THE COLLECTED

LETTERS OF THOMAS HARDY

RICHARD LITTLE PURDY

AND

MICHAEL MILLGATE

VOLUME FOUR 1909–1913



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THE COLLECTED LETTERS OF THOMAS HARDY

VOLUME FOUR 1909-1913

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CHRONOLOGY

THOMAS HARDY 1840-1928

1840	2 June	Born, eldest child of Thomas and Jemima (Hand) Hardy, at Higher Bockhampton, Dorset.
1856	11 July	Articled to John Hicks, Dorchester architect.
1862	17 Apr	Goes to London; soon employed in architectural office
		of Arthur Blomfield.
1867	20 July	Returns to Dorset because of ill health; again employed by Hicks.
1868	9 June	Completes final draft of 'The Poor Man and the Lady'
1869	May	(later destroyed).
	7 Mar	Employed by Weymouth architect, G. R. Crickmay.
1870	7 Iviai	Goes to St. Juliot, Cornwall, to inspect church; meets Emma Lavinia Gifford for the first time.
1871	25 Mar	Desperate Remedies pub. (3 vols.) by Tinsley Brothers.
1872	March	In London lodgings, working for the architect T. Roger Smith.
	June	Under the Greenwood Tree pub. (2 vols.) by Tinsley
		Brothers.
	15 Aug	First instalment of A Pair of Blue Eyes in September
		number of Tinsleys' Magazine.
1873	late May	A Pair of Blue Eyes pub. (3 vols.) by Tinsley Brothers.
	21 Sept	Suicide of Horace Moule at Cambridge.
	December	First instalment of Far from the Madding Crowd in the Cornhill Magazine.
1874	17 Sept	Marries Emma Lavinia Gifford at St. Peter's Church,
	(0 -	Paddington; honeymoon in France.
	6 Oct	Takes rooms at St. David's Villa, Hook Road, Surbiton.
	23 Nov	Far from the Madding Crowd pub. (2 vols.) by Smith, Elder.
1875	22 Mar	Moves to 18 Newton Road, Westbourne Grove, London.
	15 Aug	Moves to West End Cottage, Swanage, Dorset.
1876	early March	Moves to 7 Peter (or St. Peter) Street, Yeovil, Somerset.
	3 Apr	The Hand of Ethelberta pub. (2 vols.) by Smith, Elder.
	3 July	Moves to Riverside (or Rivercliff) Villa, Sturminster
		Newton, Dorset.
1878	22 Mar	Moves to I Arundel Terrace, Trinity Road, Upper
		Tooting.
	4 Nov	The Return of the Native pub. (3 vols.) by Smith, Elder.
1880	23 Oct	Beginning of serious illness.
1000	26 Oct	The Trumpet-Major pub. (3 vols.) by Smith, Elder.
1881	25 June	Moves to Lanherne, The Avenue, Wimborne, Dorset.
	early December	A Laodicean pub. (3 vols.) by Sampson Low.
1882	late October	Two on a Tower pub. (3 vols.) by Sampson Low.
1883	June	Moves to Shire-Hall Lane, Dorchester.
	e .	

