

**Richard J. Goulden**

**A Worcester bookseller and wine merchant**

**John Vine Hall's business letter book**

**1805–1814**



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## **A Worcester bookseller and wine merchant**

### **John Vine Hall's business letter book**

**1805–1814**

The manuscript business letter book of John Vine Hall was purchased by me in the 1970s, from whom I cannot now remember. It came in loose sheets as its covers had been discarded quite a time ago, so a sturdy solander box was constructed and the letter book sheets housed in it. The correspondence covers John Vine Hall's career as a bookseller and stationer in Worcester between 1804 and 1814 (the letters begin from 1805). In 1805 he added to his stock wine, sherry and port and his letter book is gradually filled with correspondence on wine; it may be that he had sometime after 1805 a separate business letter book to cover his book and stationery correspondence. When he moved to Maidstone in 1814 this business letter book was not kept up. It is a testament to the industry of a provincial bookseller and wine merchant in the first few years of the 19th century.

In this transcript, abbreviations are expanded. Each page of the manuscript may have one letter or more than one and letters may run on to the next pages. John Vine Hall very frequently used dashes instead of full stops or even commas and this has been regularized, dashes replaced by conventional punctuation. The letter book was later used as a newspaper cutting scrapbook with the result that some letters are in places obscured by firmly stuck down newspaper text. Later manuscript verses are here and there and are not either noted or transcribed.

A short biography follows on John Vine Hall's life and career in Maidstone and Worcester from the article on him in the *Eighteenth Century Short Title Catalogue* (ESTC) team's newsletter *Factotum*, no. 26, July 1988, published by the British Library.

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Those who enjoy eccentric autobiographies will take pleasure in reading John Vine Hall's, first published in 1865. This was edited by his son Newman Hall, who had selected entries from John Vine Hall's "fourteen closely written large 4to volumes". These manuscript diaries seem not to have survived. Newman Hall's printed work was the basis for the entry on John Vine Hall in the *Dictionary of National*

## INTRODUCTION

*Biography*,<sup>1</sup> and must be the starting point for those interested in the man. He began his career as a bookseller's errand boy in Maidstone and, after an increasingly drunken sojourn of some few years in Worcester, ended up both as a respectable bookseller in Maidstone and author of *The sinner's friend*, a work of popular piety. As he says in the opening chapter of his autobiography: "I am now seated as master of that house in which as a boy I occupied the lowest place".<sup>2</sup> The published autobiography concentrates on Hall's later religious course; this article will look at the circumstances of his first stay in Maidstone and then examine how he came to take on his late employer's business in the same town in 1814.

He was born on 14 March 1774 at Diss in Norfolk, the son of a man who "had accumulated considerable property in business but lost it by speculation". As a result of this, "little Jack", as he was called, was sent when eleven years old to earn his own bread. Apprenticed to a schoolmaster, who taught him to write "the law hands" (and on account of this hired little Jack out to the clerk of the peace), he was frequently sent on errands to various places, often to "the shop of Mr. M., stationer and wine merchant".<sup>3</sup> This shop was the doorway to his Maidstone career.

John Vine Hall on this says "It so happened that at Christmas, 1785, my master failed, and in consequence I was sent home. Soon after, a letter was received by my father from Mr. M., stating that he had before written two letters to know whether he would like his little boy to be an errand boy in his shop, and if so to send him down to Maidstone by the first coach. This third letter being the first my father had received, he hurried me off in an instant, on Tuesday, January 24, 1786, and here commenced that good fortune which, under the direction of heaven, has followed me ever since".<sup>4</sup>

We are fortunately able to identify "Mr. M., stationer and wine merchant". William Mercer was a prominent citizen of Maidstone, possibly the second son of Richard Mercer of Maidstone. If that is so, he was freed by patrimony on 13 June 1753.<sup>5</sup> The earliest book known that contains his imprint, appropriately a book of hops tables, is dated 1747.<sup>6</sup> In any case the Maidstone apprentice and freemen register books record that William Mercer had as stationer, bookseller or wine merchant three apprentices, of whom the most important was John Blake, apprenticed on 1 January 1765.<sup>7</sup> William Mercer also ran a circulating library as an advertisement testifies:

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1 The autobiography used for the *Dictionary of National Biography* entry is that dated 1874. The British Library copy, here quoted from, is *The author of "The sinner's friend" An autobiography*, dated 1865 (pressmark 4905.bb.53.).

2 Autobiography, p.1.

3 Autobiography, pp. and p.442.

4 Autobiography, p.442.

5 Kent Archives: Maidstone register of freemen.

6 ESTC t117143; the copy is at the British Library (pressmark 1147.c.17).

7 Kent Archives: Maidstone registers of apprenticeship (John Blake and Thomas Sturton) and freemen (Robert Foster).

## INTRODUCTION

At Mercer's circulating library, Maidstone, are sold books in all languages and sciences, immediately as published; and stationery in all its branches, ...

This advertisement is dated 1785.<sup>8</sup> A later advertisement confirms that at the same time William Mercer was a wine merchant. It was, then, to a prominent member of Maidstone society that John Vine Hall was sent. That was indeed "good fortune".

When John Vine Hall talks in his autobiography of his late master, he is not referring to William Mercer although that man was responsible for his move to Maidstone in January 1786. This is because in March, a few weeks after Hall's change of fortune, William Mercer died. His will asked for the estate to be divided equally between his daughters Peggy and Jane; it was proved in the same year by the surviving executor, Peggy, implying that Jane was dead by then.<sup>9</sup> Opportunity beckoned; John Blake the former apprentice of William Mercer sensed it and married Peggy. She, alas, died before November 1787.<sup>10</sup> There is an advertisement alluding to the new management of William Mercer's business in 1786:

Having succeeded the late Mr. Mercer, in the wine-trade, I beg leave to solicit your future favours, patronage and support, which will be gratefully acknowledged by, ... J. Blake.<sup>11</sup>

Thus from early 1786 to January 1801 John Vine Hall's employer was John Blake.

No longer "little Jack", John Vine Hall seems to have been restless during his Maidstone stay. Although he recalled that "I was very regular at the business all the day, so that my employer left it entirely to my care", he got into all sorts of scrapes in trying to better himself. He tried to interest an attorney at Wrotham in employing him as a writer, and next intended to go to sea. Worry over his mother persuaded him to remain a landlubber. The same reason caused his army-bound steps to falter on the slopes of Boxley Hill. He next decided to enter medicine by residing with his uncle, an apothecary. The reason was that he had an eye on a pretty girl living nearby. She declined his attentions. Then there was the Bank of England episode. John Vine Hall waited on a director, who informed him that security would be required from him in return for a £50 salary, a security for £2,000. The chastened optimist told his employer, John Blake, that "I had been to London to find out that I was better off in the country".<sup>12</sup>

In the end John Vine Hall moved a short distance. He accepted the offer of a Maidstone wine merchant, who offered a salary large enough as an inducement to be

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8 ESTC t161587; the broadside is in Maidstone Museum.

9 National Archives: PROB11/1141.

10 Ibid.

11 ESTC t165889; the broadside is in Maidstone Museum.

12 Autobiography, pp.6-11.

## INTRODUCTION

his clerk, and from 1801 to 1803 he travelled as his representative.<sup>13</sup> At the end of 1803, after seeing an advertisement in a newspaper, he began negotiations for the purchase of a bookseller's business in Worcester.<sup>14</sup> Successful in this, he moved to Worcester in February 1804, after borrowing money to finance the purchase of the business and its stock: "my character stood very fair notwithstanding all my levity of conduct, and upon my character alone I borrowed £300. The house I had taken was well situated for trade, being in the High Street, but the business had been ruined by the idleness and extravagance of the two former tenants." This from the autobiography;<sup>15</sup> the manuscript letter book adds further particulars extracted from the copy of a letter written by Hall to the firm of Christopher Smith, Son and Company, wine merchants of London, on 12 January 1807:

At the commencement of 1804 I came to this city a complete stranger and on my character alone was enabled to borrow £940 of my friends to enter upon a ruined trade. I had no money whatever of my own, but by very great success I have been enabled to pay off every shilling that I borrowed, ...

Hall recalled how Christopher Smith the younger himself helped Hall by agreeing to allow him credit for wine, quoting Smith's concession: "Mr. Hall, I know you cannot bear stock yourself, and if I had not predetermined to do it for you I should not propose your becoming a wine merchant".<sup>16</sup>

During his sojourn in Worcester John Vine Hall fell in love with a girl whose parents looked askance at him. He persevered and married Mary Teverill on 26 August 1806 in Worcester.<sup>17</sup> That may have been the best thing of his stay: the rest of his time there was spent getting drunk. His autobiography has lines such as these: "Drunkenness - horrible depravity", "Never suffered so much from the bile in my life", and "Dissipation. A drawing back from God!". John Vine Hall did try to turn away from temptation but the bottles in his wine stock probably could not be resisted. He had purchased a bookseller's business but added to it a wine business. Many booksellers of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries doubled as medicine purveyors, postmasters, toy dealers and so on: booksellers who also sold wine were not uncommon, William Mercer being a nice example.

It was Christopher Smith who was responsible for Hall's return to Maidstone. William Mercer as wine merchant may have had regular contact with the firm of Smith and Son; what is definitely known is that Christopher Smith knew John Blake, who had taken over Mercer's business. Blake had built up a successful business as a printer and bookseller over the years and Maidstone Museum holds over 300 Blakean

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13 Autobiography, p.12.

14 Autobiography, p. 5.

15 Autobiography, p. 16.

16 John Vine Hall's manuscript business letter book covers the years 1805-1814. It was later used as a Victorian scrapbook, and is now in the author's possession.

17 Autobiography, pp.17-20.

## INTRODUCTION

items, quite a few with MS. notes on the number of copies printed. John Blake died in January 1814, leaving a will which was proved on 7 April 1814. Blake's estate was to be administered by his executors on behalf of John, Charles and Peggy Baily, children of his late niece Peggy Baily. However, it was noted officially that administration of Blake's estate was to be by Christopher Smith, creditor by bond, and William Baily, uncle and guardian of Charles, John and Peggy Baily. The duty of administration was not yet discharged at the death of Christopher Smith, and a Sebastian Smith took on the administration from 21 June 1836.<sup>18</sup>

When it came to getting things done Christopher Smith was no slouch: he would rise to be Lord Mayor of London in 1818<sup>19</sup> and was from 1812 Member of Parliament for St. Albans.<sup>20</sup> John Vine Hall received a letter from his "powerful and determined friend" on 30 January 1814, only a few days after John Blake's death, informing the startled Hall that "my old master, Mr. B., was dead, and that the disposal of his business had devolved on himself, therefore he wished me to come to London immediately, in order to consult with our kind friend, Mr. Pickard, as to his willingness to unite with Mr. Smith in raising a sufficient sum of money to enable me to take the whole of the business".<sup>21</sup> John Vine Hall immediately left for London on 2 February. Hall goes on in his autobiography: "There were many applicants for the concern, but my friend was so determined to put me in possession ... Mr. P[ickard] tendered his services by the loan of one thousand pounds towards the sum necessary."<sup>22</sup>

In a letter to Laplain of Maidstone, dated 11 March 1814, he refers to the "many applicants" as thus: "I dare say you were surprised to hear of my being in London and meeting with Mr. Alexander Seager, Sage and others from Maidstone". He goes on to say: "It did strike me at one time that I should have had no objection to come to reside in Maidstone if all things had been smooth and attainable but I understood when I was in London, that there was some troublesome work in hand respecting [the Blake business]; but I have not heard any more particulars ...". Earlier on in the letter he had commented on Blake's death: "What an awful account of the sullen departure of poor Mr. Blake into a world of endless torment; never, never to cease! O that you and I may profit by such dreadful warnings and by the certainty of a judgement day." At the end of his letter Hall cries: "What is become of Baily's children?"<sup>23</sup>

John Vine Hall was informed on 5 April 1814 that the Blake business was his, and on 11 April he was in Maidstone to inspect the concern.<sup>24</sup> An undated letter to an

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18 National Archives: PROB11/1554.

19 J. Haydn, *Book of dignities*; Autobiography, p. 36.

20 G. P. Judd, *Members of Parliament 1734-1832*; Autobiography, p.36.

21 Autobiography, p.36.

22 Autobiography, p.37.

23 Manuscript business letter book.

24 Autobiography, p.39.

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unknown customer refers to this change in fortune: “I suppose you recollect when you were at Worcester last, my informing you that Mr. Hall had some expectation of getting the business of his late master in Kent, he has succeeded, and is now down at Maidstone taking possession of it. In consequence of this he has written to me to dispose of our stock at Worcester as quickly as possible, and to do this he has reduced the prizes [*recte* prices] of wine very low, which I beg leave to send to you”.<sup>25</sup>

There we leave John Vine Hall in Maidstone to get drunk again, realize the errors of his ways and reform in an impressive way. This is told in more than four hundred and fifty pages in his autobiography, and we leave the book to the eager reader.

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25 Manuscript business letter book.

## John Vine Hall's business letter book

[January 29. 1805: see the letter to Lane & Co. on 5 February 1805]

What is the price of Ashmole's Hist. of Berkshire you may possibly know at which invoice of Jan[uar]y 12 overcast 11d., allow it you charge 11d. for Harvey and it is printed to sell at 9d.?

2 Sheridan improved sh[ee]p square

1 Morris's Art of teaching 3/6 or 4s. - do not send

1 An Act for Worcester Turnpike - copy from the order B[oo]k

1 Public characters for 1805. b[oar]ds

1 Dr. Porteus's Lectures, 2 vols. 8vo b[oar]ds

1 Baskerville House and the Matrydom [*sic*] of Cha. I

1 Kearsley's Shakspeare 11 & 12 3s. edit[i]o[n]

2 Vyse's Arithmetic sh[[ee]p

4 24mo. Testaments Bl[ac]k sh[ee]p yellow edges

enquire at some of the German Chapels if a 4to German Bible cannot be had

With this you will receive a d[ra]ft for £26. 9s. 0. the amount of my acc[oun]t from October 1st to Oct[o]be[r] 31.

1 Dawson's Life of Christ bound £1.1s. 0

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Among the many Fire Offices who have agents in this city I do not perceive that one is appointed for the Norwich Office what (if continued on the same original plan) in my opinion, is the most liberal & the most beneficial in England.

If the Directors should think it worth their attention to extend their connexion to this city & county, I should be particularly happy to use every exertion to make it answer their purpose to introduce so much real good to those who become insurers. This is sufficient to shew my intentions, & if it should be thought eligible, every satisfaction of responsibility may be known in London by applying to C. Smith Esq. wine merchant, 21 Queen Street, Cheapside.

M[os]t respectfully

J. V. H.

Norwich Fire Office, Norwich

Jan[uar]y 29 1805

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*J[ohn] Walter Esq. Evening Mail Office.*

Sir, I duly received the acc[oun]t for the Mails but it wants explaining as I find in this statement you say that my two bills of £35 & £16.1.0 is nearly the amount of Mails as the bill deliver'd up to Sept[embe]r 29. I conceive, & so it really is the full amount of Mails had by me up to that time as I took this business of Mr Kempster at the commencement of the last year & had no concern whatever with any of his debts.

I have shewn the statement of Mr Kempster's acc[oun]t to Mr Hall, but he knows nothing concerning it as he always considered every thing settled, & particularly as none of your people ever wrote him to the contrary.

As far as I can see of the [ ] I am sorry to say there is not the least probability of your ever receiving a halfpenny of the ballance, Mr K[empster] having died insolvent.

J. V. H.

*Jan[uar]y 29. 1805*

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*January 29. 1805*

Sir, I have been much disappointed in not receiving the 3 remaining chests of paper consigned by me from Munk & Edmeeds of Maidstone & which I understand were taken charge of by you & that you have had the misfortune to loose one chest stolen by some villains from off one of your carts. I wish you to forward the others immediately, as the detention has been both a disappointment & a loss to me.

The loss of the paper you will of course make good when I have ascertain'd the amount, but which I cannot do until the others arrive. I shall not take any advantage of it, but shall merely charge you exactly what it cost me altho' it is worth 25 or 30 p[ounds] or more.

J. V. H.

*Mr Cove, No. 62 Grace Church St[ree]t, London.*

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*Crosby & Co.*

*Feb[ruar]y 5. 1805*

No bill with magazines.

1 Portlock's Geog[raph]y 8vo bound no supp[lemen]t sent to Lady

1 Monthly Mag. Jan[uar]y & supp[lemen]t for 1804

1 Fashionable Mag. Feb[ruar]y.

1 Addington's Abridgement of penal statutes 4to

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

- 1 Dr. John Ford on the good effects of granulated tin £1.18.0
  - 1 Two cases of the ill effects of cold water in the gout
  - 1 The best & neatest edit[io]n Landaffs apology for the Bible  
Portlocks Geog[raph]y 8vo No. 1. 23
  - 1 Army List Feb[ruar]y
  - 1 Debrett's Peerage 2 vols. 12mo last edit[io]n b[oar]ds
  - 1 Grey's Tour thro' England & Wales
  - 1 Materials for thinking No. 1. 7. 9 & all after
  - 1 Bishop Porteus's Lectures on the New Testament 8vo b[oar]ds
  - 1 Bowles's Sonnets 8vo b[oar]ds, best edit[io]n
  - 1 An atlas to Guthrie's Geog[raph]y
  - 1 Tingrace's Painter's & varnisher's
- 

*Lane & Co. Feb[ruar]y 5. 1805*

I have been much disappointed & in some measure injured by your not sending the books which I order'd of you on the 29th of January. I am sorry you have been so neglectful. Perhaps small matters escape y[ou]r notice.

J. V. H.

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*Holland, Taylor & Co. Feb[ruar]y 5. 1805*

On the 22d. of Jan[uar]y I sent you an order with a bill enclosed for £20 which I request'd you to acknowledge. I am sorry you oblige me to put you to the expence of postage, but if I do not hear from you, I shall stop the payment, under the idea that it has miscarried.

Y[ou]rs J. V. H.

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*Messrs. Williams, Cooper & Boyle Feb[ruar]y 5. 1805*

I have to request you will forward me by the Coach 4 q[ui]r[e]s of the sorted m[ar]ble paper. I have not a single sheet for my book-binding.

With the remainder pray send

3 q[ui]r[e]s of col[oure]d paper to imitate the red morroco *[sic]*

3 q[ui]r[e]s *do.* Green *do.* for lett[er]in[g] books

3 q[ui]r[e]s *do.* Blue “ “

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JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

*Crosby & Co.*

*Feb[ruar]y 8. 1805*

By first Coach

2 Dodd's Prison thoughts    Cooke's com[mon] edit[io]n.

1 Gulliver's travels            2s. Cooke

1 No. 16 Cooke's Poets       com[mon] edit[io]n.

1 The sisters                    2/6 Cooke

6 Ruddiman's grammar

6 Murray's spelling b[oo]k

1 Lyttleton's England No. 1 to 4

2 Geog[raph]y by a Lady    [    ] 12mo sh[ee]p    last edit[io]n

1 Monthly Museum            Feb[ruar]y 1805

6 Davis's Engl[ish] grammar    1s.

1 The Mirror a mag. if I had want'd the drawing Mirror I should have express'd it; I shall return it.

1 Hayley's Life of Cowper abridged    3/-    b[oar]ds Jones

1 Kotzebue's Journey to Paris    3v. 12mo.    b[oar]ds

1 Boyer's French dict[ionar]y    8vo    sh[ee]p

1 The Quaker a farce

1 The ways of Windsor    *do.*

1 Elegant extracts in verse    8vo last edit[io]n    b[oar]ds

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*Bland & Weller*

In a parcel which I have this day sent to Field, I enclosed the 2 flutes with 4 keys that you sent me on & I am sorry you should have permitted such a shabby concern to have been sent me. The maker might well be ashamed to put his name on the instruments; I have been accustomed to have them much better of Goulding only I gave your house the preference.

---

*Mr Jno. Field    No 18    Sise Lane    London*

*Feb[ruar]y 11th. 1805*

With a statement of his account.

Sir, agreeable to invoice on t'other side I sent you the returns by Burden's waggon to the Castle & Falcon on Friday last & I should suppose you will have received them previous to the arrival of this letter.

In stating the acc[oun]t I have deducted for the omissions in the parcel of November 20. as follows (altogether) £1.0.4d. The overcharge in pasteboards is as follows - you charge 2/10 per doz. for the 3 sheets & 3/8 for the 4 sheets & I assure you that I paid at that time (to Williams & Cooper) no more than 2/5 for the 3 sheets & 2/8 for the 4 sheets.

The bill for £20 which you will receive with this, overpays the acc[oun]t according to the statement.

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*Mr. R. Harding, card maker, Hereford Street, Grosvenor Square. Feb[ruar]y 11. 1805*

Sir, herewith you will receive a d[ra]ft 6 weeks for £12.15, the amount of goods had Oct[obe]r 4. & Nov[embe]r 12. 1804 deducting 3/9 for one pack of Royal Cards, imperfect, advise me of the same & send the letter to B. Crosby.

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*Messrs. Crosby & Co. Feb[ruar]y 13. 1805*

Returning 4 Ruddiman's Grammar & The Mirror.

I cannot but feel hurt at your attempting to impose upon me such trash as Ruddiman's Grammar & there is also an obstinacy in sending the Mirror, 3 vols., when I wrote originally for the Mirror No. 1.

I shall make no observations as I perceive they are useless & the treatment with some previous circumstances will induce me to make new arrangement in my London connections & particularly as I feel myself perfectly free from every kind of obligation.

J. V. H.

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*Bland & Weller Feb[ruar]y 14. 1805*

On Friday the 8th instant I sent you a small parcel to Field's in Sise Lane directed to be call'd for. It contained the 2 flutes with 4 silver keys that you sent me on the 12th Jan[uar]y & I am sorry you should have permitted such a shabby concern to have been sent me. The maker might well be ashamed of his name. I have been accustomed to have them much better of Goulding, only I gave your house the preference expecting to be served as well.

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

Send to Crosby's immediately you receive this.

- 1 song, My mother bids me bind my hair
  - 1 duett, Shepherd's I have lost my love, for the harpsichord
  - 1 O Nanny wilt thou fly with me (No. 4 of Clementi's collection) 2s.
  - 1 song, Far far at sea
  - 1 For tenderness form'd
  - 1 a set of songs called the Christmas Box
  - 1 song, Black eyed Susan
  - 2 When order in this land
  - 1 Six concertos for the harpsichord with accomp[animents] for 2 violins, violoncello  
by Theodore Smith of 12. dedicated to Miss Greenwood.
- 

*Crosby & Co.*

*Feb[ruar]y 15th 1805*

By first Coach

- 2 Cooke's Geog[raph]y No. 2, 3
- 1 *do.* 13 to 15
- 1 Louisa Mildmay Cooke com[mon]
- 1 Gulliver's travels " "
- 2 Hutton's Arithmetic last edit[i]on sh[ee]p
- 1 Sporting Mag. Feb[ruar]y 1805
- 1 The Monthly Mirror Dec[embe]r 1804 & Jan[uar]y 1805
- 1 Hughes's Law list last edit[i]on
- 2 Walker's Rhetorical grammar last edit[i]on, Robinsons
- 1 Pope's Works Sharp's edit[i]on of the Poets, if not yet publish'd, send it soon as  
it is.
- 1 Millar's Gardeners Dict[ionar]y p[ar]ts 20 & 21 10/6 ea[ch]  
Can you procure a folio edit[i]on Esop & what price  
Do not send the German Bible
- 1 Eccentric Mag. No. 3
- 1 Portlock's Geog[raph]y No. 1 to 3
- 5 *Do.* 4
- 2 Armstrong's Economy of love sm[all] edit[i]on
- 1 Wright's Bible No. 77
- The invoice of Jan[uar]y is not right cast
- 1 Peck's Vocal preceptor 1s. Williams
- Cooke's Poets No. to complete set in the Binding Room
- 1 An epitome of the practice of the Court of Chancery by S. Turner 3/-  
b[oar]ds

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

1 Thompson's Seasons 8vo large format 12s. boards Cadell

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*Mr. J. Mawman, No. 22 Poultry*

Pray send by Goulding & Sherley's waggon & direct it to come by them

4 (as 3) octavo Bibles minim type 2 with Apocrypha 5/6 & 2 single 4/6 calf  
pared

24 (as 20) Bibles twelves Nonpareil 3/- sheep pared

50 as 40 Testaments Twelves Brevier 1/- common sheep boards for schools

10 as 8 Do. 24mo. Do. 1/- sheep pared

5 as 4 Teale's Common prayers Long primer old psalms complete black  
sheep, gilt edges

1 Boyer's French dictionary last edition 8vo sheep

25 Entick's Dictionary square red sheep

6 Wanostrocht's French grammar 12mo sheep best edition

3 Do. Recueil 12

25 Watts's 1st catechism stitch'd

25 Do. 2d. Do. "

25 Assembly's Catechisms with scripture proofs stitch'd - do not send any others

*February 19. 1805*

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*February 19. 1805*

Sir, pray send me as follows & do not delay a bound folio book 3 quarters  
foolscap ruled faint double £.s.d together bound green vellum, a bound folio  
book 5 quarters foolscap ruled common & faints bound green vellum.

In my last order, I forget whether my last was for a 6 quarters Demy ledger or 5  
quarters but I wish to have one of each sent me & let them be bound in green  
vellum.

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*Mr. W. West, Bride Lane*  
*Golding & Sherley*

*Feb[ruar]y 19. 1805*

Have the goodness to send me by waggon from the Bull & Mouth 3 doz[en] skins of very good & fine smooth calf & give a rec[eip]t for the same to Mr. Crosby who will pay you the amount.

