

16 Feb 94

Ponington Devon

16/10a

My dear Fitzgerald, I dimly recognise  
that lower part of your letter is note Sarkastic.  
A treatise is needed to expound all sides  
of the question! I shall not write it. But  
I dont think you take money from T. Coll.  
"because you are poor", but because it is  
your proper payment <sup>for</sup> ~~your~~ work, & to shew  
you have an equal right whether you are  
poor or rich. Again, to emphasise this point,  
if the sci.-world says my work is worth  
that of hundreds of hoodman, or millions  
(I quote your words) and the sci.-world choose  
to pay me distinctly for that work according  
to their own (quoted) estimation, why  
then I should be proud to take it! It  
would be a pot of money.

However, even if I may have overdone  
emphasised <sup>is</sup> in my previous a particular  
side of the question, still the fact remains,

that that side is a very real one. To give  
an extreme case, people sometimes starve  
rather than go to the workhouse. Why?  
The associations, I suppose, and then pride-

Its for the power of money, I know  
more of that than most people. I had an  
example last evening. I went to a little  
musical party, my brothers family with  
a professional to assist, or lead rather.  
It was all very nice till I certain person  
came in, when a strange change occurred.  
All mutual intercourse ceased. Mr. Potter  
became the sun, and all revolved around  
him. I became a perfect nonentity - not  
even introduced, except later perfunctorily  
as an afterthought. So it continued all  
the while he remained, & when he left  
he (perhaps naturally) did not think  
it worth while including me in his  
farewells. Having gone, things righted  
themselves, & I made semi-apologies.  
He was a gentleman, obliged to be  
very civil to him, important to be  
right with him. On enquiry I learned  
he moved in the best society, and

was an absentee Irish landlord!

Of course you do understand that  
I entirely <sup>the fact that I have</sup> ~~pink~~ personal significance  
in other respects when I (very rarely)  
go out, but it is not pleasant to be  
entirely snuffed out by the arrival of a  
gentleman!

Yours sincerely  
Oliver Heavenside

16/10