

[Accueil](#)[Revenir à l'accueil](#)[Collection](#)[Les correspondances de François Guizot : 1806-1874](#)[Collection](#)[178_Lettres de John Croker : 1837-1857](#)[Item](#)[West Molesey, le 20 mai 1852, John Croker à François Guizot](#)

West Molesey, le 20 mai 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.

8 Fichier(s)

Les mots clés

[Famille royale \(France\)](#), [France \(1848-1852, 2e République\)](#), [Histoire \(France\)](#), [Politique \(Analyse\)](#), [Politique \(Angleterre\)](#), [Politique \(France\)](#), [Révolution](#), [Santé](#)

Relations entre les lettres

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

Présentation

Date1852-05-20

GenreCorrespondance

Editeur de la ficheMarie Dupond & Association François Guizot, projet EMAN
(Thalim, CNRS-ENS-Sorbonne nouvelle)

Information générales

LangueAnglais

Cote72 suite, AN : 163 MI 42 AP 178 Papiers Guizot Bobine Opérateur 28

Nature du documentLettre autographe

Supportcopie numérisée de microfilm

Etat général du documentBon

Localisation du documentArchives Nationales (Paris)

Citer cette page

Croker, John-Wilson (1780-1857), West Molesey, le 20 mai 1852, John Croker à François Guizot, 1852-05-20

Marie Dupond & Association François Guizot, projet EMAN (Thalim, CNRS-ENS-Sorbonne nouvelle)

Consulté le 14/01/2026 sur la plate-forme EMAN :

<https://eman-archives.org/Guizot-Lieven/items/show/7504>

Copier

Informations éditoriales

DestinataireGuizot, François (1787-1874)

Lieu de destinationVal-Richer (France)

DroitsMarie Dupond & Association François Guizot, projet EMAN (Thalim, CNRS-ENS-Sorbonne nouvelle). Licence Creative Commons Attribution - Partage à l'Identique 3.0.

Lieu de rédactionWest Molesey (Angleterre)

Notice créée par [Marie Dupond](#) Notice créée le 01/10/2024 Dernière modification le 14/12/2024

This will be delivered by Sir Anthony Perceval
who is going to Paris to morrow & will return
in a fortnight or three weeks
& will call on you before his departure

Mon cher Ami,

22 Le
sur



I have been for four months at
death's door, as we say; & altho' I have
been, for the last two, more comfortable,
I may be so still. I suffer little in
body & not at all in mind. - I am, to
all appearance, as well as ever I was;
yet my life hangs on a thread - the sole dis-
ease seems to be an imperfect action
of the heart. Which is sometimes intermit-
ted & then I faint out right - in a second
I recover, & seem as well as if nothing
had happened - My natural pulse used
to be 70, it is now only from 25. to 30.
& I am now an experimenter with how
low a pulse a man can live. In short,
tho' I am, by the blessing of God, without
being, in reasonable strength of body,

and perfect soundness of mind, I am
well aware that my state is exceedingly
inconvenient & ^{likely} to be, rapidly &
even suddenly, worse. But enough
on this subject - which, thank God, is
more painful to my friends than to
me. I look at the political state of
both our countries with wonder &
anxiety - the wonder is rather for you,
the anxiety for mine. You cannot be
worse off than you are - you have
peace & quiet at the price of degradation;
we, under the forms of an old constitu-
tion are pulling it to pieces bit by bit,
and are preparing for our selves a demo-
cratic revolution - We are in more abso-
lute changes than you - you have had
the political small-pox & are safe from
the return; tho' not from the consequences
of the disease; we have both the disease
& its

its consequences
hon is from the
that our disease
as severe as
no faith nor even
Ministry - nor in
chief principles
other hands, & we
a Mirabeau
our disease is ab-
Dame draped in
placed on a high
of worship - all
belonging to her
ters are chosen by
President is a man
she assumes you
& of honour - I
have ever been
the taking of the B.
grace & secret terror
of such a Champion