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*Mr. Harding, Bewdley (with 3 day b[oo]ks*

Y[ou]r parcel had been mislaid & was not discov[er]d till this evening. I am sorry you should have been so much disappointed. You will be charged 1s. per q[ui]r[e] for ruling the paper & 1//6 for half binding each folio long or broad. I have charged the above at my retail prices allow[in]g 15 per c[en]t.

*Feb[ruar]y 21. 1805*

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*[B. Crosby & Co.]*

*Feb[ruar]y 27. 1805*

Pray send by the mail to-morrow night

6 Monthly Mag[azine]s 3 Gent[leman']s 1 Zoological 2 Botanical

2 Sporting & 1 Sporting for last month 4 Monthly Review

2 Antijacobin 2 B[ritish] Critic 2 Critical 4 Monthly Museum

16 Ladys 2 European 1 Annals 1 Sowerby's Botany

2 Repertory 1 Bradley's Med[ical] Journal 3 Army List 1 Navy *do.*

1 Fashions 9 Evangelical 1 Britannia 1 Eccentric

1 Kearsley's Shakspeare 13 to 15 [*this part no. deleted*]

2 Vol. 3 Revolutionary Plutarch

2 Hutton's Arithmetic last edit[io]n

4 Guthrie's Geog[raphica]l grammar 8vo sh[ee]p last edit[io]n

6 Ruddiman's Grammar

1 Hughes's Law list last edit[io]n

1 Millars Gardeners dict[ionar]y No. 20

1 Porneys Spellings last edit[io]n

Sheets OO to ZZ & Z6 in Wright's Bible, the catchword from OO is 3P And (27th Chap[ter] Lev[iticu]s)

1 No. 10 & 11 in continuation of the Domestic Library

1 Roscoe's Life of Leo 10th. 4to b[oar]ds

1 Burghs Life of Mason 8vo b[oar]ds

1 Rauzzini's Art of singing a late edit[io]n 2 or 3s.

1 Kearsley's Shakspeare No. 14 to 18

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

- 1 Toplady's Posthumous works q[ui]r[e]s
- 1 Fitzosborne's Letters small 8vo b[oar]ds
- 1 Earl of Warwick Cookes edit[io]n 6d.

Is there a new edit[io]n of Burn's Justice about to be published?

Wanting in Cookes Poets page 128 to the end of the 1st. vol. & the title etc & page 13 of the 2d. vol. com[mon].

- 1 The last supp[lemen]t to the Monthly Mag.
- 1 Chesterfields Advice to his son an edit[io]n 1s.  
Procure me a (Timbury's) list of prices of binding tools
- 1 Monthly Mirror Feb[ruar]y.  
Send a plan for keeping a library
- 2 Sir Richard Bulstrodes Miscellaneous essays 8vo b[oar]ds
- 1 Eccentric Mag. No. 4 & 5
- 1 Lady's Mag[azine] Jan[uar]y
- 1 The art of teaching or communicating instruction by D. Morrice
- 1 Swift's Tale of a tub Cooke 2/-
- 1 Adventures of an Atom 1/6 Cooke
- 1 Banks's Bible 43 to 48
- 1 Wright's Bible 31 to 36, 81 to 100
- 1 Priestley's Bible 45 to 50
- 1 Cooke's Geog[raph]y 21 to 24, 91 to 100
- 2 Do. 4 to 6

*Crosby's order bro[ugh]t forward*

- 1 Ency[clopaedia] Lond[iensi]s, No. 414 to 420
- 1 Lyttleton's Engl[an]d 5 to 14, 71 to 80
- 5 Portlock's Geog[raph]y 5 & 6

Herewith you will receive a d[ra]ft for £25 which place to my credit

---

*March 6. 1805*

D[ea]r Sir

Yesterday I received the remainder of the paper & upon weighing, I find the loss to be 124 lb which cost me 1s. per lb & unfortunately the chest lost contained the best & most valuable part. I lament the loss I am only sorry that my circumstances prevent my participating in it, as I am but just beginning life & upon no other foundation than my own industry & the blessing of providence upon my exertions. If

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

you have any doubts of my integrity in making the above charge, you may know my character by enquiring of any of the people of your persuasion in this city, many of whom are my very good friends.

J. V. H.

*Mr. Cove, No. 62 Grace Church St., London*

Have the goodness to pay the amount to B. Crosby & Co.

---

*Mr. Munk*

*Mar[ch] 8.*

You may send me the 10 r[ea]ms thin Post 24/- provided you will be satisfied with my best endeavours to pay you in tolerable decent time.

---

*Crosby & Co.*

*March 8. 1805*

Send by first Coach

1 Domestic Library 3 & 4  
1 Othello 6d. edit[io]n  
1 The pleasures of Hope q[ui]r[e]s  
2 The pleasures of Memory “  
Imperfection, Monthly Mag., Jan[uar]y, page 29, fig. 32  
1 Domestic Library 3 to 6  
1 Nelson's Festivals & feasts 8vo sh[ee]p 6s.  
1 Fleetwood, a novel, by Godwin  
2 Plans of education 12mo sh[ee]p  
2 Eve's Grammar sh[ee]p b[oar]ds  
1 Trusler's compendium of knowledge 12mo sh[ee]p  
1 Owen's Fairs  
1 The new Mutiny Act if published  
1 Univ[ersa]l biographical & historical dict[ionar]y by J. Watkins, 1 vol., 8vo  
b[oar]ds  
1 The spirit of discovery a poem by Bowles  
1 Debrett's Peerage, 2 vols., 12mo, 16s. b[oar]ds  
1 Mag. No.1 1/6 edit[io]n  
2 Court calendar, 1805 corrected to[ ] Gazette  
1 Evangelical Mag. Jan[uar]y  
1 Owen's Fashionable world displayed 12mo. b[oar]ds  
1 The Sabbath a poem  
1 East's reports Trinity & Mich[aelma]s terms  
1 Hervey's Meditations a neat pocket size

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

1 Homer's Illiad [*sic*] 4 vol., 12mo. 10/- b[oar]ds  
25 Watts's Psalms & hymns together done up com[mon] for Sunday schools  
25 Pious country parishioner Rivington

---

*Bland & Weller*

1 song Love & glory  
1 " Let Fame sound the trumpet  
1 " Negro boy  
1 " When t[ ]s night  
1 The Hereford march  
1 duett Away with melancholy  
1 song Bundle of proverbs  
2 Instructions German flute

---

*Mar[ch] 9. 1805*

Madam

Herewith you will receive a d[ra]ft for £18. 9. 0 the ballance of my acc[oun]t as stated above & which I hope you will find correct.

I can but feel myself much indebted by the handsome manner in which you conferred upon me the sale of the almanack & I hope with a little exertion & alterations to make a considerable addition next year to the sale of this annual publication. The increase of the duty has no doubt been some obstacle to its circulation at the present period, but a little time will make it, this additional tax, familiar to the public, & its real utility of the alm[anac]k to the inhabitants of the county will almost compel them to be purchasers as an essential benefit to themselves.

I shall be happy at all times to render you my service. I remain with the utmost respect y[ou]rs J. V. H.

*Mrs. M. Wood, Shrewsbury, enclosing a d[ra]ft 6 weeks for £18.9s.*

---

Crosby & Co. March 12. 1805

1 The Festival of Love  
 1 Post Office Copy 7 to 11  
 1 Hervey's Shakespeare 19. 20  
 1 The 4th Vol. D. Wilson's French Lessons  
 3 Moore's Reflections translated by the Rev.  
 Adam Clarke most cheap last edit.  
 3 Doddsley's Annual Register 1802 & 1803 Bds  
 1 Peter Pindar's Works 1000 last edit. Bds  
 1 Campbell's Journey over Land to India Bds  
 1 The New Constituting Act. if published  
 1 What is Judaism 1000 edit. of the Con. Pranger  
 1 Bowdler's Text 1000 with Ornamental Engravings  
 2 Purvis's Spellings last edit. cheap  
 1 The Domestic Harmonies 140 Divine Prayers  
 2 The 1st Vol. Nov. from the English Family Herald  
 The Domestic Librarian  
 1 The Youth Guide 1/6 the Month  
 2 Henslow's Chart Taxes  
 1 Butler's Monthly List of Persons to be let or sold  
 1 Hardy's Praying Man's Text - 1805  
 You charge 1/6 for Trustees confederation & 1/6  
 only 1/6 for 1/6  
 Yours Wm. V.

(✓)

Order for books sent to Crosby & Co., London, on 12 March 1805

*Worcester. Mar[ch] 11. 1805*

Sir,

I write you respecting Robert Baldock who is now with me & about to become my apprentice & I understand Mr. Hawes wishes the indentures made out at your house.

I intend he should be bound from January 14. 1805 until he is 21 years of age which he will be on the 14. July 1810 . He will find his own washing & mending & I shall find him board & lodging & teach him the trade of a bookseller, stationer & bookbinder, the premium forty pounds to be paid in twelvemonths after the execution of the indentures & for the amount of which I shall take the joint note of Mr. Hawes & Mr. Baldock at 12 months after date to commence on the day of signing the ind[enture]s. I shall not pay any part of the expence of the ind[enture]s. This I send for your instruction. I remain y[ours]

J. V. H.

*Mr. Philcox, Burwash, Sussex*

---

*Crosby & Co. March 12. 1805*

- 1 The festival of love
- 1 Portlock's Geog[raphy] 7 to 14
- 1 Kearsley's Shakspeare 19. 20
- 1 The 4th vol. Dr. Wilson's Fevers 8vo. b[oar]ds
- 3 Sturm's Reflections translated by the Revd. Adam Clarke, neat sh[ee]p, last edit[i]on
- 1 Dodsley's Annual register 1802 & 1803 b[oar]ds
- 1 Peter Pindar's works 8vo last & best edit[i]on b[oar]ds
- 1 Campbell's Journey over-land to India b[oar]ds
- 1 The new Mutiny Act, if publish'd
  - What are Jarvis's 8vo edit[i]on of the Com[mon] prayer & Bensley's Test[amen]t 8vo. with ornamental engravings worth?
- 2 Porney's Spellings last edit[i]on
- 1 The beauties of more than 40 Divines Matthews q[ui]r[e]s
- 2 The 1st & 2d nu[mber]s Millingtons New British family herbal, a continuation of the Domestic Library
- 1 The Gent[leman]'s guide 1/6 Hurst
- 2 Kearsley's last Taxes
- 1 Bates's Monthly list of houses to be let or sold
- 1 Lady's Mag[azine] Jan[uar]y, Feb[ruar]y 1805
  - You charge 4/6 for Trusler's compendium & it only sells for 4/-
  - Pay West

*Mr. Mawman No. 22 Poultry, London.*

*March 16. 1805*

40 as 32, 12mo. Prayers in columns old psalms sheep pared  
6 Bibles as 5 8vo. Brev[ier] type 5/6 3 with Apocrypha, 3 single Calf pared

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*Crosby & Co.*

*March 29. 1805*

By first Coach

1 The festival of love  
5 Monthly Mag[azine]s 3 Gent[leman]'s 1 Zoological 2 Botanical  
2 Sporting 4 Monthly Rev[iew] 2 Antijacobin 2 B[ritish] Critic  
2 Critical 4 Monthly Museum 12 Lady's 2 European  
1 Annals 1 Sowerby's Botany 2 Repertory  
1 Bradley's Medical journal 1 Navy List 2 Army List  
1 Fashion's 9 Evangelical 1 Britannic 1 Eccentric  
1 Monthly Mirror  
13 small hand copies  
1 Lloyds Book of living or Liber valerium  
2 Ovid's Metamorphoses 8vo sh[ee]p last edit[io]n  
1 Noland's Poor laws just publish'd  
1 Rauzzini's Art of singing  
1 Butler's Arithmetic questions 3d edit[io]n b[oar]ds  
1 A sermon by J. Ryland Richardson  
3 Stockdales Court kalendar single corrected to 25 March (1 with Rider)  
1 The Vicar of Wakefield Cooke's com[mon] edit[io]n  
2 Porney's French grammar last edit[io]n  
1 Sturm's Meditations in French  
1 Atlas to Guthrie's Geog[raph]y  
1 Kearsley's Shakspeare No. 21. 2 [*sic, for 22?*]  
2 Geog[raph]y by a Lady 12mo. sh[ee]p last edit[io]n  
1 Sheridans Pronouncing dict[ionar]y square sh[ee]p

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*Worcester 29 Mar[ch] 1805*

Dear Munk,

I take the opportunity of our friend Smyth returning to Maidstone to send you a d[ra]ft at 6 weeks for £20 which you will place to my credit.

When you have a quantity of paper with my notice I will thank you to send me 10 cwt. but observe do not send an inferior kind as I cannot get rid of it. If you should meet with a little wove f[ools]cap, light, I should like 1 cwt. of it. Wishing you health  
&c. I am y[ou]rs J. V. H.

---

*Worcester 31 Mar[ch] 1805*

Sir,

You will have the goodness to send me in one parcel by coach every Monday, Wednesday & Friday 10 Evening Mails & an additional one every Wednesday making 10 papers every Monday & Friday & 11 every Wednesday, also by the post from London 7 other Mails directed Mr. Evans, Aldborough - R. Turner Esq., the Hope - Mr. Edge, Evesham - Revd. Mr. Lilly, Stoke Lacy - Messrs. Bennett & Roberts, High Street, Worcester - The Revd. Mr. Rudd, Kempsey near Worcester - Mr. Cha[rle]s Gardner, Ombersley near Worcester.

But as the above directions (per post) can not be sufficiently correct you will have the goodness to send one of your people to Mail office with my compl[imen]ts & request them to give the separte directions according as they have hitherto sent them.

*Mr. Murcott Warwick Square London*

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*April 2d. 1805*

Sir,

It was with very considerable regret that I observed (in the Norwich paper) the differences now existing between yourself & the Directors of the Office but I hope they will soon terminate amicably & to the real interest of the Society at large. I sent you one of the last Worc[este]r Heralds in which a paragraph & adv[ertisemen]t was inserted & I hope the manner in which they are worded will not be objected to by the Society.

The agents in this city (to other Offices) are endeav[ourin]g to insinuate that the Directors & Trustees being unknown here it would be unsafe & silly to insure with persons whose names do not appear, I am therefore requested by several of my friends to enquire the names of the Directors & Trustees which I hope you will send me without delay, as my friends absolutely wait your answer previous to their

insurance & any other necessary information that you can give me will exceedingly oblige. Y[ou]r h[um]ble s[ervan]t J. V. H.

*Mr. Bignold, Norwich Union Fire Office*

Say do the Office pay expences of adv[ertisin]g.

---

*Crosby & Co. April 2d. 1805*

First coach

1 Domestic Library 8. 9. 10  
6 Atlas to Gutherie's Grammar last edit[io]n  
2 Boyer's French dict[ionar]y last edit[io]n sh[ee]p  
Mawe's Gardeners calendar last edit[io]n sh[ee]p  
6 Geog[raph]y by a young lady 12mo. sh[ee]p last edit[io]n  
1 Dr. Fothergill on the tick Doulereux b[oar]ds  
1 Observations on cancer by Ed[war]d Home b[oar]ds  
2 Robinson Crusoe 12mo. sh[ee]p com[mon] edit[io]n  
6 Croxall's Easops Fables last edit[io]n 12mo. sh[ee]p  
1 Hutton's Arithmetic last edit[io]n  
1 Fashionable world displayed by Fra. Christian Esq.  
1 Barbarossa 6d. edit[io]n  
6 Eton Latin grammar last edit[io]n sh[ee]p bands  
1 Henry's Bible No. 1 & 2  
1 Statutes at large by Runnington 4to. from the commencement of 1803 to the  
present time q[ui]r[e]s  
6 Porney's French spellings last edit[io]n sh[ee]p bands  
6 Wanostrocht's French grammar last edit[io]n sh[ee]p bands  
6 Forresters Trial 5 or 6s. edit[io]n if such  
1 The last Act for the inspection of hides & skins  
1 Wright's Bible 37 to 42, 61 to 70, 91 to 110  
1 Banks's Bible 49 to 52  
1 Priestley's Bible 50 to 54  
1 Ency[clopaedia] Lond[iensi]s, 419 to 430  
1 Lyttleton's England 15 to 30 81 to 90  
3 Portlock's Geog[raph]y No. 7  
1 Cooke's Geog[raph]y 7 to 10  
1 The last Mutiny Act

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JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

*Hobday & Co.*

*April 3. 1805*

*Per Mr. Ryder*

2 Sermon cases 2/6  
2 No. 367 5s.  
2 No. 229 8/6  
2 No. 230 4/2  
203 2 at 7/6 & 2 at 8/6  
202 2 at 3/6 & 2 at 4/-  
2 229 3/-  
3 red strap pocket b[oo]ks 5½ & 3 6 inches & ½  
1 88 4/- 89 4/8 90 5/9  
12 com[mon] ink squares 1 inch & ½  
6 *do.* (corks) Brass tops 1 inch & 1/8 4/-  
6 125 (penknives) 3/-  
2 243 20d.  
3 129 8½d.  
2 700 knife 6 blades 6/3

---

*Crosby & Co.*

*Apr[il] 7. 1805*

With this you will receive a d[ra]ft for £22.11s.10d. the ballance of my acc[oun]t up to Dec[embe]r 31. 1804 as per statement. Pray send with the magazines

6 Ruddiman's Rudiments

1 Poetical Register, the last vol. publish'd Rivington 9/- b[oar]ds

1 Elements of polite education by Dr. Gregory

1 Geography on a popular plan by the Revd. J. Goldsmith 10/6 Phillips

6 Wanostrocht's Receuil 12mo. sh[ee]p last edit[io]n

3 Pleasing instructor 12mo. sh[ee]p last edit[io]n

1 Court calendar, corrected to Mar[ch] 25. with Rider

1 The turnpike road act passed 13th. Geo. 3d.

1 Cornelius Nepos last edit[io]n sh[ee]p

I have paid Tymbs £4.12.0 for advertising with which I have debited your account.

1 Kearsley's Shakspeare 23 to 26

1 No. 4 to 12 of the Com[mon] Prayer printed for J. Wayland, Middle Row, Holborn.  
2/6 each no.

---

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

*J. Walter Esqr.*

*April 11. 1805*

Enclosed is a d[ra]ft at six weeks for £31.10s. the amount of Evening Mails as per bill delivered up to the 29th March & the full ballance of my account.

I cannot but consider it an act of unkindness & indeed rather unhandsome to deprive me of the advantage arising from having the Mails from the Office direct, & merely from the neglect of your clerk in suffering Mr. Kempster's acc[oun]t to remain unsettled, with which I could not possibly have any concern whatever; & having regularly paid my own bills, there could not be any ostensible reason for discontinuing the papers. I am sorry the matter should have been so widely misunderstood. You will have the goodness to acknowledge the receipt of this, & by sending the letter to B. Crosby, Stationers Court, you will save me the postage.

J. V. H.

*J. Walter Esqr. left at the Evening Mail Office, Printing House Square*

---

*Mr. West*

*April 16. 1805*

Send by Burden's waggon on Saturday morning next from the Saracen's Head, Snowhill, 12 skins, good stout sheep, 12 skins red, *do.*, 1 skin red morrocco, 2 red roan, 6 skins rough calf, 2 red calf.

---

*Ordered of Holiday*

*April 17. 1805*

2 Bank notes cases 4½ 16/- 5 18/-

6 Purses No. 120 1/-

3 Cases 22 10/6 3 23 13/-

3 *do.* 54 3/10

3 164 4/-

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*Holland, Taylor & Co.*

*April 18. 1805*

I shall be much obliged by your sending immed[iatel]y the 20 r[ea]m[s] foolscap which you were so kind to promise me at 16s. & the remainder 20 r[ea]ms at 7½ per c[en]t advance when it suits you, also 3 r[ea]ms thick laid Post, 1 r[ea]m good stout writing Demy laid.

---

*Mr. J. Mawman*

Send as follows immediately

50 as 40 24mo. Prayers in columns, single, old Psalms, sh[ee]p pared  
15 as 12 do. do. (6 in green sh[ee]p, single  
7 in red do. do.  
2 do. comp[lete]  
all old psalms)

---

*April 23. 1805*

Herewith you will receive a d[ra]ft for £15.8s. which place to my credit & send by return of coach 1 q[ui]r[e] 3s. bill stamps, 1 q[ui]r[e] 4s. do., 2 q[ui]r[e]s 2d. rec[eip]ts, 2 q[ui]r[e]s 4d. do., 1 q[ui]r[e] 1s. do.

*Mr. Preedy, Stamp Office, Evesham*

---

*[B. Crosby & Co.]*

Gent[leme]n

Enclosed you will receive a d[ra]ft 1 month for fifty pounds four shillings & 6d. the amount of invoices from Jan[uar]y 7 to Jan[uar]y 31. inclusive, which you will find correct.

Send me by first coach

1 Royal folio Bible, oxford last edit[i]o[n], q[ui]r[e]s

1 Demy folio Prayer, old psalms, oxford last edit[i]o[n], q[ui]r[e]s

Have the goodness to pay Carey £4.12s.9d. I am surprized & disappointed at not rec[eivin]g the novels, shall not pay any part of that invoice until I have had them in my possession at least 6 months, your people must have sent them by mistake. I shall want a copy of Burn's Justice when the new edit[i]o[n] comes out.

2 Court kalendar , single

1 do. with Rider, or without

1 Mutiny Act

1 Theodorus & Constantia, Cooke, com[mon]

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

- 1 Debrett's Peerage, 2 vols., vel[lum] b[oar]ds  
1 The t[ ]n physician or a practice with venereal disease by C. Erskine 2/6  
1 Poetical register or repository of fugitive poetry The last vol., 9s., b[oar]ds  
Rivington.  
1 Sturm's reflections, neat edit[i]on, 3 v[ols.] 18mo. C[al]f lett[er]d  
Have the goodness to send into Murcott & tell him to discontinue the Mail to  
Bennett & Roberts of Worcester & send one more in the parcel, also 1 extra every  
Saturday.  
1 The Chaplet, a collection of poems  
1 Home's treatise on strictures in the urethra, 2 vols., b[oar]ds, if you cannot get both  
the vols. do not send any.  
1 Ladys Mag., Jan[uar]y & Feb[ruar]y & Mar[ch] 1805  
Kent's Arithmetic sent in last parcel 3/6 not charged.  
The enclosed 9 Valentine & Orson were sent some time since & not charged.  
The 6 Ruddiman's Grammar enclosed will be exceedingly obliged by your  
allowing me to return them, 13/6.  
1 Com[mon] Prayer, Royal 8vo, No. 4 & 12 printed for J. Wayland, Middle Row,  
Holborn, 2/6 each  
2 Portlock's Voyages, No. 8 [&] 9  
1 Kearsley's Shakspeare, No. 27 to 33  
1 Cooke's Geog[raph]y, com[mon], 11 to 14  
have returned Timbury's Specimens

The above order sent this day by the mail coach with 6 Ruddiman's Grammar, 1  
Corn[elius] Nepos & a d[ra]ft at six weeks for £50.4.6, the parcel carriage paid.

J. V. H.

*April 24. 1805*

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*Bland & Weller*

*Apr[il] 24. 1805*

Send to Crosby's immediately 1 Potter's patent G[erman] flute, 4 silver keys,  
Goulding used to charge me £1.11.6 for these but do your best.

- 1 German flute, 4 silver keys, 11/-, let it be neatly manufactured, ½ lb music wire No.  
9 at ½ oz., 1 song, Just like love.
-

*Mr. J. Carey*

*Apr[il] 24. 1805*

If you wait on B. Crosby & Co. they will pay you £4. 12s. 9d. , pray send me 2 of your Book of roads & 2 No. 24 of the General atlas q[uire]s & 2 No. 8 of the English atlas, 8s.

---

*Crosby & Co.*

Send me by the coach on Tuesday morning or by the mail by night without fail

6 Monthly Mag., 3 Gent[leman']s, 1 Zoological, 2 Botanical, 2 Sporting  
5 Monthly Review & 4 app[endi]x[es], 2 Antijacobin & 2 appendix[e]s  
2 B[ritish] Critic, 2 Critical & 3 appendix's, 4 Monthly Museum  
2 Ladys, 2 European, 1 Annals, 1 Sowerby  
2 Repertory, 1 Bradley's Med[ical] Journal, 1 Navy List  
2 Army List, 2 Fashions, 9 Evangelical  
1 Britannic, 1 Eccentric, 1 Monthly Mirror  
1 Olney Hymns, by Newton 12mo. sh[ee]p

What will you charge me for 50 24mo. Prayer in column. old psalms, c[al]f pared, for schools.

2 Mrs. Teachwell's Juvenile correspondence  
1 Hervey's Meditations 12mo. sh[ee]p last edit[io]n  
1 Fren[d]s Evening amusements, 1st B[oo]k, 1804, b[oar]ds  
1 do. 1805, b[oar]ds  
1 Buchan's Domestic medicine, last edit[io]n, marbled sheep  
1 No. 1 of Blair's Sermons  
1 doz. boxes colours from Howard & Evans  
1 Marshall's Gospel mystery of sanctification, 12mo.  
1 Toplady's Sermons, 8vo. b[oar]ds, last edit[io]n, (3s 6d last edit[io]n  
3 Franklyn's Select pieces, published in the Library Miscellany  
1 The acts 14, 16, 17, 18, 21 & 25 Geo. 3d. concerning the Turnpike Roads Strahan  
[ ] 3  
1 Farley's Cooking, 8vo., marbled sh[ee]p, last edit[io]n  
1 Blair's Sermons No. 1 to 4  
1 Buchan's Medicine No. 1 to 4

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*Crosby & Co.*

*Apr[il] 29 1805*

I am sorry to return the enclosed parts of the Bible, but they seem to be eaten through by the moth or a worm. I must thank you to change them for perfect sheets, send with them 2 Portlock's Geog[raphy] 8 & 9 instead of Voyages now returned.

