

entirely <sup>owing</sup> ~~in consequence~~ of the offensive  
tone of your letter which is rendered all  
the more offensive by its being in reply  
to a ~~companion~~ civil letter from me.

Nobody wishes to infringe the rules of the  
Society, <sup>it is just right that they should be adhered to</sup> but an <sup>overbearing and</sup> pedantic affectation of  
discipline and authority towards a member  
who <sup>like myself am</sup> not altogether unknown to the Society  
of Antiquaries is I feel sure at variance  
with general feelings of the Society <sup>at large</sup>.

all reasonable punctuality  
& a due regard to the  
amintion of Society.

This is not the first time I and others  
have had occasion to complain of the  
tone of your letters and I have therefore  
thought it advisable to lay the whole  
correspondence before the President of  
the Society <sup>and the Council</sup> in order that <sup>they</sup> ~~as~~ might  
be acquainted with the ~~former~~ <sup>reasons</sup>  
which have debared you from availing  
yourself of the hon. But the Society has  
done him the honor to elect him a Member Fellow.

I hereby decline to  
accept the concluding  
Association of your  
letter this & common  
couched in such manner  
to be regarded as a free  
diffusion.

It has been a  
of long standing  
on the part of  
members of the

(267)



Rushmore,

Salisbury

7. April 1883

Sir,

My son no doubt failed to comply strictly with the rules of the Society in that he omitted to pay his entrance fee within the prescribed time as pointed out by you in your letter of the 3<sup>rd</sup> inst: written <sup>two</sup> ~~three~~ days after his fee had become due. I thought <sup>following day</sup> that my letter of reply to you of the ~~4<sup>th</sup>~~ ~~inst.~~ would have explained that it was an accidental omission on his part and that, as he was waiting to be introduced by me, he either forgot or did not notice the ~~the~~ stipulation contained in the printed letter that had been sent him and as neither he nor I <sup>could be supposed to know the</sup> ~~had the~~ regulations with us ~~was~~ in the country and <sup>we</sup> did not know what the fees were, I asked you whether it would do when we came to London about the middle of the month. I ought have asked you to send me a

culm  
is  
all

Matter  
by despatched  
the records  
of Society.



copy of the regulations but did not wish to  
give you unnecessary trouble and I did  
not for a moment suppose <sup>you would think</sup> there could be  
any doubt about the payment of the fees <sup>as soon as we</sup>  
~~any question other than one of convenience~~

we knew that they  
directed only to the  
social aspect of the  
fraternity.

~~with my son~~ I added in order  
to guard against the possibility of misunder-

I adopted your  
suggestion that I  
should write myself  
and added.

standing that we both had been much  
pleased at finding that he was elected so  
soon and that I would not fail to bring  
him to be introduced to the President  
at the earliest opportunity.

I am a  
member of a great many societies in  
London including the Royal Society and have been  
on the Council of <sup>several</sup> ~~most~~, I have been a  
President of one Society and amongst others  
a Vice President of the Society of Antiquaries  
and I am aware that except when it is  
supposed that there is any intentional  
violation of the established rules, it is not

to bring promise in a  
particular member

customary to exact such <sup>rigid</sup> ~~liberal~~ obedience  
to the ~~established regulations~~ <sup>as you demand</sup>

I was  
not therefore prepared to receive from you  
a letter written rather in the tone of a  
Commanding Officer <sup>or of a school master to his pupil</sup> to his subordinate,  
than of a Secretary of a Society to a  
member of it. Your letter must have been  
intended to prevent my son from becoming  
a member of the Society as it is evident  
that no one would think of joining a Society

You  
is  
that  
enrol  
rule  
piece  
of  
usual  
best  
and  
prop  
writ



after having been addressed in such a spirit by the Secretary of it.

You say that the letter which he received "directed him to pay within one Calendar Month", but if you refer to the printed letter in question you ~~see~~ will see that the words used in it are "request that you will kindly &c", a very different tone of correspondence from that adopted by you and much better calculated to ensure speedy compliance if it had not ~~been~~ accidentally escaped notice.

You have sufficient knowledge of the English language to be aware that the word "direct" implies a status of authority which is discourteous unbecoming in a secretary especially when it is not authorised by the wording of the Society's documents. You say also that the reason assigned by me "might interfere with his admission but could scarcely be held to be an excuse for not making the stipulated payment within the stipulated time", but it is quite unusual for a secretary of a society to call upon a new member to excuse himself in those terms, and within  $\approx$  2 days, for not complying with regulations, which having only been just elected he can scarcely be expected to have become thoroughly conversant with.

being

You say you have no business to assume that the Council will overlook the non-compliance with the rule, & confidentially placed before the notice of fellow, & the most overlook is one usual, implies that Council is the next of the best address and is not to do objection to the matter in question.

