

[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 9 avril 1855, John Croker à François Guizot](#)

West Molesey, le 9 avril 1855, 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.

6 Fichier(s)

Les mots clés

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Relations entre les lettres

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

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Lieu de rédactionWest Molesey (Angleterre)

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

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Mon cher ami,

The cheapness & celerity
of the posts facilitate corres=
pondence so much, that I am
almost afraid of mine growing
troublesome to you; but this
time, at least, I have to consult
you on a point on which you
may feel some individual in=
terest. They have asked me to
revise & collect into one volume
half a dozen articles which I
contributed, from time to time,
to the Quarterly reviews on some
early epochs & events of the
French revolution. In looking
them

them over for this purpose, I
find the first, in ^{of course,} ~~the~~ ^{is one}
on M. Thiers & Bodin's two ~~parts~~
original volumes of the History
which M. Thiers afterwards ~~revo-~~
dellad & adopted as his own. These
volumes include the two first
great strides of the lowly Revo-
lution - the Bastille & the 5th & 6th
October; & the inaccuracy & par=
tiality with which M. Thiers has
misrepresented these events ren=
dered it necessary that I should
begin by examining his merit &
his credit as an historian. I be=
lieve my criticism on on & appreci=
ation of his work to be just & true,
but I am not quite so sure of all the
minute facts which a stranger can
hardly ever collect or estimate with
perfect accuracy. What I therefore,
with great hesitation venture to ask of

you is to read the
the you find on
facts, which was
The article is in
September 184
proposition &
because I feel
is a very deli
has been your
your parliament
aware, ^{too} that sec
respect &
social regard
look on the low
very different
I may also ad
what you will
does against
war since 178
cannot conceiv
believe that at
more particula
October 1789, &

power, I
is one
two years
history
is some
ours. These
no facts
while
the 5th & 6th
y & par=
iers has
into rem=
I should
merit &
and. I be=
& appreciate
just & true,
as of all the
repro can
te with
therefore,
to ask of
you

you is to read that article & tell me whe-
ther you find any misstatement of
facts, which would require correction.
The article is in the 7th vol. p 521.
September 1845. I say, I make this
proposition with great hesitation,
because I feel that your position
is a very delicate one. M. Thiers
has been your official colleague &
your parliamentary rival. I am
aware, ^{too} that notwithstanding ^{my per-}
sonal ^{respect &} regard for Louis Philippe, I
look on the Revolution of July with
very different eyes from yours.
I may also add that I never have
what you will may think preju-
dices against the whole revolution
was since 1789, in which you
cannot concur. Tho' in my heart, I
believe that as my antipathy dates
more particularly from the 5th & 6th
October 1789, & as I do feel that your
known

unmixed approbation does not
come much lower, I believe, I say.
That our opinions are not as far
so different as they may appear.
Still, however, I am fully aware of
all the motives that might disin-
cline you to give any countenance
to my opinions. But, on the
other hand, what I ask does not
& need not involve opinions either
way, but only tends to the verifica-
tion of facts, leaving clear the
conclusions which either of us may
deduce from the facts. I also feel
that with the regard and I may
add affection which I ^{have} ~~feel~~ for you
individually, it seems to me that
would be something like a breach
of friendship to republish & give
a kind of permanent importance
to a work which alludes to you
by name, as well as by inference,
without apprising you of my in-
tention & leaving at least whether
Yours

80
sew

You have my reclamation to make
on those passages. My book will
probably be considered, as far as
it goes, as the evidence of a con-
temporary witness, who had not
only seen the events en gros as
they were passing, but who had
made a large collection & critical
examinations of the documentary
~~testimonies~~ testimonies, & records, which are the
least deceptive materials of history.
My sketch of M. Thiers' bio-
graphy I have taken principally
from the statements of his own
friends & collaborateurs, but they
may not be altogether accurate,
& I should be sorry to do him
any injustice, and the more so
because I confess there is no writer
on the Revolution of whose truth &
fairness I have so low an opinion.

I have thus opened to you my
whole view, and the motive of my
appeal

appeal to you. If these motives
seem to you valid, & that you
should favour me with any ob=
servations, I need hardly add
that they will be received & used in
strict confidence, for just & legi=
timate, both in reason & honour,
as such communications between
us would be, I am too well aware
of the passions & prejudices of man=
kind to involve you in any degree
with the opinions, of so notorious an
Antirevolutionist as I pride my=
self in being. and after making
large allowances for the giddiness, the
versatility & the gullibility of paper=
less opinions, & of the potent influence
of power & terror over the masses of
your people, I cannot but think
that the vote of 4 millions for ^{the} absolute
authority of the first Napoleon & of
7 millions for that of the present emper=
or is a pretty strong proof that the
majority of the French people are at
least as much antirevolutionists as
I am. Ever most sincerely Yours
Edm.