

Sir From a sense of duty  
to an unfortunate man, I have undertaken  
to effect a settlement with the creditors  
of Mr. Firm, and thereby put it in his power  
again to start in the world, to retrieve his  
fortune, establish his honor and raise his  
sunken credit. And feeling confident, from  
the reputation you have always sustained, that  
you would be the last person in the world to  
press the unfortunate if satisfied of the justice  
of their course and the honesty of their intentions.

I shall attempt to make it clear to you  
that Mr. Firm, in pursuing the course he did  
and in making the assignment had only in  
view correctness of principle and the interest  
of his creditors. To satisfy you of the truth  
of this, is the object of the present letter. For  
the want of this satisfaction, I understand is  
the mountain in the path of settlement between  
yourself and Mr. Firm. And now Sir, before going  
any farther, let us look for a moment into the  
enormous amount Mr. Firm was to gain by the  
defrauding of honest creditors. And proving recre-  
ant to ~~any~~ the dictates of conscience and the  
principles of honor and justice. What I ask  
was he to gain, at the enormous price of his  
honesty, the good-will of the community in which  
he lived and the friendships of those around