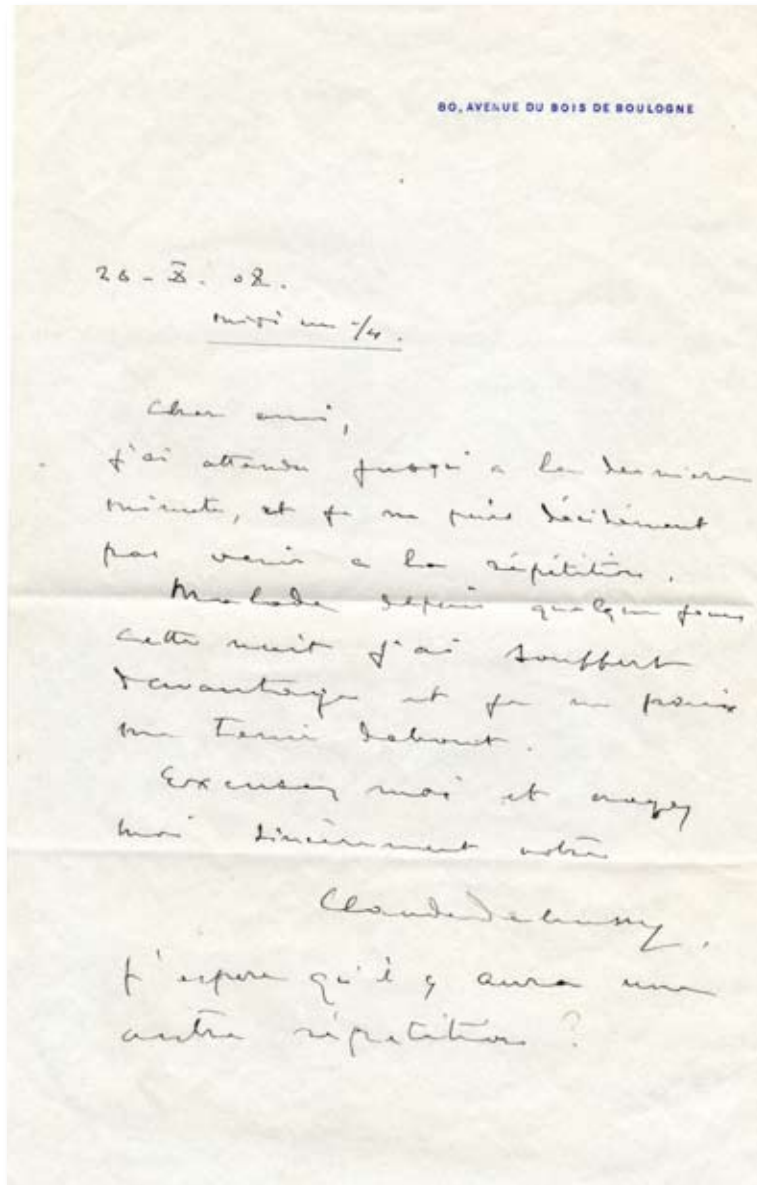
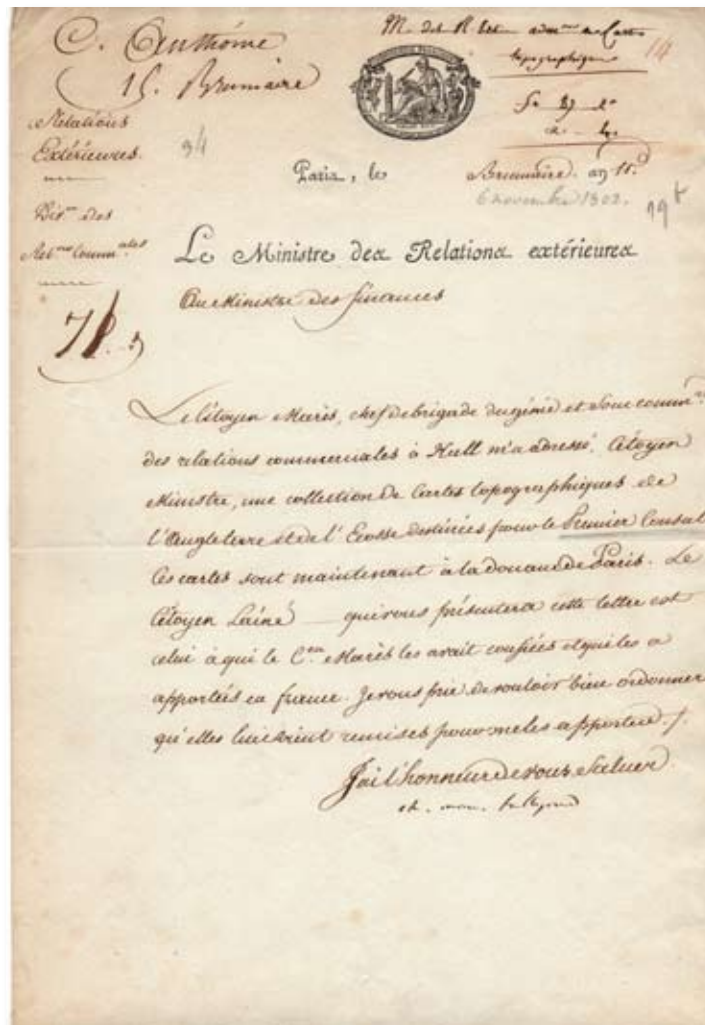


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JANUARY 2018



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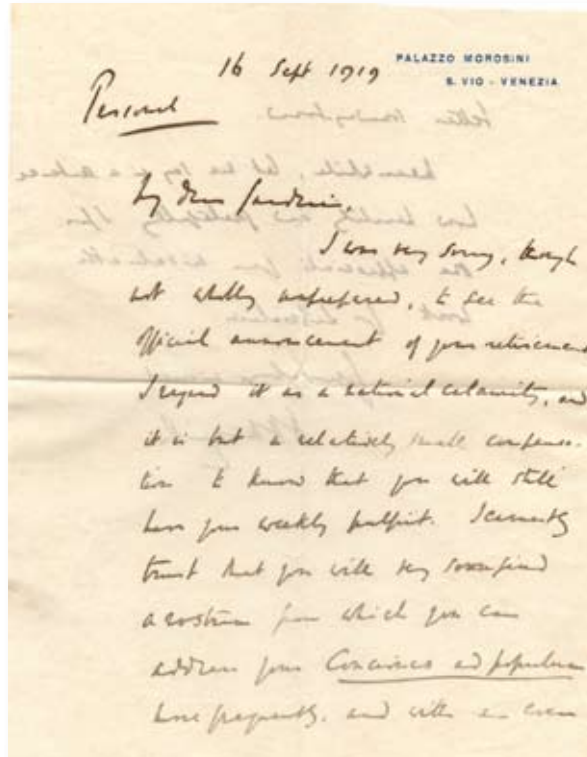
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ASQUITH REGRETS THE RETIREMENT OF A NEWSPAPER EDITOR



1. Herbert Henry ASQUITH (1852-1928)

Autograph Letter Signed ("HH Asquith") to "My dear Gardiner" [A.G. Gardiner, editor of the *Daily News*], expressing his regret at Gardiner's retirement.

1½ pages 4to, together with the autograph envelope, Palazzo Morosini, Venice, 16 September 1919. £295



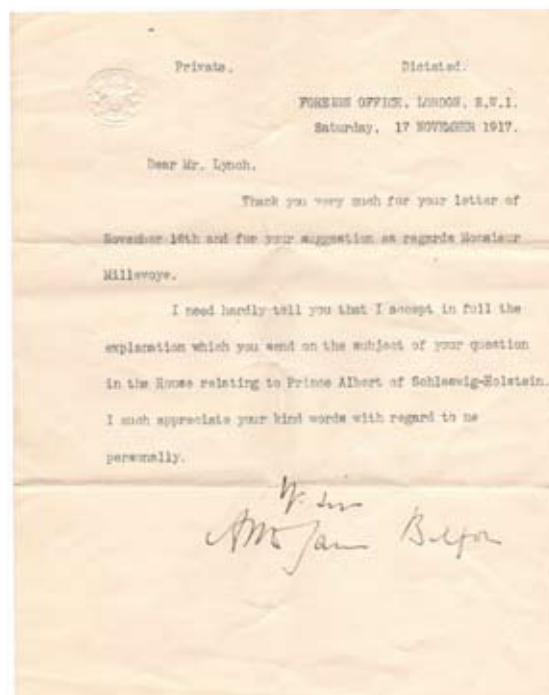
A heartfelt letter, written when Asquith was out of Parliament, following the machinations of the coalition led by Lloyd George.

"I was very sorry, though not wholly unprepared, to see the official announcement of your retirement. I regard it as a national calamity, and it is but a relatively small compensation to know that you will still have your weekly pulpit. . . . Meanwhile let me say in a sentence how heartily and gratefully I for one appreciate your invaluable work for Liberalism."

The letter is written on lightweight paper, leading to some show-through, but it remains clearly legible.



BALFOUR AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE, NOVEMBER 1917



2. Arthur James BALFOUR (1848-1930)

Typed Letter Signed ("Arthur James Balfour") to Mr. Lynch [Arthur Lynch, Irish Parliamentary Party MP for West Clare], thanking him for his suggestion regarding M. Millevoye.

1 page 4to, marked "Private" and "Dictated" [but signed by Balfour], Foreign Office, 17 November 1917. £340

An interesting letter, written only weeks after his letter to Lord Rothschild now known as the Balfour Declaration.

"Thank you very much for your letter of November 16th and for your suggestion as regards Monsieur Millevoye.

I need hardly tell you that I accept in full the explanation which you send on the subject of your question in the House relating to Prince Albert of Schleswig-Holstein.

I much appreciate your kind words with regard to me personally."

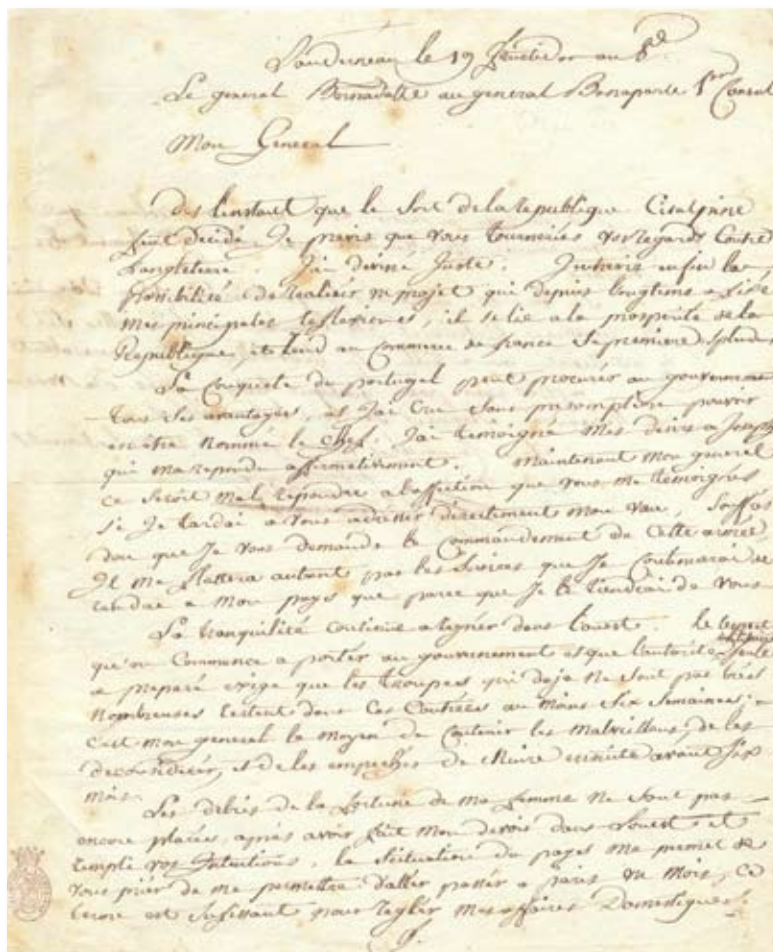
Lynch's suggestion regarding M. Millevoye must remain obscure, but it is unlikely that Balfour would have viewed this French politician with favour. Fiercely anti-semitic, anti-German and nationalistic, Millevoye had created a scandal in France in 1893 when he falsely accused Clemenceau of being a British agent. He stepped down as a deputy as a result, but was re-elected in 1898.

It is entirely possible that Lynch had met Millevoye when he lived in Paris at the turn of the century. In a rather unlikely association, Millevoye had been the lover of the Irish nationalist Maud Gonne, with whom he had two illegitimate children in the 1890s.

Prince Albert of Schleswig-Holstein, a grandson of Queen Victoria, was in a difficult position during the First World War. Having lived much of his life in England, his position as a German royal found him serving with the Prussian army at the outbreak of the war. The Kaiser excused him from active military service against Britain during the war, and he spent the years in an administrative position.

The original folds are clearly visible, and the letter is very slightly crumpled at the bottom right corner, but it is otherwise in very good condition.

BERNADOTTE TO NAPOLEON, TURNING HIS SIGHTS TOWARDS ENGLAND



3. Jean Baptiste Jules BERNADOTTE (1763-1844)

Autograph Letter Signed ("Bernadotte") to "general Bonaparte 1er Consul", asking for the command of an army against Portugal, and reporting on the situation in "the west" [Brittany].

1½ pages 4to in French, Landerneau, 19 fructidor an 8 [6 September 1800].

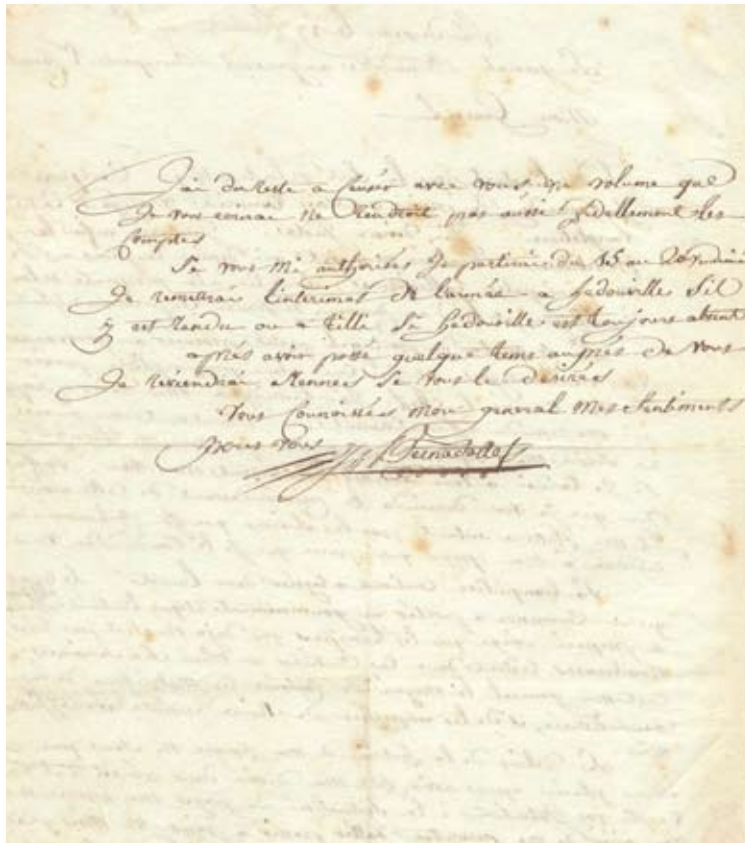
£2750

A remarkable letter. Bernadotte, still a committed republican, had serious misgivings about Napoleon, particularly after the coup d'état which made him First Consul. But the Empire was still four years away, and Bernadotte here still refers to the "prosperity of the Republic".

Trans: "From the moment that the fate of the Cisalpine Republic was decided I knew that you would turn your sights towards England. I guessed correctly; I saw at last the chance of bringing to fruition a project which had been at the forefront of my thoughts for a long time, it is tied to the prosperity of the Republic, and restores to the commerce of France its initial splendor.

The conquest of Portugal can bring to the Government all these advantages, and I believed without any presumption that I could be named its leader. I expressed my desire to Joseph who responded in the affirmative. So now, my general, it would be a sorry response to the affection which you have shown me, if I did not address myself directly to you immediately, allow me therefore to ask you for the command of this army. It would flatter me as much for the services which I would continue to give to my country as for the fact that it would come from you.