I am
consequently
so, rapidly &
with enough
and God, is
more than the
state of
wonder &
rather for you,
cannot be
you have
of degradation;
old constitution
years bit by bit,
entire a demo-
in more abso-
one have had
are safe from
the consequences
with the Union
- & its

its consequences to undergo & my no-
tion is from the analogy of human affairs,
that our decline, when it comes, will be
as severe as yours has been. I have
no faith nor even hope in ^{our} present
Ministry - nor in any other on mono-
chial principles - the real power is in
other hands, & we are only waiting for
a Mirabeau to begin our 1789.
Our Queen is already nothing a reine
Dame draped in jewels & breasted &
placed on a high altar - a false object
of worship - all of life action & reality
belonging to her ministers, & which minis-
ters are chosen by the congregation. Your
President is a mere Polichinelle - Pompadour
she amuses you at the expense of liberty
& of honour - I really doubt whether you
have ever been so materially happy since
the taking of the Bastille - but the open dis-
grace & secret terror of lying at the feet
of such a Champeignonne - Despot, much
more bitter

are bitter as well as and anger your
factions tranquillity - & the worst is
that this despotism, however odious it
may become, will not render the legi-
timate Monarchy more welcome for
its overthrow. Will be another triumph of
the democracy over the principle of
authority, & no legitimate or even dy-
nastic Monarch could even for a week
maintain the position that this usurper
has kept for months - As soon as time &
success had given Louis Philippe a legiti-
mate or genuine legitimate character,
he fell also. I have of course not been
at home more than 4 months - They are so
gacious as to send to enquire after me;
& Duhamel has been twice at my bed side,
& I have taken as much interest in their
great cause as my health allowed - I advised
passive resistance & appeal to the tribunals & it
is by the tribunals that I think your present
usurpation will be broken down. The House
of Orleans seem destined to the throne of

72
viii

France, but it will be an uneasy
& precarious throne unless they
first return to the position of Dukes
of Orleans, & arrive at the throne
by heirship & not by any pretence
of revolutionary election - & they
ought to observe that now, while
Henry is yet living; if they put
it off till the inheritance falls to
them by death, they will get nothing
by it - they will be called kings of
1830 and will be deposed by the
popular principle from which they
attempt to derive their titles. The
best thing that could be done, would
be to call the Count de Paris, Duke
of Orleans - even without any other
of explanation that would suffice, & it
is ~~the best~~ the easiest & safest
form of cession - but they will do no
such wise thing, & they will come to the
throne under the double unpopularity
of being legitimists, & usurpers. It
may

may answer for small persons
in small matters to protect themselves
by deception & temporising - a chance
sauris may say

Je suis oiseau - voyez mes ailes
Je suis sauris, viennent les Rets!
but an eagle must be an eagle & a
lion must be a lion - & the Comte
de Paris must either be Roi de France
par la Grace de Dieu - the heir of Henry
IV & the successor of Henry V, or
the heir of King Barras or the Emperor
Napoleon I & the successor of Napoleon
the second. If that fracturing black-
head de martines lives to a new
revolution he would have, as
much right, & perhaps more power
than the Comte de Paris.

I think however, or perhaps I should
rather say I hope, that your future
revolutions (I see two or three bleeding
1.6

like a succession
will pass without
or spoliation -
case if they are
but if I were in your
position, the chief
great or small, I
but I would also
a few rentes in
I have no great
funds, but they are
these years, & we
fear it was to do
find that he had
here & how happy
been if he had
a large sum that
some years before
tional man & there
persecution, which
reach Jacques or
you. This I throw
a hint - We have

persons
but I am a busy
man - a changing

once married
but his wife
was a
the former

of the de France
the de France

the Emperor
of Napoleon

storing black
to a new

house as
one occurs

perhaps I should
your future
these blessing
like

like a succession of cantiflowers)
will pass without individual murder
or spoliation - which will be the
case if they are made by the army;
but if I were in your shoes, I should
invest the chief of ~~my~~^{my} fortune,
great or small, in land in France;
but I would also, if possible, have
a few rentes in the English funds.
I have no great confidence in our
funds, but they are some what safer
than yours, & we know that a com-
fort it was to Louis Philippe to
find that he had even a trifle
here & how happy he should have
been if he had not thrown away
a large sum that he had had up here
some years before. You are an excep-
tional man & there may be a temporary
persecution, which, tho' it might not
affect Jacqueline or Gilles, might affect
you. This I throw out to you only as
a hint - We have had here in several
times

three Bourbon Kings & the two
Bonapartes; & Napoleon was
the only one who had made pro-
vision for the evil day - I believe
he had many thousands a year
in the English funds - "far out it
at harte daccari" & tho' I should
not advise you (should ever be
your means) to do much in
that way, I should strongly ad-
vice ^{you} to leave, if possible, a
couple of hundred pounds sterling
or even £500 if possible, in Lon-
don or America or even Holland;
but the best (begging pardon of the
M. de Witt) I think the best se-
cure from a bealeversement,
if I never be bealeversee.

My Ladies desire their compli-
ments & little Bessy sends "her love
to dear M. Guizot". Love affectionately
Yours &c.