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## The 7th Feb. 1852, John Croker à François Guizot

**Auteurs : Croker, John-Wilson (1780-1857)**

### Les folios

En passant la souris sur une vignette, le titre de l'image apparaît.

4 Fichier(s)

### Les mots clés

[France \(1848-1852, 2e République\)](#), [Politique \(France\)](#), [Santé](#)

### Relations entre les lettres

Ce document n'a pas de relation indiquée avec un autre document du projet.□

### Présentation

Date1852-02-07

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## Informations éditoriales

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Lieu de destination Val-Richer (France)

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I should like to know what the cause of your illness is. I am very sorry to hear of it. I hope you will be able to get over it. I am always about my state health.

7 Feb. 52.

Dear cher amie

I have had two reasons for not writing to you for the last two months. One was that I did not know how, in the then state of your country, you might like to be troubled with a foreign correspondent, whose letters, however innocent, might have to pass thro' the cabinet hair - for I suppose the cabinet now survives all resolutions. The other was & I am sorry to say, is that I have been for above two months supposed to be in imminent danger of my life - The malady was a strange one. I used to have fainting fits (defaillances) 2, 3, 4 many some times up to 10 or 12, a day - they never lasted above quarter of a minute, during which I turned like a leaf, but the moment they passed away, I was, to all appearance in body, & certainly in mind, as well as ever I was in my life & in those intervals, at our friend L's request, I furnished him, as a final adieu

advice, with my opinions on <sup>the last act of a great Drama</sup> ~~controversial~~ <sup>which I have followed with great interest</sup>  
& very decided views for above 50 years.  
By degrees, the defaillances became less  
frequent. but they have been followed  
by a low rate of pulse (ranging from  
24 to 31) which is equally alarming.  
The immediate danger seems to be the  
creating an effusion of water on the chest -  
which I believe has already begun, tho' my  
Doctors hope not. I need not tell you that  
this is an incurable disease; & I hope you  
will believe that I have strength of mind &  
Christian faith <sup>enough</sup> ~~to~~ to enable me to  
contemplate the result with gratitude  
for a long peaceful & on the whole happy life -  
with resignation under my present trials -  
& with humble hope for futurity, derived  
apparently from no merit of my own. I trouble  
you with this detail, because it is possible  
that this may be the last letter I shall be  
able to write to you (indeed I write it un-  
der & under mechanical difficulties) and  
I wish you to know exactly the state of  
one who has the greatest esteem & regard for  
you, and no small anxiety about your welfare  
in these hurricane times. Adieu!

I now change to  
that what you <sup>have</sup> ~~mounted~~  
intercepted or deli-  
tion of sending a letter  
be handed to you -  
it in his pocket when  
not give it to you  
"you had got the letter  
it to him. I cannot  
letter, & suppose my  
some blunder. I own  
that you should be  
me your opinion. I  
I hardly know when  
another safe oppor-  
you again, for my wish  
ly - ~~not~~ that I shall  
myself <sup>in such matters</sup> ~~as you~~ -  
hono, but as long  
with interest at the  
cially as to its effect  
present state is not  
long - ~~more~~ ~~bound~~ ~~or~~  
pauvrais been once  
s'évanouira au feu  
in the nature of things  
are short lived, & how  
you know that P. 220  
write it, that I was the

... of a great drama  
...  
the great interest  
... 50 years,  
...  
... followed  
...  
... to be the  
... on the chest-  
... began, the my  
... tell you that  
... I hope you  
... of mind &  
... able me to  
... with gratitude  
... whole, happy life-  
... present time-  
... tively, desired  
... my own. I should  
... it is possible  
... I shall be  
... I write it in  
... difficulties) and  
... the state of  
... & regard for  
... about your inter-  
... should!

I now change my subject. I expected  
that what you <sup>have</sup> mentioned to me might be  
intercepted or delayed; & I took the precau-  
tion of sending a portion of it to M.P. to  
be handed to you. He tells me that he had  
it in his pocket when he <sup>saw</sup> you, but did  
not give it to you because you told him  
"you had got the whole" & even showed  
it to him. I cannot reconcile this with your  
letter, & suppose my friend must have made  
some blunder. I was particulary anxious  
that you should have been able to give  
me your opinion on it, through him, as  
I hardly know when you may have  
another safe opportunity. If he calls on  
you again, pray write to me fully & candid-  
ly - not that I shall ever do any thing  
myself <sup>in such matters</sup> - *hic ceteris antequam re-*  
*pono*, but as long as I live I shall look  
with interest at the great drama & espe-  
cially as to its effect on you personally. The  
present state is nothing but *songe ad men-*  
*songe - moribond comme je me crois, je*  
*pourrais bien encore, mais la fin -*  
*secontera au fini vite qu'on la ilusi*. It is  
in the nature of things that sudden parturitions  
are short lived, & hasty works fragile & fugitive.  
You know that Ponce said of me, & I believe  
wrote it, that I was the only man he ever  
met

That who never despaired of putting  
down Napoleon - I printed that prophecy  
in 1809 - I expected it even when all the  
kings of Europe were kissing his slipper at  
Dresden. I looked at the 100 days as a  
galvanic experiment, one which was irre-  
trievably dead - & if he had won the  
battle of Waterloo, it would have given  
him but a few months respite. So, I tell  
you this parody of an emperor is nothing  
but a melancholy farce. I doubt its lasting  
6 months - They say that storms clear the air.  
The false policy of our old friend had ~~been~~  
~~and~~ renewed the Buonaparte prestige -  
the advent of his nephews was necessary  
to clear the atmosphere of that taint, under  
the influence of which there can be neither  
peace for France nor for Europe - the pre-  
sented mad schemes will oblige the Buona-  
partas & they will become of no more impor-  
tance, perhaps of less, than the rest of the Cor-  
sican gang the Abatucci, the Casabianca  
the Matuschi's, Merges, Flahauts & such.  
I received yesterday <sup>at 3 PM</sup> at W.M. the Assemblee  
Nationale of that same morning & read before  
dinner M. de Montalembert's & your speeches  
delivered the day before - Tout le rail! Will  
the provincial press be allowed to reproduce  
these discourses. Ever yours