All continues calm in the west. The respect which people are beginning to have for the government, and for which military authority alone is responsible, demands that the troops, which are not very numerous as it is, should



stay in this area for at least six weeks. It is, my general, the means to contain the malicious ones, and to keep them from harming us within six months.

The remains of my wife's fortune have not yet been placed, once I have done my duty in the west and fulfilled your intentions, the situation of the region would allow me to beg you to allow me to spend a month in Paris, which should be enough to put in order my domestic affairs.

In any case, I need to speak with you, no matter how much I write to you it would not give you such a correct account [of events].

If you authorise me to do so, I will leave between the 15th and 20th vendemiaire . . . After having spent a little time near you, I will return to Rennes if you wish.

You know, my general, my feelings towards you –"

Napoleon's victory over the Austrians at Marengo in June 1800 resulted in the establishment of the second Cisalpine Republic. With French control over northern Italy established, Napoleon turned to securing alliances elsewhere. By mid-September, a commercial treaty had been signed with the United States. A peace treaty was agreed with the Dey of Algiers, and by October, negotiations were under way for a peace treaty with Britain. These negotiations, however, soon foundered, and the Treaty of Amiens, heralding a brief respite in hostilities with England would not be signed until March 1802.

Bernadotte seems to assume that Napoleon was contemplating an invasion of England as early as 1800. In fact, it was not until some years later that he turned his attention to England, and in 1805 he sent the order to Admiral Villeneuve to "enter the Channel with my combined squadrons. England is ours, we are ready". That hope, unfortunately for Napoleon, but fortunately for the British, ended at Trafalgar.

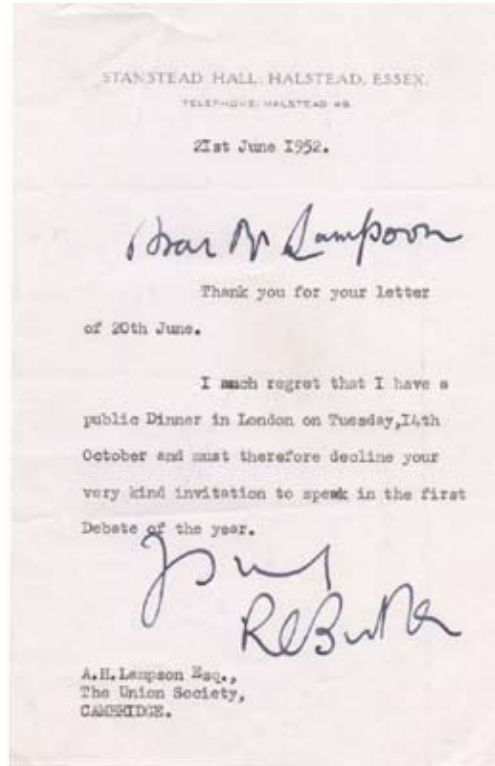
Portugal's long-standing amicable relations with England, all the more essential at this time as the two maritime nations relied on these ties for secure trading routes, might have prompted France's desire to conquer that nation. However, the French invasion of Spain, the only feasible route to Portugal, was not to take place until 1807, and Bernadotte never served in the Peninsula.

Bernadotte's remark that he had spoken to Joseph about his ideas is unsurprising, as the two were brothers-in-law, Bernadotte married to Napoleon's former fiancée, Désirée Clary, sister to Joseph Bonaparte's wife Julie.

The letter has some visible foxing, but is in clear and legible condition.

From the Crawford collection.

RAB BUTLER AND THE CAMBRIDGE UNION SOCIETY



4. Richard Austen BUTLER (1902-1982)

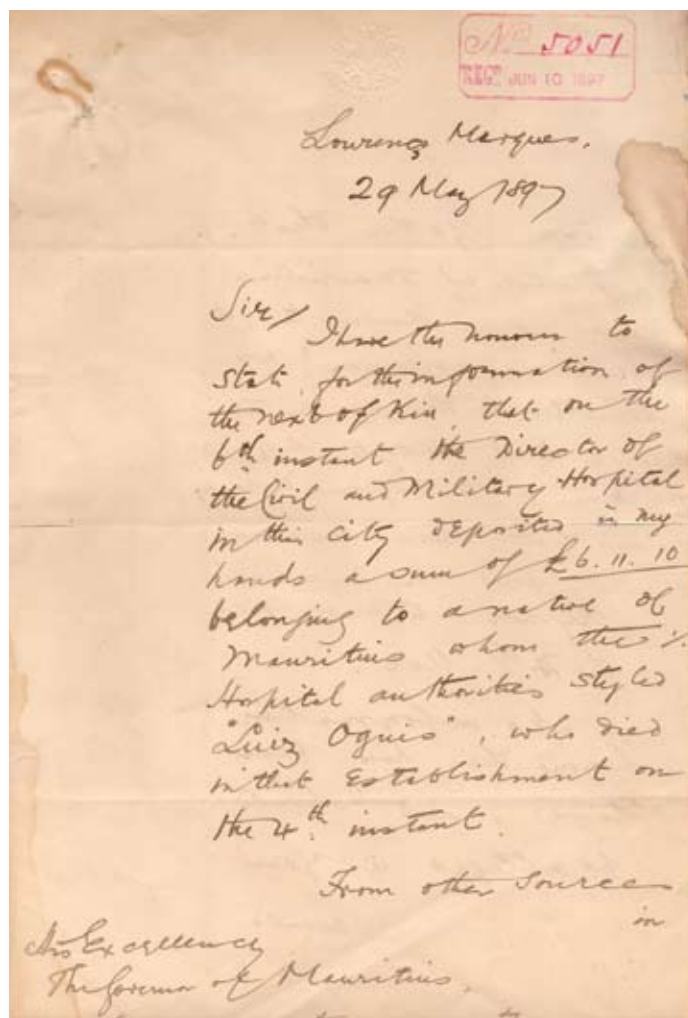
Typed Letter Signed ("RA Butler") to "Dear Mr. Sampson" [A.H. Sampson, Vice-President of the Cambridge Union Society], regretting that he is unable to "speak in the first Debate of the year".
1 page 8vo, Stanstead Hall, Halstead, 21 June 1952. £145

"... I much regret that I have a public Dinner in London on Tuesday, 14th October and must therefore decline your very kind invitation to speak in the first Debate of the year."

Butler had himself served as Secretary of the Cambridge Union while studying at Pembroke College. At the time of writing, Butler was Chancellor of the Exchequer in Churchill's cabinet.

The letter is very slightly crumpled, but in clear and legible condition.

ROGER CASEMENT AS CONSUL IN MAURITIUS



5. Roger CASEMENT (1864-1916)

Autograph Letter Signed ("Roger Casement / Consul") to His Excellency The Governor of Mauritius, informing him of the death in the local hospital of a native of Mauritius, and making arrangements for the return of funds to the deceased's family.

2½ pages folio on letterhead blindstamped Lourenço Marques, Lourenço Marques, 29 May 1897.

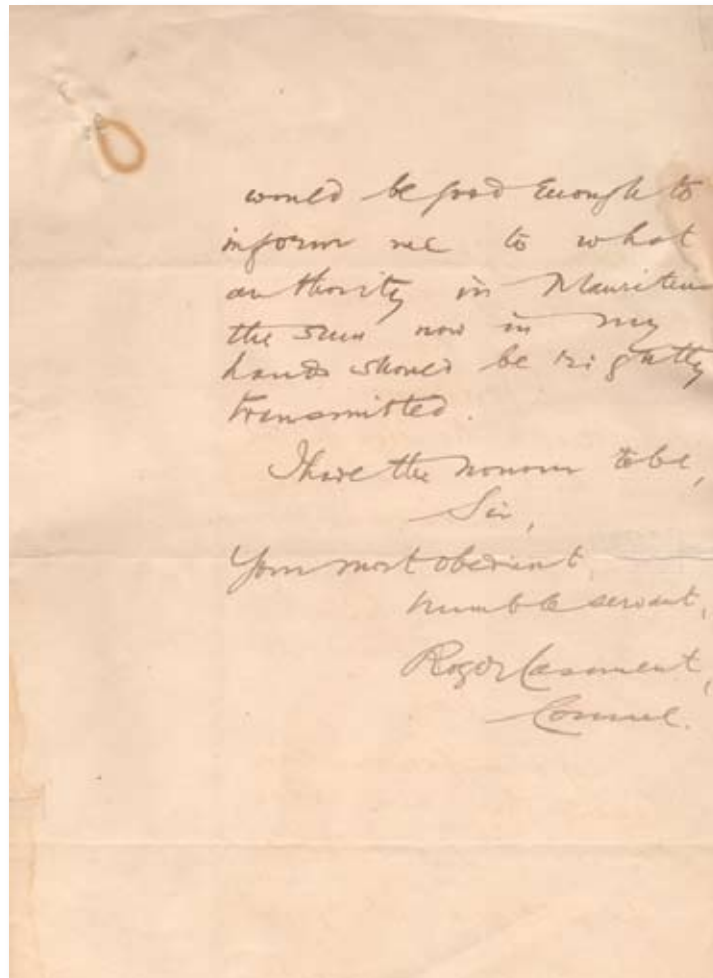
£1050

"I have the honour to state, for the information of the next of kin, that on the 6th instant the Director of the Civil and Military Hospital in this city deposited in my hands a sum of £6.11.10 belonging to a native of Mauritius whom the Hospital authorities styled "Luiz Oguis", who died in that establishment on the 4th instant.

From other sources in town I gather that a native of Mauritius named Louis Auguste, a mason by profession, was admitted to the Hospital some time ago, suffering from a contagious disease and that this man is believed by his countrymen to have died on the 4th May.

No information beyond this has been obtained and I should be obliged if you would be good enough to inform me to what authority in Mauritius the sum now in my hands should be rightly transmitted. . ."

Casement first travelled to Africa at the age of 19, working in the Congo. By his early thirties, he was an experienced African administrator, and had become a member of the British Consular service,

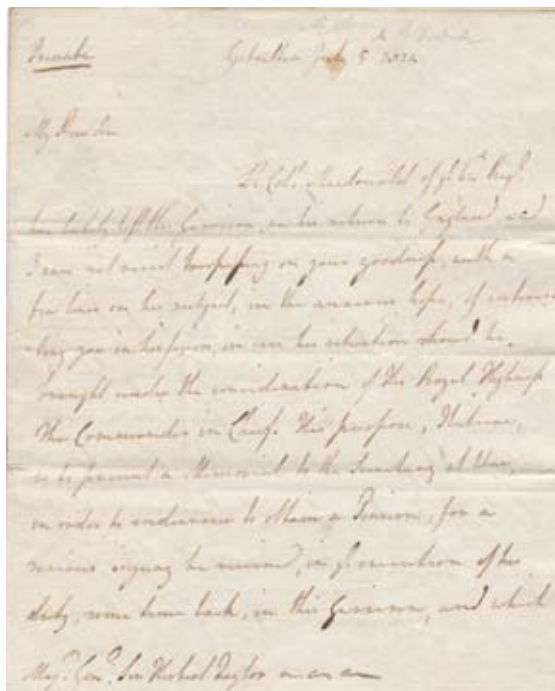


based first in Luanda and later in Lourenco Marques, today known as Maputo in Mozambique. In all, Casement spent twenty years in Africa, both in the consular service as well as various jobs as surveyor, customs official and explorer. In many ways, Africa did not suit him, and he suffered from malaria and jaundice, which undermined his health for years to come.

But perhaps the greatest achievement of his life came from his work in Africa. In 1903, he was given the task of investigating the alleged atrocities committed in the Congo by colonists serving King Leopold II. Unusually, the Congo was not, at the time, a Belgian colony as such, but the property of the King. Casement's report into the atrocities, including mutilation, murder, and forced labour was explosive. There is no doubt that the list comprised what today would be termed crimes against humanity. Four years after the publication of his report, the Belgian government took over the administration of the colony. Although very far from perfect, it was, at least, slightly less appalling than the previous regime.

The letter has a coffee (or tea?) stain at the margin, just affecting one letter, minor sign of damp-staining at bottom left margin and very minor tears at edges; it is otherwise in good condition. An official red stamp at the top right reads "No. 5051 Regd. Jun 10 1897".

WILLIAM PITT'S ELDER BROTHER INTERCEDES FOR A SOLDIER



6. John Pitt, Lord CHATHAM (1756-1835)

Autograph Letter Signed ("Chatham") to Major General Sir Herbert Taylor, pleading the cause of Lt. Col. Macdonald who has asked for a pension "for a serious injury he received".

2½ pages 4to, Gibraltar, 5 July 1824.

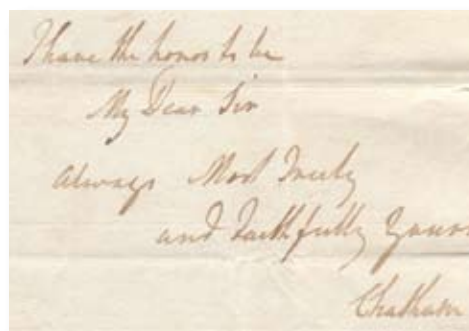
£245

"Lt. Col. Macdonald . . . has lately left the Garrison . . . and I can not resist trespassing on your goodness . . . in the anxious hope, of interesting you in his favour, in case his situation should be brought under the consideration of His Royal Highness the Commander in Chief. His purpose, I believe is to present a Memorial . . . in order to endeavour to obtain a Pension, for a serious injury he received, in the execution of his duty . . . in this Garrison, and which has been greatly aggravated by the extraordinary exertions which his zeal prompted him to make, in the instruction of his Regt. this Spring, so much so that he will, I fear, be obliged to retire from the service. . . any favour, that may be extended to him, can not be conferred on a man more able, and highly meritorious Officer than Lt. Col. Macdonald . . . You will, I am sure, allow my anxiety on this occasion, to plead as my excuse for giving you this trouble."

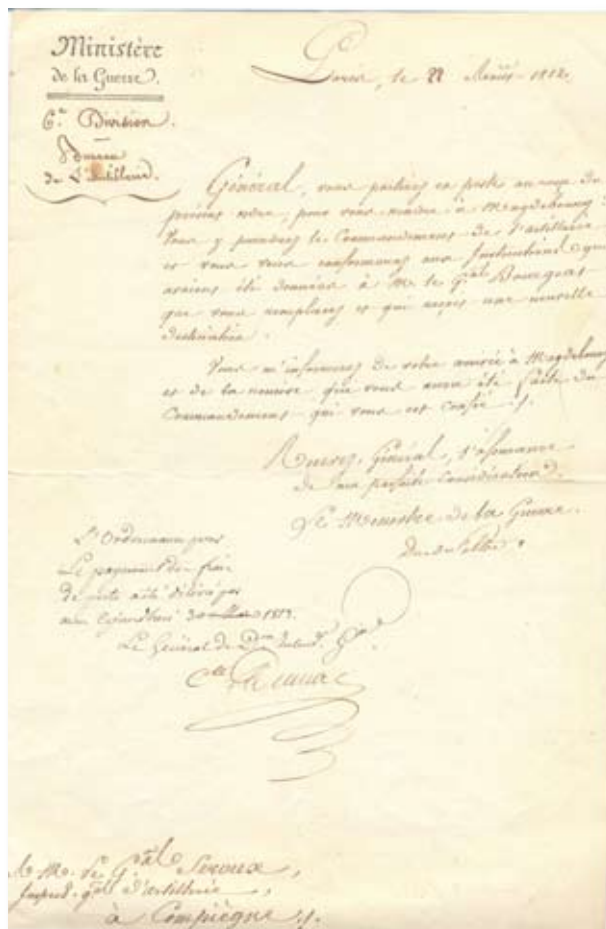
John Pitt, Lord Chatham was the elder brother of William Pitt the Younger, Britain's youngest Prime Minister. Unfortunately, Lord Chatham does not appear to have inherited the same energy and drive as his younger sibling, and was known for a time as "the late Lord Chatham". He may have been the person most responsible for the disaster that was the Walcheren expedition of 1809, which, apart from not achieving any of its objectives, also saw thousands of British troops killed not by the French, but by a mosquito-borne fever.

In 1820, Chatham was appointed Governor of Gibraltar, where Lt. Col. Macdonald was presumably posted.