Under these circumstances my son declines to become a Fellow of the Society and I am to add that his reason for so doing is



(L90)

SOC. ANTIQ. LOND.  
BURLINGTON HOUSE, PICCADILLY . W.

April 10 . 1883

My dear General Pitt Rivers

I cannot tell you how your  
letter has disturbed me!

I will not pause to justify or to  
explain any of the expressions used  
in a letter, which I can assure you was  
inspired solely by the desire not to see  
an Election made "absolutely null &  
"void" (See Statutes Chap. .iii. § i.) which  
I had done my utmost to promote.  
I ask you, without further preamble,  
to allow me to withdraw ~~my~~ <sup>that</sup> letter and  
to accept, for yourself and for your son,  
my most sincere apologies at having



So unintentionally said anything to  
annoy either you or him.

I cherish the hope that to think  
you will agree with me that to this  
apology there can be but one reply,  
and that you will induce your son to  
reconsider his determination, and  
not forego, for yourself, the pleasure  
which you said his election gave  
you, and which I am sure was  
shared, as by every Fellow of the Society,  
so by none more than by

Yours sincerely  
Knights Watson

Lieut. General Pitt Rivers FRS &c



L90  
SOC. ANTIQ. LOND.

BURLINGTON HOUSE, PICCADILLY W.

April 12/83

My dear General Pitt Rivers

Second only to the pleasure  
of making a frank apology when  
one has inadvertently given  
offence, is that of having the  
apology received with no less  
frank cordiality.

I enclose the thesaurarial  
receipts — with many thanks —  
and shall hope soon to have  
the pleasure of shaking both  
you and your son by the hand  
on his admission. Believe me  
Yours very truly  
Chas. Edw. Bates



N<sup>o</sup>. 11

The 12<sup>th</sup> day of April 1883.

Received from Alexander Edward Fox Pitt  
Esq.

FIVE GUINEAS, being his Admission Fee to the SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES  
OF LONDON.

Edwin C. Ireland  
for the Treasurer.

£ 5 : 5 : 0



N<sup>o</sup>. 1016

The 12<sup>th</sup> day of April 1883.

Received from A. R. F. Pitt Jng., Esq.

Two Pounds two Shillings, being his Subscription

to the Society of Antiquaries of London for one Year ending the 31st December,

1883.

Edwin C. Ireland  
for the Treasurer.

£ 2 : 2 :

With the Treasurer's Compliments and Thanks.



3

SOC. ANTIQ. LOND.  
BURLINGTON HOUSE, PICCADILLY. W.

26 April 1883

My dear General Pitt-Rivers

Your son on his Election received  
the enclosed letter, and a copy of the  
Statute.

The letter directed him, quodvisit  
see, to pay within one Calendar  
Month, and the Statute informed  
him that if he failed to do so,  
his Election became "absolutely  
null & void"

He has not made this  
necessary payment within  
the prescribed time, and I do



BURTLINGTON HOUSE PROPERTY  
800 WALTER LOND

not see that your letter assigns  
any "special cause" for his not  
doing so. •

I would suggest therefore that  
he send a cheque for whatever  
amount he dects to pay (i.e.  
Composition or otherwise) with  
the smallest possible delay.

His being "out of London"  
must not interfere with his Admission  
but it could be scarcely be held to  
be an excuse for not making  
the stipulated payments  
within the stipulated time.

Of course I have no business  
to assume that the Council  
will overlook the non-compliance  
with the Rule so emphatically  
placed before ~~your notice~~  
the notice of Fellows on their  
Election. — But I think it  
only friendly to suggest  
that the omission be repaired  
at the very earliest opportunity.

Yours truly  
C Knight Watson



Answered 4. April. 83

(L90)

SOC. ANTIQ. LOND.  
BURLINGTON HOUSE, PICCADILLY. W.

April 3/80

My dear General Pitt Rivers

Is your son abroad? He was  
elected F.R.S. on March 1<sup>st</sup> and not  
having made the necessary payments  
within one Calendar month his Election  
is liable to be declared and indeed  
is absolutely null & void unless  
the Council &c &c (See Statutes &c)

All this was duly put before  
him in the letter announcing his  
Election.

I have no address for him  
other than Rushmore so if he is



with you perhaps you will hand  
him this reminder.