1885	29 June	Moves to Max Gate (designed by himself), just outside
		Dorchester.
1886	10 Мау	The Mayor of Casterbridge pub. (2 vols.) by Smith, Elder.
1887	15 Mar	The Woodlanders pub. (3 vols.) by Macmillan.
	March-April	Visits Italy.
1888	4 May	Wessex Tales pub. (2 vols.) by Macmillan.
1891	30 Мау	A Group of Noble Dames pub. by Osgood, McIlvaine.
	late November	Tess of the d'Urbervilles pub. (3 vols.) by Osgood,
		McIlvaine.
1892	20 July	Death of Thomas Hardy, sen.
1893	19 May	In Dublin; first meeting with Florence Henniker.
1894	22 Feb	Life's Little Ironies pub. by Osgood, McIlvaine.
1895	4 Apr	First vol. of Wessex Novels edn. pub. by Osgood,
		McIlvaine.
	1 Nov	Jude the Obscure pub. by Osgood, McIlvaine.
1897	16 Mar	The Well-Beloved pub. by Osgood, McIlvaine.
1898	December	Wessex Poems pub. by Harper & Brothers.
1901	mid-November	Poems of the Past and the Present pub. by Harper &
		Brothers.
1904	13 Jan	The Dynasts, Part First, pub. by Macmillan.
	3 Apr	Death of Jemima Hardy.
1906	9 Feb	The Dynasts, Part Second, pub. by Macmillan.
1908	11 Feb	The Dynasts, Part Third, pub. by Macmillan.
1909	3 Dec	Time's Laughingstocks pub. by Macmillan.
1910	June	Receives the Order of Merit.
1912	30 Apr	First two vols. of Wessex Edition pub. by Macmillan.
	27 Nov	Death of Emma Lavinia Hardy.
1913	24 Oct	A Changed Man and Other Tales pub. by Macmillan.
1914	10 Feb	Marries Florence Emily Dugdale at St. Andrew's
		Church, Enfield.
	17 Nov	Satires of Circumstance (including 'Poems of 1912-13')
		pub. by Macmillan.
1915	24 Nov	Death of Mary Hardy, the elder of his sisters.
1917	30 Nov	Moments of Vision pub. by Macmillan.
1922	23 May	Late Lyrics and Earlier pub. by Macmillan.
1923	15 Nov	The Famous Tragedy of the Queen of Cornwall pub. by
		Macmillan.
1925	20 Nov	Human Shows, Far Phantasies, Songs, and Trifles pub.
		by Macmillan.
1927	21 July	Address at Dorchester Grammar School stone-laying:
		last public appearance.
1928	11 Jan	Dies at Max Gate.
	2 Oct	Winter Words pub. by Macmillan.
	2 Nov	The Early Life of Thomas Hardy pub. under the name of
		Florence Emily Hardy.
1930	29 Apr	The Later Years of Thomas Hardy pub. under the name
	R .E	of Florence Emily Hardy.
		n

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Our best thanks, finally, must go to the trustees of the Thomas Hardy Estate for their grant of an 'exclusive licence' to collect, edit, and publish Hardy's letters, and to Mr. R. N. R. Peers, Curator of the Dorset County Museum and its Hardy Memorial Collection, for assistance of every sort, most generously given.

R. L. P. M. M.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

TH Thomas Hardy

ELH Emma Lavinia Hardy

FED/FEH Florence Emily Hardy (née Dugdale)

Adams Frederick B. Adams, private collection
Berg Collection, New York Public Library

Berkeley University of California, Berkeley

BL British Library

Buffalo State University of New York, Buffalo Colby College, Waterville, Maine

DCM Dorset County Museum

LC Library of Congress

Leeds University of Leeds, Brotherton Collection

NLS National Library of Scotland NYPL New York Public Library

NYU New York University, Fales Library

SPAB Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings

Taylor Robert H. Taylor, private collection

Texas University of Texas at Austin, Humanities Research Center

UCLA University of California, Los Angeles

D.N.B. Dictionary of National Biography

EL Florence Emily Hardy, The Early Life of Thomas Hardy (London,

1028)

LY Florence Emily Hardy, The Later Years of Thomas Hardy (London,

1930)

Millgate Michael Millgate, Thomas Hardy: His Career as a Novelist (London,

1971)

Purdy Richard Little Purdy, Thomas Hardy: A Bibliographical Study

(London, 1954, 1968, 1978); where no page is indicated, the

reference is to the editor's private collection.

Wessex edn. Wessex Edition, 24 vols. (London, 1912-31)

For the full names of other private and institutional owners of Hardy letters see Acknowledgements, pp. viii-ix.

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1909

To GERALD CHRISTY

Max Gate, | Dorchester. [Early January 1909]

Dear Sir,

I write to introduce to your notice Mr. Harry Pouncy as a Lecturer and Entertainer.

He has given much pleasure to large audiences in this County (in which I have been included more than once), and it seems to many of us that he might extend his field of operations with advantage to the public and to himself.

Yours faithfully, Thomas Hardy.

Text Advertising brochure of The Lecture Agency, Ltd. Date Inferred from TH's letter to H. Pouncy of 29 Dec o8 (III.362).

Christy: proprietor of The Lecture Agency, London.

Pouncy: Harry Pouncy, Dorchester journalist and lecturer; see III.247.

To DESMOND MACCARTHY

From thos. Hardy, Max Gate, Dorchester. [Early January 1909]

Dear Mr MacCarthy:

Herewith receipt, & thanks for enclosure. I hope the Jan. number is doing well. The only fault I have ever had to find with the N. Q. is with the title. Why not call it the "Quarterly Herald," or "Q. Clarion", or some such!

Yrs truly T. H.