The verso of the letter has some pencilled notes for a reply to Lord Chatham, which are now rather difficult to decipher; however, another note in ink states that a copy of the letter was sent to the Secretary at war on 9 August.



THE DUC DE FELTRE ORDERS GENERAL SEROUX TO MAGDEBURG



7. Henri Jacques Guillaume CLARKE, Duc de Feltre (1765-1818)

Letter Signed ("Duc de Feltre") as Minister of War, ordering General Seroux to go to Magdeburg to take command of the artillery.

1 page folio in French with integral blank leaf, Paris, 22 August 1812.

£550

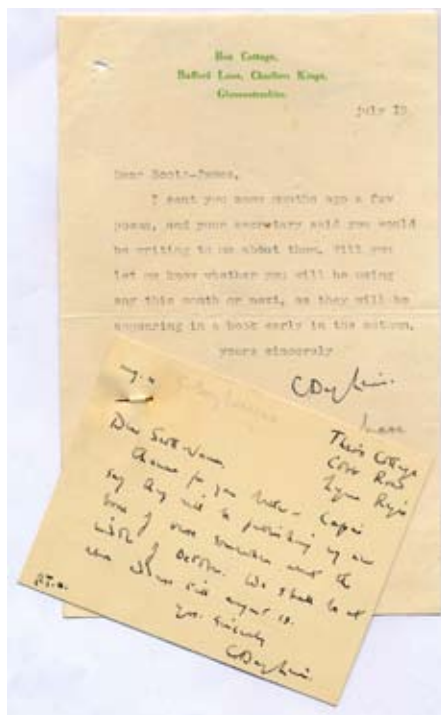
Trans: "General, you will depart upon receipt of this order, and go to Magdeburg. There you will take command of the artillery and you will adhere to the instructions which had been given to General Bourgeat whom you will replace and who has received a new posting.

You will inform me of your arrival at Magdeburg and of the hand-over of the command which has been entrusted to you."

A note below, in another hand, rather confusingly states that payment for the expenses was made in 1813.

The appointment of the 70-year-old General Seroux de Fay to this post is a reminder of the very over-stretched resources of the Grande Armée at the time. Napoleon himself was in Smolensk, together with many of his most experienced generals and marshals, including Ney and Murat as well as Eugene de Beauharnais, also embarked on the Russian campaign. Meanwhile, Soult, Jourdan and Marmont were occupied in Spain, Lannes was dead and Massena had been relegated to a command in Marseille. The situation with the officers and the troops was not dissimilar, and we therefore find an experienced, but ageing, commander placed in charge of an important site.

CECIL DAY-LEWIS ENQUIRES ABOUT THE PUBLICATION OF SOME POEMS



8. Cecil DAY-LEWIS (1904-1972)

Typed Letter Signed and Autograph Correspondence Card Signed ("C Day Lewis") to "Dear Scott-James".

2 pages 8vo in all, Box Cottage, Charlton Kings, Gloucestershire, 10 July n.y. and Theo's Cottage, Lyme Regis, 4 August n.y. [1938].

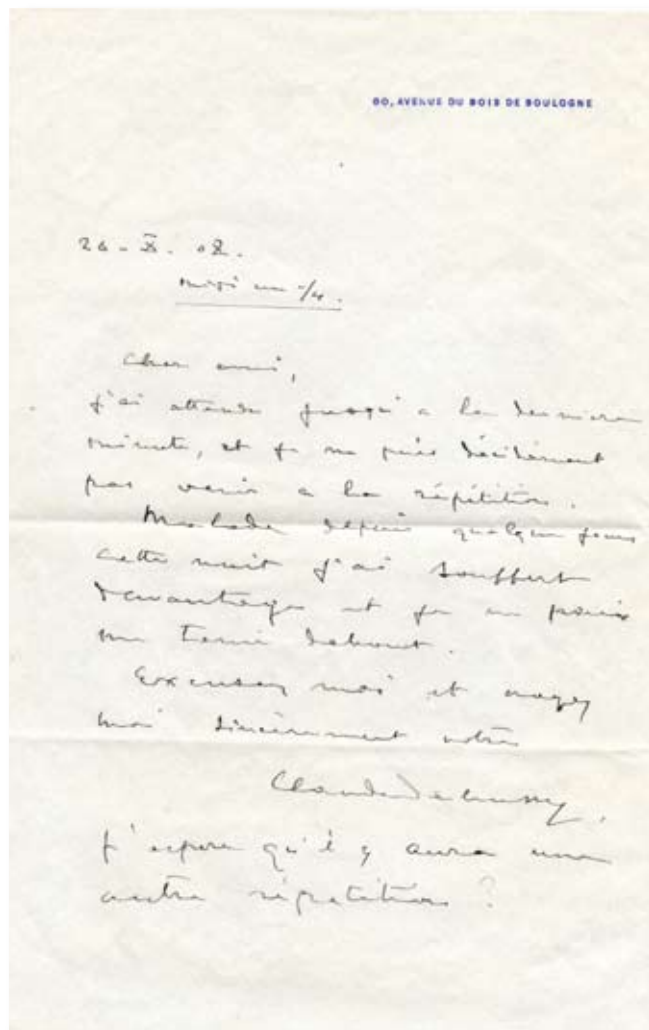
£110

In 1931 the newly married Cecil Day-Lewis moved to Gloucestershire to teach at a Cheltenham preparatory school, and it was there that he began to write his detective novels under the name Nicholas Blake. He gave up teaching in 1935, and in August 1938 moved with his family to a secluded thatched cottage in Devon; his 'change of address' notice' is printed on the verso of the correspondence card.

"I sent you some months ago a few poems, and your secretary said you would be writing to me about them. Would you let me know whether you will be using any this month or next, as they will be appearing in a book early in the autumn."

"Thanks for your letter. Cape's say they will be publishing my new book of verse [Overtures to Death] somewhere about the middle of October. We shall be at above address till August 13."

DEBUSSY MISSES A REHEARSAL FOR PELLEAS ET MELISANDE



9. Claude DEBUSSY (1862-1918)

Autograph Letter Signed ("Claude Debussy") to Gustave Doret, director of the Opéra Comique, telling him that he is unable to attend a rehearsal due to ill health.

1 page 8vo in French with integral blank leaf, [Paris], 26 October 1902.

Together with the autograph envelope addressed to Doret at the Opéra Comique, rue Favart.

Together with an Autograph Letter Signed from Gerard Ricon[?], Secretary General at the Opéra Comique, explaining how a note from Debussy had come into his possession. £1750

Trans: "I waited until the last moment, and I really cannot come to the rehearsal. Having been ill for a few days, tonight I felt even worse and I cannot stand up.

Forgive me . . ."

In a postscript he adds "I hope that there will be another rehearsal?"

Debussy's *Pelléas et Mélisande* had its premiere at the Opéra Comique on 30 April of that year, with Jean Périer and Scottish soprano Mary Garden in the leading roles, and enjoyed an initial run of fourteen performances.

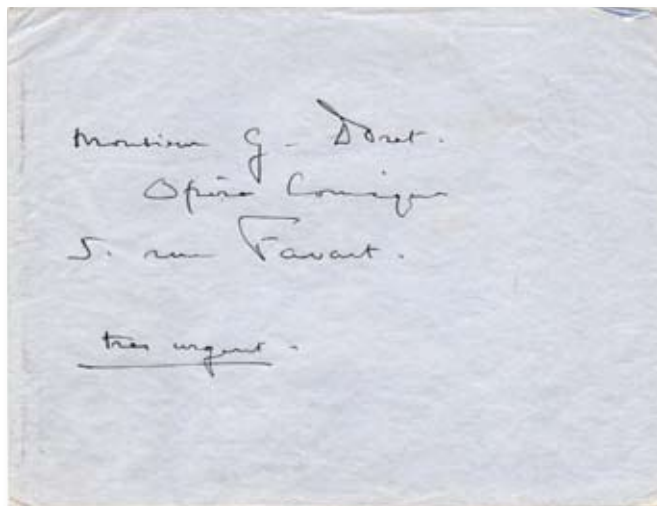
The genesis of the work had been difficult. At first, Debussy struggled to find a suitable libretto. Maurice Maeterlinck's play, *Pelléas et Mélisande*, proved ideal, and Debussy and Maeterlinck were in

accord about the undertaking, although they were to have a grave falling out later in the proceedings over casting decisions.

Several singers found the music exceptionally difficult, unsurprising in what was a revolutionary work. Many members of the public found it equally difficult, although the opera had perhaps an equal number of enthusiastic admirers.

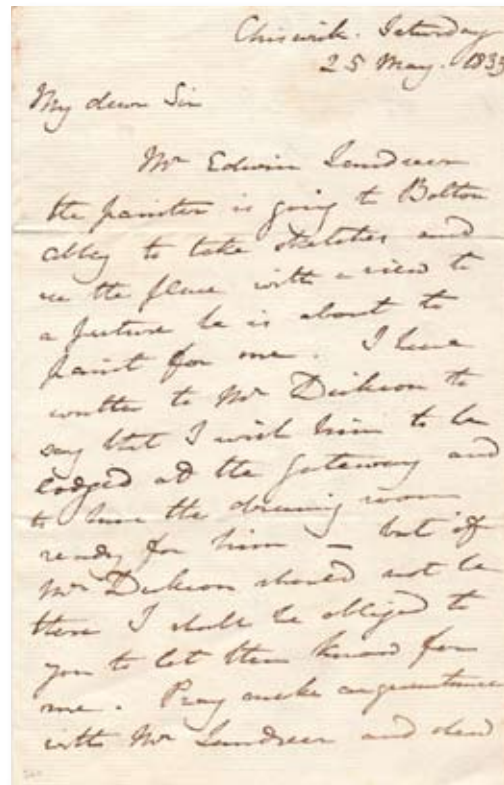
The work was deemed sufficiently successful to have a second series of performances at the Opéra Comique, starting on 30 October, and the rehearsals discussed in this letter would have been for this second run. With four days left before the opening, it is likely that another rehearsal could well have been scheduled.

Pelléas et Mélisande remained in the repertoire of the Opéra Comique until just before the First World War.



Monsieur G. Doucet.
Opéra Comique
5. rue Favart.
très urgent.

THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE ARRANGES EDWIN LANDSEER'S VISIT



10. William Cavendish, 6th Duke of DEVONSHIRE (1790-1858)

Autograph Letter Signed ("Devonshire") to an unidentified correspondent, giving instructions for the visit of Edwin Landseer to Bolton Abbey.

2 pages 8vo with integral blank leaf, Chiswick, 25 May 1833.

£595

"Mr. Edwin Landseer the painter is going to Bolton Abbey to take sketches and see the place with a view to a picture he is about to paint for me. I have written to Mr. Dickson to say that I wish him to be lodged at the gateway and to have the drawing room ready for him – but if Mr. Dickson should not be there I shall be obliged to you to let them know for me. Pray make acquaintance with Mr. Landseer and shew him the Comptus and Whitakers History of Craven, he will tell you the subject of his picture. He will want to see every thing.

He will be at Bolton next week, I believe about the middle of it.

I wish myself there very much.

I am very unhappy at poor Ld Newburghe's death."

A pencilled note on the blank leaf tells us that this is "Duke of Devonshire Letter E. Landseer to my Uncle" without, unfortunately, enlightening us as to the uncle's name.

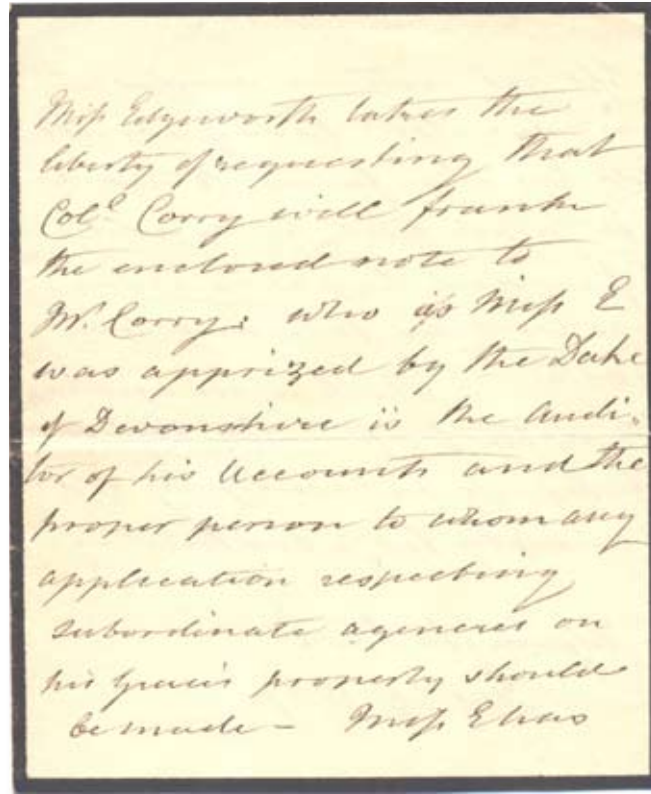
William Cavendish, 6th Duke of Devonshire, was the son of the famous Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire. His childhood, and indeed the whole of his life, was to some extent overshadowed by his increasing deafness. Nevertheless, he followed in the family tradition of supporting progressive causes, including the abolition of slavery and Catholic emancipation.

His cultural interests including the generous patronage of Joseph Paxton, whose work for the magnificent gardens at Chatsworth included the conservatory which was to serve as the model for the

him the Comptroller and
Wholesale Auctioneers of Craven,
he will tell you the subject
of his Justice. He will
want to see every thing.
He will be at Bolton
next week, I believe and
the middle of it.
I wish myself then very
much.
I am very sincerely &
Dear Lord Newburgh's death
ever most truly yours
Drombire

Crystal Palace. The Duke also patronised Edwin Landseer, whose portrait of the Duke is now in the National Portrait Gallery. Landseer's 1834 picture, *Bolton Abbey in Olden Times*, was widely reproduced as an engraving.

MARIA EDGEWORTH AND THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE



Miss Edgeworth takes the liberty of requesting that Col^d Corry will frank the enclosed note to Mr. Corry who as Miss E was apprized by the Duke of Devonshire is the Auditor of his Accounts and the proper person to whom any application respecting subordinate agencies on his Grace's property should be made - Miss E has

11. Maria EDGEWORTH (1768-1849)

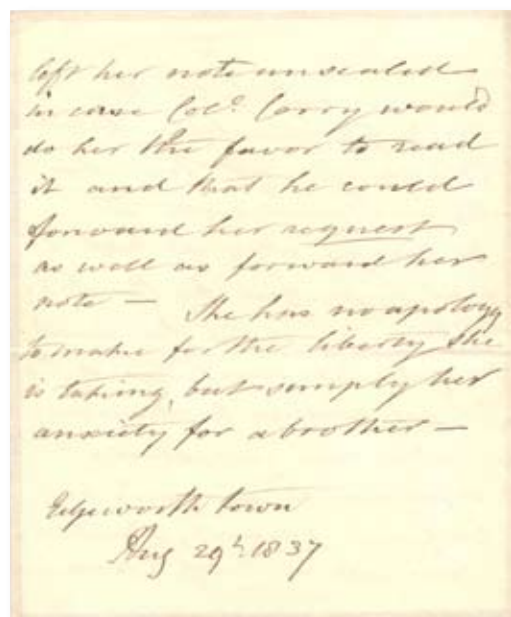
Autograph Letter in the third person to Colonel Corry, requesting his assistance on behalf of her brother.

2 pages 12mo with integral blank leaf on mourning paper, Edgeworthstown, 29 August 1837.

