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U/SC

11th January 1968

AL/3655

Dear May

I saw Stanley Bennett today and paved the way for an approach to his wife for an article in TLS incorporating the letters of George Eliot et al in Miss Strachey's little collection. He opined that she would say that she was no proper authority etc. etc., but would in fact be happy to be entrusted with so congenial an assignment, and if you will write to her, I hope and believe the answer will be yes. Since the editor of TLS is already, as you know, receptive I hope you will be able to get publication suitably arranged. I do not imagine that Mrs. Bennett would have any objection to Miss Strachey seeing the script of the article before it is published: indeed she might be able to add some useful notes.

I have had the letters photographed on our machine here (you will be getting a bill in due course for about £2.10s.0d) and the prints could go to Mrs. Bennett whenever you tell me she is ready to receive them. Since no photographs are ever quite satisfactory, she will probably want at some stage to check her transcriptions with the originals. It so happens that I have to go to Cambridge at the end of this month for a couple of days' work, and if you would prefer this to the hazards of the post, I could, if your arrangements with Mrs. Bennett are sufficiently far advanced at that point, take them with me and deliver them to her by hand.

It will be time enough when these plans have come to fruition, as I hope they will, to consider whether Miss Strachey would like to present the originals to the British Museum or whether you would like me to negotiate a sale to them, which I shall be glad to do.

John Carter
JOHN CARTER

P.S. The Bennetts' address is Churchrate Corner, Cambridge.

Miss L. Norton,
81 Oakwood Court,
London, W.14.