

# A Burne-Jones Letter

*Editor's Note: The following handwritten – and undated – letter from Burne-Jones was found by Peter Faulkner amongst the John Marshall Papers at Exeter University Library. Peter believes it is unpublished. He has kindly supplied the following notes on John Marshall.*

John Marshall (1818-1891) was a distinguished surgeon and Professor of Anatomy at the Royal Academy from 1873 onwards. One of Rossetti's physicians, he is described by Fiona MacCarthy in *William Morris: A Life for Our Time* as 'a Pre-Raphaelite aficionado'. I am grateful to the University Librarian for permission to reproduce the letter here in the Burne-Jones centenary year.

The Grange  
– Fulham

My dear Marshall,

What a friendly and pleasant greeting from you but you have written to a broken down old man who goes out never now if he can help it – indeed it's true – I can bear no more the heat of rooms and burning of gas lights – & the dazzle of beauty only torments and derides me

literally I go nowhere but if I could go I would to you – for I feel touched by such friendly remembrance – look! if on that night an unwonted fire lights up my poor embers I will make my appearance – but if I dont come, it means really a true plea of fatigue – my days are increasingly busy and by ten every night I betake me to such sleep as waits me – dost thou see? So anyway if I come or needs cannot I am

Yours very sincerely.

E B-J