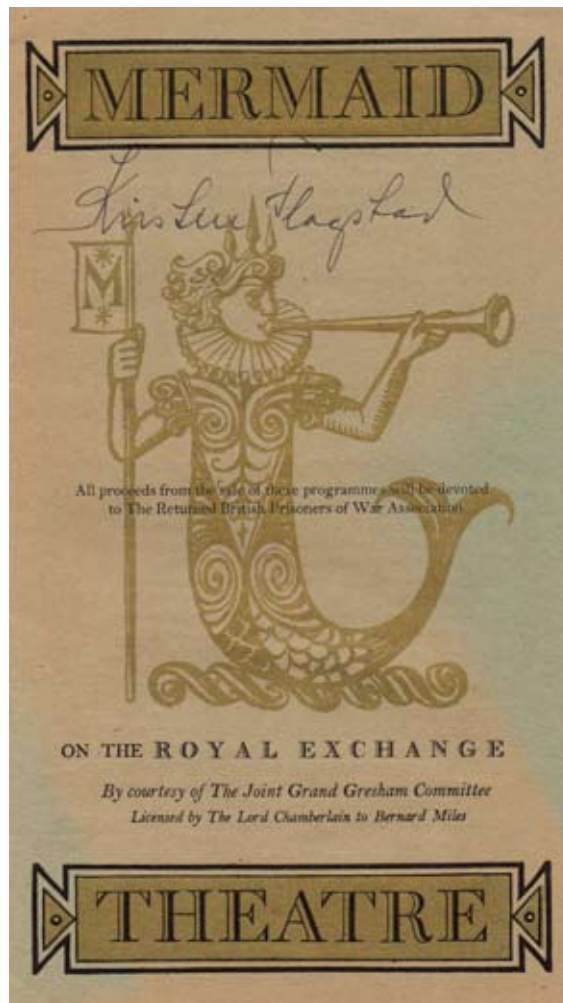
£195

"Miss Edgeworth takes the liberty of requesting that Col. Corry will frank the enclosed note to Mr. Corry who as Miss E was apprized by the Duke of Devonshire is the auditor of his accounts and the proper person to whom any application respecting subordinate agencies on his Grace's property should be made. Miss E has left her note unsealed in case Col. Corry would do her the favour to read it and that he could forward her request as well as forward her note - She has no apology to make for the liberty she is taking, but simply her anxiety for a brother."

Maria Edgeworth was a very successful novelist in her day, and though less frequently read today, she was nevertheless an influence on novelists such as Trollope and Thackeray, and is considered a pioneer of the historical novel.



left her note unsealed in case Col^d Corry would do her the favour to read it and that he could forward her request as well as forward her note - She has no apology to make for the liberty she is taking, but simply her anxiety for a brother -
Edgeworthstown
Aug 29th 1837



12. Kirsten FLAGSTAD (1895-1962)

Programme Signed ("Kirsten Flagstad"), for a performance of Henry Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* at the Mermaid Theatre on the Royal Exchange, signed clearly on the front.

6 pages large 8vo folded, [London], n.d.

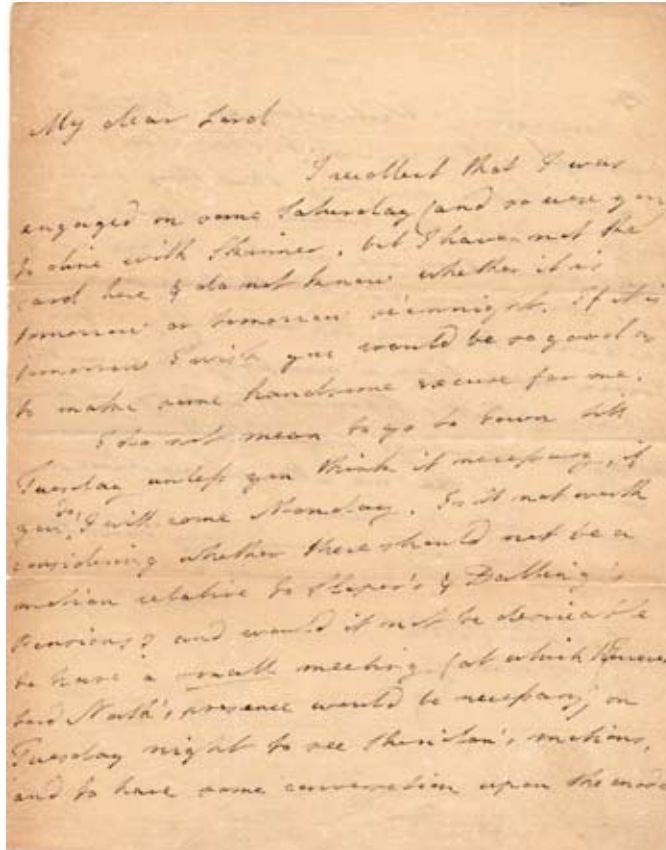
£80

Kirsten Flagstad had appeared in a celebrated, and later recorded, production of Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* at the original Mermaid Theatre in St. John's Wood in 1951 as part of the Festival of Britain. The Mermaid Theatre moved to the Royal Exchange in 1953, and this programme, which gives a cast different to that of the 1951 production, was evidently from 1953. A note on the cover of the programme informs us that "All proceeds from the sale of these programmes will be devoted to the Returned British Prisoners of War Association".

Kirsten Flagstad's last appearance on the operatic stage was in June of that year, performing *Dido* in Oslo.

A particularly attractive programme, in excellent condition.

FOX AND NORTH MEET TO DISCUSS THE 'HASTINGS BUSINESS'



13. Charles James FOX (1749-1806)

Autograph Letter Signed ("C.J. Fox") to "My dear Lord", enquiring about a possible meeting to discuss "Sheridan's motions" and the "Hastings business".

2 pages 4to with integral blank leaf [detached], St. Ann's Hill, "Friday" [docketed 21 April 1786].

£595

"I recollect that I was engaged on some Saturday (and so were you) to dine with Skinner, but I have not the card here & do not know whether it is tomorrow or tomorrow se'ennight. If it is tomorrow I wish you would be so good as to make some handsome excuse for me.

I do not mean to go to town till Tuesday unless you think it necessary, if you do, I will come Monday. Is it not worth considering whether there should not be a motion relative to Sloper's & Dalling's pensions? and would it not be desirable to have a small meeting (at which however Lord North's presence would be necessary) on Tuesday night to see Sheridan's motions, and to have some conversation upon the mode of proceeding Wednesday in Hastings's business? In regard to Sheridan's motions it is absolutely necessary that they should be in Lord North's hands some time at least before they are made. I have no fear about them except that he may endeavour to prove too much (by which I mean more than is necessary to shew the fallacy of Pitt's promises) and by so doing give an advantage which the enemy never can have if we attempt no more than what is perfectly clear."

Many of the matters under discussion in this letter obviously relate to India. General Sloper had served in Bengal and Sir John Dalling in Madras. Sloper served as Commander in Chief in India in 1785 and would still have been in his post at the time of this letter; he was replaced by Cornwallis in September 1786.

More intriguing is the reference to the "Hastings business". In 1787, Richard Brinsley Sheridan put forward a demand in Parliament for the impeachment of Warren Hastings for alleged crimes whilst

of preceding Wednesday in Hastings's
business? & I regard to Sheridan's making
it is absolutely necessary that they should
be in Lord North's hands some time at
least before they are made. I have no
fear about them except that he may
endeavour to prove too much (by which
I mean more than is necessary to show the
fallacy of Pitt's promises) and by so doing
give an advantage which the enemy never
can have if ~~we~~ we attempt no more than
what is perfectly clear.
I am very sincerely, my dear Sir,
yours ever
C. Fox
St. Anne's Hall
Friday

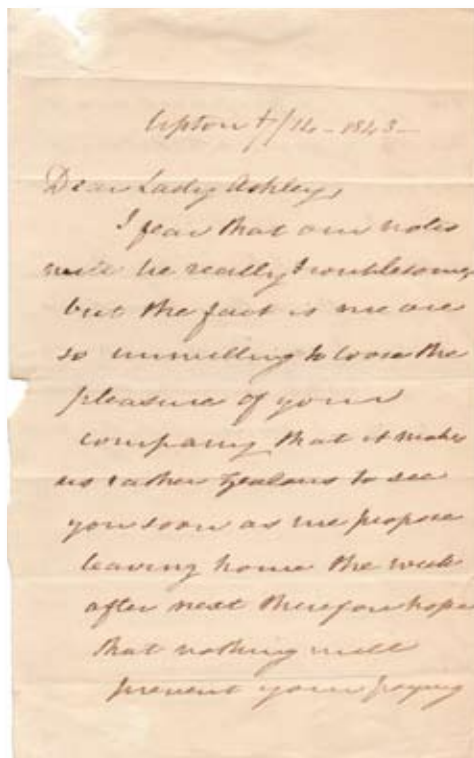
Governor of India. Fox and Sheridan were at the forefront of the demand for his impeachment; the matter was discussed at great length in Parliament over a period of seven years before Hastings was finally acquitted in 1795.

In 1783, Fox and Lord North, once fierce opponents, formed the rather unlikely Fox-North coalition, with the Duke of Portland as Prime Minister. The coalition proved short-lived, but George III's anger at Lord North for entering into a coalition with the man he hated most in Britain, Fox, was long-lived, and Lord North never returned to government.

Fox and Sheridan, both members of the "Devonshire set", and close friends of Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire, disliked and opposed the new Prime Minister, William Pitt, who came to power in 1783 in the wake of the collapse of their coalition. Early in his premiership, Pitt had attended to the shortcomings of the East India Company's rule in India, and the "fallacy of Pitt's promises" refers no doubt to some of the terms of that Act.

There are very minor tears at the folds, but the letter is otherwise in very good condition.

ELIZABETH FRY ARRANGES A VISIT FROM LADY SHAFTESBURY



14. Elizabeth FRY (1780-1845)

Autograph Letter Signed ("Elith Fry") to "Dear Lady Ashley" [Emily, wife of Lord Ashley, later the seventh Earl of Shaftesbury], urging her to visit with her children.

2 pages 8vo, Upton, 14 July 1843.

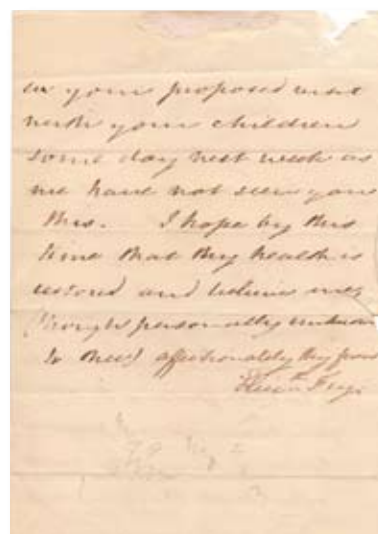
£220

"I fear that our notes will be really troublesome, but the fact is we are so unwilling to loose [sic] the pleasure of your company that it makes us rather zealous to see you soon as we propose leaving home the week after next therefore hope that nothing will prevent your paying us your proposed visit with your children some day next week as we have not seen you this [blank]. I hope by this time that thy health is restored and believe me (though personally unknown to thee) affectionately thy friend. . ."

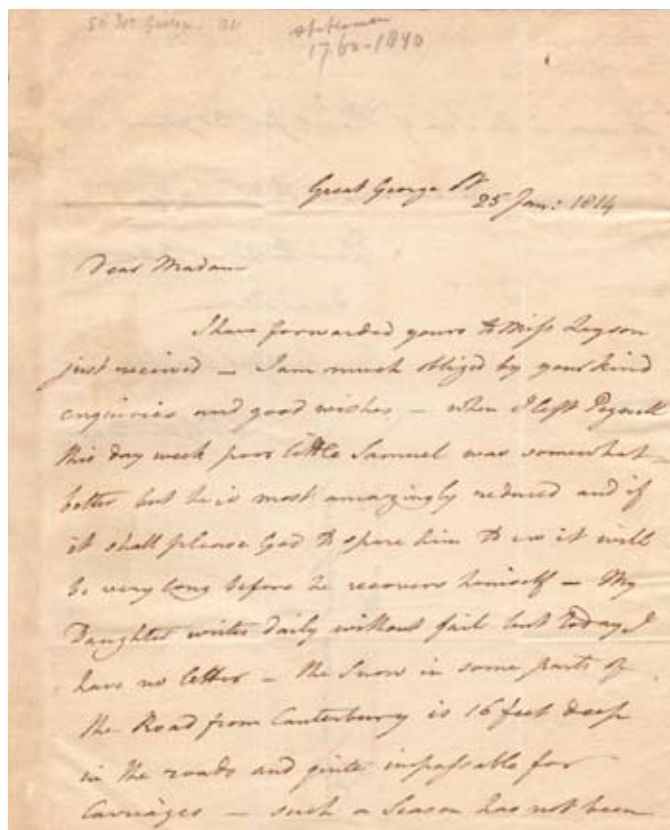
Elizabeth Fry and Lord Ashley, better known by his subsequent title Lord Shaftesbury, were close friends and supported each others' campaigns to help the neediest in Victorian society. Their religion – evangelical Christian in Lord Shaftesbury's case, Quaker in Elizabeth Fry's (hence her use of "thou" and "thy" in her letter) informed their thinking to a great extent, but their energy and practicality were exceptional. Elizabeth Fry is particularly remembered for her work for prison reform, which gained her the respect of like-minded people across Europe.

If Lady Ashley's visit did indeed take place with her children, it was likely to have been a crowded, and possibly noisy, affair, as she was at the time mother to seven children ranging in age from one to twelve; three more children would come later. Elizabeth Fry herself was mother to eleven children, though all had reached adulthood by this date.

The blank leaf of the letter has been cut away, and small portions of the letter have been torn away at the top and left margin, affecting one letter of the text on the verso, where we also find remains of the mount at the top.



BARRISTER WILLIAM GARROW HEARS THE GUNS MARKING PEACE WITH DENMARK



15. William GARROW (1760-1840)

Autograph Letter Signed ("W. Garrow") to "Dear Madam" [Mrs. Leyson], responding to her enquiry about the health of "poor little Samuel" and commenting that "The Park Guns are now firing for Peace with Denmark".

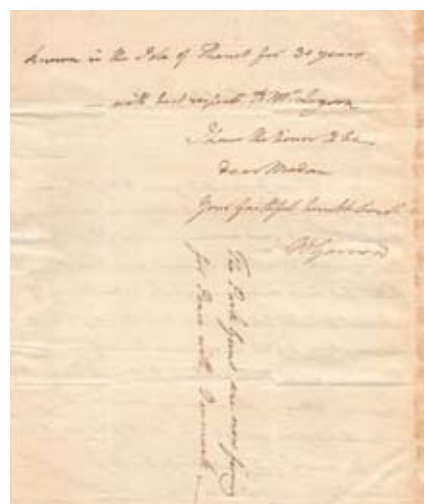
1½ pages 4to, Great George Street, 25 January 1814.

£450

"I have forwarded yours to Miss Leyson just received – I am much obliged by your kind enquiries and good wishes – when I left Pegwell this day week poor little Samuel was somewhat better but he is most amazingly reduced and if it shall please God to spare him to us it will be very long before he recovers himself – My Daughter writes daily without fail but today I have no letter – the snow in some parts of the Road from Canterbury is 16 feet deep in the roads and quite impassable for carriages – such a Season has not been known in the Isle of Thanet for 30 years. . . The Park Guns are now firing for Peace with Denmark."

Garrow, who achieved renown while still a young man as an outstanding barrister, entered Parliament in 1805 and was appointed Attorney General in 1813. He made important contributions to the development of the advocacy system and introduced the phrase "innocent until proven guilty." At one time a friend of Charles James Fox, he later aligned himself with Burke and Pitt.

Denmark had been in a state of war with Britain since the bombing of Copenhagen in 1807. The Treaty of Kiel, signed in January 1814, brought peace, but with terms severely unfavourable to Denmark, which was staunchly pro-French throughout the wars.



THEOPHILE GAUTIER REQUESTS SEATS FOR A PERFORMANCE



16. Théophile GAUTIER (1811-1872)

Autograph Letter Signed ("Théophile Gautier"), requesting places for the theatre.

Half page large 8vo in French, on letterhead of the Moniteur Universel, Paris, 18 September 1865.

