

W. Fuller to Colonel Phipps  
(Incident of Messrs Munday)

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14 Abingdon Street.

October 3<sup>rd</sup> 1857

My dear Sir

I have just learned that Mr George Munday the  
going Contractor in the firm of James and George Munday (who has been  
ill for some time) has now sufficiently recovered to complain very much  
of the position in which he finds himself placed. not only by the award  
of Mr Stephenson but also in respect of the position in which he appears to  
be regarded as a party hostile to the best interests of the Exhibition rather than  
as a friend who very early rendered services of the most important character  
- He blames me it seems for this in some degree and especially for having  
represented to him that he would reap honor, and glory, and profit, and that  
he certainly would earn the kind countenance of His Royal Highness by the  
liberal part he took at the commencement of the work - This forms the  
occasion of my addressing a few words to you - With reference to money matters  
I have nothing to say as an award has been made by a gentleman who has been  
for many years reputed as an honest man and one notoriously liberal in his  
awards to enterprising Contractors - There are however some points in which  
I must admit there may be room for him to attribute blame to me and it is on  
these that I now address you - I did certainly hold out (as one of the  
inducements to persuade him to take the contract) the promise that if he  
assisted His Royal Highness in this important undertaking he would be  
treated with great consideration and would receive much honor and distinction  
and that in short he would be considered as a public benefactor and treated as such  
I must admit that I have been mistaken in this as since the date of the  
determination of the contract (which you may remember was done by means of a  
clause which the contractor consented to insert) he seems to have been regarded by  
the Commissioners and treated by all parties as an enemy to the cause rather than