You charge me 3/6 for Kent's Arithmetic, that is the selling price.

---

*Crosby & Co.*

*May 5th 1805*

By Burden's waggon on Tuesday

6 Wanostrocht's Telemaque, last edit[i]o[n], 12mo., sh[ee]p  
2 Blair's Sermons No. 1 & No. 2  
1 Bradley's Med[ical] journal, last number  
1 Debrett's Peerage 2 vols., 16s., last edit[i]o[n]  
1 Biblical Mag[azine], last number  
1 Monthly Mirror Nov[embe]r 1804  
1 Buffon's Nat[ura]l Hist[or]y by Bower No. 1  
1 Collens's guide to School Books 3rd. edit[i]o[n], 1/6  
1 Buchan's Domestic medicine No. 3 & 4  
4 Court Kalendars, corrected to Mar[ch] 25.  
25 Lady Huntingdon's Hymns with the supp[lemen]t, square 5 inches by 5'', neat  
sprinkled c[al]f & clasp printed by W. Smith, King Street  
25 *do.* with supp[lemen]t, 32mo. bl[ac]k c[al]f 3/- printed by Corrall  
1 The beauties of Sturm, 12mo., sh[ee]p  
6 Cornelius Nepos, Delph., 8vo. sh[ee]p  
4 Ceasar's [*sic*] Commentaries, 8vo. sh[ee]p  
6 Corderius, Latin, last edit[i]o[n] sh[ee]p  
1 The 3rd & 4th vols of Gilpin's Sermons, b[oa]rds  
1 Nouveaux sermons sur divers textes, par D. Superville 8vo., 4s., Dulau  
1 Materials for thinking No. 1. 2. & 7 by W. Burdon Hurst  
A continuation of the Domestic Library  
1 Banks's Bible, No. 53 to 60  
1 Wright's Bible, 71 to 80, 101 to 110  
2 *do.* 111 to 120  
1 Priestley's Bible, 55 to 60  
1 Ency[clopaedia] Lond[iensi]s, 424 to 440  
1 Lyttleton's England, 30 to 50, 91 to 100  
1 Kearsley's Shakspeare, 28 to 33  
1 Domestic Library No. 7. 8. 9  
2 Portlock's Geog[raph]y, 10 to 14

1 Cooke's Geog[raph]y, 15 to 20

---

*Mr. Murcott*

*May 5. 1805*

Have the goodness to send 1 Mail extra in the parcel every Monday Wednesday & Friday & Bell's Weekly Messenger every week, & desire F. Brooks, N[o.]. 14 Tabernacle Row, not to send any more & pay him for what he has sent.

I wish you to send me a list of the persons to whom you send Mails per post in my acc[oun]t as a mistake has occur'd & I can not make it out.

---

*Crosby & Co.*

*May 6. 1805*

Pray send me by Burden's waggon from the Saracen's Head, Snow Hill, on Saturday next

50 as 48, 24mo. Prayers, old psalms, sh[ee]p pared, 1/4 ea[ch] but no 5 per cent upon them

Sowerby's Botany was not sent with the mag[azine]s nor has it been sent since. Portlock's Geog[raph]y, 8 & 9, 1/6 was charged Apr[il] 26, and again May 3, allow it,

say the usual price of prime Hudson's Bay quills.

2 Blair's Sermons 1

3 *do.* 2 to 6

1 Petrarca [*sic*], 7/6, b[oar]ds, Baldwin

1 Davis's Short hand, 1/-

1 Tytler's 1 Elements of general hist[or]y, 2 vols. 8vo. q[ui]r[e], Cadell & Davies

*Crosby cont[inue]d*

*May 7. 1805*

1 Walker's Gazetteer 8vo. sh[ee]p, last edit[io]n

I have a Bensley's Testament

2 Adams's Modern hist[or]y, 12mo. sh[ee]p

1 Walker's Gazetteer 8vo. sh[ee]p, last edit[io]n

1 Buchan's Domestic medicine 8vo. sh[ee]p, last edit[io]n

2 Beauties of Sturm, 18mo., neat sh[ee]p

1 Coleman's Terence, 8vo., b[oar]ds

2 Dodd's Prison thoughts

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

2 Economy of life, stereotyped, (7d.), but let them be done up in some way  
1 Mavor's Proverbs, b[oar]ds, 2/-  
1 Kames's Elements of criticism 2 v[ols.], 8vo, b[oar]ds  
1 Kendall's Pocket encyclopaedia 6 v[ols.], 18vo., b[oard]s, (in 3 v[ols.]

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*Bland & Weller*

*May 15. 1805*

6 Common fifes, 7d.  
1 song, The veterans, by Dibdin  
1 Eight chorusses from Handel's Messiah, 3s.  
2 Instructions German flute  
1 b[un]dle Trebles 4 lengths, violin  
1 b[un]dle *do.* 3 lengths, "  
6 Rings, 4ths 4 *do.*  
1 song The storm  
1 Potter patent flute, 4 silver keys

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*Crosby & Co.*

*May 15. 1805*

1 Collins's Guide to parents & tutors, last edit[io]n, 1/6  
Blair's Sermons No. 1  
*Do.* 2 to 6  
1 Buchan's Medicine No. 1. 2  
2 *Do.* No. 3  
1 Cowper's Poems, f[ools]c[ap] 8vo., with plates, printed for Johnson, q[ui]r[e]s, last  
edit[io]n  
1 Cooke's Geog[raph]y, No. 16  
Flowers of literature, vol[ume] 1804  
1 The beauties of Scotland, vol[ume] 1 10/6 b[oar]ds, Vernor & Hood  
1 Cowper illustrated 8vo. b[oar]ds 10/6 Vernor & Hood  
2 The whole duty of man, 12mo., 4/6 bound, Rivington  
2 *Do.* 2/-, bound, *Do.*  
1 Roscoe's Life of Leo: 10th 4to. b[oar]ds  
1 Burgh's Life of Mason, b[oar]ds  
6 Mavor's Arts & sciences, done up for schools  
2 Latin testaments " "  
4 Court calendar, corrected to Mar[ch] 25, ordered before

Portlock's Geog[raph]y, 8, 9, charged May 3d. was also charged Apr[il] 26.

1 Watts's Logic 12mo. sh[ee]p

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*Holland, Taylor & Co.*

*May 17. 1805*

I shall feel obliged by your sending me 2 r[ea]ms Blue Demy, 2 r[ea]ms Blue Royal, 1 r[ea]m Demy Blotting & the 20 r[ea]ms f[ool]scap at 16s. with 7 & ½ per c[en]t advance agreeable to your promise dated Feb[ruar]y 6th, and if you have a job to dispose of, I should like to purchase it on your saying the quantity, quality, size & price.

J. V. H.

---

*Mr. G. R. Ward*

*Worcester May 17. 1805*

Sir

Yesterday I received from you 12 quarto r[ea]ms of Hot Press'd Letter paper, but very different to the sample by which you sold it.

I have examined this paper & find one fourth of it to be damaged either by holes, dirt, or otherwise; therefore shall return the whole to you, unless you will allow me to sort the good from the bad, & pay you for the first according to the stipulated price of 22s. for 20 perfect 4to. quires, & for the bad, according to its value.

If I do not hear from you, shall return the whole by the waggon on Tuesday.

Y[ou]rs J. V. Hall

---

*Crosby & Co.*

*May 19. 1805*

By [sentence not completed]

Sowerby was charged with the mag[azine]s & not sent, you have charged it again, allow it.

1 Henry [sic, for Job] Orton's Evidences of the Xtian rel[i]g[i]on]

1 Doddridge's Hymns, neat edit[i]o[n], c[al]f

1 The Chaplet, a new publication, not the piecemeal Chaplet

1 Tytler's Elements of general history 2 v[ols.], 8vo., b[oar]ds, 12s., Cadell & Davies

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

1 Dr. Jortin's Works, last edit[io]n, b[oar]ds  
1 Translations from the German, Danish &c., 3/6 J. Reynolds 1804  
1 Adams's Lecture on Silesia 8vo. with map 8s. Budd  
1 G. Rose's observations on the poor laws 1/6 Hachard [*sic*] 1805  
1 Pratt's Harvest home b[oar]ds  
1 Romeo & Juliet, 6d.  
1 Gil Blas. 4 v[ols.] 12mo. in French, b[oar]ds  
1 Voltaire's Candid in French, b[oar]ds

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*Mr. J. Allen, Hereford*

*May 19. 1805*

Sir

Have the goodness to send me by the return of Coach, Duncombe's Hist[or]y of  
Hereford vol. 1

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*Mr. Murcott*

*May 19. 1805*

Please send me the Courier per post every day to self & the Mirror of the times every  
Saturday directed to self also, I discontinue the extra Mail sent on Saturdays.

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*May 23. 1805*

*Ordered this day of J. Williams No. 20 Cornhill*

1 4 q[uires] f[ools]c[ap] b[oar]d fo[lio] head line d[ou]ble £.s.d. white vellum  
1 Demy Ledger 6 q[uire]s, green vellum, no alphabets  
1 Do. 5 q[uire]s, Do. "  
1 long fo[lio] f[ools]c[ap] 4 q[uire]s, head line, single £.s.d. & fo[lio] line white  
vellum  
2 4 q[uire]s f[ools]c[ap] b[oun]d fo[lio] d[ou]ble ledger & faints, 1 in green & white

---

*Goulding & Co.*

*May 24, 1805*

Pray send by Burden's waggon on Tuesday next with[ou]t fail from the Castle &  
Falcon

1 doz[en] Baker drum heads, 3/6  
10 q[ui]r[e]s 4to. Royal, ruled 12 staves, the long way

---

*Mr. Harding*

*May 27. 1805*

It is with considerable regret & mortification that I return you the enclosed parcel of cards, all of which are probably imperfect, at least they are so if I may judge from the 4 packs that have already been opened, 12 of which have been returned to me by some of my best customers with observations of anger & disappointment not only on account of the imperfect state of the cards but on account of their being very badly manufactured. Indeed I have been obliged to hear this last complaint from several. It has done me very considerable injury which time alone can repair.

I am unwilling to believe that you are aware of this deficiency & must attribute it to the carelessness or something worse in your servants. The two packs which I have put a X upon, I examined myself before two of my customers & was astonished to find them defective & from this circumstance supposing the remainder might be the same I determined to return the whole.

If you can repair this unpleasant business by sending better & perfect cards, I have no objection & give your goods a further trial but unless you do this it is in vain your sending any & I must henceforth decline any further connexion & will discharge your acc[oun]t at any time.

*To Mr. R. Harding, card maker, Hereford Street, Park Street, Grosvenor Square, London, with fifty nine (59) packs mogul cards, 3 of which are imperfect & 2 packs of fancy cards imperfect.*

---

*May 29. 1805*

Gentle[me]n

The novels arrived a few days since & upon examination, find they are not sent correct, there were also several volumes which did not meet my approbation & I returned them as per invoice to the amount of £15.7.5. They were sent from here on the 24th. of May by Jno. Baker's trans[port] to the Hambro' Wharf.

The following is an acc[oun]t of the errors.

Adolphe St. Blanche, 6 vol[umes], vols. 3, 4 & 5 not sent

Abbess, 4 vol[umes], vol. 1 not sent  
Cecelia, 5 vol[umes], vol. 4 & 5 not sent  
Constant lovers, 2 copies sent, 1 of which is ret[urne]d.  
Contrast, 2 vol[umes]. vol. 1 not sent  
Emely Dundorne, 3 vols., vol. 1 not sent  
Hyderabad, 2 copys sent, 1 of which is ret[urne]d.  
Kinsmen of Naples, 4 vols., vols. 2 & 3 not sent  
Lucinda Courtney vol. 3 not sent, 1 & 2 ret[urne]d.  
Life of Dumourez, 3 vol[umes] charged as 2, 3 ret[urne]d & ch[ar]g[e]d as 2  
Natural son, 2 v[olumes], vol. 1 not sent, vol. 2 ret[urne]d.  
Sebaldus Nonthanker, 3 v[olumes], vol. 3 not sent, vol. 1 & 2 ret[urne]d.  
Ulric & Elvera, 2 vols., neither vol. sent

You will give me credit for the novels sent back, & as I shall want to supply their place, must wait till I come to town & look them out.

Send by *[sentence not completed]*

1 Beauties of Scotland, vol. 1 10/6 b[oar]ds.  
4 Blair's Sermons, No. 3. 4  
2 Buchan's Medicine, No. 4  
1 Duncan's Logic, best edit[io]n fine paper 3/6, Vernor & Hood  
[1] Treatise on the Police of the metropolis by a magistrate b[oar]ds.

What is the price of Count Rumford's Essays on fire places, the best edit[io]n, with plates

1 The festival of love, stitch[e]d or in b[oar]ds  
6 Vivier's Dialogues last edit[io]n  
2 The Chaplet, Longman & Hurst 18mo. b[oar]ds  
1 Le Sage's Works, Paris edit[io]n, no other will do & they must be a good edit[io]n & correct  
1 Lady Russell's Letters, b[oar]ds, 8vo. 10/6  
6 Clarke's Corderius, last edit[io]n  
2 Latin testaments, 24mo.  
2 Dodd's Beauties of hist[or]y, 12mo. sh[ee]p  
1 Dilworth's Book-keeping, last edit[io]n, sh[ee]p bands  
1 Butler's Bible, 65 to 70  
5 Monthly Mag[azines] 4 Gent[leman]'s 1 Zoological 2 Botanical  
2 Sporting 4 Monthly Rev[iew] & 4 app[endi]x 2 Antijacobin & 2 app[endi]x  
2 Br[itish] Critic 2 Critical Review & 2 app[endi]x 4 Monthly Museum  
11 Lady's 2 European 1 Annals of agriculture 1 Sowerby  
2 Repertory 2 Bradley's Medical journal 2 Navy List  
3 Army List 2 Fashionable 9 Evangelical 1 Britannic

1 Eccentric 1 Monthly Mirror

You will herewith receive a d[ra]ft at 1 mo[nth] for twentyfive pounds which place to my credit.

6 Turner's introduction to the arts & sciences, 9th edit[io]n Johnson 18mo., sh[ee]p

---

Tell Murcott the Mirror of the times did not come on Sunday.

---

*May 28.*

Send by the first Coach

2 Royal 4to. Prayers, good paper & good print, [with] the singing psalms, if they are to be had ready [*bound up struck out*] but not to wait for them as they [*these words struck out*: must be had instantly.]

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*May 30. 1805*

Gent[leme]n

Enclosed you will receive a d[ra]ft 6 weeks for £20.13.5, the amount of my acc[oun]t as stated, you will have the goodness to send me as follows by water from Sills & Co., Hamboro Wharf to go by the Thames & Severn Canal

2000 pens, at 2/3

2 doz. slates, 10 by 8

2 doz. *Do.*, 13 by 10

1000 slate pens, short

2000 *Do.* long

2 doz. com[mon] ink squares

2 doz. *Do.* brass tops

3 doz. sockets

4 doz. Japan ink

500 pens in pink at 6s.

6 doz. short round sliding pencils, 5 inches

3 lb best Dutch wax, 10.

1 doz. red lead pencils

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

1 doz. sheets black lines

---

*Crosby & Co.*

*June 6. 1805*

Pray send by the first Coach

1 Roscoe's Life of Leo. 10th, 4 vols. 4to. b[oar]ds

1 Markham's Xt No. 7 to 10

Mason's Poems, a new edit[io]n was expected, is it out

1 Chesterfield's advice to his son, 12mo. sh[ee]p last edit[io]n.

1 Shepherd of Salsbury [*sic*] Plain p[ar]t 1 & 2

1 History of Bragwell

1 The 2 shoemakers

1 Tom White the postillion

Continuation of the Domestic Library

5 Blair's No. 5, 6 & 2 No.1, 1 No. 2, 3, 4

2 Buchan, 5

1 Imison's School of arts, last edit[io]n, b[oar]ds

1 Turner's View of the heavens

1 Lady's Mag[azine] Apr[il] 1805

1 Count Rumford's Essays on fire places with plates

6 Job Orton's evidences of the Xtian religion

1 La Retour &c. Winsor, an overture

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*Mr. Murcott*

*June 6th. 1805*

Send the Packet 3 times a week to J. Harris Esq., Stanford, Worcester.

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*[Crosby & Co.]*

*June 14. 1805*

In Wakefield's Com[mo]n Prayer 5 plates are omitted, they were to be 9 as well,  
those sent are as follows

Lazarus carried into Abraham's bosom

Xt shewing his wounds to Thomas

Peter in prison

Samuel anointing David

If it is not made complete it will be returned.

1 Turner's View of the heavens, 3/6, this was wrote for last week & you sent  
[sentence not completed]

2 tickets Bowyer Historic lottery

6 Eutropus's, last edit[io]n

4 Minim prayers, single, old psalms, b[oo]k sh[ee]p edges

1 All Count Rumford's Essays in fire places

Surely you must have overcharged Viver's Dialogues, May 31., they sell 1/6. & you  
charge 1/6

1 Taylor's Angling, 5/-, b[oar]ds

1 Burke's enquiry into the sublime & beautiful 12mo., 3/6, Vernor

1 Duncan's elements of logic, 3/-, Dodsley

1 Hooper's Medical diction[ar]y 12mo. last edit[io]n, b[oar]ds

1 Poetical register for 1804

1 Kearsley's Shakspeare No. 28 to 33

1 Aristotle's Poetics, by Twining, it is either in 12mo. or 8vo.

2 Sheridan's Dict[ionar]y improved, sh[ee]p, square

1 Henry's Bible, 3 to 6

2 Ready reckoners, 12mo.

1 Chesterfield's Advice to his son 12mo., sh[ee]p, last edit[io]n

1 doz. maps &c., for pasteboard files

1 Fisher's English grammar, 2/-, last edit[io]n

1 Watts's Logic, 12mo., last edit[io]n, q[ui]r[e]s.

1 Overture to Oscar & Malvina, for harps[ichor]d

1 Blair's Sermons, No. 1, 3 to 6

2        *Do.*        No. 2

6        *Do.*        7 to 9

2 Buchan, 7 to 9

1 Markham's Xt, 11 to 16

1 Banks's Bible, 59 " 61    Bays

1 Butler's Bible, 81 to 90

1 Priestley's Bible, 60 to 70

1 Ency[clopaedia] Lond[iensi]s, 429 to 440

1 Lyttleton's England, 51 to 70, 101 to 120

1 Domestic Library, 7 to 9

1 Cooke's Geog[raph]y, 21 to 25

*Crosby - private*

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JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

*Mr. Preedy (Evesham)*

*June 24. 1805*

Sir

Herewith you will receive a d[ra]ft £30, which please to place to my credit, I will thank you to send as soon as possible 3 10s. stamps on parchment for surrenders, also 50 15s. stamps on parchment for *do.*, also 2 q[uire]s 2 d[em]y rec[eip]ts & 1 q[uire] 18 d[em]y drafts.

The agree[men]t of Lord Foley's has never been returned.

---

*June 24. 1805*

Gent[leme]n

Herewith you will receive a d[ra]ft at 1 mo. for £12.7.0 the amount of your account which would have been paid sooner but that I was in hopes of seeing you at Worcester.

I will thank you to send me soon as possible 2 r[ea]ms good Blue Demy, 1 r[ea]m Demy Blotting, 2 r[ea]ms d[ou]ble Cream that will bear ink, 2 r[ea]ms small Brown, size of 2 lb, 2 r[ea]ms *do.* but thicker, 1 cwt of the very thick weighs 8 or 9 lb a quire.

*Messrs. Gazard & Cornock, Wick Mills near Gloster, enclosing a d[ra]ft 1 mo[nth]  
£12.7.0*

---

*Mr. J. Evans, Cleobury*

*June 24. 1805*

Sir

I have several times applied to you for the sum of £1.3.6 the amount of goods had of me Feb[ruar]y 13. 1804, there appears a dispute on account of some books said to have been returned, but which were never delivered to me, therefore I must request you will no longer delay to send the above amount to y[ou]r h[um]ble ser[van]t

J. V. H.

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*Crosby & Co.*

*June 27. 1805*

By the mail on Saturday night,

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

1 Chambaud's French grammar, last edit[io]n  
1 Exercises *do.*  
1 Lettres de Madame Sevyne [*sic*], in French  
Title page & frontispiece to vol. 1, Flowers of literature  
1 The 2. vol. of *do.*  
1 Evangelical Mag[azine] Jan[uar]y. Mar[ch]. Apr[il]. May. June 1805  
2 Owen's Fairs  
1 Owen's Roads  
1 Bewick's Birds, vol. 1, b[oar]ds  
1 Hervey's Meditations, 5 Nu[mbe]rs, Cooke, com[mon]  
5 Monthly Mag[azines] 4 Gent[leman]s 1 Zoological 2 Botanical  
2 Sporting 5 Monthly Review 2 Antijacobin  
2 B[ritish] Critic 2 Crit[ical] Rev[iew] 4 Monthly Museum  
11 Lady's 2 European 1 Sowerby's Botany  
2 Repertory 2 Bradley's Med[icinal] journal 1 Navy List 1 Army *do.*  
1 Fashions 10 Evangelical 1 Britannic  
1 Eccentric 1 Monthly Mirror  
6 Blair's Sermons, 8. 9  
2 Buchan, 11

Desire Murcott to discontinue the London Chronicle, Courier missed 3 times to W.  
Smith Esq.

---

*Mr. Jno. Murcott, Warwick Square.*

*Worcester July 12. 1805*

Herewith you will receive a d[ra]ft 6 weeks for £17.17.10d. amount of bill delivered  
to June 30.

Y[ou]rs J. V. Hall

*Worcester July 12. 1805*

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*July 15. 1805*

Gent[leme]n

Herewith you will receive a d[ra]ft 6 w[ee]ks for £20 which to place to my credit,  
also returned music to the amount of £5.7.9.

Have sent the top of a patent flute which is out of order, let it be done instantly & sent

to Crosby's, send also to Crosby's immediately a skin for a tamborine, 12 inches  
over

1 a fifth German flute, yellow, tipt, with 4 silver keys, if you have none by you get  
one made.

4 Instructions for German flute

*Do.* for fife

1 song Mayer

1 song Mama mia

1 Delia, a duett

6 fifes, 11d.

6 *do.*, 7d.

*Bland & Weller, by Mail Coach, this day*

---

*Worcester July 11. 1805*

D[ea]r Sir

The more I consider your generous offer, the more clearly I perceive your design to serve me effectively by increasing my respectability & profit, and as I have every convenience immediately under my own eye for carrying on the business you so kindly proposed, I should be doing injustice to myself and to your good intention if I hesitated to accept your unsolicited assistance. But it requires some little consideration as to arrangements necessary to be made in order to insure success to the undertaking. It cannot be unknown to you that I do not possess any property of my own (*words in shorthand*) therefore it will be necessary that I should have the means of carrying on, or at least commencing the business in question.

I suppose it would take nearly £100 in the purchase of bottles, hampers &c. & fitting up my cellar, and altho' I should not sell but for money, yet at the first onset it would require a little help to keep the vessell afloat and when once she swims, I have no doubt but she would soon feel the tide of success, particularly as I have already a business equal to all my expences of housekeeping &c. &c. & if I should not gain any thing the first year, I certainly should not be a loser and my own labour I should consider as nothing.

I find my cellar will hold about 10 pipes, which would be a good stock (for Worcester) to begin with, but I must depend entirely upon yourself for credit until it is quite convenient for me to make remittances. Indeed I shall feel myself exactly in the situation of being your clerk and my books will be kept with such precision [*sic*]

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

as to bear inspection at all times, and your property will either be in the cellar, or on the books (as little as possible) or in cash in your own hands or at my bankers.

The fact is, I must rely wholly on yourself for support & protection, and as every exertion will be made on my own part to prove myself worthy your good opinion, I hope the event will answer most completely your best expectations and wishes.

If these suggestions are not foreign to your intentions, I should be happy to receive your sanction thereto, a few lines in answer will be gratefully received by[,] Sir,  
y[ou]r &c. &c. J. V. Hall

*Chris[tophe]r Smith Esq., merchant, 21 Queen Street, Cheapside, London.*

I beg my best respects to your son and family

---

*Copy of Mr. Smith's answer to the above.*

*London 12. July 1805*

Dear Sir

I am this day favor'd with yours, in answer it will give me great pleasure to contribute to your prosperity, I having full confidence in your integrity I shall have no objection too give you credit for what wine you may have occasion for, & I will take care to select such wines as shall command a trade. You may if you please prepare your cellar, & when done let me hear from you with your Christian names at full length in order to permit the wine, & you must procure a licence which may be got at your place. I cannot think it will cost a hundred pounds to fit up your cellar, the principal will be to keep out the external air. Perhaps in the first instance it will be as well to have a few hampers in bottles of each to begin with. I shall not think of profit myself in this business, & I do think you will gain a little credit when it's known you have your wine from London, as the country gentlemen have in general a much higher opinion of wine from London than the out-ports.

With respect to your female concern, were I in your situation I would decide it one way or other, it will be much better for you.