£210

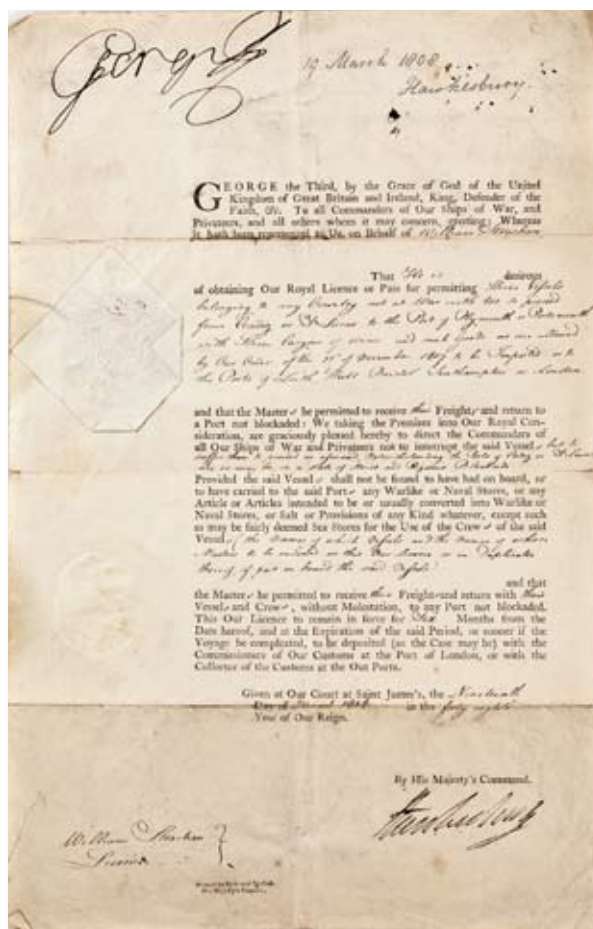
Trans: "May I, without fear of troubling you, ask you for a box for this evening's performance? I would be infinitely obliged and beg you to accept . . ."

Writer, poet and critic Théophile Gautier lived at the centre of the artistic life of Paris in the mid-nineteenth century. A great admirer of Victor Hugo, his own work earned him the admiration of later writers, and Baudelaire dedicated his *Fleurs du Mal* to him. Audiences outside the French-speaking world today probably remember him best as the writer of the scenario for the ballet *Giselle*, premiered in 1841.

Gautier joined the *Moniteur Universel* in 1855, as art and theatre critic, and his request is no doubt for a new production which he was to review.

There is a note in another hand at the top, possibly indicating that the seats had been allocated. The letter has a fold through the bottom half, but is otherwise in very good condition.

A LICENCE TO TRADE DURING THE NAPOLEONIC WARS



17. GEORGE III (1738-1820)

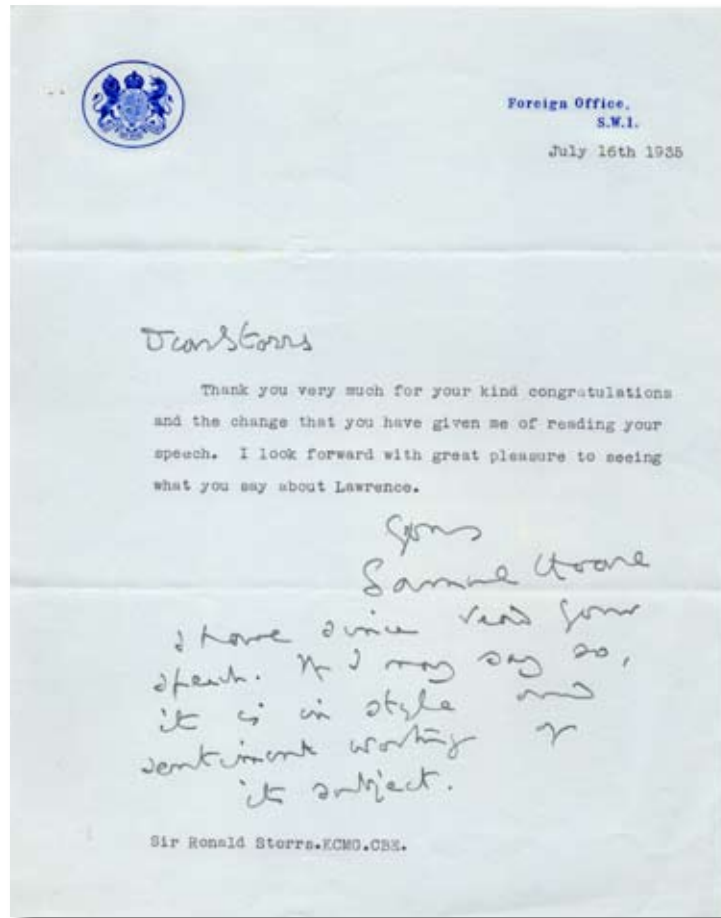
Document Signed ("George R" – fine large 'blind' signature), addressed to "all Commanders of Our Ships of War, and Privateers", informing them that William Strachan has been granted a Licence "for permitting Three Vessels belonging to any Country not at War with Us, to proceed from Cadiz or St. Lucia to the Port of Plymouth or Portsmouth with Three Cargoes of Wine and such Goods as are allowed" and that the ships should be allowed to proceed, "Notwithstanding the Ports of Cadiz or St. Lucia are or may be in a stage of Strict and Rigorous Blockade."

1 page folio with integral blank leaf and Royal paper seal, printed and completed in manuscript, signed at the head by the King and countersigned at the foot by the Home Secretary Lord Hawkesbury, later Prime Minister as Earl of Liverpool. On the verso William Strachan has noted that "one Cargoe is to be shipped on board the American Ship Golden Age." St. James's, 19 March 1808.

£750

A document exemplifying the porousness of the blockades then in force. After the Battle of Trafalgar, Napoleon became ever more obsessed with defeating Britain. By the Berlin Decree of November 1806, he had prohibited any country within France's sphere of influence from trading with Britain, thus seeking to ruin her economically. Britain retaliated with the Orders in Council, which subjected France and all its allies to a counterblockade. Both sides claimed the right to search and seize neutral vessels. Smuggling and mild corruption helped to alleviate the worst effects of the blockade, and both the British and French governments were in practice prepared to issue licences to allow the import of goods considered important. Some wear along horizontal folds.

CONGRATULATIONS FOR A SPEECH ON T.E. LAWRENCE



18. Sir Samuel HOARE (1880-1959)

Typed Letter Signed ("Samuel Hoare") with autograph postscript to Sir Ronald Storrs, complimenting him on the text of a speech on T.E. Lawrence which Storrs had sent him.

1 page 4to, Foreign Office SW1, 16 July 1935.

£350

Writing two months after the death of T.E. Lawrence, Hoare compliments Storrs, who had known Lawrence well and worked with him, on his article: "Thank you very much for your kind congratulations and the change that you have given me of reading your speech. I look forward with great pleasure to seeing what you say about Lawrence." In a postscript, he adds that "I have since read your speech. If I may say so, it is in style and sentiment worthy of its subject."

Sir Samuel Hoare served as Foreign Secretary for six months in 1935 (Storrs' congratulations were undoubtedly for his appointment to the post), but left in a storm of controversy at the proposed Hoare-Laval Pact which would have sanctioned the seizure of a large part of Ethiopia by Mussolini – who proceeded to seize all of Ethiopia after the failure of the bill.

Storrs, who was a member of the Arab Bureau at the time of the negotiations with Sharif Husayn and later Military Governor of Jerusalem, was similarly no stranger to difficult diplomatic situations. A year before this letter he had retired from his position as Governor of Northern Rhodesia, citing ill health. He was, however, strong enough to serve as one of the pallbearers at Lawrence's funeral.

CONSTANT LAMBERT, HON. VICE PRESIDENT OF THE ELLINGTON SOCIETY

May 23rd 15 Percy St.
W.1

Dear Mr Saunders
I shall be delighted to
become Honorary Vice President of the
Ellington Society
With best wishes
Yours sincerely
Constant Lambert

19. Constant LAMBERT (1905-1951)

Two Autograph Letters Signed ("Constant Lambert") to "Dear Mr. Saunders", in one letter accepting to become "Honorary Vice President of the Ellington Society" and in the other declining an invitation to give a talk at "the Centre" as he is "far too busy with rehearsing and arranging a new ballet".

1 page 4to, 15 Percy St, W1, 23 May n.y. and 1 page 4to, Theatre Royal, Glasgow, 13 November, n.y. £245

In the second, longer, letter, Lambert replies to an invitation, pleading work commitments: ". . . Your account of the Centre is very interesting but I'm afraid that at the moment I am frankly far too busy with rehearsing & arranging a new ballet to be able to give a talk. I am sure you will understand. However, I very much hope to be able to look in & see the paintings by Crosbie [possibly the Scottish artist William Crosbie] which I hope are still on."

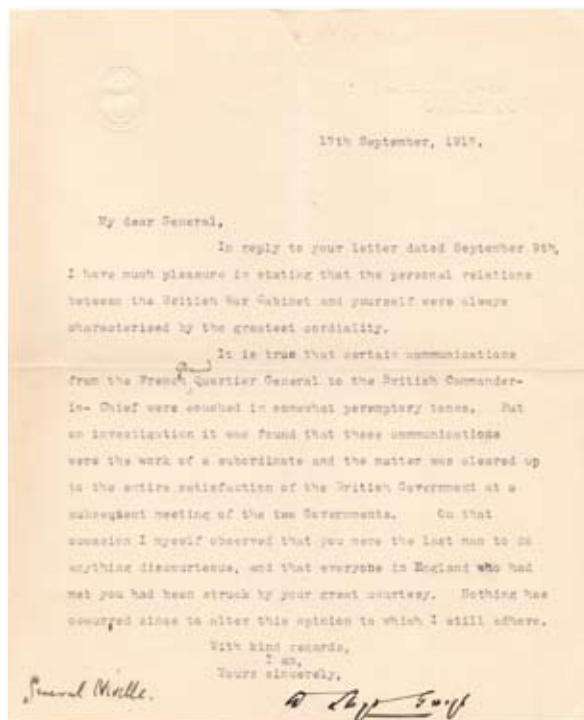
Lambert, whose work with the young Vic-Wells Ballet was an important part of its ultimate success, arranged the music for several ballets, including Ashton's *Les Patineurs* and wrote the score for others, including *Horoscope*. He was a great admirer of jazz, and a devotee of Duke Ellington in particular.

The 13 November letter has very light stains at the four corners, possibly from offsetting when it was folded in four.

Nov. 13th Theatre Royal
Glasgow.

Dear Mr Saunders
Please excuse my late reply.
Your account of the Centre is very interesting
but I'm afraid that at the moment I am
frankly far too busy with rehearsing -
arranging a new ballet to be able to
give a talk. I am sure you will understand
However I very much hope to be able to
look in - see the paintings by Crosbie
which I hope are still on
Yours sincerely Constant Lambert

A SUPPORTIVE LETTER TO THE FORMER FRENCH COMMANDER IN CHIEF



20. David LLOYD GEORGE (1863-1945)

Typed Letter Signed ("D Lloyd George") to General Nivelle, assuring him of his continued regard, despite remarks exchanged between the British C-in-C and French HQ.

1 page 4to, 10 Downing Street, 17 September 1917.

£595

"In reply to your letter dated September 9th, I have much pleasure in stating that the personal relations between the British War Cabinet and yourself were always characterised by the greatest cordiality.

It is true that certain communications from the French Grand Quartier General to the British Commander-in-Chief were couched in somewhat peremptory tones. But on investigation it was found that these communications were the work of a subordinate and the matter was cleared up to the entire satisfaction of the British Government at a subsequent meeting of the two Governments. On that occasion I myself observed that you were the last man to do anything discourteous, and that everyone in England who had met you had been struck by your great courtesy. Nothing has occurred since to alter this opinion to which I still adhere."

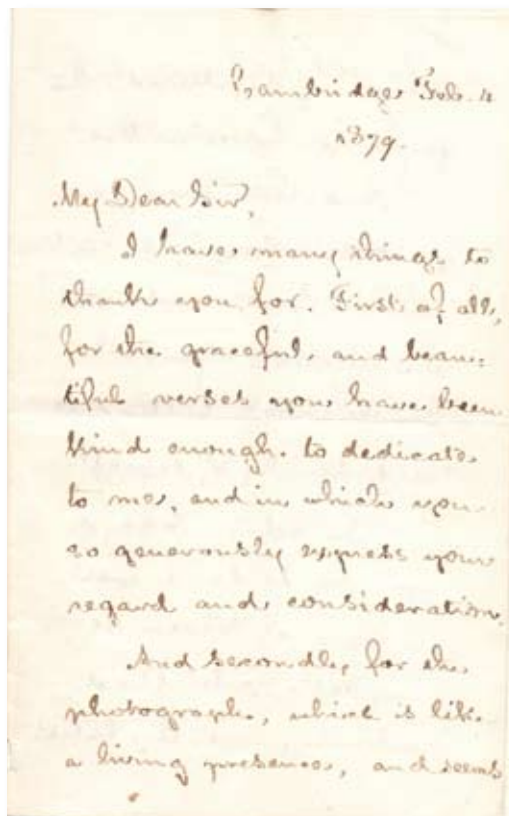
An interesting letter, not least because General Nivelle, who by this date was in some disgrace in France, evidently still enjoyed at least good relations with the British Prime Minister.

Nivelle had been elevated to Commander in Chief of the French forces in December 1916, succeeding Joffre. Nivelle, who had an English mother and spoke excellent English, was soon in favour with Lloyd George, who placed General Haig under Nivelle's command. Needless to say, this resulted in considerable friction.

The spring of 1917 saw what became known as the Nivelle Offensive, the result of which proved indecisive in military terms, but murderous in the number of casualties. Those casualties, on the first day of battle alone, amounted to roughly ten times the number which Nivelle had estimated. With disregard for lives lost, Nivelle persisted with the plan he had originally laid down, despite developments which should have made him reconsider. The developments included the fact that his plans had fallen into the hands of the Germans.

Lloyd George had backed Nivelle to the end, but the French nevertheless chose to dismiss Nivelle, replacing him as Commander in Chief with General Pétain in May 1917.

LONGFELLOW THANKS A FELLOW POET



21. Henry Wadsworth LONGFELLOW (1807-1882)

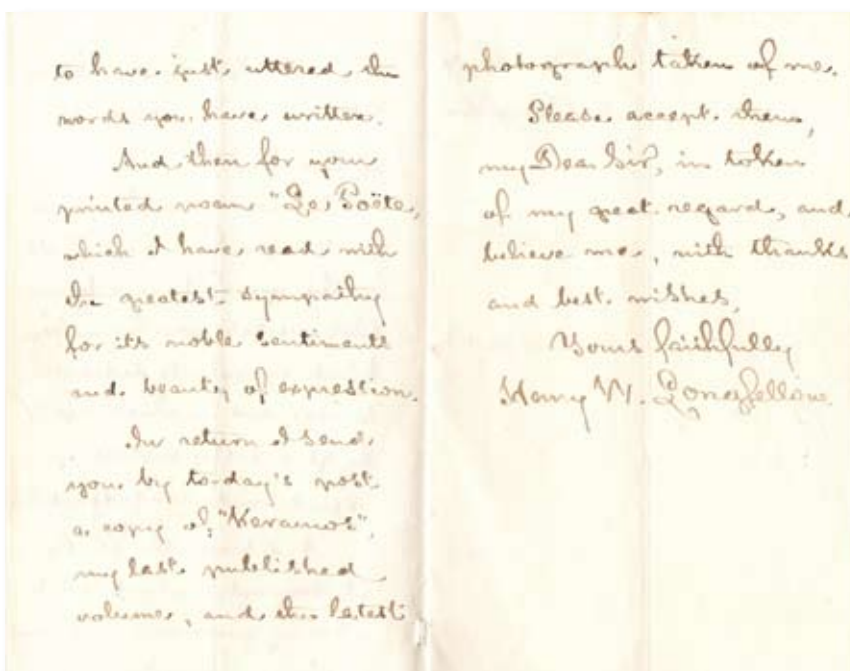
Autograph Letter Signed ("Henry W. Longfellow") to an unnamed correspondent, thanking him for the verses dedicated to him.

3 pages 8vo, Cambridge, 4 February 1879.