Text MS. (correspondence card) Mrs. Michael MacCarthy. Date From internal evidence.

MacCarthy: Charles Otto Desmond MacCarthy, literary and dramatic critic; see III.203. receipt . . . enclosure: MacCarthy, as editor of the New Quarterly, had evidently sent a cheque in payment for TH's poem, 'The House of Hospitalities', together with a copy of the January 1909 issue in which it appeared. N.Q.: New Quarterly.

To HENRY BALFOUR GARDINER

MAX GATE, DORCHESTER. 7:1:1909

Dear Mr Gardiner:

No objection will be offered either by my publishers or myself to the production of "The Three Strangers" as an opera.

I do not know if you are aware that the opera of "Tess of the d'Urbervilles" has been produced with much success in Milan; & I may mention privately that it may probably be produced at Covent Garden, though it would be premature to speak of this.

I only mention it now because it occurs to me that, if it were produced there, this might afford an opening for yours. But I know nothing of the musical

world.

Yours very truly T. Hardy.

Text MS. Univ. of Melbourne.

Gardiner: Henry Balfour Gardiner, composer; see III.99. as an opera: Gardiner never completed this project although one piece related to it, 'Shepherd Fennel's Dance', became one of his best-known compositions. Gardiner's letter of 5 Jan 09 (DCM) thanks TH for sending a copy of the dramatized version of the story, The Three Wayfarers. the opera of "Tess: by Baron Frédéric d'Erlanger; see III.204 and letter of 21 July 09.

To WILLIAM ARCHER

MAX GATE, DORCHESTER. 9:1:1909

My dear Archer:

I have just read your amusing article in "The Nation"—& not only amusing but strong & intellectual, like all your articles—which, as I cannot enter into the discussion (not having seen the play) has set me thinking on another branch of the subject, & leads me to ask you why you never write an article on the unfair & disproportionate difference of standard applied to works of the theatre & those of us poor scribblers—I mean imaginative writers—who depend upon the press for making our ideas known. A situation, for instance, which is a stale thing in a novel or dramatic poem, is hailed as one of dazzling originality when, after some years, it has been imitated from that novel or poem & appears behind the footlights. Surely a re-adjustment of terms is wanted here, so that the two arts might be reduced to common measure. As you stand so independent of all necessity to flatter the theatre you might do the thing well.

This is an impromptu note (or I should never have written it at all) & I

wind up with wishing you a happy new year.

Sincerely yours Thomas Hardy.

Text MS. BL.

Archer: William Archer, critic and journalist; see I.287. amusing article: Archer's 'The Drama. De Juventute', Nation, 9 Jan 1909. the play: The Last of the De Mullins, by St. John Hankin; Archer was in fact replying to Hankin's angry response (Nation, 19 Dec 1908) to his original review of the play (Nation, 12 Dec 1908). do the thing well: Archer did address the question in a Morning Leader article of 23 Jan 1909; quoting the bulk of TH's letter, he attributed it to a 'novelist whose name, were I at liberty to mention it, would command the most unqualified respect' (p. 4).

To THE REVD. STANHOPE WARD

FROM THOS. HARDY, MAX GATE, DORCHESTER. 10 Jan. 1909.

Many thanks for copy of the Fairy Tales received.

Text MS. (postcard) Gordon N. Ray.

Ward: the Revd. Stanhope Edgar Ward, then living near Farnham, Surrey. the Fairy Tales: Ward's The Ivory Mouse: A Book of Fairy Tales (London, 1909).

To LADY GROVE

MAX GATE, DORCHESTER. 13:1:1909

My dear Lady Grove:

Now here is a misunderstanding. I read your cogent arguments, & had no other idea than that I was to digest them, & when I had digested them, & become quite convinced that you were right, I was to reply like a lamb. I felt sure that you did not want me to write & say merely that I was not convinced. But evidently I was wrong.

I will not attempt to answer all your arguments even now. I never, as you know, take any active part in politics, having only just sufficient energy to do one sort of work in one little groove. And I have thought that it would be really injuring the women's cause if I were to make known exactly what I think may be result of their success—a result I don't object to, but which one half your supporters certainly would; & hence might withdraw their support.

So we must let this question rest, as between us, for the present.

They have just made me a Governor of our Grammar School here, founded by "Thomas Hardye" in 1569; (I suppose an ancestor of mine) & what has struck me in looking up its history of 350 years, & that of all the many other Grammar Schools of that age & standing, is that it never occurred to any of the pious & practical founders to establish a single Grammar School for women. Every one of these excellent institutions has been for males only. Now there's a point for you.

