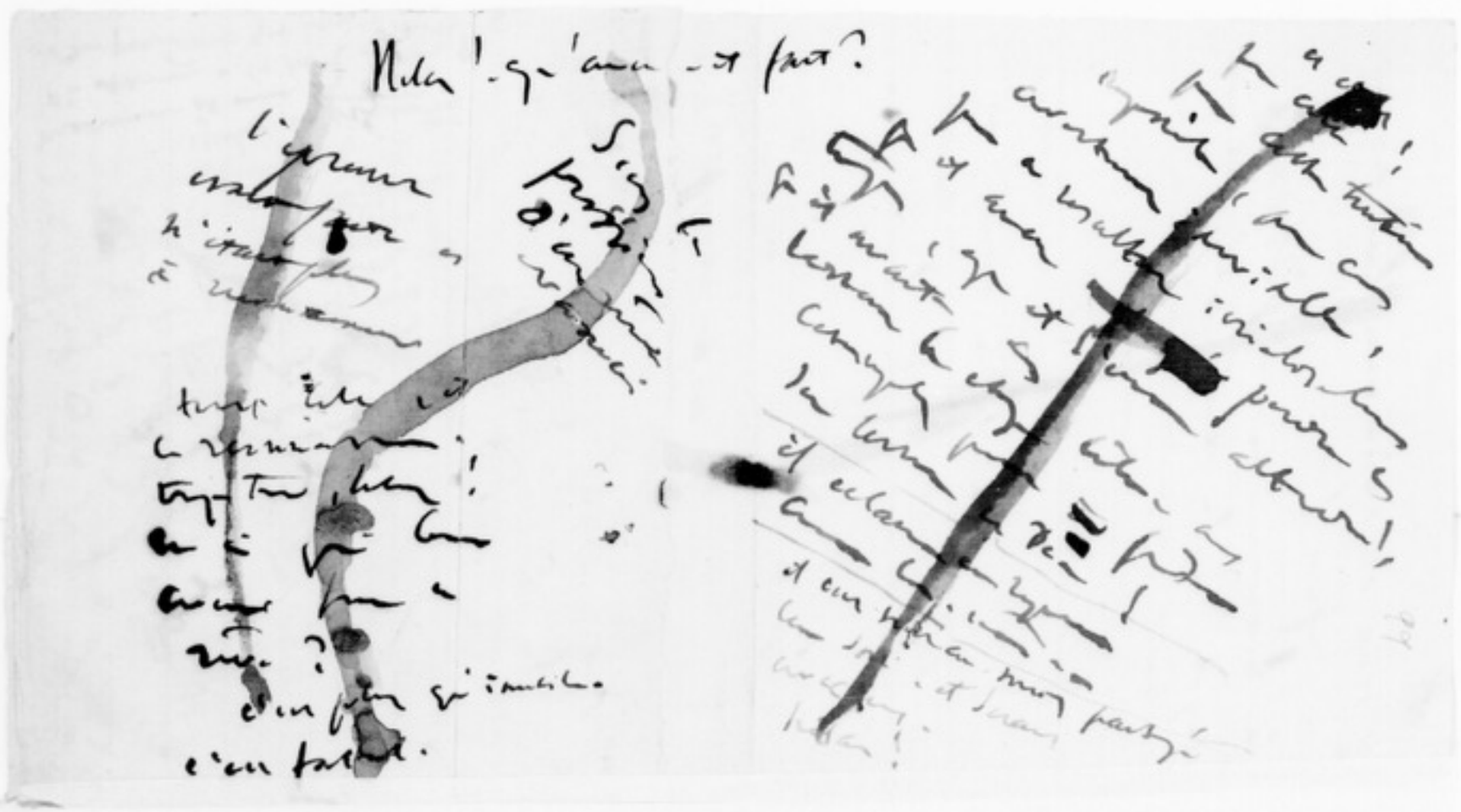
Abolition of Capital Punishment

37, *Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.*

repared after the debate, but in consequence of the debate
essing claims upon the columns of the *Star*, the Editor was
d. In the interval the Bill had passed the Third Reading,
g to Mr. Mills' speech in the House of Commons, has lapsed.
o prepare for publication a further reason has been preparing
hed in a tract form.

R."

mendment on
Bill, I have
g further can
wait to have
motion in a
great disad-
mind is occu-
nce. Many of
that it would
the bill, and
towards aboli-
shment which
for the public
. Gilpin was,
ty to enter a
is speech was
its as well as
pted.
able features.
to his facts,
g when I have
h he has pro-
debate, how-
l deferentially
coming from a
tation. I say
I was found in
ters during his
my place there
t unimportant
it is my respect
inising my own
been formed.
anishment one
thirty years of

gloom; in most cases unanimously, and in others with
dissentients to make the history of no
acc This is not the result of any [illegible] of ours,
for the have been few and few. We had no public
meeting, given no lectures, and have paid
officials of any kind. We not [illegible] the in-
ordinate machinery of agitation, and the
climate have not had the [illegible] what is
called a movement. We have [illegible] depend
upon the growth of opinion [illegible] little
to force, although we [illegible] to encourage
the growth. Even [illegible] our favour every
execution has tended [illegible] the punishment was
a failure. The public mind [illegible] enter into refined
speculations [illegible] the cruelty of certain punishments,
but they [illegible] understand simple principles, if
plainly [illegible] before them. They see the monstrous in-
equality of the sentence of death when visited upon the
crime of Wright and the crime of Richard; and even
in cases of premeditated murder there will be many
degrees of guilt, if measured by the provocation and
the motive. They see the conflict between public
opinion and the law, and the chances for the worst class
of criminals to escape it altogether. They see that it
does not operate as a deterrent. Amongst our popula-
tion there is respect for the law in every particular but
this. They revolt at the cruelty and injustice of capital
punishment. The State may retain a law which has
become obnoxious, but it cannot create respect for its
own enactments, especially when they do violence
to the feelings, to the instinctive sense of justice and
propriety in the minds of the people. There is
effeminacy in this. It is compatible with the culti-
tion of the most masculine faculty
natural offspring of a Christian philosophy
teaches no reckless contempt of danger or death, which