

## HORACE WALPOLE'S CORRESPONDENCE

From EDMOND MALONE, Monday 4 February 1782

Printed from the MS in the Yale University Library. First printed, Toynbee *Supp.* ii. 163. Reprinted in J. M. Osborn, 'Horace Walpole and Edmond Malone,' in *Horace Walpole: Writer, Politician, and Connoisseur*, ed. W. H. Smith, New Haven, 1967, p. 307. Damer-Waller; the MS was sold Sotheby's 5 Dec. 1921 (first Waller Sale), lot 157, to Dobell; acquired in 1935 by Russell G. Pruden, of New Haven, who bequeathed it to the Yale Library in 1949.

Feb. 4.

MR Malone presents his compliments to Mr Walpole, and takes the liberty of sending him a very hasty essay<sup>1</sup> on the Chatterton business, which for obvious reasons he does not publicly avow.<sup>2</sup>

To EDMOND MALONE, Monday 4 February 1782

Printed from the MS now wsl. First printed, Cunningham ix. 492-4. Reprinted, Toynbee xii. 152-4; J. M. Osborn, 'Horace Walpole and Edmond Malone,' in *Horace Walpole: Writer, Politician, and Connoisseur*, ed. W. H. Smith, New Haven, 1967, pp. 307-9. The MS is untraced until sold Sotheby's 3 Aug. 1858 (S. W. Singer Sale), lot 103, to Peter Cunningham; resold Sotheby's 17 March 1876 (W. Ashley Sale), lot 446 (with another letter), to Waller; offered by Waller, Cat. No. 120 (1878), lot 289; sold Sotheby's 28 May 1946 (Lord Cunliffe Sale), lot 888, to Maggs for wsl.

Berkeley Square, Feb. 4, 1782.

YOU have made me a very valuable present,<sup>1</sup> Sir, for which I was earnestly wishing, as your criticisms are far too good to be committed only to the few hours of life of a newspaper. You have produced many new and very forcible arguments against the champions of Rowley, and pointed their own artillery against them victoriously. Indeed I wonder so acute a writer as Mr Bryant<sup>2</sup> could relax into

1. *Cursory Observations on the Poems Attributed to Thomas Rowley, a Priest of the Fifteenth Century: with Some Remarks on the Commentaries on those Poems, by the Rev. Dr Jeremiah Milles, Dean of Exeter, and Jacob Bryant, Esq.; and a Salutary Proposal Addressed to the Friends of those Gentlemen*, 1782. Malone sent HW a copy of the second edition, 'revised and augmented' (now wsl; Hazen, *Cat. of HW's Lib.*, No. 3690:16). The pam-

phlet is an enlarged version of the article signed 'Misopiclerus' that appeared in *GM* 1781, li. 555-9, 609-15. See *ante ca* Dec. 1781 and CHATTERTON 363.

2. The pamphlet was published anonymously. For HW's opinion of it see following letter.

1. See previous letter, n. 1.

2. Jacob Bryant (1715-1804), fellow of King's College, Cambridge; classical schol-