Ever your affectionate friend Thomas Hardy.

Text MS. Purdy.

Grove: Agnes Geraldine Grove, author, wife of Sir Walter John Grove, Bt.; see II.92. your cogent arguments: Lady Grove had evidently sent TH a draft or proof of her preface to T. W. Berry, Professions for Girls (London, 1909). Grammar School here: the Dorchester Grammar School. TH had been appointed as a 'Representative Governor' (i.e., as the Governor representing the County Justices) by the Dorset Court of Quarter Sessions; see LY, 134. an ancestor of mine: the Elizabethan Thomas Hardy (see EL, 6) is said in LY, 134, to have been merely 'of the same stock' as TH.

To FREDERICK MACMILLAN

MAX GATE, DORCHESTER. | Jan 13: 1909

Dear Mr Macmillan:

It is an interesting coincidence that you should write just now about The Dynasts, as I have been on the point of writing to you for several days on the same subject of putting it into one volume.

The question is what the volume should be like. There are numbers of people, I believe, who like to buy sets or complete works of any author (though I am afraid they never read them), & I have thought that if The Dynasts were introduced into our present sets, it would be sold with the rest, as such purchasers would as soon buy 20 vols as 10 when they are about it.

As already printed it would go into I Vol. in the thin paper—Brownings Ring & the Book contains 850 pages in I vol. of his thin paper edition, & the Dynasts would be only a little over.

I had thought as far as this when your letter came with the specimen pages for a new I vol. edition. This is attractive, but it would, I suppose do away with the idea of completing the other editions by adding The Dynasts as above?

Another consideration is that the poems & ballads I have published in magazines during the last few years, & have by me in MS., would make another volume like the old ones; & I was intending, in fear & trembling, to ask you some time this year to print them. One of these, by the way, caused quite a run on The North American Review when it appeared there.

Yet perhaps these new poems even if published separately at first—say at the end of the year—could be included in the 1 vol. complete edition ultimately? I see that the 1 vol. Tennyson runs to 900 pages. So I should like the 1 vol. complete poetical works, as you propose, if you see what we are going to do with any future verse. Curiously enough, my verse is getting in demand by magazine editors, &c, at last.

I think of being in London about the last week of this month, & could call & talk this over. Meanwhile, would it save time to put The Dynasts in the thin paper set immediately, & see what happens? It could be called a "double volume" at, say, 3/6, if you think it too much to give for 2/6.

Believe me

Yours sincerely Thomas Hardy.

P.S. The drama would, I imagine, go conveniently into 2 vols. in the 3/6 & 6/editions. T.H.

Text MS. BL.

Macmillan: Frederick Orridge Macmillan, publisher; see I.132. as 19: the number of Hardy titles which Macmillan then had in print. his thin paper edition: The Poetical Works of Robert Browning (London, 1906), an 8-vol. reprint of the 17-vol. edn. of 1889; TH's total for The Ring and the Book (3 vols. bound as one) includes front-matter and a new I vol. edition: first pub. by Macmillan in November 1910; it advertisements. print them: this volume, Time's Laughingstocks, appeared in comprised xv+525 pages. One of these: 'A Trampwoman's Tragedy', pub. in the North American December 1909. Review, November 1903. I vol. complete edition: TH's one-volume Collected Poems first appeared, as a companion volume to the one-volume edn. of The Dynasts, in 1919; what Macmillan had in mind at this stage (see letters of 18 Jan and 14 Feb 09) was a single volume containing The Dynasts and the two verse collections (Wessex Poems and Poems of the Past and the Present) already published. I vol. Tennyson: pub. by Macmillan (London, 1894), pp. viii+898. too much to give for 2/6; the one-volume edn. of The Dynasts was in fact priced at seven shillings and sixpence; it was not printed on India paper until 1924. go conveniently into 2 vols.: this possibility was first realized not in the editions mentioned by TH but in the Wessex Edition of 1913; a two-volume edn. of The Dynasts, together with The Queen of Cornwall, was also added to the Pocket Edition in 1924.

To HENRY NEWBOLT

MAX GATE, DORCHESTER. 16:1:1909

My dear Newbolt:

I was delighted, as you may imagine, to get your letter informing me of the honour done to "The Dynasts" by a review in The Quarterly from no less eminent a hand than yours. The Quarterly itself came about the same time, & I have read the article.

