

I could do an interesting picture. Really the whole thing depends on whether - taking the group you have seen as a starting point - you care to leave me a perfectly free hand to work out a picture for you on my own lines.

I might have come to this conclusion months ago - but have been trying from time to time to start the group afresh - meantime going on with other portraits that were waiting for me - as I have to

Amos  
Oct. 1897.  
STATION, WIMBORNE, 5 MILES.  
TELEGRAPH, WITCHAMPTON, 3 MILE.

21985

WITCHAMPTON,  
WIMBORNE.

October 9<sup>th</sup> 1897.

Dear General Pitt Rivers,

at various times since I saw you I have tried to make a fresh design of the group - following out your wishes on the subject - & find myself wasting more & more time over it - when I did the design I submitted to you - I seemed to have some inspiration & to see my



WITCHAMPTON  
WIMBORNE

way to an artistic picture  
as I understand it - but  
with your restrictions of  
everyone being in equal  
light & equally in evidence  
my mind has simply  
become a blank -

I begin to realize what I  
ought to have known at the  
beginning that the only way for  
me to do a number of figures  
like that is to have a perfectly  
free hand to carry it out  
exactly as my feeling tells me

is fittest - otherwise in  
considering what you would  
wish in this or that I  
get stuck & can do nothing  
at all. I can see that  
even supposing you agreed  
to the general idea of the  
group already shown you  
it would be necessary to  
make all sorts of variations  
in detail as one went along.

I expect from previous ex-  
perience that they would  
grow in my mind as it  
went along - provided I  
had only to think of pleasing  
myself - & in the end I think



STATION, WIMBORNE, 5 MILES,  
TELEGRAPH, WITCHAMPTON, 3 MILE.

(L965)

WITCHAMPTON,  
WIMBORNE.

make an income as  
I go along. This  
reminds me that supposing  
you wish me to go on  
with the subject I can  
hardly get on without an  
understanding about the  
money. Might I expect  
£50 at Xmas/97.  
£100 at midsummer and  
the remaining £100 on  
completion of the picture  
not later than Xmas/98.

Home of a little of  
2.5% near the Union  
Blanchford 1/2 in  
the shade.



WILMINGTON  
DELAWARE

The picture has difficulties  
enough - even if you make  
it as easy as you possibly  
can for me. But if  
you would rather not  
agree to these points -  
I hope you will let  
me know.

Be there see to be  
Yours very truly  
Fred S. Beaman