

68(D) To Crosby & Co.

Wednesday 5 April, 1809

Gentlemen

In the Spring of the year 1803 a MS Novel in 2 vol. entitled Susan was sold to you by a Gentleman of the name of Seymour, & the purchase money £10 rec<sup>d</sup> at the same time. Six years have since passed, & this work of which I avow myself the Authoress, has never to the best of my knowledge, appeared in print, tho' an early publication was stipulated for at the time of Sale. I can only account for such an extraordinary circumstance by supposing the MS by some carelessness to have been lost; & if that was the case, am willing to supply You with another Copy if you are disposed to avail yourselves of it, & will engage for no farther delay when it comes into your hands. – It will not be in my power from particular circumstances to command this Copy before the Month of August, but then, if you accept my proposal, you may depend on receiving it. Be so good as to send me a Line in answer, as soon as possible, as my stay in this place will not exceed a few days. Should no notice be taken of this Address, I shall feel myself at liberty to secure the publication of my work, by applying elsewhere. I am Gentlemen &c &c

MAD.—

Direct to M<sup>rs</sup> Ashton Dennis  
Post office, Southampton

[Messrs. Crosbie [*sic*] & Co.,  
Stationers' Hall Court London]

68(A) From Richard Crosby

Saturday 8 April 1809

Madam

We have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th inst. It is true that at the time mentioned, we purchased of M<sup>r</sup> Seymour a MS. novel entitled *Susan* and paid him for it the sum of 10£ for which we have his stamped receipt as a full consideration, but there was not any time stipulated for its publication, neither are we bound to publish it, Should you or anyone else [*sic*] we shall take proceedings to stop the sale. The MS shall be yours for the same as we paid for it.

For R. Crosby & Co  
I am yours etc.  
Richard Crosby

London  
Ap 8 1809  
Mrs. Aston Dennis  
Post Office  
Southampton