Dr Margaret Spence, a member, has drawn attention to this letter in the John Rylands Library, Manchester. It is reproduced by kind permission of George Allen and Unwin Ltd, with the assistance of the John Rylands Library. It was addressed to Edward Augustus Bond (1815-1898), then Keeper of Manuscripts at the British Museum and subsequently its Librarian. The letter is undated, but the reference to Turner provides a clue; Ruskin was hard at work on Turner’s drawings for five or six months from October 1857.

Dear Mr. Bond,

Will you allow me to introduce to you my friend Mr. Morris, whose gift for illumination I believe is greater than any nineteenth-century draughtsman. Perhaps you will be so kind as to allow your library to find a refuge for him. What a time it is since I have seen you. I am so busy with Turner at present I can’t get anywhere.

Yours always gratefully,

J. Ruskin

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