

**Accession number:** 1992-24/34

**Description:** Single small piece of paper, written on both sides. Verse in Garrick's hand 'Upon Miss Arab More desiring my handwriting...'. n.d.

**Transcript:** Upon Miss Arab More desiring my handwriting for a book in which she has collected the handwriting of celebrated men.

In that choice book to wits devoted,  
And kept by You my partial Fair;  
What, shall a Name like mine be noted,  
Among the various worthies there?

~~[There void of sight]~~ In that rare list, I claim no place;  
Proud in Your Mind to fix my Name;  
While the true soul of Genius grace,  
The memorandum book of Fame!

Yet I obey, if you command,  
Of glory's page usurp a part;  
For you ~~[may well command]~~ have [power] right to ask the Hand  
Who have already got the Heart

David Garrick

**Verso:** For you may well command hand  
Who have ~~[almost got]~~ by pleas direct y<sup>e</sup> heart

**Notes:** Aileen Osborn, 'The Literary Material in the Hereford Garrick Papers', M. Phil thesis, University of Birmingham, 1999,258-9.

Other versions: Sotheby's 1928 catalogue prints text of MS. Lost on 'Arabic' in 1915.

Arab More was one of Hannah More's four sisters. It is not certain which. When Hannah first came to London in 1774, she was accompanied by sisters Martha and Sarah, and another sister

David Garrick Papers, Hereford Museum

Patti joined her at Mrs Garrick's after Garrick's death. 'Arab' is evidently a nickname as in Letter 1209, dated 23 November 1778, Garrick writes to Hannah:

I have sent some nonsense to the Arab – dull truth without poetry – I forgot her Christian name, so have given the Mahometan one:

I wish I could have written better verse for her book, & proved a little better title to my place than I have done.