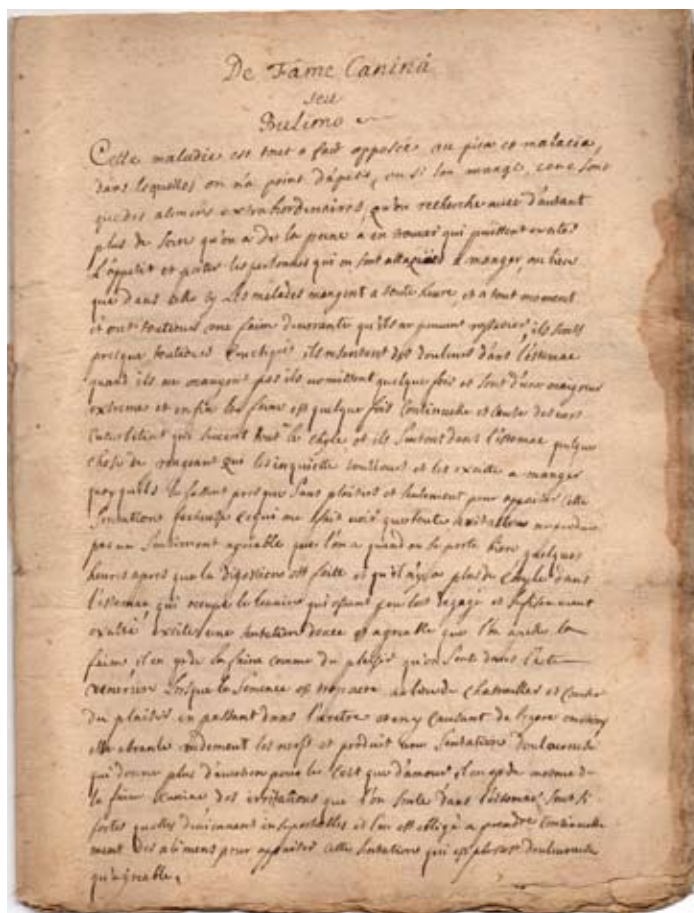
£595

A warm and generous letter to a fellow poet.

"I have so many things to thank you for . . . the graceful and beautiful verses you have been kind enough to dedicate to me, and in which you so generously express your regard and consideration . . . the photograph, which is like a living presence, and seems to have just uttered the words you have written . . . And then for your printed poem "La Poete, which I have read with the greatest sympathy for its noble sentiments and beauty of expression . . ."



AN 18th CENTURY MEDICAL MSS. ON ABDOMINAL AND DIGESTIVE DISORDERS



22. MEDICAL MANUSCRIPT

153 closely-written pages in French, 4to, unbound, undated [but mid- or late-eighteenth century].

£1750

A remarkably interesting manuscript.

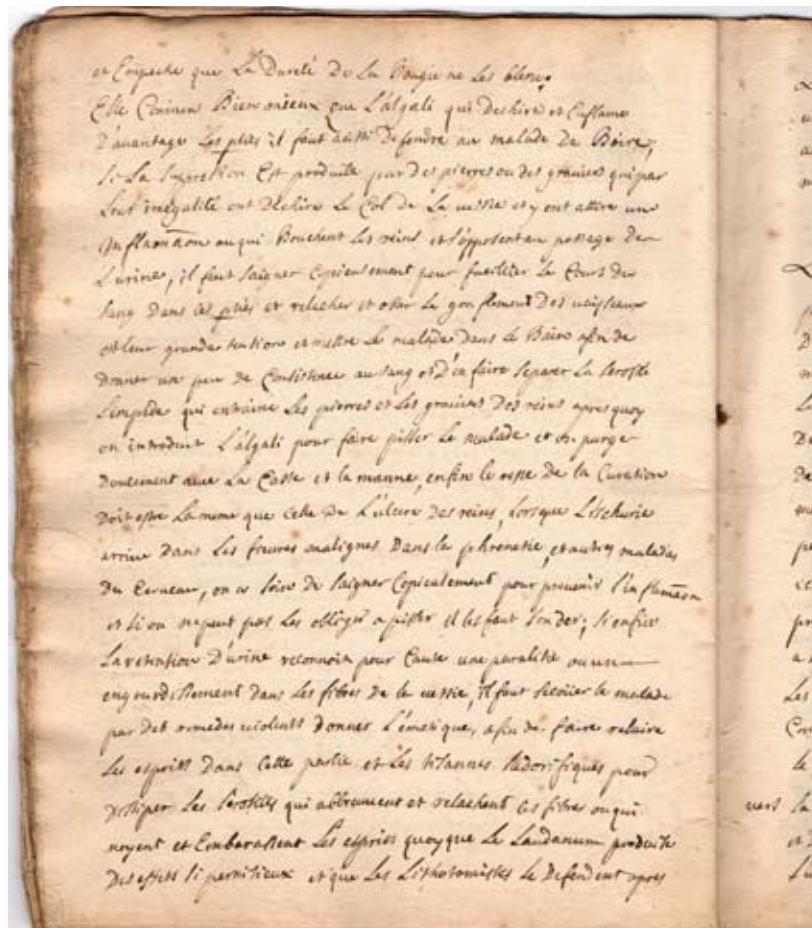
The manuscript gives extensive details of the symptoms, variations, and suggested treatments for a number of grave, potentially deadly, complaints.

Much time is given to abdominal or intestinal problems, with a lengthy discussion of the causes, symptoms and treatments for different types of *Diarrhea*, including in relation to smallpox, as well as “hydropsie” and “phtisie”.

Further sections, generally given Latin headings, deal with *Lienteria*, *Fluxu Caeliaco*, *Colico Dolor*, *Lumbricis*, *Tenesmo*, *De fluxu hemorrhoidum*, *De Ietero* (liver complaints), *De Schirro Inflammatione et abcessu hepatis*, *Obstructionibus Lienis Pancreatis Mesenterij*, *Cure de la nephretique* (including discussion of kidney stones), *De ulcere et Inflammatione Renum et vesica*, *De Diabete*, *Curation*, *De mortis vesica de Ischuria et Stranguria*, *De Dysuria*, and *De Incontinentia Urina*.

Methodus Curandi Hiacam is a complaint variously called “la passion iliaque” or “le miserere”, a dangerous attack, with violent abdominal pains and the section on *Du Scorbut* tells us that it is a disease “rare in these climes. It normally affects the inhabitants of the north and the English are also affected by it. The first are subject to it because of lack of perspiration, and the others because they eat too much meat . . .”

Cholera (*Du Cholera Morbus*) also comes under discussion. The recommended treatment for cholera



morbus, which must be started quickly (“the patient dies within six hours from inflammation of the lower abdomen, or of the stomach, or from gangrene preceded by a loss of feeling of pain”) is bleeding to avoid inflammation, following by the intake of water, a decoction with barley, milk, egg yolk, chicken broth and, after the crisis, laudanum is recommended to aid rest. A potion made with quinine (“KinKina”) is also prescribed.

An unusual addition to the list is *De Fame Canina – Bulimio*, a description of bulimia.

A three-page section on *De Phrenitide* is written entirely in Latin.

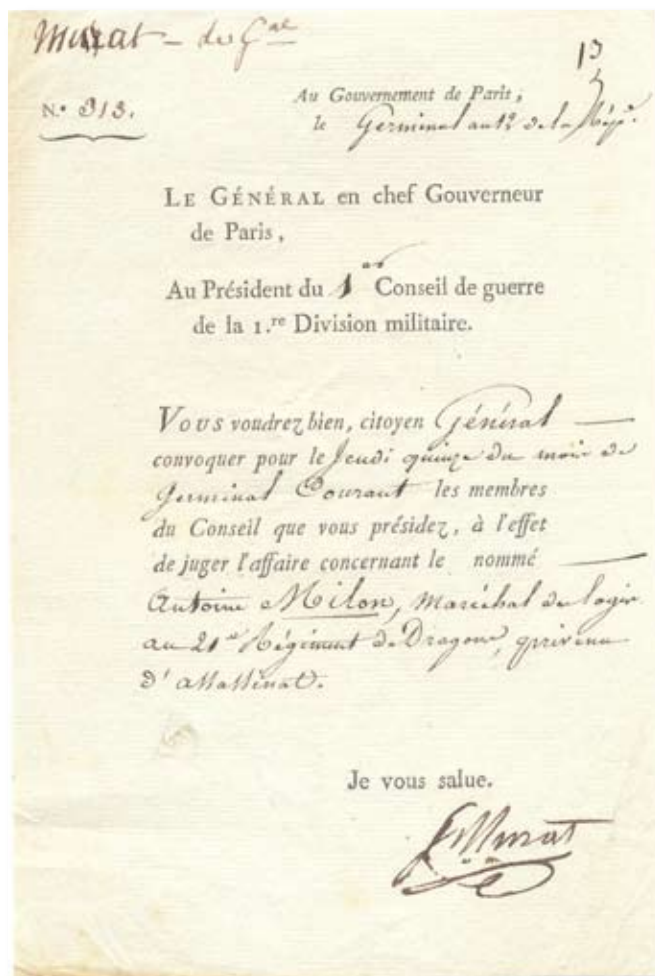
The description, research and treatments of *Hydropsie* form a large part of this manuscript, first within the main body of the text, and in the final section. This opens with a page and a half of recommendations for diet and treatment after a puncture has been made. A bouillon is prescribed, made of a slice of beef, mutton from which the fat has been cut away, veal, an old cockerel, a partridge, a capon with the bones crushed in a marble mortar, seasoned with cloves, cinnamon, pepper and deer antlers, to be administered often and in small quantities.

This is followed by a very interesting page-long description of experiments made on the fluid taken from the abdomen of a person suffering from this complaint.

The final three pages of this section offer an exceptionally interesting case study, made in 1699, of a young woman, suffering from *hydropsie*, who was treated with punctures every fortnight, during which 13 to 14 pints of “milk” (described earlier as having similarities to milk when heated, for example, but lighter than milk) were drawn. The doctor treating this patient is named as M. Vernage of the Paris faculty, and two other experts, M. Mery and M. Homberg are also quoted.

The manuscript suffered from water damage at some point, mainly affecting the right margin, but it is otherwise in good, clear condition, in a very legible hand.

MURAT HEARS A CASE OF A MAN ACCUSED OF MURDER



23. Joachim MURAT (1771-1815)

Letter Signed ("J Murat") as Governor of Paris to the President of the Council of War of the 1st Military Division, a partially printed letter requesting him to call together the members of the Council to hear the case of Antoine Milon of the 21st Regiment of Dragoons, who has been accused of murder.

1 page 8vo in French, Paris, 13 germinal an 12 [3 April 1804].

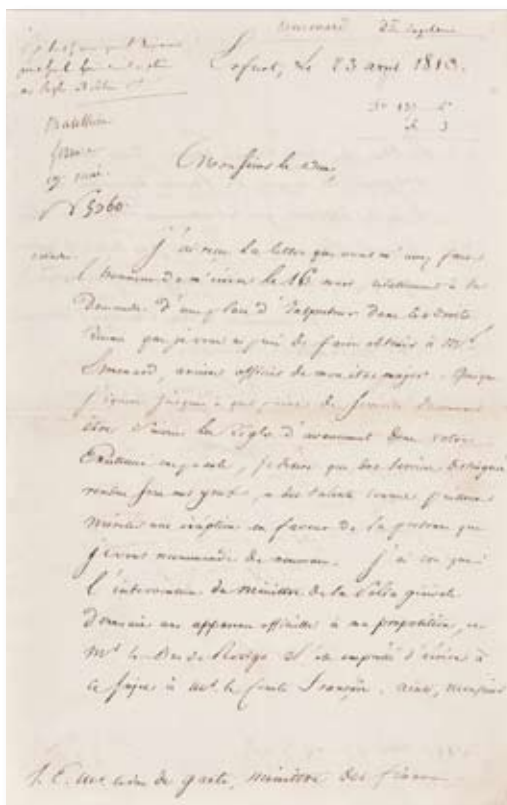
£925

The charge against Milon in French is "assassinat", and accusations of assassination attempts were at the forefront of many minds at this period. Milon does not, however, appear to have been involved in the most dramatic of all the conspiracies, the plot to assassinate Napoleon, for which the duc d'Enghien was condemned and executed, unjustly and with no shred of proof, just a fortnight before this letter. On 6 April, General Pichegru, more realistically implicated in the plot, was found strangled in his prison cell, allegedly a suicide.

As Governor of Paris (a post he had held since January of that year), Murat was responsible for bringing together the Military Council that condemned the duc d'Enghien. Murat unsuccessfully pleaded for clemency for another accused, Georges Cadoudal, but gained only a reprimand from Napoleon.

An interesting letter, in very good condition.

NEY REQUESTS A POSITION FOR A FORMER MEMBER OF HIS STAFF



24. Michel NEY, Duc d'Elchingen and Prince de la Moskova (1769-1815)

Letter Signed ("Le Mal duc d'Elchingen Pce de la Moskowa") to the Finance Minister, the Duc de Gaète, requesting a position of Inspector for M. Esmenard, formerly on his general staff.

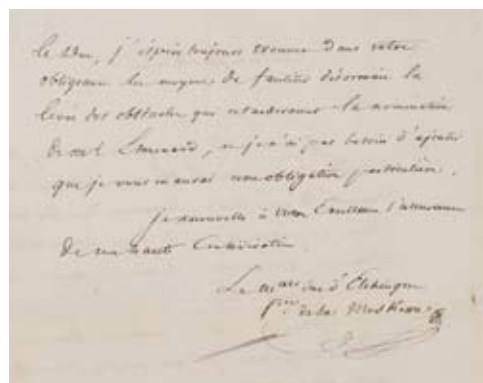
1½ pages folio in French with integral blank leaf, Erfurt, 23 April 1813.

£725

Trans: "I have received the letter which you did me the honour to write to me on 16 March, regarding the request for a position of Inspector in the droits réunis [part of the tax department] which I requested for M. Esmenard, formerly one of my staff officers. Although I do not know how strictly the rules of advancement which Your Excellency mentions must be followed, I wish that the distinguished services given before me, and his obvious talents deserve that an exception be made in favour of the person who I am again recommending. I thought that the intervention of the Minister of Police [Savary] would give an official tenor to my proposition, and the Duc de Rovigo hastened to write to M. le Comte Francais on this subject. And so . . . I continue to hope that you will be able to remove the obstacles which delay the nomination of M. Esmenard . . ."

Months earlier, Ney had been embraced by Napoleon as the hero of the retreat from Moscow, and given the title of Prince de la Moskova; in September, he would be severely criticized by Napoleon for his defeat at Dennewitz, soon to be eclipsed by the disaster of Leipzig.

Ney appears to have been unaware of the events which had overtaken Esmenard. Esmenard had indeed served on Ney's staff in the Peninsula, when Ney sent him to Paris on a special mission. Upon arrival in Paris, in 1810, Esmenard was imprisoned. The charge has never been clearly explained, but was generally suspected to involve a Royalist plot. Esmenard remained in prison until Napoleon's first abdication, which leads one to suspect that Savary's support of this application was intended to mislead Ney into believing that matters had been resolved.



O'CASEY LENDS SUPPORT TO THE ANGLO-SOVIET MEDICAL AID FUND

Tingritte
Totnes, Devon. Jan 4th 1941

Miss Beatrice King,
National Anglo-Soviet Medical Aid Fund.

Dear Miss King.

Allright; if you want to use
my name, & think it may be of some use
to you (God help you), use it.

Spluttering about in the throes of
Influenza, I have but the energy to wish
God speed to the gathering of the Allied Clans
Clans to send greetings, as well as tanks & guns,
to the glorious Peoples of the Soviet Union.

Yours
Sean O'Casey

P.S. My wife is busy with an Exhibition of
Photos of Soviet Life here, to be opened tomorrow,
to help concentrate thought on medical aid
for the U.S.S.R. His in bed, out of it, still —

25. Sean O'CASEY (1880-1964)

Autograph Letter Signed ("Sean O'Casey") to Beatrice King of the Anglo-Soviet Medical Aid Fund, agreeing to her using his name, and adding that "my wife is busy with an Exhibition of Photos of Soviet Life . . ."

1 page 4to, Tingritte, Totnes, 4 January 1941 [but probably 1942].

