

THE WORKS  
AND CORRESPONDENCE OF  
DAVID RICARDO

VOLUME XI

## PLAN OF THE EDITION

### VOLUME

- I. Principles of Political Economy and Taxation
- II. Notes on Malthus
- III. Pamphlets and Papers, 1809–1811
- IV. Pamphlets and Papers, 1815–1823
- V. Speeches and Evidence
- VI. Letters, 1810–1815
- VII. Letters, 1816–1818
- VIII. Letters, 1819–June 1821
- IX. Letters, July 1821–1823
- X. Biographical Miscellany
- XI. General Index

THE WORKS  
AND CORRESPONDENCE OF  
**David Ricardo**

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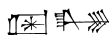
*Edited by Piero Sraffa  
with the Collaboration of M. H. Dobb*

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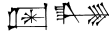
VOLUME XI

General Index



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## CONTENTS OF VOLUME XI

### ADDITIONAL LETTERS

3a	Ricardo to S. Beckett	21 June 1810	<i>page</i> ix
137a	Ricardo to Joseph Hume	8 Nov. 1815	ix
197a	Malthus to Ricardo	11 January 1817	x
259a	Ricardo to Torrens	15 June 1818	xi
418a	Ricardo to Miss Bayley	30 January 1821	xii
492a	Ricardo to Thomas Booth	28 March 1822	xiii
516a	Ricardo to Wilmot Horton	19 January 1823	xv
517a	Mallet to Ricardo	24 February 1823	xvii
517b	Ricardo to Mallet	25 February 1823	xxi
531a	Townsend to Ricardo	20 July 1823	xxii
531b	Ricardo to Townsend	25 July 1823	xxiv
	Ricardo to Wright	22 August 1823	xxv
	Tooke to John Murray	8 January 1824	xxvi

### ADDITIONAL NOTES

David Hume's supposed notes on the Wealth of Nations	xxvii
Changes in location of Manuscripts	xxvii
First publication of J. S. Mill's letter on his studies	xxvii
Identification of 'Piercy Ravenstone'	xxviii
Authorship of 'Life of Huskisson'	xxix
Marriage of Ricardo's grandfather	xxix
Pirated edition of 'Plan for a National Bank'	xxix
Build-up of mistakes in French editions of 'Principles'	xxix
Swift's Church of England Man	xxx
A second freak copy of 'Principles'	xxx
Authorship of 'Reply to Mr. Say'	xxx

### CORRECTIONS TO VOLUMES I-X

(additional to the list in Volume X, p. 411)	xxxi
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### INDEX

## PREFATORY NOTE

THIS much delayed Index completes the edition of Ricardo's *Works*. Of the previous attempts at making an index, only one, sketched out with the help of Professor A. Heertje, proved useful for the final version. For the rest I am indebted to Mrs Barbara Lowe, who returned to Cambridge to help to complete the work begun many years ago.

P. S.

## Additional Letters

### 3a. RICARDO TO HIS SUPERIOR OFFICER, S. BECKETT<sup>1</sup>

New Grove Mile end  
21<sup>st</sup> June 1810

Sir

I received your letter dated the 18<sup>th</sup> inst, directed to the Commander of the S<sup>t</sup> Leonard Volunteers, with instructions concerning assembling the Corps this day at 4 oClock.— I think it necessary again to acquaint you, that the Bromley S<sup>t</sup> Leonard Volunteer Corps, which I had the honour to command, has been disbanded nearly six months

I am Sir

Your obed<sup>t</sup> humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

DAVID RICARDO

S. Beckett Esq<sup>t</sup>

### 137a. RICARDO TO JOSEPH HUME<sup>2</sup>

Gatcomb Park  
8<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1815

My Dear Sir

It is with the greatest concern that I inform you I am obliged to go to London on Sunday next<sup>3</sup> by the Gloucester

<sup>1</sup> MS in Public Record Office, "H.O.42-107". I am indebted to Sir Leon Radzinowicz for calling my attention to it.

Ricardo joined the Bromley and St. Leonards Volunteers in 1803, and was commissioned as Captain in the same year. See above, X, 47 & n.

<sup>2</sup> Addressed: "Joseph Hume Esq<sup>r</sup> / Cheltenham".—MS, International Autographs, New York, Cat. 15, 1964, item 292.

Joseph Hume (1777-1855), from 1818 M.P. for Aberdeen. At the time of this letter he had, at Mill's suggestion, planned to bring his newly wedded wife to Gatcomb. On a previous occasion he had arrived there only to find the family away. (See above, VI, 158, 310, 313, 325.) He became later one of Ricardo's chief allies in parliament.

<sup>3</sup> 12 November.

