

End of March 1814: Letter from J.C. in London to Maria in London:

"I have a large picture almost ready for the Exhibition. . . . You once talked to me about a journal. I have a little one that I made last summer . . . picking up little scraps of trees, plants, ferns, distances &c &c." (JCC II, p. 120)

Jan 3 1821: Letter from John Fisher in Salisbury to J.C.:

"you must think me very ungrateful in not having acknowledged the receipt of the Claude the Ostade the Sketchbook & above all your kind letter. . . . The Bishop likes your picture 'all but the clouds' he says. He likes 'a clear blue sky'." (JCC VI, pp. 59-60)

July 19 1821: Letter from John Fisher in Salisbury to J.C. in Hampstead:

"How does the hay wain look now that it has got into your room again?" (JCC IV, pp. 69-70)

1821 late summer:

"A large number of cloud paintings done at Hampstead. . . , inscribed with careful notes of the time and the direction of the wind." (JCC VI, p. 75)

Aug 4 1821: Letter from J.C. in Hampstead to John Fisher in Salisbury:

"I have got a room at the glaziers down town as a workshop where is my large picture—and at this little place I have [sundry] small works going on. . . . I have done a good deal of work here. . . . My large picture looks well in [my new drawing rooms in Keppel Street] but I shall do more to it. . . . Sir George Beaumont. . . has presented me with a beautiful little landscape, a mill. . . It is a Rembrandt. . . . There is some hope of getting a landscape . . . the large & most magnificent Marine. . . . should that be the case, though I can ill afford it, I will make a copy, a facsimile—a 'study' only will be of value but to myself—the other will be real property. . . . the very doing of it will almost bring one in communication with Claude himself. . . . In the room . . . are hanging up two small drawings by Cousins, one a wood, close & very solemn—the one a view from Visuvius, looking inland, over Portici, very lovely." Sketches enclosed showing boats on the Thames: "a wherry—next a funny—next a skiff." (JCC IV, pp. 70-72)

Oct 23 1821: Letter from J.C. in Hampstead to John Fisher:

"I have not been Idle, and have made more particular and general study than I have ever done in one summer, but I am most anxious to get into my London painting room, for I do not consider myself at work without I am before a six foot canvas.—I have done a good deal of skying. . . . I shall do another large Work of my Own, & Savile's picture—but that is a dead pall. . . . My last year's work has got much together. This weather has blown & washed the powder off." (JCC VI 1968, pp. 76-78)

1822 June pre-16th: By 16 June, J.C. moves from Keppel Street to the late Farington's house at 35 Charlotte Street. (JCC II, p. 276)

1822 Aug 1st and after: Starting on August 1, J.C. produces some fifty cloud studies at Hampstead, on which J.C. took careful notes of the time and the direction of the wind. One inscribed by J.C.: "Very appropriate for the coast at Osmington." (JCC VI, p. 75)

¹ R.B. Beckett (ed.). *John Constable's Correspondence*, Ipswich: Suffolk Records Society, 1962-1968.