

55. Prince Street

Friday - Evening.

21 Nov 1845

My dear McCook.

I have been hoping
to be able to come to you to-day that
I might ~~venture~~ ^{endeavour} to reply to your
kind note in person - but a succession
of visitors & engagements, prevented me.

I should wish I had more time
now, to give you my views of the exact
position - in which I placed myself
with regard to the assumption of the
Character of 'Rome' - at some future
day, I may trouble you with them.
at present - I can only assure you
the ideas you have been kind enough
to give me - are entirely new to me.
& now having given you the subject

the thought which you have bestowed
upon it - the objections that you
mention were entered my head.
I dare say as far as you know
my ideas & notions - you may be
very right. & could I have had
the benefit of your advice before I
would have availed myself of the
consideration - you have now favoured
me with - as it is. you might have
only plunged me into trouble - for
I find the subject, in a new light
entirely. & myself bound under a
penalty of £100 to fulfil my engagement.
What am I to do? I am not able

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to pay the penalty. of my forfeited
^{contract} engagement. & can only hope
for the indulgence of my friends
in the mistake which without
the slightest notion of indelicacy
I have made -

I only looked to seeing my sister
that support - which I ^{felt} she
required & would never get from
my gentleman that could be got
to act with her. I felt that to divide
criticism was in a measure to share
as my sister. & to bring her out
a thought of indelicacy in the
assumption now crossed my mind.

I see however - that a gross
motive might be attributed to it
& can only hope that those who
know me - will acquit me of an
intentional ^{immodesty} ~~indecency~~. At the same
time I submit to you, the idea
whether of the two. Julia's character
is not more strongly imbued - with
the influence of the man - you mean
than Romeo - a careful reading
leaves me so impressed - & it strikes
me more forcibly that there might
be more ^{impropriety} ~~indecency~~ in a father & daughter
or brother & sister - performing the two
characters. than two sisters - which seem
to me to banish indecent. I have
troubled you longer & more in vain

than I intended - Now then I
 thank you sincerely for the kind
 interest you show for me - & only
 regret that it is too late for me
 to give ^{the} thought I could wish!

The old saw says, "two wrongs can
 never make a right" - (if this be
 a wrong) I have a precedent in
 Mr. Keau's having acted "Romio"
 "Joni" repeatedly - without bringing
 upon himself the charge of impropriety

Pray present my most sincere
 regards to Mr. Coomb. I believe me
 though in great haste - most faithfully
 Yours obed^t
 Charlotte Cushman

Edin: 21 Nov 1845

Miss Cushman

D Romeo -

Geo. Coombe Esq