My son & family join me in good wishes to you & I am with esteem (for Self & Co.) dear Sir your friend

Christ[ophe]r Smith

*Mr. J. V. Hall, stationer, Worcester*

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*Crosby & Co.*

*July 19. 1805*

1 East's Reports, Easter Term  
 25 Collect books, blue paper  
 1 Kearsley's Shakspeare No. 30, 31  
 1 Theodosius & Constantia, Cooke com[mo]n  
 1 Dr. Jortin's Works, new edit[io]n, b[oar]ds, when will it be ready  
 1 The curate's stipendary Act  
 1 English ency[clopaedia]  
 1 Sturm's reflections 3 v. 18mo. C[al]f lett[ere]d  
 1 Buchan No. 1, 2, 3  
 4 Kearsley's last Tax tables  
 1 Culyer's land measurer  
 1 British Critic, Jan[uar]y 1804  
 1 Tidd's Practice in the Court of King's Bench, last edit[io]n, b[oar]ds  
 25 Murray's Spellings, last edit[io]n  
 Builder's price book, last edit[io]n  
 1 Spencer's Fairy Queen smaller edit[io]n c[al]f elegant  
 1 Blair's Sermons vol. 5, 8vo. b[oar]ds  
 Sheet Ll, Lady's Mag[azine], May  
 1 Scott's Bible No. 11. 12  
 1 song, Glow worm  
 1 Tarry awhile  
 1 The old & new version Psalms, neat 24mo., bound together  
 1 Portlock's Voyages No. 7 to 14  
 1 Carey's Book of roads  
 1 Kearsley's *do.*  
 1 Sterne's Sentimental journey, Cooke's com[mon]

What allowance will you make for Burn's Justice 18mo 19th edit[io]n

1 Wright's Bible 10. 11. 39. 40  
 1 Phillips's guide to the watering places, h[al]f b[oun]d  
 1 Beauties of Scotland, vol. 1, h[al]f b[oun]d  
 1 Burn's Justice, the new edit[io]n if published C[al]f l[ettere]d  
 1 Ossian's Poems, f[ool]s[cap] 8vo. C[al]f extra  
 Builder's price book  
 6 Blair's Sermons, 9. 10  
 2 Buchan's Medicine, 12. 13  
 1 The English & Scot's distillery Act last passed

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

1 The Irish *do.* “  
1 Wright's Bible, 43 to 48  
1 Banks's Bible, 61  
1 Priestley's Bible, 63 to 72  
1 Ency[clopaedia] Lond[iensi]s, 434 to 450  
1 Lyttleton's England, 71 to 100

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*Crosby*

*July 29th. 1805*

By Wednesday Coach

1 Kearsley's Shakspeare 30.  
1 East's Reports, Easter  
1 Spencer's Faery Queen, sm[all] ed[itio]n C[al]f extra  
1 English & Scots distillery Act  
1 Lanacester's System of education  
1 doz. copy slips, large text hand  
1 song Humid seat of soft affection  
1 Watts's Logic, good edit[i]o[n], 12mo., b[oar]ds  
1 Blair's Sermons vol. 5, b[oar]ds  
5 Monthly Magazines 4 Gent[leman]s 1 Zoological  
2 Botanical 2 Sporting 4 Monthly Review  
2 Antijacobin 2 British Critic 2 Critical Review  
4 Monthly Museum 11 Lady's 2 European  
1 Sowerby's Botany 2 Repertory 2 Navy List  
2 Bradley's Med[ical] journal 1 Army List 1 Fashion's  
10 Evangelical 1 Britannic 1 Eccentric 1 Monthly Mirror  
1 The Act against combination of journeymen with Sheridan's amendment  
4 Kearsley's Tax tables

Waggon parcel not come

1 Milton's Paradise lost with Gillies text from Scripture, 12mo., b[oar]ds  
1 song Beauty I'll sell who'll buy who'll buy  
1 song The willow, as in As you like it

---

*Mr. R. Ackermann*

*July 29. 1805*

On t'other side is the invoice of prints &c. ret[urne]d from me to the amount of £61.  
17.6d, & I make the whole ballance to be £1.4.7, excepting the amount of goods sent

last on commission (amount £3.14.6) & for which you now stand credited in my books. Your people make my whole ballance to be only £4.1.10½, but that is an error, as I am satisfied the ballance altogether is 1.14.7 [and] 3.14.6 [together] £5.9.1. The sum of £1.14.7 you will receive of Mr. Crosby, who has orders to pay it you. I am extremely sorry that my endeavours to push the sale of your articles did not meet with such success as could have been wished, but it will not do in Worcester, the people are very poor & very proud.

As you allowed a profit of ⅓ upon the fancy articles I thought it better to add that sum to the first amount of £10.2.9 and afterwards deduct ¼ of the whole as per agreem[en]t.

---

*[Mr. Christopher Smith]*

D[ea]r Sir

It is impossible for me in any kind of language to thank you for the friendship expressed in your last letter & I can only thank you by endeavouring to become worthy your good opinion. I have now fitted up my cellar, which is very compact & I shall have bin-room for 300 doz. & storage for 7 pipes & as I shall have no occasion to keep a large stock I think it will answer every purpose. When I mentioned the fitting up my cellar &c. would probably come to £100, I included a stock of bottles, but your further goodness has obviated this difficulty by the proposition to send a quantity in bottles to begin with. I have a relation here, who will probably take from 150 to 200 doz. a year of me, & taking all circumstances together, I have no doubt but it will prove ultimately successful. If I may presume to dictate, I should think a pipe of port in bottles, 12 doz. sherry, 12 doz. Lisbon, 4 doz. Madeira, 4 doz. Mountain & 2 doz. Tent will answer the purpose to begin with.

You will oblige me further by sending 2 books for corking in, & 2 cork-drivers.

*Aug[us]t 5th.*

---

*Crosby & Co.*

*Worcester Aug[us]t 9. 1805*

I herewith return, according to invoice, *[sentence not completed]*

Pray send by *[sentence not completed]*

1 Douglas

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

1 Hamlet  
1 Family prayers, by Baines  
1 Chesterfield's Advice to his son, about 2/6 neat  
1 Edinburgh Medical journal No. 1 to as far as publish'd  
1 Retrospect of philosophical medical chemical & agricultural discourses, No. 1  
Water colours from Ackerman 6 Locke, 2 Gainsbo[rou]gh, 1 King's yellow

Is there an edit[io]n of the Royal folio Bible on very thick laid paper & the price

3 Porney's Spellings last edit[io]n sh[ee]p bands  
3 Perrin's Fables “ “ “

Beauties of Scotland vol. 1 was adv[ertise]d 10/6 you charge 13/-. What does Burn's  
Justice 4to. sell for.

3 Dr. Wilson's treatise on mercury  
1 Conversation & poetry, by Charlotte Smith, 2 v., 12mo., 7s. Johnson  
1 Tennant's Indian recreations, 2 v., 8vo, 18s. Longman  
1 Gilpin on landscape painting 4s., Cadell and Davies  
1 Alston on landscape painting 8vo., 10/6, Longman  
1 Ency[clopaedia] Lond[iensi]s 357 to 450  
1 doz. maps for files, sorted, 4 quarters Ireland & England  
1 Present state of France by an English gent[lema]n  
1 Sheepshank's visitation sermon at Leeds, 1804, Falder  
1 Pro aris et tocis Godshill, Isle of Wight, Rivington  
1 S[i]r Geo[rge] Hill's management of the gout & the virtues of Burdock  
1 Laws between landlord & tenant  
1 doz. small hand copies  
2 Parental education, 12mo., sh[ee]p  
1 Don Quixote 4 vols. h[al]f b[oar]d, for the library 7s.  
6 Select lessons, for youth, 2 N[os.]. printed by Routh, Bristol  
3 Aikin's Nat[ura]l history of the year  
1 Priestley's Bible 71 to 80  
1 Ency[clopaedia] Lond[iensi]s 439 to 450  
1 Lyttleton's England 101 to 120  
6 Blair's Sermons No. 9  
1 Buchan No.13 & 2 No. 14, 15

1 Do. 4 to 8

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*D[ea]r Munk*

*Aug[us]t 9. 1805*

Herewith you will receive a bill 1 mo[nth] for £20.5.6, 18.16.6 of which ballancing your acc[oun]t to Jan[uar]y 23d. (inclusive) as stated. I have not received the paper you sent last. Send me immediately 20 r[ea]ms of good stout 2d. foolscap quite equal to what you sent last at 20/6. Also 3 r[ea]ms superfine yellow wove thick Post.

---

*Mr. Williams No. 20 Cornhill.*

*Aug[us]t 9. 1805*

6 q[ui]r[e]s f[ools]cap ruled to pattern, bound white vellum an alphabet 2 l[ette]rs on a leaf cut it, send it to Crosby's to come in my parcel.

J. V. H.

---

*Aug[us]t 13. 1805*

Gent[leme]n

I shall be much obliged by your sending me on Friday next per Burden's waggon from the Saracen's Head, Snow Hill, 4 packs Mogul cards. 4 packs h[al]f small cards best yellow & 3 doz. packs h[al]f large *do.* I refer you to B. Crosby & Co. (my bookseller) for responsibility &c.; but if you will allow a disc[oun]t I will remit you the amount per return of post on re[ceivin]g the invoice.

*Hunt & Son No. 50 Mortimer Street, London*

---

*Hunt & Son*

|                                    |                |           |
|------------------------------------|----------------|-----------|
| 4 doz. Moguls 48/-                 |                | £9.12. 0  |
| 1 doz. Harry's                     |                | 4. 4. -   |
| 3 doz. h[al]f large cards y[ello]w | 6/4            | 19. 6     |
| 6 doz. h[al]f small                | <i>do.</i> 4/- | 1. 4. -   |
|                                    |                | <hr/>     |
|                                    |                | 12. 19. 6 |

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Crosby & Co.

Worcester. Aug[us]t 21. 1805

By [sentence not completed]

Grazier's companion        have none

8 Dr. Wilson on Mercury

1 Edinburgh Review for September

2 Wilson's Analysis of the Malvern water

2 Gertrude, Agnes, & Melite.        Harris    sh[ee]p

1 Evangelical Mag[azine]    No. 30, 44, 6, , 60, 7, 9, 82, 91, 93

1 Three plain reasons against seperation [sic] from the establishment by E. Pearson

3 The friendly monitor

1 Two farmers

2 Family stories, or even[in]gs at my great aunt's

4 Corn[elius] Nepos    Delph.   sh[ee]p

4 Ovid's Epistle    Delph.   sh[ee]p

4 Berquin's Choice pieces    last edit[io]n    sh[ee]p

6 Wanostrocht's Dialogues    Do.        Do.

6        [""]        Receuil        Do.        Do.    French

2 Nugent's Pocket dict[ionar]y        sh[ee]p

1 Edinburgh Medical & Surgical Journal    Vol 1. 2    b[oar]ds

1 Walter's Gazetteer    8vo.   sh[ee]p    last edit[io]n

2 Bagster's Discovery

1 Bonnycastle's Arithmetic    sh[ee]p

6 Enfield Speaker    sh[ee]p

6 Brookes's Gazetteer    small    last edit[io]n    b[oar]ds

2 Sheridan's Pronouncing dict[ionar]y    sh[ee]p sq[ua]re]

1 The banker's sure guide, by S. Thomas    last edit[io]n

6 Jones's Biographical dict[ionar]y    8vo.   sh[ee]p

1 Kennard's Geog[raphica]l, hist[orica]l & comm[ercia]l grammar

1 neat 24mo. Bible upon hot pressed paper neat    C[al]f    about 10 or 11s.

1 Alston on landscape painting    10/6, Longman

3 Perrin's Fables    sh[ee]p

1 Millar's Gardener's dict[ionar]y, p[ar]t 20    10/6

3 Aikin's Nat[ura]l hist[or]y of the year

1 [Blair's Sermons?]    *This missing order was cut away at the top of the next page.*

You charge me (includ[in]g com[missio]n) 2.3.4 for Burn, and it sells for only 2.8.0,  
4/8 profit. You have either made a mistake or they are not worth selling.

You sent 2 doz. copy slips and charg'd only 1.

1 East's Reports, Easter Term

No. 85 Lyttleton's England was not sent in exchange for 84, send it.

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

No. 406 Ency[clopaedia] Lond[iensi]s was omitted, send it.

Send me a catalogue of 3 or 400 titles of novels and the price per volume, I want a few more.

I returned a song (The auctioneer) to be exchanged for "Beauty I sell who'll buy", it was not done.

I sent a few weeks past for Jortin's Works and you sent 3 vols. 8vo, surely that is not all. There are none of the Sermons in those you sent. What are the whole of his Works and how publish'd?

Have sent you the Hist[or]y of Worcester, price [*no stated price*]

1 Burn's Justice 4 v[ols.] b[oar]ds

---

*Mr Murcott*

*Aug[us]t 22. 1805*

Discontinue the Courier directed to W. Smith Esq., Malvern Wells.

J. V. H.

---

*Worcester Aug[us]t 25. 1805*

Sir

I duly rec[eive]d your invoice for wine &c. to the amount of £184.15.4 and have again to thank you for your kindness in paying so much attention to my interest. I perceive you have sent the wine by Endall's waggon. He is not a regular carrier to Worcester and only comes [from] Chipping Norton to Worcester when he has a full load; ther[e]fore it may be some time yet before I receive the wine. Whenever you send any more by waggon, I shall be oblig'd if you will send it by Burden's waggon, which sets out every Tuesday from the Castle and Falcon, Aldersgate Street, and every Saturday from the Saracen's Head, Snowhill, and I sh[oul]d be certain of receiving any thing sent by him in 3 days. Besides Mr. Burden is my friend and has it in his power to do me service in the wine trade. I think it will be as well to send off another pipe of port immediately in bottles, as I apprehend the pipe which is coming, will be all sold in a fortnight or 3 w[ee]ks.

[I] wish to ask & to act under your advice respecting the following subject.

A gentleman of this city who is Cashier at the Bank of Messrs. Farley and Co., and who is also a malster, has made me an offer of taking a share in the wine trade. He has a good deal of influence and possessed of property and would join me in the concern, if I felt inclined. I have stated to him very fairly my obligations to yourself and that I should in this case act under your pleasure.

The only advantage I see at present in having a partner with property and influence, would be from being enabled to give some credit and by that means extend the business, and as it is rumoured that Mr. Turner will not remain long in Worcester, his connections would be obtained; tho' at the same time I do not conceive that he does a great deal of business. However I should wish to act entirely under your advice which I am sure (whatever it may be) will be intended for the real interest of your obliged h[um]ble ser[vant]

J. V. H.

*C. Smith Esq. 21. Queen St. Cheapside*

---

*Crosby & Co.*

*Aug[us]t 28.*

2/4 h[al]f the carriage of the parcel which was 4/8.

1 Joseph Andrews Cooke's 6d. edit[io]n

1 Amelia " "

6 New introduction to geog[raph]y for youth. Sael & Co, 5th edit[io]n.

1 Poetical Register for 1804

6 Porney's Spellings last edit[io]n

1 An address to pedo and antipedo Baptists by Peter Edwards

2 London Latin vocabulary last edit[io]n sh[ee]p

5 Monthly Mag[azine] 4 Gent[leman]s 1 Zoological 2 Botanical

2 Sporting 4 Monthly Review 2 Antijacobin 2 B[ritish] Critic

2 Critical Rev[iew] 3 Monthly Museum 11 Ladies

2 European 1 Annals of Agriculture 1 Sowerby's Botany

2 Repertory 2 Bradley's Med[ical] Journal 2 Navy List

1 Army List 3 Fashions 10 Evangelical 1 Britannic

1 Eccentric 1 Monthly Mirror 1 Edinburgh Review

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*Aug[us]t 29. 1805*

Gent[leme]n

Herewith you will receive a d[ra]ft 2 mo[nths] £25 which please to place to my credit. I think it would be as well to send  $\frac{1}{2}$  a ticket in 16ths and a ticket in fourths and as I shall have a parcel from Crosby on Saturday, you would oblige me by sending the packet to his house. I have had a large quantity of posting bills stuck up all over the city and country and with respect to appearance, I assume you are beat all the other offices out of the field, and have no doubt but we shall exceed them by far in the sale of tickets.

With the utmost respect, gent[leme]n, I remain

J. V. H.

*Hazard, Burne & Co.*

---

*Aug[us]t 29. 1805*

Sir,

In answer to your last favor I beg leave to state that Mr. Farley's Cashier (Mr. Nicholls who is a very respectable and steady person) has for the present declined taking a part in the wine business and for the following reasons. Mr. Turner and himself have been particular friends for some years, and it was only in consequence of the expectation that Mr. T. was about to leave Worcester that Mr. Nicholls made me an offer of becoming a partner, but Mr. Turner denies any intention of quitting W[orcester], tho' by the bye such an event is confidently expected to take place, but he does not wish people to think so. However I shall go on according to my original plan, and if circumstances turn out as expected, Mr. N[icholls] and myself can then form another arrangement if it should appear eligible.

Mr. T[urner] sells his wine at 2 g[allon]s 13s., and I know he will undersell me at any price, therefore I must go as low as possible at first. I think of selling at 40s, which will merely pay my expenses, but as the article will in a little time speak for itself, I may venture to put in a little more. I should wish the pipe in bottles to come by the canal. and the pipes in wood by Bristol. I know that a powerful opposit[io]n will be formed against me, but that does not alarm me in the least; for what with the quality of the wine, the respectability of your House and under your protection, I have no occasion to fear any of them.

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

That no collusion may be used with effect against me, I intend to seal every bottle, I shall therefore be further obliged if you would procure me with 3 seals with J. V. HALL Worcester round the edge, and port, sherry, Lisbon in the centre.

Accept my best thanks dear Sir, for your great attention to my interest, and rest assured that no exertion shall be spared to merit the kindness you shew to

y[ou]r h[um]ble serv[ant]

J. V. H.

*C. Smith Esq. 21 Queen Street, Cheapside*

The seals may be sent to B. Crosby.

doz[en] basket hat

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*Sept[embe]r 2. 1805*

Sir

I return you 2 2s. stamps and 1 8d. do. which have been soiled, but not used. Also 23 old 6d. stamps for d[ra]fts, part of Kempster's stock, if you can get them allowed, shall be much obliged, have the goodness to send per return of coach 1 q[uire] 2s. d[ra]ft stamps and 1 q[uire] 4d. rec[eip]ts.

*Mr. Preedy*

---

*Crosby & Co.*

*Worcester Sept[embe]r 12. 1805*

By first coach

1 Pro aris et tocis

1 Alston on landscape painting

No. 406 Lond[iensis] Ency[clopaedia] was charged Aug[us]t 13. 359 to 438 but not sent, you have now sent it and charged it again

1 East's Reports, Easter Term

6 Jones's Biographical dict[ionar]y sh[ee]p 5/-

1 Brookes's Gazetteer, small, b[oar]ds, 4/6

Allow the song Auctioneer ret[urne]d 6d.

6 maps for files, don't send devices

1 The 4th vol. of the 8vo edit[io]n of Washington's Life

- 1 The last Missionary acc[oun]ts that was publish'd
- 1 Wright's Bible 29, 30, 91 to 96
- 1 Priestley's Bible 74 to 99
- 1 Ency[clopaedia] Lond[iensi]s, 288 to 326, 350
- 2 Do. 442 to 460
- 1 Domestic medicine, 5. 6. 7, 9 to 12
- 2 " " 17 to 20
- 6 Blair's Sermons 11 to 14
- 1 Eclectic and 1 Monthly Review, Aug[us]t
- 1 Monthly Mag[azine], Sept[embe]r
- 1 Gent[leman']s Mag[azine], Aug[us]t
- 1 Foster's Essays 2 v[olumes] 12 mo b[oar]ds, 7s.
- 1 The whole controversy between the Revd. Mr. Clayton and Mr. and Mrs. Ryland
- 1 Rowland Hill's Sermon, a warning to professors
- 1 Mr. Palmer's Letters to Mr. Hill
- 1 Burder's Sermon on lawful amusements

If Mr. Newton has himself publish'd a life of Cowper, send it  
Imperfection, letterpress to plate no 96 of Sowerby's Botany.

- 1 Quarl's Emblems
- 1 Young on the nature and action of cancers
- 1 The play of John Bull
- 1 A catalogue of plants cultivated in Brompton Garden with notes &c., White & Son
- 1 Medical mirror by E. Sibley, 5/-
- 2 doz. the very largest text copies
- 1 Fashion, Sept[embe]r

I enquired respecting Jortin's Works

- 1 Retrospect of philosophy. No. 2
- 1 Latin Com[mon] Prayer Book, 24 mo., good paper and print red morrocco
- 1 A book containing the Mass in English and Latin, 24 mo. if any so small, if not,  
next size, red morrocco
- 1 Aikin's Annual Review vol 1. 2. 3 b[oar]ds

What is the expence of the Cabinet maker's price b[oo]k in numbers

- 1 Evangelical Mag[azine] 43, 59, 71
- 2 Bell's Greek grammar
- 1 Law selections respecting tythes, commons &c. by J. B. Bird Esq. 2 v[olumes]  
8vo. b[oar]ds Clarkson & Sons
- 1 Bird duett
- 1 song What detains him, ah! why stays he

1 song, Sally Ray

1 Dr. Garnet's Lectures on zoonomia, for Worcester Medical Society, enquire  
You will herewith receive a bill 6 weeks for £45.19.0 amount of goods had in May.

---

*Mr. Carey*

*Sept[embe]r 12. 1805*

Pray send if publish'd

2 General atlas No. 15 to 18, col[oure]d

2 English atlas No. 8 to 12, col[oure]d

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*Hazard & Co.*

*Sept[embe]r 19. [1805]*

Gent[leme]n

Mr. Jno Parry of the post office here has applied to me to settle an acc[oun]t that is now open between your office and himself. He has also left in my hands 8 8ths in the Lottery which began drawing 4th April, the following numbers, 7m807, 10m843, 12m850, 19m715, 21m416, 24m389, 33m688, 35m661, pray inform me the fate of these numbers, and say what I am to pay for him and also for the ballance of his acc[oun]t. Herewith you will receive a d[ra]ft 1 mo. for £25, which you will place to my credit.

---

*Mr. Preedy, Stamp Office, Evesham*

*Worcester Sept[embe]r 24*

You will herewith receive a d[ra]ft 2 mo[nths] £40 which place to my credit and have the goodness to send by return of coach

2 q[uires] x 2d. rec[eip]ts

1 q[uire] x 12d. d[ra]fts

1 q[uire] x 18d. Do.

1 q[uire] x 2s. Do.

in y[ou]r invoice of Sept[embe]r 3 you charge 1 q[uire] 4d. rec[eip]ts £3.12., it should be £3.4s, alter it.

---

*Mr. J. Mawman, 22 Poultry*

*Sept[embe]r 25.*

8 as 6 octavo Bible min[im] type, single crown paper 4/6. Calf pared  
 10 as 8 12 mo. prayers in columns Brev[ier] type crown paper 1/4 old psalms  
 6 in Bl[ac]k sh[ee]p, yellow edges and 4 red sh[ee]p, gilt edges  
 5 as 4 12 mo. prayers. Lat[in] l[etter] Min[im] type fine th[ic]k post 2/6 old psalms  
 red sh[ee]p, gilt edges  
 6 as 5 24 mo. prayers Lat[in] l[etter] nonp[areil] fine writing Demy 1/6 old  
 psalms, red morrocco, gilt edges  
 10 as 8 24 mo. prayers, in columns, Royal paper? old psalms, 6 in red nd 4 in green  
 sheep  
 4 Berquin's choice pieces, last edit[io]n, 12 mo. sh[ee]p  
 1 Jones's Biographical dict[ionar]y, 18 mo. sh[ee]p, last edit[io]n, must be Jones's  
 or none  
 [1] Brookes's Gazetteer 18 mo. b[oar]ds, last edit[io]n  
 [1] Enfield Speaker 12 mo. sh[ee]p, last edit[io]n  
 2 Eton Latin grammar, 12 mo. last edit[io]n sh[ee]p  
 2 Atlas to Guthrie's Geog[raph]y, 8vo half b[oun]d  
 2 Historic tales, 12 mo. sh[ee]p  
 6 Porney's French spellings, last edit[io]n, sh[ee]p  
 1 Nugent's pocket Fr[ench] and Engl[ish] dict[ionary] square 12 mo. sh[ee]p sh[ee]p  
 [sic], 10th edit[io]n, must be 10th edit[io]n  
 6 Ruddiman's Rudiments, sh[ee]p  
 6 Wanostrocht's Fr[ench] grammar, last edit[io]n, sh[ee]p  
 50 Assembly's Catechisms, with proofs.  
 2 Greek grammar

By Burden's waggon

*Hazard, Burne & Co.*

*Sept[embe]r 27. 1805*

Herewith you will receive a d[ra]ft 1 mo[nth] for fifty pounds which place to my credit, also three quarter[s], four eighths, fifteen sixteenths which I return to you.

I beg leave to correct an error in the advance of tickets on the 7th inst. which is thus, between the time of my returning you an acc[oun]t of 2 halves [sic] on hand and the rec[eip]t of y[ou]r l[ette]r advising the advance I had sold 1 half for £10, consequently you must debit me the advance upon 1 only and with which I have credited y[ou]r acc[oun]t. Could you not send me 70 or 80 of your printed letters of advice respecting the fate of tickets as in that case I could fill them up myself from the Patent List and save you the trouble, otherwise I must merely write a short note to

the parties, which in my opinion would not be near so well as sending the regular office letter.

You will also receive 2 Eighth draw prizes of £20 each, which I have paid to Mr. Parry, the fourth's ret[urne]d are 17080, 12061, 15215, 20348.

---

Crosby & Co.