£575

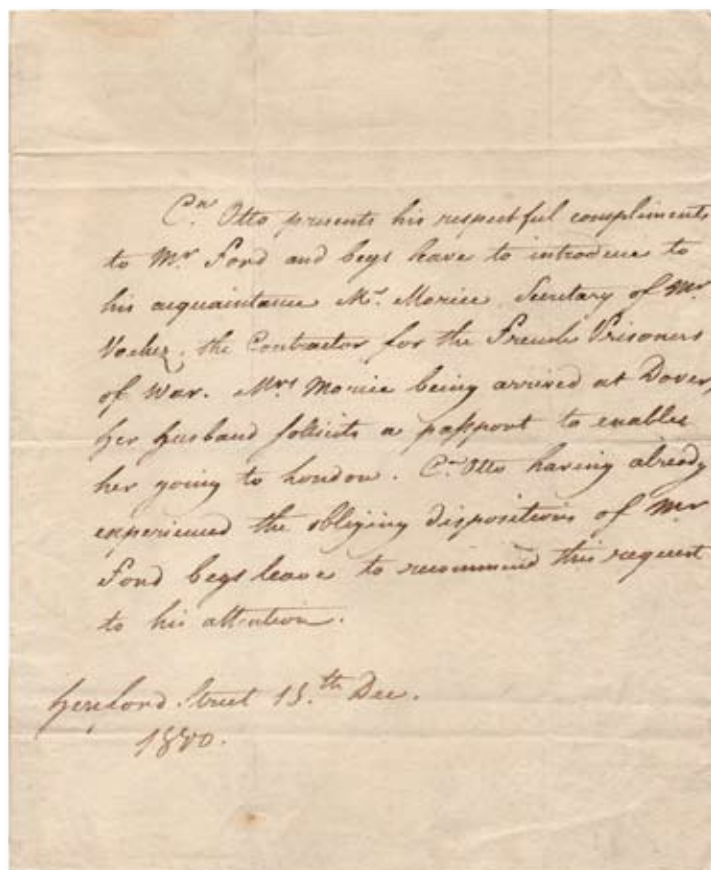
"Allright; if you want to use my name, & think it may be of some use to you (God help you), use it.

Spluttering about in the throes of Influenza, I have but the energy to wish God speed to the gathering of the Allied Clans to send greetings, as well as tanks & guns, to the glorious Peoples of the Soviet Union. . . P.S. My wife is busy with an Exhibition of Photos of Soviet Life here, to be opened tomorrow, to help concentrate thought on medical aid for the U.S.S.R. . ."

O'Casey was a life-long supporter of the Soviet Union and referred to himself as a Communist. In this instance, however, his support was very much part of the mainstream. In the wake of Winston Churchill's stated intention of providing support for the Soviet Union, Britain's allies in the war against Fascist Germany, various societies were set up during the course of 1941, including Beatrice King's Women's Anglo-Soviet Committee, Sybil Thorndike's Five Arts Fund, and the British Red Cross Aid for Russia Fund, headed by Clementine Churchill. These organizations did not come into existence until 1941, after the collapse of the Nazi-Soviet pact, so it would seem that O'Casey made an error in dating his letter 1941, a common mistake for many at the beginning of each year.

There is a slight hole at the top left of the letter where a staple has been removed, but it is otherwise in very good condition.

FRENCH DIPLOMAT COUNT OTTO REQUESTS A PASSPORT FOR MRS. MORICE



26. Louis-Guillaume OTTO, Count Mosloy (1754-1817)

Autograph Letter in the third person to Mr. Ford at the Alien Office, requesting a passport for the wife of the secretary of the contractor for the French Prisoners of War.

1 page 4to with integral blank leaf, Hereford Street, 15 December 1800.

£395

"Cte. Otto presents his respectful compliments to Mr. Ford and begs leave to introduce to his acquaintance Mr. Morice, Secretary of Mr. Vochez, the Contractor for the French Prisoners of War. Mrs. Morice being arrived at Dover, her husband solicits a passport to enable her going to London. Cte. Otto having already experienced the obliging disposition of Mr. Ford begs leave to recommend this request to his attention."

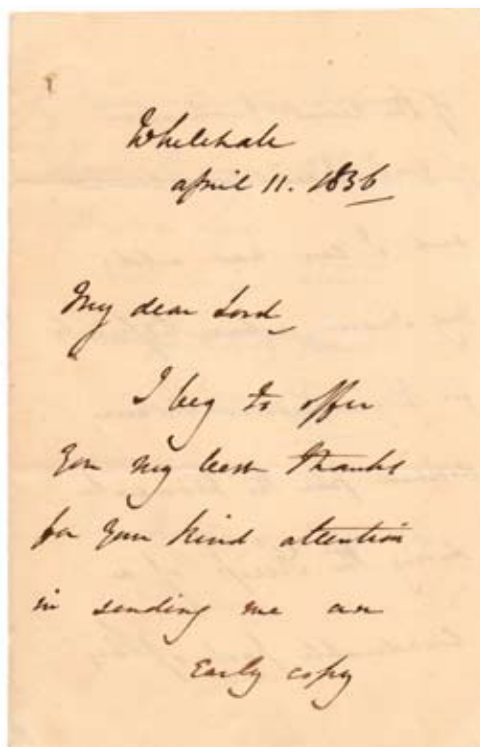
The Alien Office was created in 1793, as the French Revolution raged across the Channel. Although ostensibly designed to control the number of refugees fleeing the violence in France, it was, in fact, more concerned with keeping potential revolutionaries out of Britain. With the start of the Napoleonic Wars, it became an effective surveillance network, keeping watch on those suspected of spying for the enemy. As such, it is sometimes considered the precursor to today's secret service.

Count Otto, one of the most distinguished French diplomats of the Napoleonic era was posted to London in 1800 as commissioner for the exchange of prisoners of war, and later minister plenipotentiary. The following year, he opened the negotiations that would finally lead to the Treaty of Amiens in 1802.

Count Otto's career commenced in the United States where he spent nearly a decade in the aftermath of the American Revolution, eventually serving as chargé d'affaires, and earning the friendship of George Washington. Under Napoleon, he served in London – there is a substantial body of correspondence from London between him and Talleyrand – and later Munich and, finally, Vienna, where he negotiated the marriage treaty between Napoleon and Marie Louise.

His tact, intelligence and impeccable manners earned him a place as one of the most respected of diplomats.

PEEL THANKS LORD WELLESLEY FOR A COPY OF HIS INDIAN CORRESPONDENCE



27. Robert PEEL (1788-1850)

Autograph Letter Signed to Marquess Wellesley, thanking him for a copy of his volume of Indian correspondence.

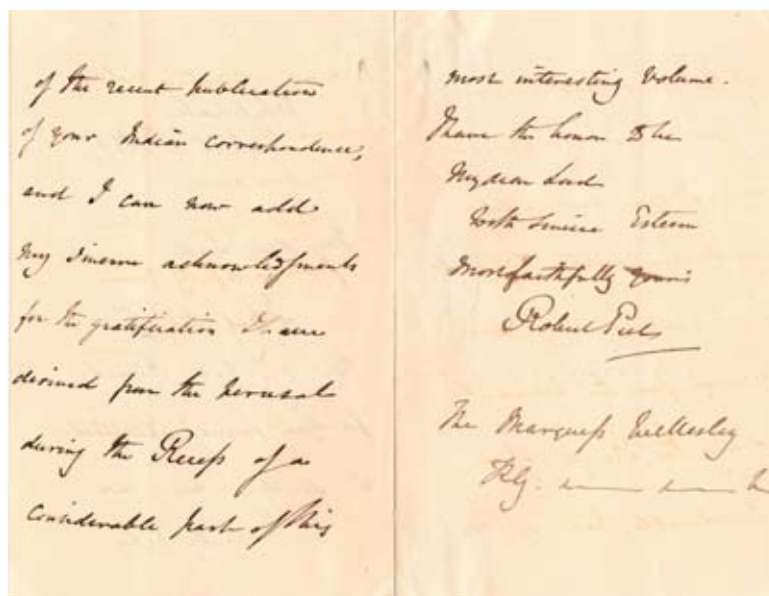
3 pages 8vo, Whitehall, 11 April 1836.

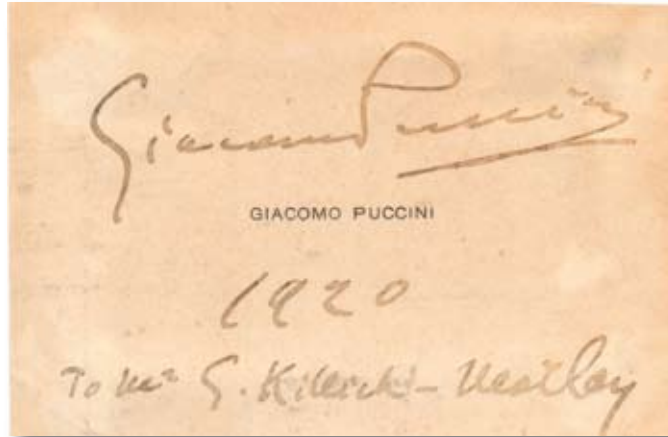
£310

"I beg to offer you my best thanks for your kind attention in sending me an early copy of the recent publication of your Indian correspondence, and I can now add my sincere acknowledgments for the gratification I have derived from the perusal during the Recess of a considerable part of this most interesting volume. . ."

Wellesley's time as Governor-General of India, from 1798 to 1805, was turbulent and his correspondence reflected the era. Concerns over French influence in India, the Mahratha wars and his younger brother Arthur Wellesley's victory over Tipu Sultan at Seringapatam marked his time there, but so did continued conflict with the East India Company, leading to several attempts on his part to resign.

There is a small early spindle hole at the top left corner of the letter, and the remains of mounting to the verso, but it remains in clear, legible condition.





28. Giacomo PUCCINI (1858-1924)

Visiting Card Signed ("Giacomo Puccini") with the autograph message "1920 / To Mr. G. Killick-Westley" below his printed name.

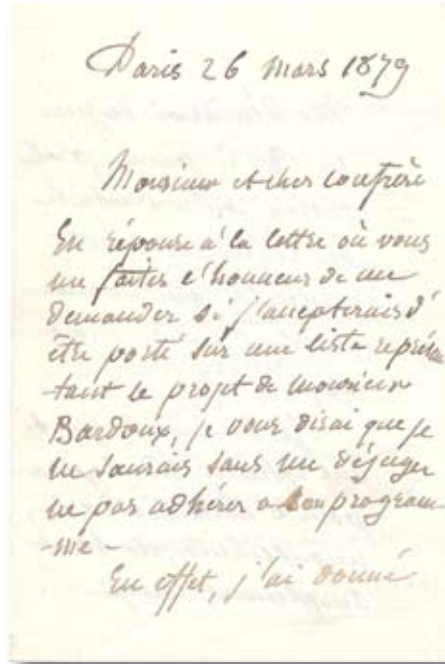
7 x 10½ cms, n.p., n.d.

£650

The identity of Mr. G. Killick-Westley is uncertain. The one certainty is that the card was signed when Puccini was in the early stages of composing his last, and uncompleted, opera, *Turandot*.

The card is slightly browned, and there are traces of mounting to the verso, but it is otherwise in very good condition.

MURALIST PUVIS DE CHAVANNES RESIGNS FROM A JURY IN PROTEST



29. Pierre PUVIS DE CHAVANNES (1824-1898)

Autograph Letter Signed ("P. Puvis de Chavannes") to an unidentified colleague ("Monsieur et cher confrère"), explaining why he had resigned from a jury.

3 pages 8vo in French, Paris, 26 March 1879.

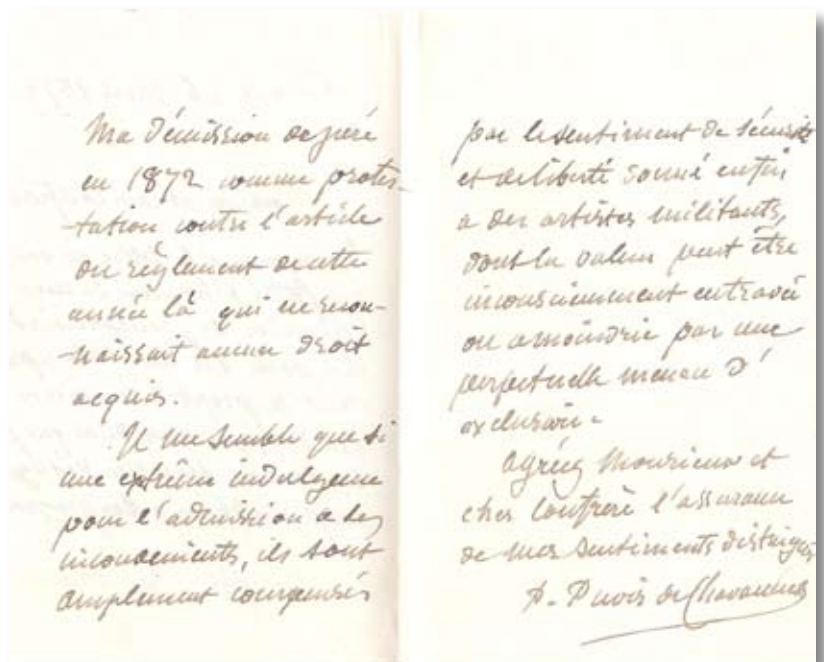
£225

Puvis de Chavannes, much admired by Zola, is best remembered as a muralist, responsible for murals at the Sorbonne, the Hotel de Ville in Paris and Boston Public Library.

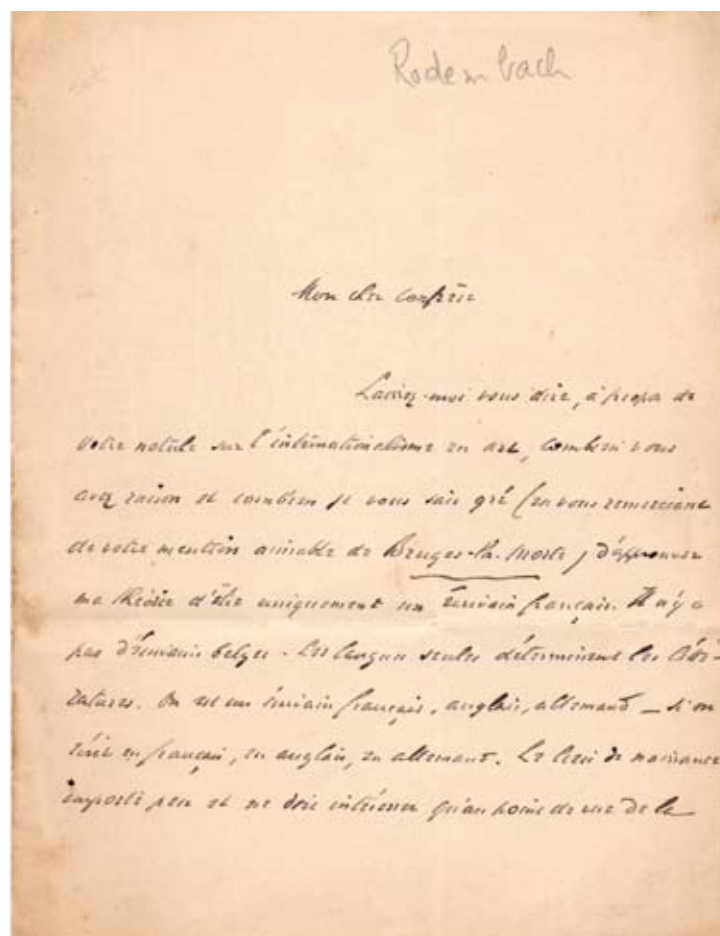
Trans: "In response to the letter in which you do me the honour of asking me if I would accept to be on the list representing Monsieur Bardoux's project, I must reply that I could not do so without changing my position on the programme. In fact, I resigned from the jury in 1872 in protest against the article or regulation of that year which recognised no secured rights.

It seems to me that if extreme indulgence in admission [policy] has some inconveniences, they are more than compensated for in the feeling of security and freedom which it gives to militant artists, whose worth may be unconsciously impeded or diminished through a constant threat of exclusion. . ."

In excellent condition.



RODENBACH DESCRIBES HIMSELF AS A 'FRENCH WRITER'



30. Georges RODENBACH (1855-1898)

Autograph Letter Signed ("Georges Rodembach") to a colleague, evidently a critic and poet.

2 pages small 4to in French, 2 rue Gounod, n.d.

£350

Trans: "Let me tell you, with regard to your note on internationalism in art, how right you are, and how grateful I am to you (while thanking you for your kind mention of Bruges-la-Morte) for approving of my theory of being purely a French writer. There are no Belgian writers. Only languages determine literature. One is a French writer, English, German – if one writes in French, in English, in German. Where one is born matters little and should be interesting only in relation to the milieu. This does not mean that one cannot be of one's race and even express it; but to speak of the Flemish soul in French prose or verse, that is to be a French writer, as Barbey d'Aurevilly does when he speaks of the Norman soul which is as far removed and foreign to Paris as the Flemish soul.

Your thinking as a poet and as a critic has explained that in your note in question and that is why I am happy to tell you that, on that point, we think alike."

