

Wolsey House, Oxford,  
Jan. 28, 1906.

Dear Sir,

together with this letter you will receive the M.S. of an article intended for the "Bausteine". It is an edition of Anglo-French conversational phrases and rules of courtesy from the Balliol M.S. which I am transcribing. The limitation to Anglo-German lexicography only not being stated either in the title or the programme of your magazine, I trust you will not reject it. The passages would look out of place in a volume of selected poems, as I should like to make it, so they are better published separately.

It would be necessary, for the sake of glossarial reference, to preserve in print the division of lines as it is in my M.S. (being that of the original) as well as their numbering (each two corresponding phrases or vocables being taken for "one line"). As to the

parallel columns, the first short passage (numerals) had better appear as it is; in the second one I have endeavoured to point out by pencil-marks (a) and (b) (together with the numbering), that the left-hand column on p. 3 ("Of perles ... danoyne") is a continuation of the left-hand col. on p. 2 ("of golde ... garnades"), and similarly, the right-hand columns ("of pepper ... Rommany", "wyne ... fruyts") belong together and would have to form in print one connected column parallel to the other one. Throughout all the rest of [I] the right-hand column on each page continues the left-hand one, and their breaking-up may be regulated by the size of the printed page (there being still two on each). In [II] I should like to have the single vocables printed alongside the verses, on the margin, as they are in the MS.; it gives the thing its characteristic look. The arrangement of the rest is clear.

As to the glossarial index I ventured to append, I hope you will look through it, and (with the kind concurrence of Prof. Friedwagner, if he cares) fill up blanks, correct blunders, and cancel entries which only testify my own ignorance of certain English and Middle French words, and are otherwise superfluous. Bradley's advice (which I had no opportunity to take) will perhaps be of use for the proof-sheets.

If, after all, you should not think the article fit for your magazine, would you favour me with a hint as to what other periodical may be a place for it, and either forward it there directly, or kindly send back the MS. to me (as this is the only draught I have made).

As to the Hardy-Meredith stylistic problem, I find that in "Richard Feverel" I have taken up a book admirable in its way (though too nervously written to equal the masterpieces of the past), yet not as fully illustrative of Meredith's peculiar mannerisms, as some of his later works are sure to be; so I shall have to read one of them next, or to give my observations on Hardy's style as they are, without attempting comparison.

For the question of lodgings for Miss Paula, I promise you to look about, though, I am sorry and ashamed to confess, I shall not be able to enjoy the benefit of Prof. Wright's knowledge of these affairs, as I have not had the honour to call upon him yet. I shall, however, before I leave Oxford. On first thoughts, I fancy the very house I live in (Wolsey House, 1, Brewers Street, S<sup>t</sup>. Aldate's, opposite Christ Church) would be as good as anything; they have (to use a favourite word of Hardy's) "beries" of Extension University girls each summer, the terms are moderate, 30s a week, and the people of the house (a mother and three daughters) really unspeakably kind. Throug

the means of the young ladies, Miss Paula would easily become acquainted with students in the ladies' colleges; and one of them is a very good sars woman, too (has give<sup>me</sup> several lessons in that noble art, at X-mas). They all speak very good English and possess literary culture. There is an excellently-furnished library in the house.

So much "pro domo mea"; and now it is time to assure you that I remain,

ever yours most truly,

Roman Dybowski.