

Dear Mr Howard,

I have your letter of the 5th, - inst. -

I think I ~~had~~^{said} in my previous letter, that the chain in question was bought for - and given ^{to} one by Mr Davis. - also, - that it belonged to The Continent. By this I mean, - it was so considered, - as it was supposed to be for use in my room in the Continent Office.

How you came into possession of it ~~is~~^{is} ~~entirely~~ and correctly stated also in former letter. - My memory is invulnerable on these points. ^{What you thought of my} ~~or~~ ~~my~~ ~~statement~~ ~~it~~ ~~had~~ ~~so~~ ~~much~~ ~~to~~ ~~show~~ ~~for~~ ~~a~~ ~~summer's~~ ~~work~~ ~~helping~~ ~~to~~ ~~keep~~ ~~The~~ ~~Continent~~ ~~to~~ ~~gether~~ ~~the~~ ~~is~~ ~~annoying~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~light~~ ~~of~~ ~~a~~ ~~conversation~~ ~~it~~ ~~had~~ ~~with~~ ~~you~~ ~~in~~ ~~September~~ ~~1887~~ ~~at~~ ~~the~~ ~~Edgett~~ ~~House~~ ~~where~~ ~~I~~ ~~had~~ ~~stopped~~ ~~in~~ ~~returning~~ ~~from~~ ~~Boston~~ ~~where~~

I had been to place my daughter
at boarding school. You then
said, that you were the only one
connected with the Continent, who
had come out ahead financially
- not only had ^{received the full} ~~not~~ ~~lost~~ ~~anything~~
~~but~~ had ~~gotten~~ several ~~times~~
~~of~~ ~~and~~ ~~of~~ ~~your~~ ~~good~~ ~~salary~~ - but you
several hundred dollars ^{additional} out
of your ^{purpose of} ~~plans~~, - copyrights, &c. -
I spoke of the chair then, - and while
I may not have made a demand
for it - I remember distinctly
saying, that I should claim it -
when I had need of it, which claim
I now make, because I have
need of. -

You say that Mr. Howard is fond
of this especial piece of furniture
and not long since spent con-
siderable money on it. - I am
fond of it also, - and it was in perfect
condition when it was placed in your
care. - If it needed money, speak

on it after these years of use I cannot see as
this expenditure will take against my claim.
You say you had a right to give it to your wife
&c. — No. — you had no such right. — You did
not acquire it by any purchase. — nor was it
given you by me. — the only one, who had any
right to dispose of it. —

These are my views on the subject. — I think
I have fully disposed of it.

My husband as you well know lost hundreds of
thousands of dollars ^{of his own money, and all of money} — ruined his health and prospects
for life in this unfortunate venture. — I have your
own word for it that you not only lost nothing but

came out ahead. — You certainly can not
^{therefore} make any claim on this piece of furniture or
that part of the Centinich bank in your debt.

Trusting I may hear from you soon
again &c &c.

Yours truly
Owen