

Rabelais in his Writings W. F. Smith 1918.

From: W. F. Smith.

(Letter Script).

Napier House,
Pittville,
Cheltenham.

My dear Sir,

It is with the greatest regret that I have to write that my Doctor strongly advises me against travelling to London next October. He tells me that I am suffering from *cardiae dyspnoea*, brought on probably by asthma which affected me at the end of last and the beginning of the present year. Every now and then I have to get up in the night and pass a couple of hours upright in an easy chair wrapt up in rugs, etc. A London fog, which is quite possible in October might bring serious consequences.

I have been engaged preparing a paper on Rabelais treating of various phases and incidents in his life and writings, some of which would, I fancy, be new. If you wish, I could send it to you by the end of the month, to be employed at your discretion.

I cannot tell you how disappointed I am at this contretemps. Please accept my sincerest apologies for the disappointment.

With many thanks for your kindness in proposing that I should take part in the meeting.

Yours sincerely,

W. F. Smith.