I conclude however he must  
be abroad, in which case it  
might be well (if I may be pardoned  
the suggestion) that you should  
write and enquire why he has not  
paid up and presented himself  
for 'Admission'.

Believe me

yours truly

Christoph W. B. B.

I hope you are quite well again.



Cheque for 7.7.0 sent 11. April 1883.



THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF LONDON.

SIR,

As Secretary of this Society, I have to announce to you, that at a Meeting held here last evening you were duly elected a Fellow, and I beg to call your attention to Chap. III of the Statutes, a copy of which accompanies this letter.

You will there see (p. 16) that the payments to be made by you to the Society on the occasion, and within ONE CALENDAR MONTH from the date of your Election, are

	£	s.	d.
Admission Fee . . . . .	5	5	0
Subscription for the Current Year	2	2	0

and that in future years an Annual Subscription of Two Guineas, *payable in advance*, will become due on the first of January of each year.

In lieu of such Annual Subscription a Composition of Twenty-five Guineas may be paid. All amounts due, now or hereafter, are to be made payable to "THE TREASURER OF THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF LONDON."

In order to complete your Election and to secure your full privileges as a Fellow, our Charter and Statutes require (Chap. I. § X) that you should be FORMALLY ADMITTED. I am therefore instructed to request that you will kindly lose no time in attending a Meeting of the Society for that purpose. A card of the Meetings is herewith enclosed.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

Burlington House,  
Piccadilly,

*Chas. Water*

Secretary.



4. Copy

Rushmore,  
Salisbury.

April 9. 1883.

Sir,  
I consider your letter  
of the 6th inst: to be un-  
-called for and overbearing  
in its tone. You speak of  
my son having been directed  
to pay, also that the reasons  
assigned in my letter  
offered no excuse for non-



Standard  
Standard  
-payment within the  
stipulated time: that you  
have no business to assume  
that the Council will  
overlook non-compliance

tc. This is a tone of  
correspondence in which  
no member will submit  
to be addressed by the  
Secretary of a Society and

My son therefore feels that  
he must decline to become  
a member of a Society in  
which he is liable to such  
treatment.

I am Sir

Yours &c

A Pitt Rivers

Lieut. General



Copy

(L95)  
Rushmore,  
Salisbury.

11. April 83

Dear Mr. Knight-Watson

After your letter of  
the 10th inst: I can only say  
that I hope the incident may  
be entirely forgotten between  
us. I enclose herewith  
for the Treasurer the cheques  
for my son's admission  
fee and subscription.

Yours very truly  
A. Pitt Rivers.



No. 1. Copy

(L90)

~~Rushmore,~~  
~~Salisbury.~~

Soc: Antiq: Lond.

Burlington House Piccadilly W.

April 3. 1883

My dear General Pitt Rivers

Is your son abroad?

He was elected F. S. A on  
March 1<sup>st</sup> and not having  
made the necessary payments  
within one Calendar month  
his Election is liable to be  
declared and indeed is  
absolutely null & void



unless the Council &c &c  
(See Statutes &c).

All this was duly  
put before him in the letter  
announcing his Election.

I have no address  
for him other than Rush.  
-more so if he is with  
you perhaps you will  
hand him this reminder.

I conclude however  
he must be abroad: in

which case it might be well  
(if I may be pardoned the  
suggestion) that you should  
write and explain why he has  
not paid up and presented  
himself for "Admission".

Believe me

Yours truly

C. Knight Watson

I hope you are quite well again



L90

Rushmore,  
Salisbury.4. April 83

This letter is written from  
recollection as it was not  
supposed it would have led  
to an unpleasant correspondence.  
No copy was taken of it: It is  
the substance, but I cannot  
recollect the exact wording.  
A.P.T.

Dear Mr. Knight Watson

My son has been away  
from London, and he was



waiting to be introduced by  
me and I have been so very  
busy chiefly with Archaeological  
work that I have not had  
time to attend the meetings,  
but we were both of us much  
pleased that he should have  
been elected so soon, and  
I will not fail to introduce  
him at the earliest  
opportunity. I suppose  
it will do when we come

to London about the  
middle of the month.

Yours very truly  
A. Pitt Rivers.



Opportunity.

Yours truly

C. Knight Watson.

3. Copy. The underlining is Mr. Watson's.

Soc: Antiq: Lond. ~~Rushmore,~~  
~~Salisbury.~~

Burlington House, Piccadilly W.

6. April 83

My dear General Pitt Rivers

Your son on his  
Election received the enclosed  
letter, and a copy of the Statutes.