Mail, and that on Saturday I am going to Gloucester to pass that day with a friend of mine to whom I had written to secure me a place in the Mail. I very much regret that I am again disappointed in not having the pleasure of seeing you here, particularly as Mrs. Ricardo and I would have been happy in the opportunity which your visit would have afforded us of becoming acquainted with Mrs. Hume. There appears to be a fatality attending our meeting in this part of the world,—I hope we shall become better acquainted in London. I am writing immediately after the receipt of your letter, but have some doubts whether I shall be in time for the Post

I am My dear Sir  
Yours very truly  
DAVID RICARDO

197a. MALTHUS TO RICARDO <sup>1</sup>  
[*Reply to Letter 197.—Answered by 199*]

[11 Jan. 1817]

[...] I am sorry to find from what you say that you do not feel yourself able to approach nearer to those opinions, which I still continue after repeated consideration to think correct.

Everything that has occurred lately appears to favour my idea of the all powerful efficacy of demand, and to shew that is very far indeed from depending merely on supply. I quite

<sup>1</sup> Addressed: "D. Ricardo Esqr. / Upper Brook Street / Grosvenor Square". Incomplete, dated from postmark.

MS in the Rothschild Library, n. 1388 of the Catalogue.

Ricardo had asked Malthus for

his opinion on the plan lately adopted for the relief of the poor by employing them on public works. He himself did not think it a very efficacious mode of relief, as it diverted funds from other employments. (Above, VII, 116.)



*Additional Letters*

agree with you in thinking that the funds raised for the support of the poor (though perhaps necessary at the moment) essentially interfere with other employments. But this opinion appears to me to accord with my view of the subject, more than with yours. According to you and Say, if people were willing to subscribe and convert their *revenue* into *capital*, there ought to be no difficulty, if the sole want is the want of supply; but in my view of the subject there ought to be a difficulty, from the want of a proportionate demand.

I shall be most happy to visit you in Brook street the very first time I am in Town; but I have now been a truant for some time and must stay at home a little.

Mrs M joins me in kind regards to Mrs Ricardo

Ever truly Yours

T. R. MALTHUS

259a. RICARDO TO TORRENS<sup>1</sup>

London, Upper Brook St.,  
15 June, 1818, 5 o'Clock

My Dear Sir,

I have this moment returned home, and find your letter<sup>2</sup> dated from the King's Head Inn, Rochester (13th June) on my table.

Mr. Philips<sup>3</sup> is in Sussex, attending his own election, and therefore he cannot be applied to attest that you are a fit and proper person to serve in Parliament,<sup>4</sup> in time to be of any

<sup>1</sup> This letter was quoted by Torrens in an election speech in 1832, and printed in full in the *Bolton Chronicle* of 17 November 1832. It was discovered by Mr B. A. Corry and published by him in *Economica*, 1957, pp. 71-2.

<sup>2</sup> Torrens' letter is not extant.

<sup>3</sup> Probably G. R. Phillips (as spelt three lines below), M.P. for Horsham.

<sup>4</sup> Torrens was contesting Rochester in the general election of 1818.

use to you,—but from my knowledge of Mr. Phillips opinion of you, I can attest that those are his sentiments, and if he were in town I am sure he would say that and much more in your favour. My own acquaintance with you entitles me to give it as my opinion that you would render great service to your country in the House of Commons. From your knowledge of Political Economy, your advice would be of essential use in all financial questions, and at present there appears to be a great dearth of that sort of talent amongst our legislators. It will give me great pleasure to hear of your success.

As High Sheriff for the County of Gloucester, I shall be obliged to leave town the latter end of the week, to preside at the election of members for that county.

I am sorry that I did not see your friend.

I am, most truly yours,

DAVID RICARDO

418a. RICARDO TO MISS BAYLEY<sup>1</sup>

London 30 Jan<sup>y</sup> 1821

My Dear Miss Bayley

I shall be happy to forward your letters whenever you will favor me with them;—that which you enclosed to me this morning was immediately after I received it despatched by the 3<sup>d</sup> post to its address.—I promise to do this, or any other kindness in my power for you, although I should not be flattered by the account of such favorable opinions as Mr. Corrie expressed of my arguments in favor of my own

<sup>1</sup> MS in the Houghton Library, here printed by permission of the Harvard College Library. I am indebted to Professor Frank W. Fetter for calling my attention to it.

Ricardo had met the Bayley sisters, Sarah, Elizabeth and Ann, at Easton Grey, the home of Thomas Smith. See above, X, 350 & n.

doctrines on the disputed points in Political Economy. In truth however I am pleased that they had some effect on him.

You will like to know what Mr. M<sup>c</sup>Culloch said of my notes. He thinks that I should not publish them in their present form—they are in his opinion too controversial, and although he considers them as establishing the doctrine of the effects of accumulation on the ground on which I had previously placed it, before Mr. Malthus wrote his work, he thinks I should lower my reputation if I became a commentator of every erroneous opinion which I might think I discovered in the writings of another political economist.<sup>1</sup>

I shall therefore I think proceed no further with the notes. They are now in the possession of Mr. Malthus and if they have any influence with him in inducing him to make corrections in his next edition they will not have been written in vain.

Pray give our united regards to Mrs. and Mr. Smith and Miss Mary Ann Bayley,<sup>2</sup> and accept them yourself from our family circle. I hope you will hear good accounts of your sister Anne.

