

APPENDIX "O"

Walter Meyd
(to wit)

I Walter Meyd of Keele in the said County being owner of the lands described in the plan hereunto annexed, the which part of a certain public foot path lying between the Village of Keele and the Villages of Butterton and Seabridge in the said County is intended to be diverted and turned, do hereby consent to the making and continuing such new public footway through my said lands - Given under my hand and seal this 17th day of December 1813 -

Walter Meyd



Leek, August 30th 1832.

From your programme of progress I think I may
just like you before you rise upon the wing - though
the proceeding is unsportsmanlike I shall fire. - It is to
be sure an unluckily chance that put my last protocol of
a letter into your hand. Whilst it was fulminating bands
of "three" who could write political pamphlets!"
It struck 'd your Standard in Mid Valley" - & to prove the
Philosophical axiom that action & reaction are equal,
you straightway 'gan wonder that I was not a candidate
for my County, - having, in the previous page, sketched
me a specimen of that genus after the manner of Weylett.
- which you conclude with these words "I thought him a
perfect madman, & was really glad when such a fellow
'was fairly out of the House". - After this, methinks, I need
not be at much trouble to explain why I declined the
depreciated post of Knight of the Shire. I am sorer 'd
not to say so - & for a good while I have lack'd some
part of that quick spirit that was in Antony, & must
be anybody to make them bear such fardels & think
it tantie. -

You want to hear something of the landscape I am
gradually pencilling in - well - it is rather hard
to bludge me to send up my lower school exercises
upon ponds & plantations to the land of the Mountain
& the flood - where you sit throned in all the Majesty

of the hillside & picturesque. - It is going from Salvation
to Pattee. All if you can descend from your altitudes
to my little terrace house. My good. Will take a walk
with you. - From the bottom of the last ascent between Newcastle
& my garden, I have thrown the turnpike road about a
hundred ^{or 150} yards more to the right, thus taking it round instead
of over the hill - & leaving me the whole of the left hand bank
for plantation. This will be fenced by a wall of rough masonry
& I am building a lodge of my own designing - It is intended
to be pretty - uncommon - & is good keeping with the House.
- The land between the entrance of the House has, as you
must remember, very disheartening, & it must of course be
a considerable time before the growth of trees can relieve
it's bleakness. However, I do not despair by judicious
planting & the removal of fences & taking the road in a
new line I have staked out, ^{but over the safe fields & at a great distance from the old road} - of making it a very creditable
approach. - Now - as it is raining, you had better step
into the library, from the window of which - as you well know
~~I drop my home beer~~ - & is thick identical window Miss
Vincent had made an epizootic eye over she was born,
to which, - (Volente Cholera - & the thousand. ill's that flesh is
dear to - that is off we all live) - I shall hold her, like a
shylock. - At present, my charitableness has pass'd into a
jealousy - My great object being to keep away all my friends

of relations - but if people are to come behind the scenes before
the curtain draws up, there is an end of one's effects.

Whe, you remember the pool is the shape of a painter's pallet -
the dam with beaches upon it - & some eight feet below, on the
pool - & from that lower pool a lower pool still threatening
the left hand bank, an inclined plain under the
sloping edge - & surrounded by that rounded Kent's
tall straight belt. - The upper pool I have undammed &
let by my water - now I think of it - I will be as much
as I do ever the Pool was, if I tell you anything more
about the matter - Oh you will have all my beauties
catalogued, as Jacksons had Smogen's - & when they are
ripe for exhibition, you will not care to come & see them
- No - No - Show patience - offer up prayers for my
transplanted trees - & by & by, you shall see what
you shall see. -

I feel exactly like you in finding myself to my grief
surprised & like wisher to Military Proposals. - but our
Philosophy is right - It is not that we are hurried along
rapids into an absurd extreme. - Of the two despotisms
offer'd, it is the best - besides that the progressive rate
of society is a true earnest of ~~the~~ it's gradual extrication
whereas a mob despotism is not only incalculably the best
while it lasts, but it's overthrow (though equally certain
is change in opinion - followed by many others - each of