A review from a practising poet—if I may use such a terribly professional epithet—is worth hundreds of pages from a mere critic, & hence, in reading what you say, a brief passing remark has so much meaning in it for anybody who has been treading, however uncertainly, the same paths as yourself. So that I can read into your article heaps of thoughts which I know passed through your mind though you did not express them.

You put things in such a way that I can read your criticisms as if they were of a drama that I had never heard of: e.g. "Mr H. having decided on a chronicle play had to provide for it a theatre under his own management," which is an inimitable (& startlingly new) way of expressing what is perfectly true. As for the diction, to which you allude, a great deal of it is as good as I could make it; but I had periodic frights lest I should never live to finish the book—when, alas, I rattled along too hurriedly.

I am afraid I am one of those you allude to as undervaluing "In Memoriam", though I did my duty in adoring it in years past. While the details of its expression are perfect, the form as a whole is defective, & much of the content has grown commonplace nowadays. As to the form, why Tennyson, who knew so much, should not have seen the awful anticlimax of finishing off such a poem with a highly respectable middle class wedding, is a mystery, when it ought to have ended with something like an earthquake.

I want to put on the titlepage of a new edition of The Dynasts something more explicit than the words "A Drama", which mislead the public into thinking it is not for reading. I have thought of

A mental drama A vision-drama A closet-drama An epical drama, &c

or "A chronicle poem of the Napc wars, under the similitude of a drama", but I cannot decide.

I am deeply sensible of the generous view you take of the whole performance: your own imagination does half the work for me, & more. The greatest pleasure I have gained from doing it has been the discovery that you & one or two others have been interested in it. I am getting on now to a time of life when I do not much care what happens to my work, though I endeavour to resist this indifference, & nothing helps me to do so more than such articles as the one you have written.

I hope however (though I ought not to say it, in my own interest) that you do not give *too* much time to criticism, when you can do the far better things that we know of. Happily one can afford to dismiss the fear of writing ones self

out, which we used to hear so much of. No man ever writes himself out if he goes on living as he lived when he began to write. It is the other thing, the social consequence of his first works, that does the mischief.—if he lets it.

Believe me

Sincerely yours Thomas Hardy.

P.S. I had nearly forgotten to say that I am sending you my little selection from William Barnes, if you will please me by accepting it. As a Wessex man you will feel a little akin to him. T.H

Text MS. Texas.

Newbolt: Henry John Newbolt, poet and man of letters; see III.21. vour letter: of a review in The Quarterly: Newbolt's 'A New Departure in English 14 Jan oo (DCM). Poetry', Quarterly Review, January 1909. to which you allude: Newbolt had, in a footnote, criticized TH's introduction of 'artifices which disfigure his style and obscure his meaning'. Newbolt says in his autobiography. My World As in My Time, that the footnote was inserted at the insistence of the Ouarterly's editor. George Walter Prothero (see letter of 18 Sept oq). I cannot decide: the one-vol. edn. of 1910 was in fact subtitled 'An Epic-Drama'. selection from William Barnes: Select Poems of William Barnes, ed. by TH (London, 1908). As a Wessex man: Newbolt was born in Staffordshire but became identified with the west country by the fame of his early poem, 'Drake's Drum': he also lived at Netherhampton House, Salisbury, for many years.

To FREDERICK MACMILLAN

MAX GATE, DORCHESTER. | Jan 18: 1909

Dear Mr Macmillan:

As your experience of how people buy is worth more than mine I defer to your opinion about their not purchasing sets very largely, though I am continually hearing of their desire for uniform sets. Perhaps they intend to, & do not carry out their intention.

I think therefore that to bring out, as you say, The Dynasts & the other 2 vols. of poems in one volume would be a good thing to do, & I agree to the terms you offer. I will send a photograph to go at the beginning. If you could let me have the three parts of The Dynasts & also the poems in sheets, I could make some corrections upon them & save trouble in the proofs.

On looking over the new poems I have by me I find that I could not get them ready immediately, & even if I could I should not agree to their inclusion at the end of the forthcoming volume. I feel that they must have a separate existence at first, somehow, even if we do not sell ten copies, the literary advantage of such being very great to an author, though it may be no advantage to a publisher (this may be one of the few points in which a publisher's interest & his author's are not identical—at least I tell the Society of Authors so). Whether or no I will get the poems ready at my leisure, & will willingly guarantee you against any loss upon them in their separate form whenever the time comes for printing them.