The letter directed him,  
you will see, to pay within  
one Calendar Month, and  
the Statutes informed him that  
if he failed to do so, his Election  
became "absolutely null + void"



He has not made this necessary payment within the prescribed time, and I do not see that your letter assigns any "special cause" for his not doing so.

I would suggest therefore that he send a cheque for whatever amount he elects to pay (i.e. Composition or otherwise) with the smallest possible delay.

His being "out of London" might interfere with his Admission

but it could scarcely be held to be an excuse for not making the stipulated payments within the stipulated time. Of course I have no business to assume that the Council will overlook the non-compliance with the Rule so emphatically placed before the notice of Fellows on their Election.

But I think it only friendly to suggest that the omission be repaired at the very earliest



Copy.

(L90)

Rushmore,  
Salisbury.

H

April 9. 1883

Sir, I consider your letter of the 6th inst: to be un-called for and overbearing in its tone. You speak of my son having been directed to pay, also that the reasons assigned in my letter



offered no excuse for non-  
-payment within the  
stipulated time: that you  
have no business to  
assume that the Council  
will overlook non-compliance  
tc. This is a tone of  
correspondence in which  
no member will submit  
to be addressed by the  
secretary of a society and

my son therefore feels that  
he must decline to become  
a member of a society  
in which he is liable to  
such treatment.

I am Sir

yours tc

A Pitt Rivers

Lieut. General.



Copy.

190

Rushmore,  
Salisbury.

11. April 83

Dear Mr. Knight Watson

After your letter of the  
10th inst. I can only say  
that I hope the incident  
may be entirely forgotten  
between us. I enclose here-  
with for the Treasurer the  
Cheque for my son's  
Admission fee and subscription  
Yours very truly  
A. Pitt Rivers.



votes for May Ellis & I believe  
that if it comes to a question of  
referring to the general feeling of the  
Society it will be found that he  
has given dissatisfaction for some  
time to the outside members of the  
Society. Please see what the matter  
is proposed next before the Council.  
My son had no archaeological  
claims when elected a Fellow & I  
looked upon it as a personal  
compliment - his being elected, but he  
has been quite displeas'd of this &  
don't wish to join the Society. He  
might have made a useful member,  
as he has an excellent eye for form.  
but no one can speak Mr. Watson  
I am  
a Peter Rivers

190

Rushmore,  
Salisbury.

April 18<sup>th</sup> 83

My dear Fellow

I believe you are on the  
Council of the Antiquaries so I send  
you copies of a correspondence with  
Mr. Knight-Watson relative to my son's  
election. If Alex was removed  
but having sufficient notice of his  
election. My civil letter to Mr. Watson  
of the 4<sup>th</sup> was amply sufficient to show  
that it was unconditional and that  
we were willing to do whatever was  
required as long as we knew that it  
was. No doubt Mr. Watson thinks



that when a man receives notice of  
his election to the Society of Antiquaries  
he sleeps with the regulations under  
his pillow but we did not happen  
to have them here and did not  
know that the fees were so it was  
impossible to reply to Mr. Wilson's  
intercepting demands until we did  
not as we were coming to town -  
a few days <sup>thought</sup> that leaving  
remained any impression that left  
evident of intentional neglect. it might  
have been told them. In my opinion  
the hard & just rules of a society  
are only intended to be applied when  
there is occasion for them and are

not intended to catch out a  
respectable member. The hardest  
he makes a mistake Mr. Wilson  
must have known that fees would  
be no doubt about the payment  
and he has evidently sought out  
an opportunity of giving offence &  
prevention by son from joining the  
Society. The Society of Antiquaries  
is not a school or a Regiment &  
there can be no necessity for a  
pedantic application of discipline  
Mr. Wilson's school master manners  
are not objectionable. They have  
debarred me from joining near the



4. April 83

4

L90

Rushmore,  
Salisbury.

This letter is written for recollection.  
as it was not supposed it would have  
led to an unpleasant correspondence  
no other was taken of it: It is the substance  
but I cannot recollect the  
exact wording of  
Dear Mr. Knight Wilson the letter.

My son has been out from  
London and he was anxious to  
be introduced to you and I have  
been so busy chiefly with archaeological  
work that I have not had time  
to attend to the matter but we  
have both of us much pleasure  
that he should ~~see~~ have been



should so soon as I can  
~~be~~ <sup>fail</sup> to ~~bring~~ introduce him  
at the earliest opportunity. I  
suppose it will do best to come  
to London about the <sup>middle</sup> ~~middle~~ of  
the month.

Yours truly  
A. Pitt Rivers