September 28. 1805

By mail on Monday night

1 Mason's Poems b[oar]ds

Can you produce Dugdale's Hist[or]y of the Lincolnshire *[portion of sheet torn off]*  
and what will be the price

1 Geodaesia, or the art of surveying, by John Love 9th edit[io]n corrected by S.  
Clark

Map of Asia for files

2 London vocabulary

1 An essay on the constitution and management of Sunday Schools

1 Evangelical Mag[azine], June and Nov[embe]r 1802

1 Samuel Fothergill's Letters b[oar]ds

1 Mattaire's Ceasar's *[sic]* Commentaries

1 Poetical Annual Register vol. 1.

1 Douglas De[ ] 6th edit[io]n

2 Keith's Arithmetic, with answers

1 A new geographical grammar &c.

1 Markham's Christ, No. 1 to 6

1 Banks's Bible 61 to 66

6 Blair's Sermons, 15

3 Domestic Medicine, 19 [to] 20

1 Do. 13 to 18

2 Ency[clopaedia] Lond[iensi]s, 446 to 460

1 Priestley's Bible, 79 to 85

1 Washington's Life vol 4th 8vo b[oar]ds

1 small map of Asia, for files, to correspond

2 doz. largest text copies

1 doz. small hand copies, for ladies

1 Latin Com[mon] Prayer ordered before

1 Ency[clopaedia] Lond[iensi]s, 291 to 326

5 Monthly Magazines and 5 Supplements

4 Gentleman's 1 Zoological 2 Botanical

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

2 Sporting 4 Monthly Review and 4 appendix's  
2 Antijacobin and 2 appendix's 2 Br[itish] Critic  
2 Critical Review and 2 appendix's 4 Monthly Museum  
11 Ladies 2 European 1 Annals of agriculture  
1 Sowerby's Botany 2 Repertory 2 Navy List  
2 Bradley's Medical Journal 1 Army List

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*[Top half of the sheet cut away]*

*[First line of the bottom half of the sheet:]* [ ] express [ ] your [wish?]  
and intentions to give me every support. I am particularly obliged by your prompt  
execution of Mr. Weaver's order and it being known that I intend keeping every kind  
of wines an application has this morning been made to me by the landlord of the  
Crown Inn to procure immediately some old hock, claret, and champagne *[sic]*. He  
will be a good customer. I could wish 2 or 3 doz. of each to be sent by first waggon,  
with the prices that you charge to coffee houses *per* doz.

You can hardly conceive how much ill nature is displayed by my contemporaries.  
Their fears have prompted them to circulate a report that my wines are Spanish and  
doctored and everything else, this excites my laughter more than otherwise for a little  
time will turn these idle tales upon themselves. They will know and fear the  
respectability of my connection and they also know that if it is your pleasure, I can  
exceed the whole of them all in choice and quality of wines.

Looking forward to a bright prospect accompanied with a steady attention to  
business, I remain Gent[leman],

J. V. H.

*C. Smith, Son, Martinez and Blake*

Have the goodness to select one of your best pipes of port, 'tis for a good friend of  
mine.

The wine sent by Golding and Sherley is not arrived.

---

*[Crosby & Co.]*

*[Top half of the sheet cut away]*

No. 1 to 21 and 23 to 42 of Scots Bible are to be exchanged for a set of 3 vols. in  
boards at 30/- *per* volume

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

- 2 Price's Cooking, sew[e]d
- 1 Glasse's *do.* 8vo sh[ee]p
- 2 Colloquies Erasmus
- 1 Omicron's Letters by Newton, a neat edit[io]n b[oar]ds
- 1 The Missionary account, last number publish'd, not the Baptist Missionary's think it is the London.
- 1 Wragg's Flute preceptor, last edit[io]n
- 1 East's Reports, Easter  
Sheet Oo Ency[clopaedia] Lond[iensi]s
- 1 a Book of offices, bl[ac]k c[al]f
- 1 The plates to Bell's Anatomy of the bones and muscles
- 1 The last edit[io]n of the Crown Circuit companion
- 1 Gregory's Astronomy, 12mo. b[oar]ds
- 1 Sermon by E. Gibert de Gurnsey, 2 [ ] 8vo 12s.

Murcott

direct the messenger to Mr. Atkinson, Merryman House, Worcester, Imperial Gazette, to self every week

- 1 doz. Thomson's large text copies
- 1 Newgate Calendar 1, 2, 4 to 6, 11 to 24, 32, 48
- 1 2d vol. Beauties of Scotland

A bill 2 mo[nths] for £30. 7s. 9d.

---

*Mrs. Wood, Shrewsbury*

Madam

As the time approaches for publishing the County Alm[anac]k, I beg leave to suggest a few hints that I conceive necessary for the publication.

In the first place (at the particular desire of the Dean of Worcester) I will thank you to omit the words "all fools day" after the first of April, it certainly is unmeaning and does the alm[anac]k no credit.

The Quarter Sessions for the City are as follows first Monday afte Epiphany, Monday after the close of Easter, Monday week after St. Thomas a Becket, Monday after Michaelmas.

James Wakeman Esq., Mayor  
Earl of Coventry, Recorder  
Tho[ma]s Pitt Esq., Sheriff

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

Benj[ami]n Johnson Esq., Town Clerk

Mr. Jno. Platt, Coroner

Member for Droitwich instead of S[i]r E. Winnington [is] Tho[mas] Foley, Esq.

Do. Gloucester instead of J. Pitt Esq. [is] Rob[er]t Morris, Esq.

say after the Worcester Hera[l]d &c.,

Berrow's Worcester Journal is also published every Wednesday by J. Tymbs, and circulated through the county and its vicinity, you may wonder at my wishing this to be inserted, but if it were to be omitted it, it would appear something vindictive and altho' it was just to retort upon Mr. Tymbs in his own way at first, yet I should be sorry to pursue such a line of conduct. It appears to me that if you were to leave out the list of commercial stamps and insert more Fairs it would increase the sale of the Alm[anac]ks for it is on acc[oun]t of the B.r. [sic] Alm[anac]k having more Fairs, that they rival us in the sale.

---

The five pirates.

Crosby & Co.

Oct[obe]r 22. 1805

By first coach

2 Atlas to Guthrie

1 East's Reports, Easter

2 Sael's Geog[raph]y, for children

3 Buchan's Medicine, 20

Plates to Bell's Anatomy

1 Markham's Christ, 25 to 30

1 Butler's Bible, 101 to 105

1 Banks's Bible, 71 to 75

1 Priestley's Bible, 82 to 84

2 Ency[clopaedia] Lond[iensi]s, 451 to 456

3 Geog[raph]y by a lady, 12mo sh[ee]p last edit[i]on.

1 The 2d. vol. of the Beauties of Scotland.

1 Letters by Sam[ue]l Fothergill of Warrington

2 Abercrombie's Gardening, 1/6

1 Alston on landscape painting

26 Burder's early Piety, stitch'd, blue paper

1 The act against combination of journeymen, with Sheridan's amendment

1 Dr. Bourne on uva ursi in consumptions

1 Newgate Calendar No. 3, 7, and 10.

2 Kearsley's Tax tables, last edit[i]on.

1 Mattaire's Ceasar's [sic] Com[mentaries] sh[ee]p

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

1 Select lessons.  
1 Clarke's Erasmus.  
1 a neat edit[i]o[n] of Mrs. Chapone's Letters, q[ui]r[e]s.  
1 Kearsley's Book of roads  
1 Carey's Do.  
2 pocket travelling maps, of great Britain.  
1 Lucy Franklyn or the vain cottager, b[oar]ds.  
1 Transactions of the Missionary Society, last vol[ume] publish'd.  
2 Boad's Spelling book, Robinson's  
1 Chalmers Shakspeare No. 12, 16 to 41  
1 App[endi]x to vol. 41 Monthly Review  
1 Monthly Review Dec[embe]r 1804

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*Worcester Oct[obe]r 25. 1805*

Sir

Have the goodness to send me by the first conveyance, 1 q[ui]r[e] x 3s. D[ra]fts, ½ q[ui]r[e] x 4s. *do.* and 2 sheets 5s. *do.*

The enclosed d[ra]ft for £20 you will place to my credit. J. V. H.

*Mr. Preedy, Stamp Office, Evesham.*

---

*Worcester Oct[obe]r 25. 1805*

Gent[leme]n

The enclosed d[ra]ft for £25 you will place to my credit, and send me by the first conveyance 12 r[ea]m[s] foolscap the same kind you formerly charged at 16s., but it must not be extra, also 6 r[ea]ms decent post about 13 or 14s. Y[ou]rs J. V. H.

*Holland, Taylor & Co., Ludlow*

---

*Mr. J. Mawman*

Herewith you will receive d[ra]ft 6 w[ee]ks for £17.5.3 amount of invoices Mar[ch] 2. and 19.

Send by first waggon

16 as 12 8vo Bibles, minim type, 4/6, c[al]f pared  
5 as 4 12mo Bibles, pearl type, 6s., bl[ac]k c[al]f gilt edges  
3 Atlas's to Guthrie, last edit[io]n.

*Mr. Suttaby*

*Worcester Nov[embe]r 1. 1805*

When publish'd, send as follows sold last year

|                                                           |   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|---|
| 3 Atlas in boxes                                          | 2 |
| 10 <i>do.</i> red morrocco x tuck, 2 lock                 | 9 |
| 10 Repository <i>do.</i> x tuck, 2 lock                   | 8 |
| 6 <i>do.</i> boxes.                                       | 4 |
| 4 Baldwin's Journal, sh[ee]p                              | 3 |
| 3 <i>do.</i> extra tuck                                   |   |
| 2 Johnson's Journal, sh[ee]p                              |   |
| 3 <i>do.</i> extra roan, strap with 6 blank leaves at end | 2 |
| 6 Kearsley's, sh[ee]p                                     | 5 |
| 6 <i>do.</i> extra tuck                                   |   |
| 3 Polite assistant boxes                                  | 2 |
| 6 Trusler's Clerical alm[anac]k.                          |   |
| 12 Moore's improved .                                     | 7 |
| 12 Goldsmith's alm[anac]k, m[ar]ble paper interleaved     | 8 |
| 6 <i>do.</i> morr[occo] tuck                              | 6 |
| 4 <i>do.</i> <i>do.</i> ass skin                          |   |
| 26 Lady's pocket books sorted                             |   |
| 26 <i>do.</i> extra, tuck and clasp                       |   |
| 1 q[ui]r[e] Wing's, sheets                                |   |
| 6 New London sheets                                       |   |
| 500 Moore's, q[ui]r[e]s.                                  |   |
| 6 Gent[leman]'s diary 12 Ladies diary 6 Poor Robin        |   |
| 6 White's Ephemeris 6 Partridge                           |   |
| 6 Raven sheets.                                           |   |
| 12 <i>do.</i> done up 2 mo[nths] for cases                |   |
| 3 Court Kalendar single                                   |   |
| 1 Historical alm[anac]k, red morrocco, tuck               |   |

3 Christian gent[lemen]s and preachers, diary, roan, tuck  
3 Christian ladies pocket b[oo]k, roan tuck  
2 Ladies own mem[orandum] b[oo]k done up for a cover  
2 Trusler's County alm[anac]k  
1 Stationers alm[anac]k  
1 Oxford alm[anac]k  
6 32mo prayer b[oo]k c[al]f no psalms  
6 32mo Watts' Psalms and hymns 32mo b[la]k c[al]f hollow back

---

*Worcester Nov[embe]r 5. 1805*

Sir

About 5 months ago I sent for some cross pens, they were sent here but I refused taking them into my house on account of overcharge and I this day learn that the parcel was returned to Bristol, I wish you would see into it and send me by the first waggon,

1000 quills at 2/6  
1000 *do.* at 4/-  
4 lb. best red Dutch wax, 10 to the lb.  
6 lb. “ “ “ “ , 20 *do.*  
2 lb. *do.* black , 20 *do.*  
2 lb. *do.* , 10 *do.*  
6 lb. Irish wafers, all red, No. 4 and 5 mixed together  
3 lb. *do.* colour'd, No. 2 and 3 mixed together  
500 extra pens at 5/6 or 5/9.

*J. Joseph, No. 27 Penn Street, Bristol*

---

*Novemb[e]r 15. 1805*

Mr. Murcott

You will herewith receive a d[ra]ft 6 weeks for nineteen guineas which place to the credit of, Sir, y[ou]r h[um]ble ser[vant]

J. V. H.

Advise me by Crosby's parcel

---

*B. Crosby & Co.*

*Nov[embe]r 26. 1805*

By coach on the 1st Dec[embe]r,

5 Monthly Mag[azines] 5 Gent[leman]s 1 Zoological 2 Botanical  
2 Sporting 4 Monthly Review 2 Antijacobin  
2 Br[itish] Critic 2 Critical 4 Monthly Museum  
11 Ladies 2 European 1 Sowerby's Botany  
2 Repertory 2 Bradley's Med[ical] Journal 1 Navy List  
1 Army List 1 Fashions 10 Evangelical  
1 Britannic 1 Monthly Mirror 1 Eclectic  
1 Wonderful 1 Universal  
26 Collect books, in blue paper  
52 Common church catechisms.  
2 Jones's Sheridan improved, square sh[ee]p  
4 *do.* best edit[io]n, q[ui]r[e]s  
1 Turner's view of the Heavens 3/6  
2 bottles permanent ink  
4 Keith's Arithmetic  
1 Baynton on ulcers  
1 Alston on landscape painting  
1 Retrospect of philosophy No. 3

Can the 3d and 4th vol[umes] of Raper's England be procured and what price

6 cakes, Lake  
26 Christmas Pieces, plain  
1 The beauties of sentiment 2 vols. b[oar]ds

---

*Dec[ember] 11. 1805*

Gent[leme]n

Herewith you will receive a d[ra]ft 6 w[ee]ks for £9. 12s. in exchange for which you will be so good to send by Burden's waggon from the Saracen's Head, Snowhill, 4 doz. packs best Mogul cards at 48s.

*Hunt & Son, 58 Mortimer Street, Cavendish Square*

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JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

*Williams & Cooper*

Send 2 r[ea]m[s] good second foolscap ruled faints for long folio, and 1 r[ea]m com[mo]n french m[ar]ble paper Demy.

J. V. H.

*Dec[ember] 11.*

---

*B. Crosby*

*December 11. 1805*

By first coach,

1 Aldridge's Logic  
1 Comitate Anglorum on a sheet, 2/6, with the problems 3s. in all.  
1 Cooke's Geog[raph]y No. 1  
6 Croxall's Easop's *[sic]* Fables  
1 Newgate Calendar No. 1.  
1 View of the world No. 40, 41. and 46.  
2 Deletanville's French exercises  
1 Monthly Mirror, Nov[embe]r  
2 Johnson's pocket Dict[ionar]y  
1 Cooke's Geog[raph]y, 4to, bound neat £3. 3s. 0d.  
2 Court Kalendars with Rider  
1 The complete Grazier  
1 Army List Dec[embe]r  
1 Navy List "  
1 Hume's England, 8vo edit[i]o[n], quires  
1 Wright's Bible, 49 to 105  
2 " " 106 to 120  
2 Ency[clopaedia] Lond[iensi]s, 453 to 460  
1 Priestley's Bible, 82 to 90  
1 Cooke's Geog[raph]y, 31 to 40

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*Crosby & Co.*

*Dec[ember] 28. 1805*

By first day of the month,

enquire respecting the whole of Jortin's works, every particular

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

1 Newgate Calendar, 2 to 6  
2 do. 7  
3 Ready reckoners, 12mo, sh[ee]p  
5 Monthly and 5 Sup[lements] 5 Gent[leman]s 1 Zoological 2 Botanical  
2 Sporting 4 Monthly Review 2 Antijacobin 2 Br[itish] Critic  
2 Critical 3 Monthly Museum 11 Ladies 2 European  
1 Sowerby's Botany 1 Universal 2 Repertory  
2 Bradley's Med[ical] Journal 1 Navy List 3 Army List  
1 Fashions 12 Evangelical and 10 supplements 1 Britannic  
1 Rectospect No. 3 2 Monthly Mirror  
1 Edinburgh Med[ical] Journal 1 Eclectic 1 Wonderful

2 Wragg's Flute preceptor, good copy.

What is the price of the last and best edit[i]on of Ovid's Metam[orphosis], either  
12mo or 8vo

1 song, Giles Scroggins's ghost.  
1 Annals of agriculture  
Goldsmith's Alm[anac]ks in m[ar]ble paper for cases  
Christian Lady's pocket b[oo]k  
1 Instructive selection by G. G. Scraggs, 2 v[olumes] 9s. b[oar]ds  
1 Crosby's Fortune telling pocket b[oo]k

send the note to Murcott

---

*Hazard, Burne & Co.*

*January 3. 1806*

Herewith you will receive as under d[ra]ft 1 month, £50

|                  |          |
|------------------|----------|
| 1 ¼ £20 prize    | 5        |
| 2 16ths do. 24/6 | 2. 9. 0  |
| 1 16ths £10      | 12. 3    |
|                  | <hr/>    |
|                  | 58. 1. 3 |

I observe that Heads of Lord Nelson are given with the Bowyers' tickets of which I have sold 2 and have 4 remaining. I also purchased last year 2 tickets in London for myself and if you can procure me the 8 prints, shall be glad. I also should wish to be informed if Bowyers' lottery is expected to be drawn with the next English lottery.

I have now on hand

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

|           | Advance | Debit                           |
|-----------|---------|---------------------------------|
| 3 4ths.   | 1s.     | 1. 6d.                          |
| 7 8ths.   | 1s.     | 3. 6                            |
| 27 16ths. | 6d.     | 6. 9                            |
|           |         | -----                           |
|           |         | 11. 9 with which I debit myself |

It would be as well be if you were to send a few Quarters as I expect to have a demand for them soon. Y[ou]rs respectfully J. V. H.

---

*Jan[uar]y 13. 1806*

Sir

Herewith you will receive a d[ra]ft 1 m[onth] £250 which to place to my credit and advise me of the same, a long letter beside, with account of stock.

*C. Smith Esq., 21 Queen Street, Cheapside*

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*B. Crosby & Co.*

*Jan[uar]y 28. 1806*

1 24mo Bible, c[al]f edges, with a tuck, ordered before  
 1 Life of Washington vol 5. b[oar]ds  
 1 Retrospect No. 3

Will you have any of the paper

1 Lady's Mag[azine] Jan[uar]y 1805  
 1 Rasselas, 12mo, sh[ee]p  
 1 Robinson Crusoe  
 1 Philip Quarl  
 2 Watts's Psalms and hymns, together neat 18mo edit[io]n in sh[ee]p or c[al]f  
 2 Porney's Spellings last edit[io]n  
 3 Vivier's Dialogues, last edit[io]n  
 1 White's System of veterinary medicine, 12mo b[oar]ds  
 1 View of the world No. 40, 41. and 46  
 1 Bogatzki's Golden treasury c[al]f  
 1 song Faithless Emma  
 1 The Asiatic Annual Register 1804  
 1 The Bengal and India Directory or Register for 1806

2 Perrin's Fr[ench] fables last edit[io]n

Q[ue]ry, you charge 6d for the effects of prayer in the Dobson family is not this too much they sell 4d.

What is the real selling price in London of Bland's collection of glees, they are marked at £6, if that is the price you must write me word it was a mistake if your people is charging at the rate of 8/8, or I shall get my bones broke for charging my customer 8/8.

2 24mo Bibles in q[ui]r[e]s were sent Jan[uar]y 15. and charged 5/6, is not this a mistake.

2 Evangelical Mag[azines], Jan[uar]y 1806

3 Wanostrocht's Recueil last edit[io]n sh[ee]p

4 " Grammar

1 duett All's well, sung in the Br[itish] Fleet

6 Monthly Mag[azines], and 5 Supplements to *do*.

5 Gent[leman]s Mag[azine]s 1 Zoological 2 Botanical

2 Sporting 4 Monthly Review 2 Antijacobin 2 Br[itish] Critic

2 Crit[ical] Review 3 Monthly Museum 10 Ladies

2 European 1 Sowerby's Botany 1 Universal

2 Repertory 2 Bradley's Med[ical] Journal 1 Navy List

1 Fashions 19 Evangelical 1 Britannic

2 Monthly Mirror 1 Eclectic 1 Wonderful

Desire Murcott to send the Mail regularly to Mrs. Hooper, Town Hall, Worcester

---

*Mr. Murcott*

*Jan[uar]y 28. 1806*

Herewith you will receive a d[ra]ft 6 weeks for £23.10.1d., acc[oun]t of your bill delivered to Dec[embe]r 31. 1805. Advise me of the same. Send an Evening Mail regularly directed to Mrs. Hooper, Town hall, Worcester and discontinue the Mail directed to Revd. Mr. Rudd, Kempsey. Mr. Hayes has not paid me his bill, says it is not due till Lady Day.

---

*Hazard, Burne & Co.*

*Jan[uar]y 28. 1806*

Enclosed is a d[ra]ft 1 mo[nth] £40 to my credit. I herewith hand you a list of numbers registered to the persons whose names are subjoined, send me by return of mail coach 6 or 8 4ths and 2 halves. I can return them on Saturday if not sold.

---

*Hazard, Burne & Co.*

*Worcester Feb[ruar]y 3. 1806*

Gent[leme]n

Herewith you will receive a d[ra]ft 1 mo[nth] £75 to my credit, also 4 16th prizes of £20 each, also 2 quarters, 9 eighths and 2 halves, which I return. I also send you the numbers of the sixteenths which I have on hand viz. 12637, 12638, 14607, 16678, 4154, 8572, 12084, 12092, 14096, 16410, 17077, 23100.

You write me that prizes are paying at 2 per cent disc[oun]t and that a £22 is paid £20.16, surely this is an error, as the disc[oun]t on £22 at 2 per c[en]t is but 8/9½

---

*Feb[ruar]y 19. 1806*

Dear Sir

I received your statement of acc[oun]t which is incorrect. In stating the amount of invoices you have omitted £2.16.5, viz. Feb[ruar]y 12 - £2.16.5

March 16. - 1.17

June 21. - 1.11

and you have also omitted giving me credit for the returns of atlas's &c., Jan[uar]y 7. and alm[anac]ks Feb[ruar]y 12. I herewith send you a d[ra]ft 2 mo[nths] for fifty pounds, with which I request you to ballance my acc[oun]t after you have corrected it and send me advise and copy of the same. The surplus money you will carry to the credit of my private acc[oun]t, send me word how late the stamps on alm[anac]ks are allowed.

*Mr. Suttaby*

---

*Crosby*

*March 5. 1806*

Herewith you will receive a d[ra]ft 2 mo[nths] £27.7.10 ballance of my acc[oun]t for November exclusive of the bottles and h[ogshead]s, which are to be returned.

*Worcester June 16 1806*

Gent[leme]n

You will have the goodness to send by Tow's Waggon from the Half Moon [Inn] Boro' 2 doz. port directed to Mrs. Steers, Edenbridge.

I should be also much obliged if you would select me an ½ hogshead (about 70 gall.) of very prime Lisbon, also the same quantity of Irdonia, pray let them be of the best quality as part is for a gent[lema]n of some consequence to me as a customer and who purchases a great deal of wine. Do not send larger quantities than ordered as I can not possibly stow them away. Have the goodness to let them be fined.

I notice at foot of your letter that I would be quite as safe to send bank notes out as under as it would save stamp and time. I understand the hint perfectly, but I did not think that Mr. Smith would have been so soon dissatisfied with my mode of payment as I considered him my friend to the very extent of the name, and thought that he would at least have allowed me to make my payments with convenience to myself, but if he expects me to answer the regular time of credit, he at once destroys the fabrick he had begun to raise. I am Gent[lemen]n yours

J. V. H.

*[C. Smith, Son, Martinez and Blake]*

---

*[October? 1806]*

Almanacks and pocket books sold for 1807.

|    |                               |                                                       |
|----|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 54 | Ladies pocket books           | com[mon] (13 Crosbys, 9 K[nott] and Lloyd, 5 Lane)    |
| 24 | <i>do.</i>                    | sh[ee]p rolled                                        |
| 60 | <i>do.</i>                    | roan tuck                                             |
| 20 | Gent[leman]'s <i>do.</i>      | com[mon] (6 Kearsleys, 4 Johnsons, 2 K[nott] & Lloyd) |
| 24 | <i>do.</i> <i>do.</i>         | tuck (7 Crosby's, 5 Knott and Ll[oyd], 8 Kearsleys)   |
| 8  | <u>Johnson's</u> <i>do.</i>   | Blank leaves each and (3 tuck, 3 clasp, 2 for covers) |
| 12 | Housekeeper's acc[oun]t books |                                                       |
| 4  | Atlas                         | Box                                                   |
| 3  | <i>do.</i>                    | mor[occo] tuck                                        |
| 3  | Repository                    | Box                                                   |
| 6  | <i>do.</i>                    | morrocco, tuck                                        |

## JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

|     |                                                                                                                                                                        |                                        |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 4   | <i>do.</i>                                                                                                                                                             | lock                                   |
| 5   | Souvenir                                                                                                                                                               | Box (Knott and Lloyd)                  |
| 6   | <i>do.</i>                                                                                                                                                             | morr[occo] tuck <i>do.</i>             |
| 2   | Gedge's Assistant                                                                                                                                                      | roan tuck                              |
| 3   | Goldsmith's Alm[anac]k                                                                                                                                                 | ass skin, morr[occo] tuck              |
| 3   | <i>do.</i>                                                                                                                                                             | <i>do.</i> lock                        |
| 5   | <i>do.</i>                                                                                                                                                             | (no skin) <i>do.</i> tuck              |
| 3   | <i>do.</i>                                                                                                                                                             | <i>do.</i> sh[ee]p, tuck               |
| 6   | Raven                                                                                                                                                                  | 1 mo[nth] and 2 mo[nths], folded paper |
| 6   | <i>do.</i>                                                                                                                                                             | 1 month morr[occo] tuck                |
| 4   | <i>do.</i>                                                                                                                                                             | folded for cases                       |
| 4   | <i>do.</i>                                                                                                                                                             | sheets                                 |
| 7   | Goldsmith's                                                                                                                                                            | interleaved, m[ar]ble paper            |
| 30  | Moore's Alm[anac]k <u>improved</u>                                                                                                                                     |                                        |
| 6   | Wills' Clerical alm[anac]k                                                                                                                                             |                                        |
| 5   | Court Kalender                                                                                                                                                         | with Rider                             |
| 1   | <i>do.</i>                                                                                                                                                             | single                                 |
| 758 | Moore's Almanacks                                                                                                                                                      |                                        |
| 310 | Worcester sheets                                                                                                                                                       |                                        |
| 37  | British sheets                                                                                                                                                         |                                        |
| 25  | Wing's sheets                                                                                                                                                          |                                        |
| 35  | <u>Book alm[anac]ks</u> , viz. 1 Gent[leman]'s diary, 10 Ladies <i>do.</i> , 10 Rider's, 3 Goldsmith's, 2 Poor Robin, 1 Freemason's, 3 Partridge, 5 White's Ephemeris. |                                        |
| 0   | [sic, for 6] Cambridge.                                                                                                                                                |                                        |
| 6   | six County alm[anac]ks, Worcester, Hereford, Gloster &c.                                                                                                               |                                        |
| 6   | New London sheet or Court and City Register                                                                                                                            |                                        |

1655

1 Stationer's Alm[anac]k  
1 Oxford *do.*

*Worcester Nov[embe]r 2d 1806*

Sir

Herewith you have a statement of cash paid on Robert Baldock's account and a d[ra]ft enclosed for £20.4.6 making the whole amount forty pounds which is also the amount of Robert's premium as agreed upon to be returned him by your h[um]ble ser[vant]

J. V. H.

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

*To Mr. W[illia]m Baldock, bookseller, Tunb[ridge] Wells*

---

*Worcester Dec[embe]r 8. 1806*

D[ea]r Sir

Herewith you will receive a d[ra]ft 6 w[ee]ks £100, which place to my credit and send by Tow's Westerham Waggon from Half Moon Inn Boro, 2 doz. port, directed Mrs. Steers, Mr W. Goodwin's Edenbridge and charge same to my acc[oun]t.