Rodenbach's point is interesting. The late nineteenth and early twentieth century saw the emergence of interesting and, in the context of the period, important writers and poets – Rodembach, Verhaeren, Maeterlinck, Cammaerts. Although these writers came from the Flemish community, all wrote in French, at the time the dominant language used by the middle classes and the language used in schools

milieu. Cela ne veut pas dire qu'on ne puisse pas être de la
race et même l'épouse; mais dire l'âme flamande
en prose ou vers français, c'est être un écrivain français,
comme le fut Barbey d'Aurevilly en écrivant l'âme
normande qui est aussi loin, et étrangère à Paris, que
l'âme flamande.

Mais sans de poésie et de critique à déviler celle dans
la note en question et c'est pourquoi j'ai eu plaisir à
vous dire que, là-dessus, nous pensons ensemble.

Voilà, mon cher lecteur, à tous bons sentiments

Georges Rodenbach

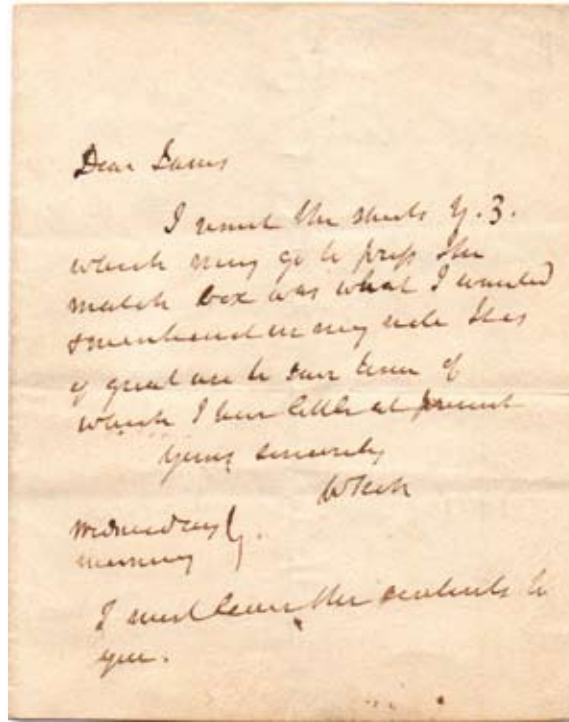
Rodenbach

2. rue Soufflot.

throughout Belgium. It was not until well into the twentieth century that one would see the start of modern Flemish literature.

Rodenbach himself spent much of his life in Paris, frequenting the artistic and literary circles of the day, becoming particularly friendly with Mallarmé. Despite this, he remained very attached to his native land, and his best-known work, *Bruges-la-Morte* displays a nostalgia for the city of Bruges, making the city itself as important as any protagonist.

SIR WALTER SCOTT RETURNS SOME PROOFS TO HIS PRINTER



31. Sir Walter SCOTT (1771-1832)

Autograph Letter Signed ("WScott") to "Dear James" [identified in pencil on the verso as his printer, James Ballantyne] sending him some sheets [not present] which were ready to go to press.

1 page 12mo with integral blank leaf, n.p., n.d. ["Wednesday morning"].

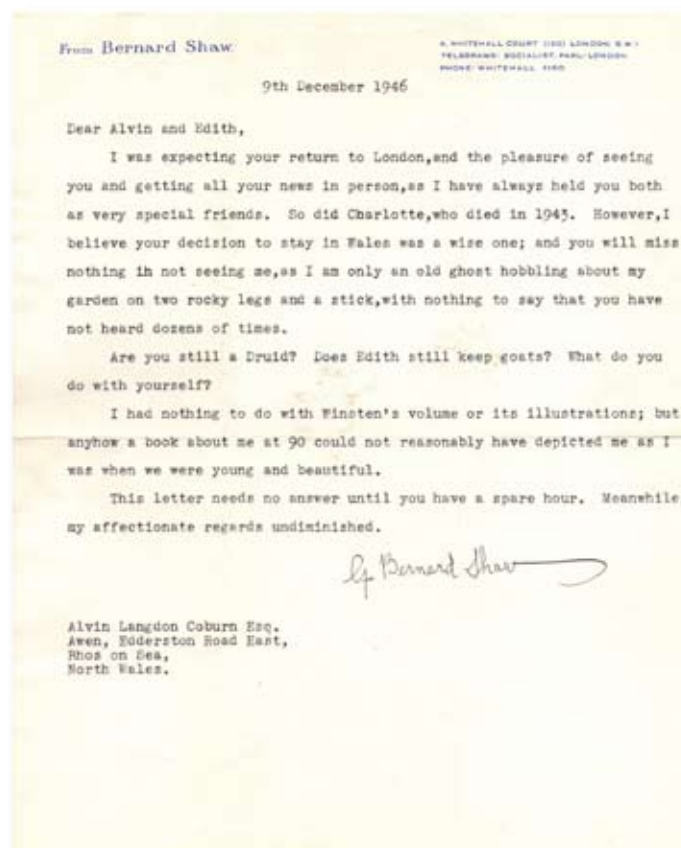
£525

"I remit the sheets Y.3. which may go to press. The match box was what I wanted & mentioned in my note[.] It is of great use to save time of which I have little at present."

In a postscript, he adds *"I must leave the contents to you."*

Scott was a partner in Ballantyne's printing business, which collapsed as a result of the financial crisis of 1825. Scott found himself deeply in debt as a result, a situation he chose to deal with by continuing to write at a prodigious rate rather than declare bankruptcy. The popularity of his works meant that the debts were eventually cleared, although only after his death which may in part have been brought on by exhaustion.

SHAW 'AN OLD GHOST . . . ON TWO ROCKY LEGS AND A STICK'



32. George Bernard SHAW (1856-1950)

Late Typed Letter Signed ("G. Bernard Shaw") to the American photographer Alvin Langdon Coburn and his wife Edith in North Wales.

1 page 4to, 4 Whitehall Court, 9 December 1946.

£675

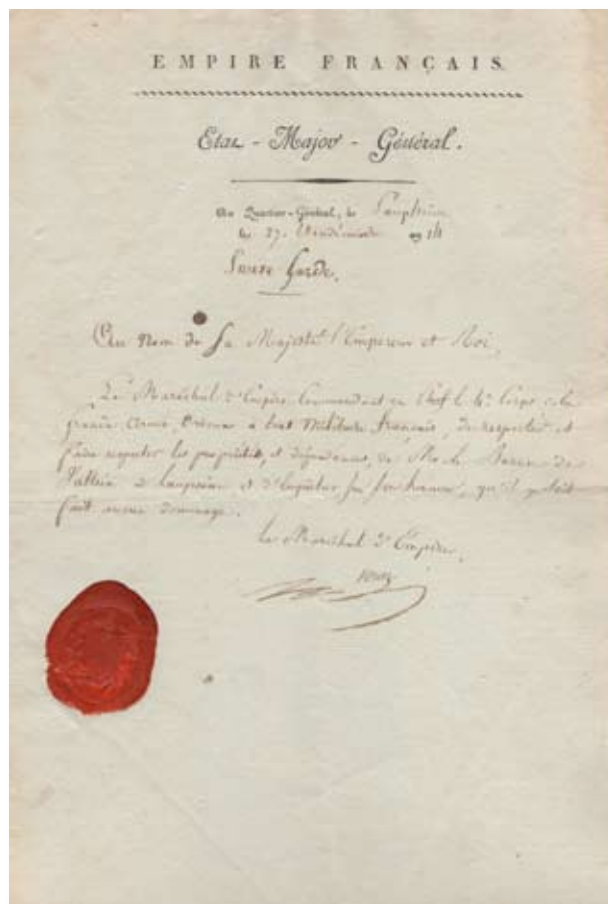
The American-born Alvin Langdon Coburn (1882-1966) settled in England in 1912 and eventually took British citizenship. He had taken a particularly fine photograph of Shaw in 1908, and in 1912 published his most famous book, *Men of Mark*, featuring 33 gravure prints of European authors, artists and statesmen, including Matisse, Henry James, Rodin and Mark Twain. However he appears to have lost interest in photography by 1930, and devoted the rest of his life to mystical and spiritual pursuits, which explains Shaw's rather wry question in this letter "Are you still a Druid?"

"I was expecting your return to London, and the pleasure of seeing you and getting all your news in person, as I have always held you both as very special friends. So did Charlotte [Shaw's wife] who died in 1943. However I believe your decision to stay in Wales was a wise one; and you will miss nothing in not seeing me, as I am only an old ghost hobbling about my garden on two rocky legs and a stick, with nothing to say that you have not heard dozens of times.

Are you still a Druid? Does Edith still keep goats? What do you do with yourself? I had nothing to do with Wisten's volume or its illustrations; but anyhow a book about me at 90 could not reasonably have depicted me as I was when we were young and beautiful . . ."

Together with an Autograph Letter Signed to Coburn from the journalist and bibliophile Holbrook Jackson, 2 pages 8vo, 7 April 1947, saying that "I saw G.B.S. on his 90th birthday at the Exhibition of his works in Albemarle St - & had a few words with him - he looked superb - with a sort of inner light, & was as upright as ever but rather weak in his legs. He was received with great respect - like a prince of the blood! . . ."

SOULT ISSUES AN ORDER TO RESPECT THE BARON'S PROPERTY



33. Nicolas Jean de Dieu SOULT, duc de Dalmatie (1769-1851)

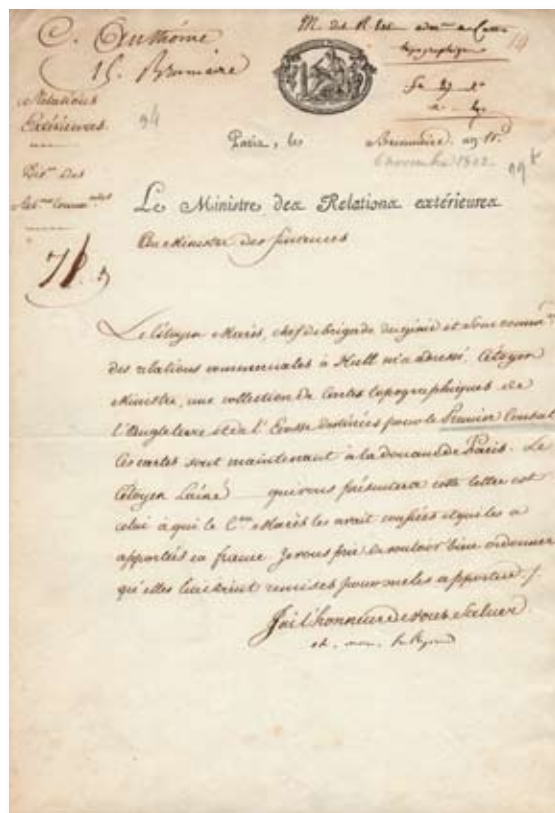
Document Signed ("Soult") ordering all French soldiers to respect the property of the Baron de Saltein.

Half page folio in French with integral blank leaf, with Soult's armorial seal in red wax, Laupheim, 27 vendémiaire an 14 [19 October 1805]. £350

Trans: "In the name of His Majesty the Emperor and King. The Marshal of the Empire, Commander in Chief of the 4th Corps of the Grande Armée orders all French military personnel to respect and defend all the property and dependancies of the Baron de Saltein at Laupheim and on their honour to prevent any damage thereto."

No record has been found to explain precisely why the Baron de Saltein was to be protected in this way. However, it is worth noting that the order is issued in the name of the Emperor, who had reviewed Soult's corps the previous day. Napoleon may well have been in a generous humour, having taken Ulm a week earlier, surrendered by the Austrian General Mack.

TALLEYRAND RECEIVES MAPS OF ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND FROM AN AGENT



34. Charles Maurice TALLEYRAND (1754-1838)

Letter Signed ("ch. mau. talleyrand") as Foreign Minister to the Minister of Finances [Martin Gaudin, later duc de Gate], asking him to order that some maps of England and Scotland be released from customs and brought to him.

1 page folio in French with integral blank leaf, Paris, 15 brumaire an 11 [6 November 1802]. £725

Trans: "Citizen Marès, of the engineers' brigade and deputy commander of commercial relations in Hull has sent me, Citizen Minister, a collection of topographical maps of England and of Scotland for the First Consul. These maps are currently with customs in Paris. Citizen Lainé who will bring you this letter is the man to whom Citizen Marès had entrusted them and who has brought them to France. I ask you to kindly order that they be handed over to him so that he may bring them to me."

The Peace of Amiens, signed on 25 March 1802, brought with it a tremendous relief to the war-weary in both France and Britain, and a stream of visitors between the two countries. It also brought great opportunities for discreet espionage by both sides. The delegation for commercial relations no doubt provided, as it would in later centuries, a suitable posting for intelligence gathering.

The Treaty of Amiens, signed by Napoleon's brother Joseph and by Lord Cornwallis for Britain, held few advantages for Britain (it was the same Cornwallis who, two decades earlier, had capitulated to the Americans at Yorktown). Of Britain's conquests over the previous years, only Ceylon and Trinidad remained, but whatever the losses, Britain was in a poor position to continue the war, its finances badly overstretched.

When the peace broke down in May 1803, Napoleon again turned his thoughts to an invasion of England, no doubt finding the maps in question very useful.

A contemporary note at the top right suggests that the maps were sent to the topographical bureau.

A PASSPORT SIGNED BY WELLINGTON IN PARIS IN 1815



35. Arthur Wellesley, Duke of WELLINGTON (1769-1852)

Document Signed ("Wellington"), as British Ambassador to the French court, a passport enabling Major General Riall to travel to England.

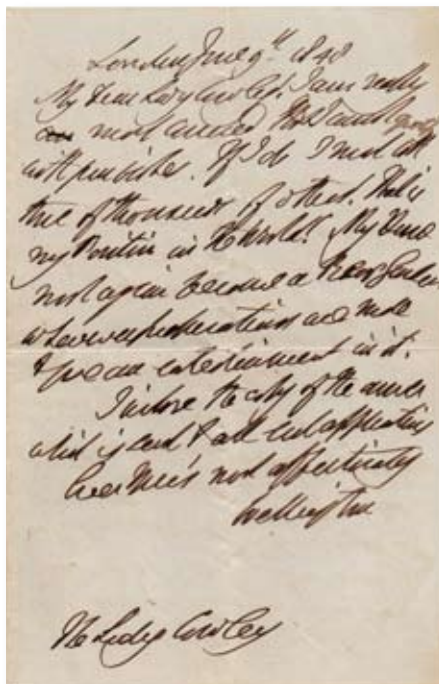
1 page folio in French, printed and completed in manuscript, the Royal crest at the top and the Order of the Garter engraved at the bottom, Paris, 16 January 1815. £995

Major General Riall had been wounded and captured by American troops at the Battle of Niagara Falls during the War of 1812. He was released on parole in December 1814 and sent home to England, evidently making his way to Paris soon thereafter.

Within months of Napoleon's first abdication in 1814, Wellington was appointed Britain's ambassador to France where he proved extremely popular both at court and in society. Soon after signing this passport Wellington departed to represent Britain at the Congress of Vienna, which was to redraw the map of Europe. By March, plans were thrown into disarray as news reached Vienna that Napoleon had escaped from Elba and was marching north through France, gathering support as he went.

An extremely attractive document.

WELLINGTON TURNS DOWN A REQUEST FROM HIS NIECE



36. Arthur Wellesley, Duke of WELLINGTON (1769-1852)

Autograph Letter Signed ("Wellington") to The Lady Cowley, regretting that he is unable to assist with her request.

1 page 8vo with integral blank leaf, London, 9 June 1848.

£495

A late letter to his niece, written when his handwriting had become exceptionally difficult.

"I am really most ... that I cannot gratify with your wishes. If I do I must with those of thousands of others. That is my position in the world! My house must again become a Beer Garden where expeditions are made & we are entertainment in it.

I enclose the copy of the answer which I sent to all such applications."

Wellington nevertheless ends the letter his niece "most affectionately", Lady Cowley, a daughter of Lord Henry FitzGerald, elder brother of the Irish patriot Lord Edward FitzGerald, who was killed in the 1798 rebellion, married Wellington's nephew, Henry Wellesley, Earl Cowley, in 1833. Lord Cowley had a distinguished diplomatic career, culminating in his appointment as British Ambassador in Paris during the reign of Napoleon III.