It has occurred to me that they might be issued in the same small-type page as the proposed single volume, so that they can easily be added to it. But perhaps this is not worth considering. By the way I fancy—though I have not referred to our agreement—that the seven years of its term must be running out. As you may remember it is so drawn that it will work automatically, & go on indefinitely. If however you think it would be more businesslike to add another definite seven years I am quite willing to.

I suppose I shall never reach the dignity of an edition-de-luxe!

Sincerely yours Thomas Hardy.

Text MS. BL.

in one volume: see letter of 13 Jan 09. a photograph: the reproduction of Mary Hardy's painting of TH which was used as the frontispiece to the one-vol. edn. of The Dynasts. their separate form: as Time's Laughingstocks. our agreement: the Memorandum of Agreement between TH and Macmillan & Co. was executed on 2 Apr 1902 and came into effect on 4 Oct 1902; see III.15-16.

To FORD MADOX HUEFFER

MAX GATE, DORCHESTER. 23:1:1909

Dear Mr Hueffer:

I am leaving here for a day or two on Tuesday, I believe, but after that shall be pleased to see you when you are in the neighbourhood.

The only difficulty about another poem is (I have no story in prose) that I want to bring out a volume of all those written—say about November or January next; & that may be too soon on the heels of your new volume to suit you. Perhaps, however, we can arrange.

Yours sincerely T. Hardy.

Text MS. Texas.

Hueffer: Ford Madox Hueffer (later Ford), novelist and critic; see III.327. another poem: TH's 'A Sunday Morning Tragedy' had appeared in the first issue of the English Review, edited by Hueffer, in December 1908; see III.331. your new volume: TH apparently means the first volume of the newly established English Review. can arrange: see letter of 31 Jan 00.

To A. M. BROADLEY

MAX GATE, DORCHESTER. | Jan 29. 1909

Dear Mr Broadley:

My sincere thanks for "Nelson's Hardy". I am glad you have got him in a book by himself, & wish the volume every success. I really don't deserve the volume, or the flattering allusions to me in it. I have been away, & don't quite know on what day it arrived. With renewed thanks

Always yrs truly Thomas Hardy.

Text MS. (with envelope) Claremont Colleges.

Broadley: Alexander Meyrick Broadley, author; see III.199. "Nelson's Hardy":

Nelson's Hardy: His Life, Letters and Friends (London, 1909) by Broadley and R. G.

Bartelot. a book by himself: Thomas Masterman Hardy (see I.243) had earlier been treated in Broadley's The Three Dorset Captains at Trafalgar (London, 1906). flattering allusions to me: the book is dedicated to TH and he is mentioned or quoted several times.

To MACMILLAN & CO.

MAX GATE, DORCHESTER. Jan 30. 1909

Dear Sirs:

So far as I remember no authorized German translations have appeared of The Mayor of Casterbridge or The Return of the Native. But it is possible that such may have been printed without authorization.

About a fortnight ago I received a letter from a Fraulein Hildegarde E. Barcezetti asking permission to translate those very novels. I replied "The time has expired during which I could control the translation of the M. of C. into German. You are therefore at liberty to translate it whenever you so desire". I did not reply upon "The Return of the Native".

Yours very truly T. Hardy.

Text MS. BL.

without authorization: no German translation of either novel seems to have been pub. at this date, although *The Return of the Native* had been pub. in English by the Leipzig firm of Bernhard Tauchnitz in 1879.

Barcezetti: unidentified.

To FORD MADOX HUEFFER

MAX GATE, DORCHESTER. Jan 31. 1909

Dear Mr Hueffer:

I am sorry to say that I had to leave home almost the moment your letter came. I now send on two poems for your choice.

To make everything quite clear I will say that you can have the use of the shorter in the English Review for five guineas, & of the longer for seven guineas; & I am to have the right to include them in a volume of poems not earlier than next October.

Sincerely yrs T. Hardy.

Text MS. Purdy.

two poems: Th's 'The Two Rosalinds' and 'Reminiscences of a Dancing Man' appeared in the English Review, April 1909. the shorter: 'Reminiscences of a Dancing Man'.

To REGINALD SMITH

MAX GATE, DORCHESTER. Feb 3. 1909

My dear Mr Smith:

I must thank you for accepting my little song for my old friend The Cornhill. When I had dispatched the MS. to you I rewrote it, & have now corrected the proof accordingly.