Y[ou]rs respectfully

J. V. H.

*C. Smith Esq., 19 Queen Street, Cheapside, London*

---

*Worcester Dec[embe]r 15. 1806*

Gent[leme]n

Herewith you will receive a d[ra]ft 6 w[ee]ks for thirty pounds which place to my acc[oun]t and send me fifty sixteenths by coach.

J. V. H.

*Hazard and Co.*

---

*Jan[uar]y 5. 1807*

Gent[leme]n

Herewith you will receive a d[ra]ft 1 mo[n]th for £100, which place to my credit and advise me of same.

J. V. H.

*C. Smith and Co., Queen Street, Cheapside London*

---

*January 5. 1807*

D[ea]r Munk

Herewith you will receive a d[ra]ft 6 w[ee]ks for £40, which place to my credit.

J. V. H.

*Mr. E. Munk, Maidstone.*

---

*Worcester Jan[uar]y 12. 1807*

*To Christ[ophe]r Smith, Son and Co.*

Gent[leme]n

Enclosed is a d[ra]ft for two hundred pounds which place to my credit.

Your statement of my account to Dec[embe]r 31. is correct, balance in your favor £1609.9.4.

I notice your remark that “the amount is much increased since June last” but it would not become a person so dependent as I am upon the friendship of C. Smith Esq. to say much about a remark that would have given me pain if I was unprepared to state how the amount has arisen and also where the full value of it is deposited in perfect security.

From the 9th July to Dec[embe]r 31. the wine &c. &c. rec[eive]d from your house amounts to 1149.13.2., of which (from a slack trade) I had only sold to the amount of £733.13.4d, this consequently encreased the balance to within £26 of the £1609, agreeable to your statement. On taking stock at Christmas I had in wine and brandy &c £806.4.8½ and in book debts (all safe) 576.3.3½ [total] £1472.8.0 which leaves a balance of £137.1.4 and this I have been obliged to employ in my stationary trade, both from an increase of business and from being obliged to give 12 & 18 mo[nths] credit.

Circumstanced as I am, my inclinations as well as duty lead me to be very explicit and open in laying before you the whole of my concerns with all possible sincerity. At the commencement of 1804, I came to this city a complete stranger and on my character alone was enabled to borrow £940 of my friends to enter upon a ruined trade. I had no money whatever of my own, but by very great success I have been

enabled to pay off every shilling that I borrowed, and at the present moment, no person in the world is a holder of any paper or other demand against me except what are called living debts, and I consider myself worth £[blank] after discharging every demand whatever.

This good fortune I attribute in a great measure to the unchanging kindness of my friend C. S. Esq. who came forward in a noble manner and placed me in the wine trade, which has enabled me to rise above my unfortunate predecessors; but at same time I beg to observe that Mr. S. not only knew of my inability to bear stock, but very handsomely said "Mr. Hall, I know you cannot bear stock yourself, and if I had not predetermined to do it for you, I should not propose your becoming a wine merchant; but I have often told Mr. Prentis that I would lose no opportunity of rendering you all the service that should be in my power". This promise has been completely fulfilled up to the present moment, and I should not have taken up so much of your time, Gentlemen, but to remove any fears that you might entertain either as to the integrity or the ability of your already obliged

J. V. H .

If Mr. S. should see my valuable and most sincerely kind friends Mr. and Mrs. P. I request he will give them very grateful acknowledgements for all their munificent goodness towards us also.

Since taking stock at Christmas I have not received more than £30 of the £576 then owing me for wine.

---

Policies received between Sept[embe]r 29th & Dec[embe]r 25 1806

James Barrett, insurance £400, duty 10s.

Thos. Lessingham, £400, *do.* 10s.

Joseph Wagstaff, £300, *do.* 7/6

Insurance renewable Sept[embe]r 29. 1806

Stephen Burden, £200, duty 5s.

Richard Spillman, £1000 *do.* £1.5.0

Thomas Mason, £550 *do.* 13/9

Joseph and Cha[rle]s Lengham declined Mar[ch] 24. 1806

George Everell " " " "

John Hickey " " " "

The office charged Ja[me]s Barrett's premium as doubly Hazardous, it is only Hazardous, therefore the books must be altered from £1 to 12s. and give me credit

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

accordingly. I altered his policy to that effect. I returned Mr. Barrett 1s. 10d. the difference of one month's insurance and duty.

J. V. H.

*Feb[ruar]y 5. 1807      Tho[ma]s Bignold Esqr.      Norwich Union Fire Office*

---

*Worcester    May 27. 1807*

C. T. Russell Esqr. in acc[oun]t with J. V. Hall

Dr.

1807 May 27. By d[ra]ft / Mrs. Wickham's due Apr[il] 1. 1808    £45.0.0  
D[ra]ft 6 w[ee]ks    £23.8.6  
By note of hand for ballance carr[ie]d forward    £40  
[Total] £108.8.6

Cr.

1807      By note of hand dated Feb[ruar]y 27. 1804    £100  
By one year's interest upon *do.* from  
Feb[ruar]y 16 1806 to Feb[ruar]y 16. 1807    £5  
Interest upon *do.* from Feb[ruar]y 17. to  
June 1st, 3 months and 12 days      £1.8.3½  
By discount on (Mrs. Wickham's) d[ra]ft  
£45, 10 months from June 1. 1807 due  
April 1st. 1809      £1.17.6  
Disc[oun]t on d[ra]ft 6 w[ee]ks £23.8.6      2.8½  
[Total] £108.8.6  
By note of hand dated June 1. 1807    £40

To Mr J. Prentis

Sir

Above is a statement of my acc[oun]t with Mr. C. T. Russell and herewith you will receive Mrs. Wickham's d[ra]ft £45 and Farley's d[ra]ft 23.8.6 and my note of hand for the ballance £40, &c &c &c &c &c &c &c

J. V. H.

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*Worcester Sept[embe]r 15. 1807*

Dear Suttaby

On the 12th of last month I sent you an order enclosing a draft for £40 and last week I wrote again to you stating that I had so done, but no notice has been taken of either of my letters. I request you to acknowledge this by return of post.

I now hand you an order for annuals which you will execute in due time.

- 104 Ladies p[ocket] b[oo]ks, (26 com[mon], 26 sh[ee]p rolled and 52 roan tuck)
- 26 Gent[leman]'s p[ocket] b[oo]ks (13 com[mon] (or Kearsley's) 13 tuck)
- 2 Johnson's *do.*, com[mon]
- 3 *do.*, roan tuck, with 12 blank leaves each end
- 1 *do.*, done up for cover, *do.*
- 26 Repositories and Atlases, viz. 4 Rep[ositories] in boxes, 8 mor[occo] tuck,  
5 *do.* locks, 3 atlases, box, 3 *do.* mor[occo] tuck, 3 Royal Rep[ositorie]s.  
morr[occo] tuck
- 4 Gedge's assistant, roan tuck
- 6 Goldsmith's Alm[anac]k, ass skin, mor[occo] tuck and 4 *do.* lock
- 6 *do.* no skin *do.* and 6 red sh[ee]p tuck
- 12 *do.*, interleaved, marble paper
- 6 Raven, 1 mo[nth] and 2 mo[nths] folded in paper, 6 *do.* for cases
- 6 *do.*, sheets and 6 *do.* 1 mo[nth], morroco tuck.
- 30 Moore's improved
- 12 Clerical
- 3 Court Kalendar, with Rider
- 2 *do.* single
- 6 New London sheet, 6 Cambridge, 6 six County
- 1 y[ea]r Wing's sheet
- 12 Ladies diary, 3 Gent[leman]'s, 12 Riders, 6 Goldsmith, 6 Partridge 6 Poor  
Robin, 3 Freemason's, 6 White's Ephemeris stitched
- 26 quires (or 650) Moore's Alm[anac]ks

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Worcester Sept[embe]r 15. 1807

Gent[leme]n

As follows I send you a statement of policies and I have had no policies sent me between the 24th June and 29th Sept[embe]r but the following were renewable the 24th June.

|                 |                | Premium |
|-----------------|----------------|---------|
| Richard Redding | L[ ] Worcester | £300    |
| Tho[ma]s Incell | do.            | 500     |
| J. V. Hall      | do.            | 700     |

I wish you would make out a policy for Thomas Hall who insures four hundred pounds upon household furniture, linen and wearing apparel in his dwelling house (brick and tile) situate in Sansom Fields in the parish of St. Nicholas in the City of Worcester (or common insurance)

Memorandum. The office charged James Barrett's premium (of Ledbury) as doubly hazardous, it was sent as Hazardous, and is only such, therefore the books must be altered from £1 to 12s. premium.

You will have the goodness to alter my policy (at least in the books) from £700 to £1000 as I have commenced the wine trade in addition to my former business therefore wish to add £300 upon the whole of my stock in trade including wine and stationary, linens, furniture &c. My premises are all brick and tile and almost bomb proof.

I wish to know in case of alteration in a policy whether the agent is allowed to do it on sending the particulars to the office or whether the policy itself must be sent. I have sent to a Mr. Wood of Gloster (a very respectable man) respecting the agency for that city I requested him to write you upon it. I wish some more proposals and to say whether the returns at the end of 7 years is on the premium only or premium and duty together.

James Barrett's insurance should be a thatched building & not a warehouse as stated in his policy.

The cash that I have received for insurances up to the present date inclusive amounts to £37.9.3 against which I have

|                                   |        |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Expences                          | 1.8.8  |
| Mr. Holl's bill for adv[ertisin]g | 25.0.0 |
| D[ra]ft remitted                  | 8.1.0  |
|                                   | <hr/>  |
|                                   | 34.9.8 |

Add to this, my commission, will render a remittance unnecessary.

*[Norwich Union Fire Office]*

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*Nov[embe]r 6. 1807*

Gent[leme]n

Your clerk called on me last Tuesday and settled your account and afterward called and requested me to take 3 crates of bottles which were in dispute between him and Mr. Lewis of this city, at same time assuring me the bottles were in good sound condition, and that Mr. Lewis had complained of them without even having them unpacked, in consequence of which I sent my porter for them, but found the[y] had been unpacked and repacked on account of being unfit for use. My man brought me 2 crates but I refused to take the other, as upon inspection I can perceive that several of the bottles in the 2 crates are broken, therefore I shall have nothing to do with any [of] them and I can but be sorry that a deception should have been attempted to be practised upon me.

The order I gave for 100 dozen I hope you will execute immediately.

*Honeybourn and Co., Stourbridge*

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*[November? 1807]*

Almanacks &c sold for the year 1808.

|    |                                   |                                                           |
|----|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| 42 | Ladies p[ocket] b[ooks], com[mon] | (8 K[nott] and Ll[oyd's])                                 |
| 14 | do.                               | sh[ee]p roll[e]d                                          |
| 96 | do.                               | roan tuck (10 K[nott] and Ll[oyd's]) (4 Christian Ladies) |
| 16 | Gent[[eman]'s do.                 | com[mon] (3 Knott and Lloyd's)                            |
| 23 | do.                               | tuck (10 K[nott] and Ll[oyd's])                           |
| 11 | Crosby's Grazier's                | (5 com[mon]: 6 extra)                                     |
| 3  | Johnson's do.                     | Blank leaves each end and strap                           |
| 0  | do.                               | com[mo]n                                                  |
| 10 | Housekeeper's acc[oun]t books     | (6 Crutwell, 4 Crosby)                                    |
| 1  | Atlas,                            | box.                                                      |
| 2  | do.                               | mor[occo] tuck                                            |

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

|     |                       |                                                                                        |                                    |
|-----|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 0   | <i>do.</i>            | lock                                                                                   |                                    |
| 5   | Repository            | <i>do.</i>                                                                             |                                    |
| 5   | <i>do.</i>            | tuck, 3 Royal                                                                          | <i>do.</i>                         |
| 4   | <i>do.</i>            | box                                                                                    |                                    |
| 2   | La Souvenir           | <i>do.</i>                                                                             |                                    |
| 5   | <i>do.</i>            | tuck                                                                                   |                                    |
| 0   | <i>do.</i>            | lock                                                                                   |                                    |
| 0   | Gedge's Assistant,    | roan tuck                                                                              |                                    |
| 3   | Goldsmith's,          | ass skin, mor[occo] tuck                                                               | 3 <i>do.</i> lock                  |
| 4   | <i>do.</i>            | no skin,                                                                               | <i>do.</i> <i>do.</i>              |
| 5   | <i>do.</i>            | sh[ee]p                                                                                | <i>do.</i> 2 <i>do.</i> stitch[e]d |
| 3   | Raven                 | 1 and 2 mo[nths], folded paper                                                         |                                    |
| 1   | <i>do.</i>            | 1 mo[nth] morro[cco] tuck,                                                             | 0 <i>do.</i> thumb <i>do.</i>      |
| 2   | <i>do.</i>            | folded for cases                                                                       | 3 <i>do.</i> sheets                |
| 6   | Goldsmith's,          | interleav[e]d, m[ar]ble paper                                                          |                                    |
| 37  | Moore's improved      |                                                                                        |                                    |
| 10  | Will's, Clerical.     |                                                                                        |                                    |
| 3   | Court Kalender, Rider | 5 <i>do.</i> single                                                                    |                                    |
| 670 | Moore's alm[anac]ks   |                                                                                        |                                    |
| 210 | Worster               | <i>do.</i>                                                                             |                                    |
| 173 | British               | <i>do.</i>                                                                             |                                    |
| 9   | Wing's                | <i>do.</i>                                                                             |                                    |
| 5   | 6 County alm[anac]ks  | 2 Cambridge                                                                            |                                    |
| 5   | New London sheets     |                                                                                        |                                    |
| 1   | Stationer's           | 1 Oxford                                                                               |                                    |
| 23  | Book alm[anac]ks      | 10 Ladies Diary, 0 Gent[leman]'s. 1 Partridge 2 Poor Robin 3 White 0 [sic] Freemason's |                                    |

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*Copy of a letter to the Revd. J. [recte Francis] Stone late Rector of [Cold Norton, Essex,] who was deprived of all his Church benefits by the Bishop of London for preaching a sermon at the Archdeacon's visitation at [Danbury, Essex,] on [8 June 1806] in which he denied the doctrine of the Trinity, and which he proved from the scriptures to be an erroneous doctrine.*

*Worcester July 30. 1808*

Reverend and persecuted friend,

I entreat you will pardon my presuming to address you personally, but I give way to the impulse of feelings excited by the harsh and unchristianlike treatment you have

lately experienced, and in such direct opposition to the precepts and example of our blessed Saviour; but it is not for a young man like myself, to teach so learned and so good a follower of Christ as you are, what is right or what is wrong: you know them well, and have given to the world at large a noble proof of your Paul, like courage and integrity, and I trust that the God of Mercy will not suffer your gray hairs to go down with sorrow to the grave, but that in addition to the approbation of your own heart you will experience the approving kindness and encouragement of thousands of rational creatures, who in adoring our Heavenly Father are (like yourself) guided solely by His word and commandments as revealed to us in the Holy Scriptures.

Acting from principle, I enclosed to Mr. Eaton (by Mr Crosby) my mite towards a subscription which I then (30th May) hoped would be immediately entered into by our whole body of Unitarians for your service and comfort, but I sent it to him as if from a Lady at Worcester. I am deeply sorry that the want of fortune prevents my subscribing in a manner equal to the warmth of my feelings, yet I hope you will not be offended at my requesting as a favor, that will receive another mite in addition to my former one, and I shall feel proud indeed if I am hereafter enabled to give a stronger expression of the manner in which I regard your upright conduct.

May the God of Heaven and of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you and your family through every trying scene, and give you life eternal.

I esteem myself fortunate in being possessed of your excellent publications, and my gratification would be complete indeed if I could add thereto, what (to me) would be a sacred relick, a few lines in your own hand-writing addressed to your conscientiously admiring friend and very h[um]ble serv[an]t

J. V. Hall  
Bookseller

If the subscribers' names are entered in a list, mine may be entered also, as I am neither ashamed nor afraid of professing the truth.

Addressed (post paid)

Revd. Mr. Stone, at Messrs. Brown, Cobb and Co., bankers, No. 66 Lombard Street, London, enclosing a cheque on Roberts and Co. for £1.1.0.

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# JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

*Worcester Aug[us]t 15. 1808*

Gent[leme]n

On the 30th. ult. I wrote to the Revd. Mr Stone enclosing my second subscription of £1.1.0, and addressed the letter to your house, requesting a few lines in answer; but not having receiv[e]d any, I should deem it a mark of politeness if you would inform me whether my letter was received by Mr. Stone or if it has miscarried.

J. V. H.

Messrs. Brown, Cobb and Co., bankers, 66 Lombard St[ree]t, paid

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*[December? 1808 and December? 1809]*

Almanacks &c sold for 1809 for 1810

|     |                                          |        |
|-----|------------------------------------------|--------|
| 675 | Moore's                                  | 520    |
| 6   | Lady's Diary                             | 6      |
| 6   | Rider                                    | 6      |
| 6   | 2 White , 2 Partridge, 2 Robin           | same   |
| 25  | Wing's sheet                             | 18     |
| 150 | British                                  | 142    |
| 200 | Worcester                                | 175    |
| 6   | Wor[ce]ster Gloster &c                   | 4      |
| 1   | Oxford, plate                            | none   |
| 36  | Moore's improved                         | 48     |
| 5   | Clerical (Will's)                        | 4      |
| 6   | Court Kalendar, 3 single 3 Rider         | 2 each |
| 56  | Lady's p[ocket] b[oo]ks <u>com</u> [mon] | 39     |
| 97  | <i>do.</i> , roan tuck                   | 78     |

Atlases &c

|    |                                                                          |                             |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 7  | 3 Repository, 2 Royal, 2 Polite Assist[an]t <u>in boxes</u>              | 9 Rep[ositor]y, 6 Royal     |
| 12 | 3 " 3 " 6 Sovenir, <u>morr</u> [occo] <u>tuck</u>                        | same                        |
| 8  | 3 " 3 " 2 " <u>morr</u> [occo] <u>lock</u>                               | same                        |
| 2  | Atlas, <u>morr</u> [occo] tuck                                           | same                        |
| 26 | Gent[leman]'s p[ocket] b[oo]ks, 13 sorted <u>com</u> [mon] 13 extra      | same                        |
| 3  | Johnson's <i>do.</i> 12 leaves each end, <u>morr</u> [occo] <u>strap</u> | same                        |
| 4  | Crosby's <i>do.</i> 2 <u>com</u> [mon] 2 extra                           | 3 <u>com</u> [mon], 3 extra |
| 6  | Goldsmith's, <u>roan tuck</u>                                            | 6                           |

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

|      |                                                     |                                   |
|------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 4    | “ (skin) do.                                        | 5                                 |
| 12   | Raven, 4 plate cover, 1. 2. 3, 4 sheets, 4 folded   | same                              |
| 13   | Knott and Lloyd's Gent[leman]'s, 4 com[mon] 5 extra |                                   |
|      | sh[ee]p. 4 c[a]lf extra.                            | 5 com[mon], 4 sh[ee]p, 3 c[a]lf   |
| 9    | Housekeeper's acc[oun]t b[oo]k,                     | 12 Crosby's, 2 Crutwell           |
|      | 6 Crosby, 3 Crutwell                                | 2 Crosby's Farmer's,              |
|      | <u>com[mon]</u>                                     | 2                                 |
|      | “ extra                                             |                                   |
| 1377 |                                                     |                                   |
|      |                                                     | 21 Lady's, sorted <u>com[mon]</u> |
|      |                                                     | 8 “ extra                         |
|      |                                                     | 2 Poole's, tuck                   |
|      |                                                     | 2 Gedge's, do.                    |
|      |                                                     | 6 Goldsmith's int[erleave]d,      |
|      |                                                     | m[ar]ble paper                    |
|      | Morrocco cases in hand                              |                                   |
| 4    | Goldsmiths, <u>tuck</u> , 4 lock                    |                                   |
| 13   | Repository, tuck                                    |                                   |
| 2    | London, 1 mo[nth] tuck                              |                                   |

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*Worc[este]r Mar[ch] 9. 1809*

*Sir,*

Enclosed is a d[ra]ft 3 mo[nths] £27.9.0 am[oun]t of goods from your house, viz.  
Dec[ember] 7. 24.12.1. and Jan[uary] 10. 2.17.0

Mr Long called on me for the 24.12.1, but as I had previously settled with yourself that you wou[l]d serve me direct and as the invoice was made in your own name, I refused to pay him, not choosing to have any connection with him in business. The last invoice for 2.17.0 was made out in Mr Long's name, but I beg you to transfer it to your own and acknowledge the rec[eip]t of the enclosed for the whole. I did not expect to be written to so soon for the am[oun]t as I expected 6 mo[nths] credit, which I never extend, but the whole sum is so trifling that I have only to subscribe myself. Yours respectfully

J. V. Hall

*J. Williams No. 10 Cornhill*

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JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

*Messrs Dixon and Co. Wharfinger                      Birmingham*

Gent[leme]n

Yesterday I received a h[ogs]h[ea]d and a h[al]f h[ogs]h[ea]d of wine from London by your conveyance, and I am sorry to complain to you again of pillage.

The hogshead when shaken appearing to be short of being full so I suspected what was the cause and that I might have sufficient evidence of the fact, I immediately sent for the Excise Officer before the wine was removed from the yard and knocked up the bung in his presence and finding the bung diameter 26.7 and the wet I make only 24.9, we searched for the plug and found it had been plugged between the smart hoops near the bung and the plug upward of an inch within side the cask. The Officer has calculated the quantity taken away which is upwards of six quarts for which he has given me his voucher signed; in consequence of which I debit your acc[oun]t £1.0.3. It is very unpleasant to have these things happen and I think you Gent[leme]n should look into it and search the rascals out.

J. V. H.

*Worcester   June 7. 1809*

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*Worcester   Aug[us]t 19. 1809*

*Mrs. Woolley   No. 12 Coleshill Street, Birmingham*

Madam,

I am sorry to inform you that I shall be under the necessity of returning the music paper which your people have completely spoiled by bad ruling. I have endeavoured to dispose of it in many different ways but without success, and yesterday I offered it to Mr. Weller (Bland and Weller) of London who would have purchased the whole quantity but upon looking over it declined the purchase and explained the error of the machine. He is the bearer of this letter and will be the person I must refer to in the case of any dispute about it.

I remain your h[um]ble serv[an]t

J. V. Hall

*Sent by Mr. Weller (Bland and Weller) London*

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JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

*Mrs. Woolley Birmingham*

Madam,

I have written you twice respect[ing] the royal paper ruled for music and spoiled by your people and have rec[eive]d no kind of answer. I have only now to say, that unless you make me the compensation for the same according to my letter of the 20th inst[ant], I shall desire my attorney to proceed against you immediately and I will also without fail request my friend Mr. Knott to advertise the whole transaction in his paper that such an imposition may receive all possible publicity.

Y[ou]rs J. V. Hall

*Oct[obe]r 9. 1809*

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*Mrs. Woolley, Birmingham*

*Nov[embe]r 4. 1809*

Wrote Mrs. W. saying &c &c &c &c “and that I would endeavour to sell some of the paper and sh[oul]d return her 3 4to r[ea]ms, which at 95s. for fo[lio] r[ea]m of 20 perfect quires is 7.2.6 or 2/4½ per 4to quire, but I will take off the 4½d. and then the 60 quarto quires will am[oun]t £6.6.0, for which sum either you or myself could replace the paper.”

