other creditors.

Should Vanbrinkley Purley find themselves encouraged to
print ~~and~~ a number for February, I think you had
better get me ready, and prevent the impression that the
work is likely to fall through.

I am very sorry to hear that Eliza is again
unwell. She should not, in her present delicate state
of health run any risks at those dangerous night
parties. Remember me affectionately to her.

Your friend
Washington Irving

P.S. I have not yet seen this ranting which you
suspected to have been begotten between those two
Giants in literature & science the Mayor & the
Doctor. It must be a monstrous production to have
unwarranted such a suspicion. Take care how you
muddle another time with Philosophers: it will only

beurled off with a mere pamphlet & not buried
alive under those spungy octavos, which then
prolific warlets so readily spawn forth.

Now writing the foregoing I have seen your letter
to Thomas, and concern entirely with you as
to your proposition for the future conduct of the work.

I shall remain here ~~about~~ there a few days.

& if I can make any arrangement to promote
the interests of poor Thomas, will most assuredly
do it.

By the bye  I believe Vanbrinkley Purley have not
put in the box of magazines & newspapers to if so I will then to

hold them in their possession for me - as I have many pre-
ceding & succeeding numbers & shall receive more by future
arrivals, to make up lots. I have not received any re-
compense for them nor indeed part in any title. As they
are broken pts they can be of not use to the value
to any one so that they can be

Washington Irving.



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