Y<sup>rs</sup> with great esteem  
DAVID RICARDO

492a. RICARDO TO THOMAS BOOTH<sup>3</sup>

London 28 March 1822

Sir

I am very much obliged to you for the frank communication of your sentiments respecting the probability of

<sup>1</sup> See M<sup>c</sup>Culloch's letter of 22 Jan., above, VIII, 338–40.

<sup>2</sup> Probably to be identified with the "Miss Mary Ann" of Ricardo's letter of 20 April 1822, above, X, 164–6.

<sup>3</sup> Addressed: "Thomas Booth Esq<sup>re</sup> / Fofteth Lodge / near / Liverpool". MS in Sotheby's sale, 28 July 1964, lot 534.

success, if I were disposed to listen to Mr. Hodgson's suggestion of becoming a candidate to represent in Parliament the town of Liverpool.<sup>1</sup> With your means of information I cannot have the least doubt that the opinion you have formed is a correct one. If I were well disposed to enter into so fearful a contest, your letter would make me pause and hesitate, as on the whole it does not hold out much promise of success; but since I had the pleasure of seeing Mr. Hodgson I have given the subject the most serious consideration, the result of which is that I must give up all thoughts of commencing a contest for which I am so unfit. I should be sacrificing my peace of mind for a considerable time for an object which I should not probably after all attain. I should be exchanging a seat of comparatively little trouble for one which would require constant attention, if I were to succeed. It is true that I should have the honour, which I know how to value, of representing a very important place, but I doubt whether I could be altogether as useful in my humble line, fettered as I should be by the particular views and opinions of my constituents, as I am now.

The reflection that Mr. Hodgson and a few of his friends thought so favourably of me as to be willing to give me their aid in elevating me to the rank of a representative of Liverpool will always be a source of satisfaction to me.

I remain

Sir

Your obed<sup>t</sup> and humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

DAVID RICARDO

<sup>1</sup> See Ricardo's letter to David Hodgson, declining the invitation to stand for Liverpool, above, IX, 182.

516a. RICARDO TO WILMOT HORTON<sup>1</sup>

Widcomb House, Bath  
19 Jan<sup>y</sup> 1823

My dear Sir

My servant at Gatcomb Park having neglected to send my letters after me, I did not receive your note, with the pamphlets accompanying it, till this morning.

You know I am frequently reproached with being a theorist, and if those who so reproach me, mean that I am not conversant with the practical details of the subjects which have engaged my attention, they are right. The subject of the Poor-laws for instance is one intimately connected with the science of Political Economy, but nobody is so little acquainted with them, as forming a part of parish economy, as I am.

The question you refer to me relates wholly to Parish economy, and therefore I am not qualified to give a good opinion on it.

I can have very little doubt but that the plan<sup>2</sup> would be favorable to parishes. With the waste and extravagance of our system of poor laws an able bodied pauper must cost the parishes more than £35.<sup>3</sup> It is said in the "Outline"<sup>4</sup> that each able bodied pauper costs the parish £10 p<sup>l</sup> Ann<sup>m</sup>, but

<sup>1</sup> MS in Central Library, Derby: it was located by Mr R. N. Ghosh (*Economica*, 1963, p. 47 n.).

The letter was first printed in Wilmot Horton's pamphlet, *Causes and Remedies of Pauperism, Part I* (London, Murray, 1829), but was overlooked until Lord Robbins found it and reprinted it in *Economica*, 1956, pp. 172-3.

Robert John Wilmot Horton (1784-1841), M.P., was at the time

Under-Secretary for War and the Colonies.

<sup>2</sup> The plan was to mortgage the poor rates in order to finance the emigration of paupers to Upper Canada.

<sup>3</sup> The sum calculated as necessary to get a man to Canada and keep him until he was self-supporting.

<sup>4</sup> *Outline of a Plan of Emigration to Upper Canada* (printed, but not published, Jan. 1823).

against this must be set the value of the work which such pauper may be made to do for the parish, and also the general saving in the wages of labour which accompany the present system. If the farmer who pays £10, saves £5 in the wages of the rest of his workmen, his real contribution is only £5, and the real saving to the parish will be only a like sum.

With every emigrant we are to divest ourselves of £35 capital. If employed at home, with that portion of capital, he could replace it with a profit, England would be a loser by the proposed plan. The enemies of the plan will say that he could do so, and if they could make that appear I would rather adopt their plan, than the one recommended.

At the present moment however we are to compare the emigration plan to the system actually existing, and I can have no doubt that it would be attended with great advantages over it. The plan would be economical; it would enable us to get rid of the most objectionable part of the poor laws, the relieving able bodied men; and what is to me by far the most important consideration, it could not fail to make the wages of labour more adequate to the support of the labourer and his family, besides giving him that as wages which is now given to him as charity.

I told you how incompetent I was to say any thing worthy of your attention on this subject and I have now convinced you of it.

Believe me

Very truly yours

DAVID RICARDO

If you wish to have the pamphlets returned I will give them to you when we meet in London.