I will thank you to send me as follows, 6 r[ea]ms of very good stout second foolscap ruled as under,

|                                             |                 |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 r[ea]m head line and com[mon]             | br[oa]d fo[lio] |
| 1 r[ea]m <i>do.</i> <i>do.</i>              | long fo[lio]    |
| 1 r[ea]m <i>do.</i> <i>do.</i> and f[ain]ts | <i>do.</i>      |
| 1 r[ea]m <i>do.</i> <i>do.</i> <i>do.</i>   | br[oa]d fo[lio] |
| 1 r[ea]m faints and common                  | <i>do.</i>      |
| 1 r[ea]m <i>do.</i>                         | long fo[lio]    |

Enclose an invoice and I will remit the bal[an]ce and paper in a week after received.

J. V. H.

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*Mrs. Woolley Birmingham Dec[embe]r 9. 1809*

Madam,

After the polite letter you wrote me respecting your proposal to send me ruled paper, I did not expect so much delay w[oul]d have taken place in the performance of that proposal. If I do not receive the paper in a very short time, I shall begin to suspect something unpleasant and shall act accordingly

Y[ou]rs J. V. H.

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*For the list of almanacks sold for the year 1810 [in December? 1809], see the [December? 1808] list.*

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*Worcester. Jan[uar]y 24. 1810*

Gent[leme]n,

Enclosed is a d[ra]ft for £60.19.0, which balances our acc[oun]t to Sept[embe]r 18. 1809, inclusive. I am in want of paper but as I expect your clerk in a few days with samples, I prefer delaying my orders till that time. With thanks for your handsome credit (which will always command my orders)

I remain, gent[leme]n, y[ou]r obed[ien]t J. V. H.

*Holland and Russell, paper manufacturers, Ludlow*

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*Lady Hort, Malvern June 18, 1810*

J. V. Hall begs leave respectfully to inform Lady Hort that he has no connection whatever with Mr. Hyde, but upon his own account will give her Ladyship her price of 15 guineas for the instrument if it is really a good one and with additional keys.

*Copy of a letter to C. Smith and Co. Worcester, Saturday 15th Sept[ember] 1810*

Gent[leman].

Yesterday I sent you a d[raft] for £100 with a small order for wine; to day I received yours expressing surprize at my long silence and your anxiety at my not having remitted, agreeable to a hint in yours of the 31. July. I cannot but feel deeply sorry that your confidence has been so much shaken as to introduce any doubts of my strict integrity towards yourselves most particularly or to any other person; and nothing would give me more pain than not to answer to the utmost farthing every demand that could be made upon me. The reason I did not remit sooner, was from my not owing (at least what I conceive owing) to your house on the 29th July more than £123.4.10., as will appear in a statement taken from my ledger as follows,

Dr. The wine vault

Cr.

1810 July 29.

|                           |          |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Ow[in]g C. Smith and Co.  | 1231.7.2 |
| to individuals for corks, |          |
| carr[riage] &c. &c.       | 33.16.-  |
|                           | <hr/>    |
|                           | 1265.3.2 |

1810 July 29.

|                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| Stock in trade  | 584.18.- |
| Book debts      | 523.14.6 |
| Cash employed   | 157.0.8  |
| in stat[ioner]y |          |
| trade           | <hr/>    |
|                 | 1265.3.2 |

Memo[rum] ow[in]g J.V.H. this day for stat[ioner]y £513.7.4  
Am[ou]nt of stat[ioner]y stock £1160 exclusive of book debts.

From the above statement, gent[leman], it will appear that on the 29th July, the stationery trade was indebted to the wine vault £157.0.8. of which £123.4.10 was belonging to yourselves and the remain[de]r to individuals. I believe it has always been clearly understood (and certainly known to Mr. C. Smith) that not being able to bear stock myself, I stood more in the situation of an agent or clerk than as a principal, and under such consideration I have always kept the 2 trades quite separate, making the one cr. or dr. to the other according to circumstances. Since the 29 July I have received only 47.13.0 for wine which added to 123.4.10 will make a total of 170.17.10. One hundred pounds of this was sent you yesterday, and I will use my best endeavours, gent[leman], to send the remainder in 6 or 8 days, with thanks for your indulgence.

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

I am sometimes inclined to hope that Mr. Smith is not the less my friend from writing coolly, than he wrote with more kindness, but coldness from him is not quite so pleasant to, gent[leme]n, y[ou]r obed[ien]t

J. V. H.

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*Mr. Bromfield*

*Worcester Sept[embe]r 17. 1810*

*[Letter not written out]*

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*Worcester Sept[embe]r 27. 1810*

Gentlemen

This day goes from hence to Bristol by Soule's vessell [*sic*] a hogshead of port 67 gallons consigned to Yarworth and Jones on your account. It is part of one of the two pipes received from them (on your acc[oun]t) in May last. The wine has never been in proper condition on acc[oun]t of the cask being fusty. I have tried all I could to dispose of it and so doing have offended some of my customers and have several times been obliged to take the wine back again, and despairing of getting rid of it, thought the best plan would be to return it at once. I have about 10 doz[en] of it in bottles. A wine merch[an]t of my extensive connections in Lancaster tasted it and said he never met with any port so badly affected by the cask in his life, and that my only method would be to send it back again.

On Friday I sent you 2 empty h[o]gsh[ea]ds, which you will be so good to fill, one with Lisbon and the other with Careavella. The Lisbon which I complained of several months ago is still as bad as ever, tho' I am in hopes of working off as it is all bottled and stacked.

(Send me a pipe of port from Bristol in 2 or 3 weeks)

Y[ou]rs respectfully

J. V. H.

I have apprized Yarworth and Co. of the above.

---

Worcester Dec[ember] 2. 1810

Sir

In my absence from home I found that you had forwarded me an invoice for 6 r[ea]ms small post and 6 r[ea]ms imp[eria]l brown. You have sent 12 r[ea]ms of brown instead of 6, as your plan of putting 40 quires of paper into one parcel and calling that a ream which is a bundle, will not avail with me. My order was for reams, not bundles. I ordered 6 r[ea]ms of y[ello]w foolscap at 18/- to weigh

*[Here John Vine Hall has struck out the above letter and the below part of the same letter is unsigned.]*

X it that the 6 r[ea]ms small post did not contain 40 quires each instead of 20, as well the brown paper.

I have dealt with Foudriners, Jones and Leventhorp, Ward and Middleton, Morgan and Sons, Hollingsworths, Williams, Cooper and Boyle and never heard of such a circumstance before.

---

*[This letter to the same paper supplier, William Jones, is a rewritten version]*

Worcester Dec[embe]r 2. 1810

Sir,

In my absence from home I find you had forwarded an invoice of goods which I never ordered and which said 6 r[ea]ms of Imperial brown paper and 6 r[ea]ms of small Post (weigh[in]g 9 lb per r[ea]m) are now deposited in the warehouse of Messrs. Creswell and Co. of this City for your directions.

Your traveller certainly pressed me immoderately for an order for brown papers to a considerable am[oun]t, but I declined it by observing that my consumption (being retailing single quires) was too small for any large quantity and that at the present time I was in no want of any. He then replied that if it was only for a couple of r[ea]ms just to open a connection he would send it me, but I had previously ordered of him 6 r[ea]ms of corse *[sic]* y[ello]w wove foolscap which was to be a sample of a sheet of blue wove foolscap that he produced and which he engaged should average at 12 lb as to weight but only a yellow paper. I then produced a sheet of royal brown paper weighing about 60 lb per ream and said that if he would send me 2 reams of that sort of paper and not to exceed 60 lb per ream I should feel obliged, at the same time stating that if he sent a single ream more than order[e]d, I should most certainly

return the whole. I never thought of Imperial brown paper nor small Post, it being quite out of my way.

As he was quitting the shop I repeated to him again the consequence of deviating from the order in any way whatever which he promised not to do. The consequences are with himself, and the above statement is perfectly correct which I aver most solemnly. I am sorry for circumstances as I treated him with marked respect. I remain respectfully y[ou]r obed[ien]t serv[an]t

J. V. Hall

*[See the next (again re-written) letter.]*

---

*To Mr. W[illia]m Jones, No. 3 Salisbury Crescent, Kent road, London*

*Worcester Dec[embe]r 2.*

1810

Sir,

In my absence from home I find you had forwarded an invoice (dated Nov[embe]r 8. but not put into the London P. O. till 17) for goods which I never ordered and which s[ai]d 12 r[ea]ms Imp[eria]l brown paper and 6 r[ea]ms small post (weighing 9 lb per r[ea]m) arrived here on Friday last the 30th ult. and are now deposited in the warehouse of Messrs. Creswell and Co. of this city for your directions, as I shall not take what I did not order.

Your traveller pressed me immodestly for an order for brown papers but I declined giving any, on acc[oun]t of my small *[word not supplied]* He then replied if it was *[shorthand word]* couple r[ea]ms just *[shorthand word]* open a connection, he would send it me but this I also declined. Continuing however to show his samples of writing papers I was induced in return to shew him a sample sheet of this very y[ellow] w[ove] f[ools]c[ap] upon which I am now writing, and which I just re[ceiv]ed 12 r[ea]ms of ([ ] 40 quires to a r[ea]m) at 19/- per r[ea]m delivered and weighing 12 lb ½ per r[ea]m. He then produced a sheet of blue wove foolscap made of a lower rag than this is. I said he could send me some of that quality at 16/- only y[ellow] w[ove] warranted to weigh from 11 to 12 lb.

I ordered him to send me 6 r[ea]ms of it [ ] that was always a charge [ ] with me in the purchasing of paper.

He then renewed his solicitations for brown paper. I said that if he would send me two r[ea]ms only of the sample produced which he said would weigh about 60 lbs per

r[ea]m and which I had specified to be what I required and wished for, I sh[oul]d feel obliged and which he promised to do; at same time I told him that if was too trifling an order, it was of no consequence as I could get supplied in this country but that I would not receive a single r[ea]m more than ordered; and that if he deviated from the order I should undoubtedly return the whole, and this caution I repeated to him very strongly before he quitted my house and he promised the strictest attention.

I have been thus circumstantial, in order to do away any notion that I wished to evade a given order, which I should have been (and should now be) glad to have punctually executed as it would probably had to further business, because I am in no way confined to any particular house in London for my fine papers; but I have no opinion of the attempt to impose upon me calling a quire of paper a ream which is [ ] a trick which in the course of 26 years experience and in the purchase of thousands of reams of paper I have purchased in London and elsewhere I never saw attempted before. How happens your traveller may possibly intend to excuse himself by contradicting the above; if so, I have no hesitation to verify it in the most solemn manner.

I remain.

---

*Dec[embe]r 9. 1810*

Sir,

On the 2nd inst[ant] I sent you a long letter explaining the duplicity of your traveller respecting some paper sent here directed to J. and V. Hall which was probably intended for me tho' I did not order it. That paper is now warehoused at the Wharf at the Severn and unless I hear from you in a day or two I shall give the Wharfinger directions to forward it immediately to your address in London.

Y[ou]rs J. V. Hall

*To Mr. W. Jones, No. 3 Salisbury Crescent Kent Road London*

---

*[December 1810? and December? 1811]*

Almanacks &c. sold for 1811.

Sold for 1812

|     |                                |     |
|-----|--------------------------------|-----|
| 475 | Moore's alm[anac]ks            | 420 |
| 53  | “ <u>improved</u>              | 48  |
| 45  | Ladies p[ocket] b[oo]ks, tucks | 89  |
| 30  | “ common                       | 20  |

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

|     |                                                                     |                                   |
|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 17  | Gent[leman]'s p[ocket] books extra, 3 <i>do.</i> com[mon]           | 15 and 5 Knott and Lloyd          |
| 2   | Johnson's, roan strap blank <u>leaves</u>                           | 2                                 |
| 102 | British sheets                                                      | 68                                |
| 105 | Worcester <i>do.</i>                                                | 97                                |
| 6   | Housekeeper's, 3 <u>Crosby's</u> , 3 <u>Crutwell</u>                | 6                                 |
| 6   | Christian L[adies] p[ocket] b[ook], tuck                            | 6                                 |
| 2   | Farmer's p[ocket] b[oo]k 1 <u>extra</u> and 1 <u>com[mon]</u>       | Discont[inue]d.                   |
| 2   | Poole's Assistant, 1 box, 1 m[onth] tuck                            | <u>none</u>                       |
| 20  | Wing's sheet, 6 Gloster, Worc[este]r &c &c                          | 15 Wing's and 4 Gloster           |
| 6   | Raven <i>do.</i> 3 plate, 2 case                                    | 1 sheet and 2 plate cover         |
| 2   | <i>do.</i> morr[occo] tucks                                         | 4 tuck and 3 cases 1 month        |
| 6   | Ladies Diary, 2 Partridge, 2 Robin                                  | 7 Ladies, 6 Partridge and 4 Robin |
| 2   | White                                                               | 2                                 |
| 6   | <u>Atlas</u> , 3 morr[occo] tuck, 3 <u>box</u>                      | 3 <u>tuck</u> and 3 box           |
| 15  | <u>Repos[itor]y</u> , 6 <u>Royal</u> , 9 <u>Polite</u> , <u>box</u> | 3 Royal, 4 Polite                 |
| 6   | " 3 " 3 " mor[occo] <u>tuck</u>                                     | 3 Royal, 3 Polite                 |
| 6   | " 3 " 3 " mor[occo] <u>lock</u>                                     | 3 <i>do.</i> 2 <i>do.</i>         |
| 6   | Rider, 6 Clerical                                                   | 2 Rider, 2 Clerical               |
| 2   | <u>Goldsmith's</u> morr[occo] <u>tuck</u> and skin                  | 3                                 |
| 2   | " lock and skin                                                     | 3                                 |
| 6   | " roan tuck and 4 mor[occo] tuck                                    | 4 roan 3 morro[cco]               |
| 3   | " m[ar]ble paper int[erleave]d                                      | 6                                 |
| 3   | " stitch[e]d and 3 cases                                            | 3 stitch[e]d and 3 cases          |
|     | Souvenir                                                            | <u>none</u>                       |
|     | Goldsmith's, lock                                                   | 4                                 |

Cases on hand, March 14. 1812

6 morr[occo] tuck for atlas & 1 lock  
 6 *do.* *do.* and 2 lock, Goldsmith's alm[anac]k  
 3 *do.* *do.* London Raven, 1 mo[nth]  
 3 *do.* *do.* Johnson's Gent[leman]'s  
 4 roan tuck, Gent[leman]'s

---

Mr. J. V. Hall

Woking Jan[uar]y 2. 1811

Sir,

It has this moment struck me that I owe you a balance on our acc[oun]t of about 4 pounds, seven shillings, if you will have the goodness to direct a line to me addressed

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

No. 15 Southville, Wansworth Road London, I shall with much pleasure take an early opportunity of settling. I remain y[ou]r obed[ien]t serv[an]t

Wm. Hy. Thornbury

---

*Mr. W. H. Thornbury*

Sir,

Agreeable to your obliging letter of the 2d inst[ant], I enclose your acc[oun]t as below, and if you will have the goodness to pay the balance to my bookseller, B. Crosby, Stationers Court, London I shall feel particularly obliged and remain &c.

J. V. H.

*Worc[este]r Jan[uar]y 23. 1811*

---

*To the Revd. W[illia]m Beale Newent, near Gloster*

*Jan[uar]y 24. 1811*

Sir,

I have twice troubled you with letters respecting my demand upon your son for wine sent to the late Mrs. Beale of Kempsey during her illness. I now enclose you his cheque on yourself for that am[oun]t and trust that when you consider that this wine was had as a medicine, you will remit me the amount, or at least 2 one guinea notes in discharge of the same.

I remain &c. &c. &c.

J. V. H.

---

*Mr. Glover, Blackboy, Bewdley*

*Worc[este]r Jan[uar]y 24. 1811*

Sir,

I am much disappointed by your not fulfilling your promise and am sorry you have not kept your word in sending me a remittance; I trust you will remit me in 3 or 4 days the am[oun]t of bill deliver[e]d otherwise I shall be obliged to fulfill my word to my friends by a proceeding that will not be very pleasant to yourself or to y[ou]r h[umb]le serv[an]t

J. V. H.

---

*C. Smith and Co.*

*Feb[ruary] 6. 1811*

Gent[le]m[n]

Enclosed is a d[ra]ft £100 to my credit. I wish to have 2 pipes port and a butt of sherry from Bristol, to come in about a fortnight as I hav'nt room at present. When you acknowledge this, send the l[ette]r to Crosby's.

Is there no mistake in the charge of the last Teneriffe and sherry? you charge 48/- per dozen, I sell it at that price for ready money and the carriage from London is 3/6 per dozen. If I had the sherry in cask it would'nt stand me in more than 44/- per dozen of 13 tuns including corks and the man's time for drawing even if the wine was at £100 per 130 gallons, and the Teneriffe (taking it at the highest present price of £84, per 120 gall[on]s, would cost me only 40s 10d per doz[en] of 13 tuns, including corks and time.

---

J. V. H. respectfully acquaints Mr. Allees that he must return the piano forte, the sounding board being split, which renders it unsaleable.

*Mar[ch] 6. 1811*

---

*Mr. Ja[me]s Glover, Wribberhall.*

*Feb. 6 1811*

I would not willingly add to your expences, therefore I warn you for the last time that if the whole of my demand is not paid within 5 days from the present date you will have all my attorney's expences to pay in addition, as I have already placed it in his hands with a positive order to proceed to the extreme of law on the 12th inst[ant], after which time all application to me will be too late.

J. V. H.

---

*Green and Curtis*

*Worcester Feb[ruar]y [6 struck out] 9. 1811*

This day 3 hampers filled with goods from your house arrived here. From the invoice it appears that their contents are in every respect contrary to the order which most fortunately I made your traveller enter in my order book and there is also 3 times as much blacking sent as was ordered. The whole are deposited in the warehouse of

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

Messrs. Creswell and Co., wharfingers of this city, there to lie upon your account, subject to the expenses of freight, cartage &c. &c.

Y[ou]rs, J. V. H.

*Messrs. Curtis and Green, blacking makers, Mill Street, Lambeth, London*

---

*Mr. Hatherell No. 28 New Cannon Street, Manchester*

Mem[orandum], intended writing Mr. H. this evening respecting his house, but I saw Mr. Bayles passing the door, and he promised to write Mr. H. fully on the subject this evening.

*Feb[ruar]y 20. 1811*

---

*Mr. Glover, Blackboy Inn, Bewdley*

*Worcester Mar[ch] 5. 1811*

Sir,

Yesterday I received from you two hampers of wine, one of which had been opened and upon unpacking it I found only twenty six bottles therein. Mr. Mark Guire was present at the time. Your letter says that you had taken out no more than 3 or 4 bottles; but however that may be, I can only answer for the above statement and acquaint you that the wine is delivered to the custody of Mr. Guire till the amount of the ten bottles is paid which is £2.1.8. Your sending £2 by the post or coach will settle the whole business.

Y[ou]rs &c. &c. J. V. H.

---

If you really intend to part with your house &c. &c. &c. &c.

*Mr. Smart, March 7th 1811*

---

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*Worcester Mar[ch] 9. 1811*

Gent[leme]n,

Last night I rec[eive]d a butt of sherry wine (contents 134 gallons) by Henry Broadfield and on knocking out the bung this morning, I found that some of the wine had been pillaged, and evidently by being plugged.

My Excise Officer was present, and we found the deficiency to be exactly 2 gallons with which I debit your account £1.10.0

J. V. H.

*Messrs. Skey and Co., Stourport.*

The cask was full (to the bung) when delivered at your warehouse in London on the 11th Feb[ruar]y ult. contents 134 gallons, when rec[eive]d here bung 32.3, wet 30.4

---

*Mr. Hatherell, Manchester*

*March 19. 1811*

Sir,

In answer to your kind l[ette]r respecting your house in this city, I beg to observe that the terms of purchase are contrary to my expectations, therefore I decline that part of the business totally. I mentioned to Mr. Baylis that I should have been inclined to take a lease (and a lease only) if the terms had been such as would have been approved by my friends. Y[ou]rs &c. &c. J. V. H.

---

*Creswell and Co., Droitwich.*

*March 29. 1811*

Gent[leme]n,

I was much surprized at your noting in the delivery of your account that you could not pay the pillage of the hampers in May and referring me to the Paddington Canal Co.

I have nothing to do with them, and certainly expect of yourselves the full am[oun]t of my acc[oun]t deliver[e]d to you for the same.

“Your circular l[ette]r to me dated July 9. 1809” notices that any damage arising by your conveyance will be recovered by applying to you immediately after delivery. I not only attended to this part, but your own clerk was present and my unpacking the hampers and saw the state they were in, and at same time received an invoice for the amount, which was delivered to him in presence of Mr. W. Steers whose name is signed in my book as witness to the transaction, and now for the first time (after a lapse of nearly a year) I am referred to the Paddington Co.

But had you done so even at that time, I should certainly have looked to you for payment of the amount, in the same manner as you had previously done for the other pillages, and which I proved to have been committed by your own people between Birmingham and Worcester, which is strong evidence in favor of any charge you may endeavour to bring ag[ains]t the Paddington Co.

There is no doubt but that your own people stole the wine in question, or if you did not think so, it was your duty to have immediately stated the same to the Padd[ingto]n Co. at the time you were apprized of the circumstance and had rec[eive]d an invoice for the damage; but by your silence you allowed that yourselves along were responsible.

With the evidence and precedents before me, I acquaint you that I shall contend for my whole demand of my account payable from yourselves, and with this notice I remain

J. V. H.

---

*T. Bird, Esq.                      Apr[il] 3. 1811*

Sir,

n consequence of the repeated delay and disappointment in regard to your acc[oun]t I have engaged Mr. G. Hill to proceed against you for the same, and I hereby acquaint you therewith, that you may not be taken by surprize.

Y[ou]rs      J. V. H.

---

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

*Mr. Dench, Longdon*

*Apr[il] 11. 1811*

Sir,

I have herewith sent your account by which you will perceive that the six dozen of bottles and 2 hampers were returned from you after that I had given Mr. Cameron directions to proceed in the manner that he did.

This return of course reduces the debt £1.6.0. and I have by this conveyance returned you a bank note for five pounds, which (considering that you came so promptly to discharge the amount of my demand) I feel it a point of honor to return you that no unfair claim should in any way be made against you by Sir, y[ou]r obed[ien]t serv[an]t

J. V. Hall

---

*Mr. Bromfield,*

*Worcester May 6. 1811*

If you are really at the present time free from any positive engagement you may have your old situation and be made comfortable, but do not act unhandsomely towards Messrs. Gower and Smart if you have in any way led them to suppose that you would stay in their service. I should not like it myself. Now therefore be on your guard and do not be of one mind on one day and of another on the next. J. V. H.

---

*Mr. Freeman, Silver Street, Wood Street London*

Sir,

I have at length received a box containing another part of my order.

---

*To C. Smith, Son and Co.*

*Sept[embe]r 16. 1811*

Gent[leme]n.

Enclosed is a dr[af]t for £100 which you will have the goodness to place to my credit. I should have remitted you sooner but that I have been engaged in taking stock and from the privations and letting out part of our house, we have the whip-hand of the world.

My wine stock was £1289, my stationery stock 1820, including large debts on each.

I remain, most gratefully y[ou]r obliged h[um]ble serv[an]t J. V. Hall

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*For the list of almanacks sold for the year 1812 [in December? 1811], see the [December? 1810] list.*

---

*Newspaper cutting pasted down the middle of the page. John Vine Hall's mother died on 18 March 1812 so this is to be dated just after that day.]*

Gent[le]me[n]

On the [ ] uar[y] last I deliver[e]d to Mr .W[illia]m Edm[eads of Mai]dstone a full and clear statement [ ] a]ccount between myself and with Mr. C[lement] T[aylor] Russell, [ ] my favor £12.6.11 including the 2 r[eam]s [ ] £2.10.6) sent me May 29. 1810 [ ] r]ecently I have been a creditor from tha[t ] the present for said sum of 12.6.[11. ag]ainst what I am indebted for [ ] rea]ms post sent me March 25. last, [ ] £24.8.0., leaving a balance in your [favor ], which I sh[oul]d of course [ ] fore, if my account had be[en in any] way noticed.

I did not [ ] than replace credit [ ] and it is the custom of our country to give six mo[nths ] I am often sorry that the execution of [ ] i]s opposite to the precise manner in [which] it was given namely as to the post [ ] thick instead of middle, and [ ] th[a]t it should weigh from 18 and ½ to [ ] per r]eam.

I have been obliged [to] purchase [ ] reason]able quantity since the arriv[al ] at those weights, and some [ ] that press[e]d at less than 35/[ ] 18 lb weight and as the people of [ ] co]untry will not generally use the middle [ ] I have more than ½ y[ard]s pap[er ] on hand tho[ugh] this is not of any conseq[ue]nce to the]m opposed to the expectations of f[r]iends] and old acquaintance I have commi[ ] Your]s J. V. H. (who is now in Kent) to [ ] for attention to a small order fo[r ] wove post and when I receive it I [ ] a bill for it and also for the balance of £12.1.1.

*[next page also obscured by newspaper cuttings; first few lines obscured and then]*

[ ] and if you [ ] ld increases [ ] tions of [ ]

Y[ou]rs &c. [ ] J.] V. H.

# JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

My mother was buried [yes]terday, that account is [ ]d as well as further assistance to my brothers, it has cost me [ ]s]ince I have been in Worcester,) for my mother £430 and for each of my brothers £150 [total] £430 + £300 = £730.

---

Cases on hand, March 14. 1812

6 morr[occo] tuck for atlas & 1 lock  
 6 *do.* *do.* and 2 lock, Goldsmith's alm[anac]k  
 3 *do.* *do.* London Raven, 1 mo[nth]  
 3 *do.* *do.* Johnson's Gent[leman]'s  
 4 roan tuck, Gent[leman]'s

---

Dr. Wine stock June 30. 1812

|                                 |               |            |
|---------------------------------|---------------|------------|
|                                 | <u>Cr</u>     |            |
| Owing C. Smith and Co. 830.0.11 | Stock in hand | 508.7.6    |
|                                 | Book debts    | 264.12.3½  |
|                                 | Balance due   | 57.1.1½    |
|                                 |               | 830. - .11 |

---

[September 3. 1812]

|                                           |         |                  |        |
|-------------------------------------------|---------|------------------|--------|
| Balance of cash rec[eive]d for wine       | 57.1.1½ | July 30. D[ra]ft | 75.0.0 |
| Cash rec[eive]d from June 30. to July 30. | 27.18.9 | Sept 3. Do.      | 75.0.0 |
| Do. Aug[us]t 1 to Sep[tembe]r 3.          | 57.2.6  |                  |        |

---

[C. Smith, Son and Co.]

Gent[leme]n

Enclosed is a d[ra]ft and it is very painful very much so indeed to my feelings that I am not to be able to send you more money, and it is more painful to feel the falling off of the wine trade. I beg leave to state to you in the most respectful manner that of the above stock there is a h[al]f pipe full and a pipe ¾ full of the wine from Bristol of

which I sent you a sample, and which I could not venture to sell; and upon this I have kept paying interest.

The stout wine, which you was so kind to send me, I could not spare for mixing until  $\frac{2}{3}$  empty, because the few customers I had, w[oul]d not have any other after tasting that pipe. I have now ventured to add the remainder to the pipe which was  $\frac{3}{4}$  full, it is not what it ought to be. From being in this state, I have been prevented gaining any addition of custom by ad[vertisement]s because I had not wine to boast of. I have no notion of allowing the trade to sink entirely, altho[ugh] there is so little done at it, not only by myself but by others in Worcester.

Mr. Skudder, a young man of considerable property, wine merch[an]t, is declining the trade on acc[oun]t of its declension, and this will give a little opening; and as none of the others ever advertize their wines, I intend to make another push for customers and I trust to your goodness to send me some stout wine to work off that which I have on hand and also to gain ground. Lucien Buonaparte had 12 doz[e]n of pipe wine of me this week and has promised to continue his custom, but I have not more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  a pipe to go on with until the mixed wine comes round.

You would favor me much by sending a pipe of very full port, and 12 dozen of old bottled port by waggon.

I remain, gent[leme]n,

J. V. H.

*Worcester Sept[embe]r 3.*

---

*[September 1812]*

Respecting Crosby's bottles. The wine (6 doz[e]n) was sent him Feb[ruary] 25., and the bottles ret[urne]d, but Crosby also charges me with 100 bottles deliver[e]d to C[hristopher] S[mith] and Co. March 17., £1.9.2.

Be so good to send him 6 doz[en] port and I doz[e]n sherry.

---

*[Mr. Dynely. September 1812]*

Sir

I have been fortunate enough to purchase a very considerable quantity of Colonel Williams' old bottled port between 2 and 3 years in bottles, some of it in pints, and having to pay ready money for it, I propose to part with 20 or 30 dozen at a small profit for ready money to meet the bill accepted.

The wine is of the very best quality, which you may readily believe when I inform you that Mr. Wall & Mr. Isaac, Revd. Mr. Bedford and Hughes, Platt, and others were also purchasers of part of the same stock.

I intend writing to 5 or 6 of my customers who can command ready money; and altho[ugh] old bottled port is now worth 70/- per doz[e]n (money down) port, yet to turn the penny as quick as possible I propose to sell a small quantity at 73/-, bottles included, and as the bottles are 6/- per doz[e]n it will

*[the letter is continued after the letter to Mr. Roberts below and is on the next page that has a portion of the sheet torn off].*

[ ] wine to 67/-. I am only sorry [I ha]d not the command of £1000 to purchase [the whole] entity, as I never tasted finer wine [ ]; particularly the pints of which I h[ad] only [ ] doz[e]n remaining, these are sold at ½ the price of the quarts. Y[ou]rs &c. &c.

J. V. H.

There was only 2 doz[en] Buallres in the whole stock, and this I purchased, it is a more elegant white wine at 70/- b[ottle]s included. I also purchased a quantity of his old Teneriffe, quite equal to West India Madeira, this I also propose selling at 70/- b[ottle]s included.

---

*[September 1812]*

*Mr. Roberts*

This bill is returned upon my hands and it appears that I paid it to Goulding and Co. of London instead of paying it to the bank. It appears very odd that Crew's name should be signed as purpoting [*sic*] to be the drawer of that bill. I hope that you did not venture upon such a step as it would be dangerous. Send me the money before post time tomorrow or I shall let the law take its force to its full extent.

*25 Sept[ember]*

Wrote T. Vernon Esq., and offered him Col. W[illia]ms wine same terms as Mr Dynely.

---

*Worcester Oct[obe]r 1. 1812*

Sir,

I should be glad to have twelve dozen pint bottles of the same port wine as I had 3 weeks ago if it is at the same price, vizt. 30s. p[e]r dozen, bottles included.

Y[ou]rs respectfully

J. V. Hall

*Mr Reilly Cheltenham for Mr. Stonehouse*

---

*[a portion of the sheet torn off]*

*Worcester Nov[embe]r 6*

Gent[leme]n

I received the 12 doz[e]n pint [po]r[t wine] safe agreeable to invoice; but [ ] notice for writing is to enquire into the [ ] overcharge in the tierces and package of the pint quantity of wine sent me.

£3.15.0 is the sum charged.

The tierces could not possibly cost you more than 3/- or 3/6 each at the very outside which would be £1.3.6, the hampers 7/6, making in the whole £1.11.0. As to the packing the wine, that certainly is no business of mine, and if you have not made a mistake, it is an attempt at what I should be unwilling to accuse you, but you can probably explain it.

To make the want of it, even if you should think to charge me with the wages of your men, two of them would pack the whole of that quantity wine in a day, and a half or

they must be terribly idle; but allowing them 2 days, at 20/- a week wages for each, this would be 14/- which added to £1.11.0, would be £2.5.0 instead of £3.15.0.

Y[ou]rs &c. &c. J. V. H.

*L. Reilly and Co., Cheltenham*

---

*Worcester Nov[embe]r 16. 1812*

*Mr. Hughes, Stanley Colliery.*

(Enclosing Mr. J. Thompson's stat[ioner]y acc[oun]t £3.6.4 from Jan[uar]y 3. 1812, to Feb[ruary] 20. 1812.)

Sir,

By desire of Mr. J. Thompson I separate the above from all his other long standing unsettled accounts and I take the liberty of transmitting this statement to yourself requesting the amount of the same in a few days, as I wish to have a final adjustment with Mr. Thompson.

Y[ou]rs J. V. H.

PS. I shall be obliged by your answer that I may know how to proceed.

*Post paid*

---

Sir,

I have delayed answering your letter till I could see Mr. Hughes of Stanley Colliery and lay the contents before him and to know what part of the acc[oun]t he considered to belong to himself. He takes upon him to allow the articles had since Jan[uar]y 1st 1812 except a gent[leman's] pocket book 6/6, selected by yourself (in his presence) and a bottle of blacking 1/6.

Y[ou]r statement respecting the other parts of the acc[oun]t is extremely incorrect and if I was to allow it to be otherwise it would justly subject me to severe reproach. I am astonished that after a lapse of 5 years, Mr. Thompson should for the first time begin to say that the charges for stationary £1.6.0 for 1807 and 8 were ever paid for. If Mr. T. really thinks this, he might as well say in plain words that it is villainy.

This acc[oun]t was deliver[e]d into Mr. T's own hands on the 14 Ap[ril] 1809, again June 27. 1810, and again Aug[us]t 8. 1810 and this time it was accompanied with a small acc[oun]t (of 7s) on Miss Glover which Mr. T. returned.

The acc[oun]t upon Messrs. J and B. Thompson (£2.4.6) was deliver[e]d to Mr. J. Thompson on the 28th Dec[ember] 1810 and now for the first time Mr. J. Thompson denies any knowledge of it. It was also deliver[e]d again Jan[uary] 17. 1812 with the whole acc[oun]t.

Mr. Thompson's statement of the bottles and hampers being returned is also incorrect but Mr. Hughes acknowledges that there is a quantity of bottles and hampers in his possession to be returned and which he will either return or pay for. Yet his not having done so, is the occasion of my delaying to re-state your acc[oun]t.

The 4 q[ui]r[e]s blue demy, 5/4 (Sept[ember] 10. 1810) which Mr. T. marked out for Stanley Colliery, Mr. Hughes has nothing to do with and therefore it stands to Mr. T.'s private a/c. Respecting Mr. Thompson having taken only 3 bottles port out of a 4 doz[e]n hamper (ret[urne]d Apr[il] 1. 1807), (five years ago !!!), J. V. H. has only to observe that 43 bottles was the exact number returned to him and whether the remaining 5 bottles were taken out by Mr. Thompson or the carriers, that rests with himself and must remain to his debit. Mr. Thompson is sufficiently acquainted with trade to know this. I have now Sir, stated to you as much as I can do until after Mr. Hughes has made his returns, and when he has so done, I will inform you the amount which (with the Stanley acc[oun]t since Jan[uar]y 1.) will be all that be deducted from the amount last deliver[e]d to you by Sir, y[ou]r obed[ien]t serv[an]t

J. V. H.

*To Mr. J. Thompson Mill Cottage Barnes Common, Surrey    Dec[embe]r 9. 1812*

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*Dec[embe]r 21. 1812*

*Mr. Eades   Tre[   ]*

3 doz[e]n of port 54/- money

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*[For Mr. Eades, December 1812]*

3 doz[en] port, 1 doz[en] sherry, Saturday

---

*Worcester Feb[ruar]y 5. 1813*

Gent[leme]n,

If you have on hand any of the same kind of Teneriffe as that which I purchased of you (12 doz[en]) in Sept[embe]r 1812, at the same price (48s. per doz[e]n bottles included) I should feel obliged by your sending me twelve dozen, packed in 4 3 dozen hampers, fastened with the trade knot and sealed. If Mr. Reilly will have the goodness to enquire of the wholesale grocers in Chelt[enham], he will find the price of tierces to be from 2/6 to 4/- same size. These tierces which [ ] charged to me at the rate of 9s. and 10s. a piece were (at that time) selling at Chelt[enham] at from 2/9 to 4/- and no more.

I sold those very tierces at their full value for 17/6, for the seven (charged to me 60/-)

When I receive the Teneriffe, and as soon as any application is made, I will give a banker's d[ra]ft for the acc[oun]t.

J. V. H.

*Reilly and Co., Cheltenham*

---

*Mr. W[illiam] Hughes at Reilly and Co., Chelt[enham] Feb[ruar]y 16. 1813*

Sir,

In answer to yours of this morning I inform you that the price of the Teneriffe is far beyond what I could think of giving for it therefore I shall not want any, and I also inform you that I shall return all the tierces to Mr. Reilly

Y[ou]rs J. V. H.

---

*Signor Pucitter at Mr. Ruff's, Cheltenham*

*Feb[ruary] 16. 1813*

Sir,

I beg leave to acquaint you that Mr. King has quitted Worcester and that whatever demand you may have against I suppose will be a considerable time before it is paid. I have all your music on hand and as I see not the least probability of selling any, I shall return it with my charges against you for carriage &c. &c.

J. V. H.

*[Patrick Tregent, Birmingham. Undated, 1813]*

Of all the infamous attempts at imposition, I never knew a greater than your attempt to impose upon me by sending a quantity of made up trash of all sorts under the name of superfine Retree thick post. Is Mr. Tregent so very ignorant as to suppose that a man brought up amongst the Kentish paper mills does not know a superfine Retree from seconds, thirds and corse [*sic*] copy; and that he does not know whether a paper has been pricked or not? I am so disgusted at your conduct that I can not express my contempt.

I have preserved a sample sheet of the quality which I purchased of your traveller who I am sure must blush for his master who has so ill supported his exertions in obtaining orders. I mean to write Mr. Bishop fully upon this infamous trick because he knows that I am as well acquainted with papers as almost any man in England I am neither to be deceived nor imposed upon. Is this the way Mr. Tregent that you think to gain credit? Surely not.

I am glad the whole order was not compleated, for that would no doubt have been quite as bad. I have sent back the whole 6 r[ea]ms.

Y[ou]rs J. V. Hall

---

*Mr. Thompson, Mill Cot[tage,] Barnes Common, Surrey. Worcester, May 11. 1813*

Yesterday, [*part of the leaf torn away*] I obtained a answer from Mr. Hughes respecting what part of your a/c he would undertake to pay, which is as follows,

|                                               |        |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------|
| 1812 Jan[uar]y 3. - 2 Worc[este]r alm[anac]ks | 3.4    |
| 6. - blacking                                 | 1.6    |
| 7. - a 4to a/c b[oo]k                         | 4.6    |
| 17. - a bro[ad] folio                         | 5.6    |
| Sundries as specified in a/c                  | 1.8.0  |
| Feb[ruary] 6. Bill heads                      | 8.6    |
| 18. a broad folio] a/c b[oo]k                 | 6.6    |
| Ink and bottle                                | 2.     |
| 24 bottles and hamper                         | 9.9    |
|                                               | <hr/>  |
|                                               | £3.9.7 |

Deducting this £3.9.7 from your acc[oun]t £8.15.11 deliv[e]re]d and fully explained in my long letter to you of the 9th Dec[embe]r 1812 leaves a balance of £5.6.4 now due to me, which I shall thank you to send in a d[ra]ft in a few days that this long standing acc[oun]t may be finally closed.

J. V. H.

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*Messrs. Reilly and Co. (Cheltenham)*

*Worcester (May 29. 1813)*

*[No text apart from the above address and date]*

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*Tho[ma]s Sandland Esq. Twining near Tewkesbury Worcester July 24. 1813*

Sir,

Being pressed hard on every side for money, I have this day drawn on you at 1 month for £38.5.0, amount of your acc[oun]t deliv[ere]d to self on Saturday last (with a respectful but unnoticed request for a d[ra]ft to amount) and I have paid the draft to Berwick and Co. who will forward it by their agents for your acceptance which I hope you will not refuse. I am, Sir,

y[ou]rs &c.

J. V. H.

*Post paid*

---

*Williams, Cooper and Boyle.*

*[Between July and October 1813]*

Gent[leme]n

I am sorry [to be] obliged to return the enclosed paper and cards.

The Cypress paper being charged 16/- per quire and the splash paper at 9/- will not admit of our selling it at the usual prices. I get demy cypress paper at Birmingham at 6/- per q[ui]r[e] and foolscap at 4/6, quite as good if not superior in all respects to what you sent me.

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

Hall charges me only 47/- for Moguls, and 45/- for Harry's, this great difference between your charges of 51/- and 49/- obliges me to return them.

There was only 11 Bristol boards, charged as 12, 11/6.

---

*Revd. E. Freeman, Donnington-hall.*

*B[ough]t of J. V. Hall, Worcester*

|                                                                   |         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 1813, Oct[ober] 25. 2 dozen superior old crusted port, 68/- money | £6.16.0 |
| 24 b[ottle]s and hamper                                           | 14      |
|                                                                   | <hr/>   |
|                                                                   | £7.10.0 |

Sir,

I beg leave respectfully to thank you for your kind order which you will read with this that I trust that your best expectations will be fully answered as to the quality of the wine which I believe to be excellent.

I have also at the present time in my bins some excellent pale and nice old sherry and very superior Teneriffe, indeed the Teneriffe surpasses (in excellence of quality) any thing of the kind that ever came within my observations.

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*[Verses on the next page]*

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*[1813]*

The follo[wing a]re the prices for ready money

Sherry 8/- per dozen

Teneriffe 62/-

Port from the pipe 58/-

Old crusted *do.* 68/-

These are the prices for single dozens, but as ready money is the grand object I should be thankful to execute your orders as follows.

4 doz[en] port from the pipe, at 57/-

a 5th doz[en] 54/-, merely to turn the stock into ready money

4 doz. *do.* old crusted, 66/-

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

|                           |     |      |     |
|---------------------------|-----|------|-----|
| a 5th doz[en]             | do. | 64/- | do. |
| <u>3</u> dozen Teneriffe, |     | 59/- |     |
| a 4th doz[e]n             | do. | 56/- | do. |
| <u>3</u> do. Sherry,      |     | 60/- |     |
| a 4th doz[e]n             | do. | 57/- | do. |

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The above is a plan I have never hit upon till the present moment, and I am only induced to adopt it from having a larger stock on hand than is required for the present consumption of wine.

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*Tipper and Fry, [ Lu]dgate, London* *Dec[embe]r 11. 1813*

Gent[lemen]

Mr. [Tipper has] very unwisely doubled my order for paper, I shall return it by waggon as soon as it arrives in Worcester.

---

*Mr. Cl[ ] , Ke[ ]* *Feb[ruary] 18. 1814*

Sir,

[ ] book "Dickson's Farmer's Comp[anio]n" [ ] taken back again it having been expressly purchased [from] you according to order and the London booksellers will not admit of any returns when the leaves are cut, or the order is positive, y[ou]r sending the amount £2.2.0 in few days will oblige.

Y[ou]rs &c. &c.

J. V. Hall

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*Mr. [Richard] Peart, Bull St[reet] Birmingham*

Sir,

Please to get made for me immediately 4 books, 4 q[uire]s blue wove super foolscap each ruled head-line and £.s.d, bound broad folio r[uf]f c[al]f, to [be] lettered on the side, Henwick Gate. 1. Upton Gate. 1. Barbourne Gate, 1. Losemore Gate.

In Nov[embe]r last you made one for me of this description lett[ere]d Broadwas if you will have the goodness to refer to your books, you will see how that was done and what paper you put into it, these must be just the same, with the addition of a head-line. I must have them by Friday the 18th, therefore beg if you cannot get them done by that time to say so by return of post that I may have them made here.

*Feb[ruar]y 10. 1814*

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*March 4. 1814                      Mr. R. [Allies] junr. St. John's.*

Sir,

It is painful to me to be so much in want of cash as to apply to yourself under the present trying circumstances of your deservedly revered Father, but having many large sums coming due, I am compelled to use every exertion by calling upon my friends for assistance, and if you could favour me with the amount of Mr. Allies' bill £9.15.9 it would be gratefully acknowledged, but at the same time I beg leave to observe that if you are under the necessity of applying to Mr. A, upon this occasion I had a thousand times rather defer it.

Y[ou]rs &c. &c.

J . V. H.

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*Worcester March 11. 1814*

D[ea]r [William] Laplain

You may well wonder at my not sooner answer[ing] your long and kind letter, and I dare say you was surprized to hear of my being in London and meeting with Mr. Alexander Seager, Sage and others from Maidstone, also the extraordinary manner in which I came into the company of Mr. Jos. Marten. I also accidentally met your son Mr. Sam[ue]l Laplain and had a long conversation with him and had a pressing invitation to his house in Wood St[reet], Cheapside.

What an awful account of the sullen departure of poor Mr. Blake into a world of endless torment; never, never to cease ! O that you and I may profit by such dreadful warnings and by the certainty of a judgement day.

JOHN VINE HALL'S BUSINESS LETTER BOOK

I am much obliged by your kindness in sending the Maidstone paper which is always highly acceptable, and I do hope that you will continue to have it in your power to gratify yourself and me by this remembrance of early friendship. Whoever takes the business would I should think con[sider] it an acquisition to retain your assistance in a department that you have so faithfully (to my own knowledge) filled for so many years, and in which your advice must be of great service.

It did strike me at one time that I should have had no objection to come to reside in Maidstone if all things had been smooth and attainable but I understood, when I was in London, that there was some troublesome work in hand respecting it; but I have not heard any more particulars and therefore of course cannot say anything to it, for you must be in possession of every occurrence and if you would favor me with another letter on the subject, I should feel it kind.

Mr. Prentis wrote me a very affectionate letter acknowledging your kind application, for which I am highly obliged both to him and yourself. My kind respects to all my deserving old friends and when I am favored with your answer, I will immed[iatel]y write you more fully; in the mean time be assured of my regard and hearty wishes for your future comfort.

Y[ou]rs truly in haste

J. V. Hall

What is become of Baily's children?

A true and literal copy!

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March 15. In answer to the foregoing letter from Mr. Laplain J. V. H. received an answer this day, which said letter (Laplain's answer) was sent on the 16th to Christ[ophe]r Smith Esq. for his governm[en]t and J. V. H. did not himself answer Laplain's letter (dated Maidstone March 13.) till March 24th, of which the following is a copy.

*In another hand: Read letter opposite*

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*Worcester March 24. 1814*

D[ea]r [William] Laplain,

You may well wonder at my long silence, under all circumstances, and I should have ans[were]d your last [March] letter much sooner, but that I wished to confer with Mr. [Sm]ith upon so important a subject and I dare say you have heard from or seen him

upon the [m]atter, tho[ugh] I myself have never heard from him since the arrival of your last, which I communicated to him. [If] even now, I can only state to you my entire uncertainty in the business, as I have committed every thing relating to Maidstone to the management and decision of my powerful and determined friend C[hristopher] S[mith] and my wife's relation, who is also powerful in inclination, and in the means. In a secondary view of things, Maidstone and Worcester are nearly equal, and I am equally prepared for the one or the other, except that Maidstone holds forth a brighter prospect for my family. I can only renew my already repeated assurances of friendship towards yourself, and my determination for your peace and comfort as far as is in proper unity with that of my own family, and thus I must leave the matter untill [*sic*] I hear [f]urther from my friends in London. Again thanking you for the paper, I remain, in haste

Y[ou]rs sincerely

J. V. Hall

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*[Verses on the next page]*

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*Worcester*                      *Apr[il] 16/1814*

*Messrs Hazard Burne and Co.,*

Gent[le]me[n]

I have been every day expecting a supply of shares for the ensuing lottery, but none have yet arrived, which has occasioned me some disappointment, as my customers are every day enquiring for them. I cannot suppose you are waiting for a remittance from me, as your balance is only 26.10.2 which will not answer the prizes to be paid, one [part?] of a 300 pound prize was called for to da[y but] the person not bringing the ticket, payment was defferred [*sic*] till Monday. You will much oblige me by sending some immediately or it will be too late to expect a sale. I remain  
Gent[le]me[n],

Y[ou]rs very respect[ful]ly

J. V. Hall

---

My dear Sir,  
 I suppose you recollect when you were  
 at Worcester last, my informing you that Mr. Hall had  
 some expectation of getting the business of the late Mr. Hall  
 on Clerk. He has succeeded, and is now down at  
 Maidstone taking possession of it. In consequence  
 of this he has written to me to dispose of some stock  
 at Worcester as quickly as possible, and to do this  
 he has reduced the prices of Wine very low which  
 I beg leave to send to you as under. Your taking  
 care would be doing us a favor, and as it is very  
 cheap. I hope it would not inconvenience yourself.  
 I do not know how long it will be before we  
 leave W. But hope you will bring my remembrance to  
 see me first. A Day or two ago I had a note  
 from Susan Sarah. She was very well. With kindest  
 regards to her.  
 Prob. J. Sherry & Co. Dr.  
 Old count's Bk. 1814. Do  
 Mr Batson - Messrs Lane

Hall's assistant writes to inform Mr Batson of Hall's impending move to Maidstone, April 1814

Worcester [this part of the page blank apart from Worcester and verse]

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[Between 16 and 21 April 1814]

J. V. Hall returns his grateful acknowledgement to the Revd. T. Oldham for the kind favor conferred upon him in the wine and stationary trades during his residence in Worcester and respectfully informs him that having taken a large concern in Kent, he is about removing there, and begs leave to offer part of his present stock of wines to Mr. Oldham's attention at the following very reduced prices for money only.

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Port and sherry  | 52/- per doz[en] |
| Old crusted port | 62/- do.         |
| Teneriffe        | 54/- do.         |

Bottles 4/- per doz[en]

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Apr. 21. 1814

Revd. T. Oldham  
F. Dinely Esqr.  
Revd. Mr. Burslem  
J. Allen Esqr. with his bill  
T. Vernon Esqr.

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[John Vine Hall's man writes this letter in April 1814]

My dear Sir,

I suppose you recollect when you were at Worcester last, my informing you that Mr. Hall had some expectation of getting the business of his late master in Kent, he has succeeded, and is now down at Maidstone taking possession of it. In consequence of this he has written to me to dispose of our stock at Worcester as quickly as possible, and to do this he has reduced the prizes of wine very low which I beg leave to send to you as under. Your taking some would be doing us a favor, and as it is very cheap, I hope it would not inconvenience yourself. I do not know how long it will be before we leave W[orcester] but hope you will bring my aunt to see me first. A day or two ago I had a note from Cousin Sarah, she was very well, with kind love. &c. &c.

Port and sherry 52/- per doz[en]  
Old crusted port 62/- *do.*

*Mr. Batson, Moore Lane*

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*[Bottom half of a sheet, undated apart from a date in an unfinished letter on the other side of the sheet: "invoice of Sept[embe]r 15."]*

by returning it to that place. In complaining of the wine, I attributed it to the cask only, and my not complaining of it before, was entirely owing to the short reply received in answer to my complaint of the Lisbon soon after its arrival. The port in itself was certainly good, but spoiled by the inattention of your agents in putting it in a bad cask, therefore there could be no reason for other persons complaining of the same cargo unless similarly situated.

I remain Gent[lemen] your obliged h[um]ble serv[an]t

J. V. H.

*To C. Smith, Son and Co.*

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*[On the other side of the sheet]*

Gent[leme]n

On receiving your invoice of Sept[embe]r 15. *[no further text]*.

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