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Alverbank Gosport, 12th Nov. 1855, John Croker à François Guizot

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

Les folios

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4 Fichier(s)

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Lieu de rédactionAlverbank Gosport (Angleterre)

Information Bibliographique

Titre	Auteur	Date	Lien
Histoire de la République d'Angleterre et de Cromwell: 1649-1658	François Guizot	1854	
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Albany, N. York; 12 Nov^r
58

Mon cher ami. I must begin by explain-
ing to you, that I have quite broken off
my connexion with the Liberator by Review
- the immediate cause was the resolution
of both Murray & the new Editor to abandon
the old Pitt & Castlereagh doctrines & what was
still more contrary to my opinions, to adopt
what I consider as the revolutionary spi-
rit of our foreign policy, & especially of the
Russian War. But I had also been, for
some time, thinking seriously of Horace's
solus senescit. - He's ~~was~~ still reluc-
tant to retire from a concern of which
I had been one of the original founders,
& I believe, the largest contributor, the
sudden deterioration of my health warned
me that I must soon go & the change of
politics decided that the hour of se-
paration had at last arrived.

But I am still on the old terms of pri-
vate friendship with Murray, & just as
I was with the Editor, of whom, however,
I personally know very little, but that
little is very favourable. This enabled
me to apply to them on the subject
of the Review of your work & I have
had

had to say a letter from St Elwin of
which I copy on page 1. I had been=
tional that you apprehended that there
would be no review - he replies -
"M. Guizot is under a misapprehensi=
on that I cannot account for. I have
never altered my original intention of
leaving an article on his "Cromwell" &
it was only a few weeks since that I
wrote to St Librie who is in constant cor=
respondence with him to explain why
it had been so long postponed. It was
very difficult to find a person to ex=
ecute the task & when that obstacle was
overcome, another arose. An acquaint=
tance of mine Mr. Forster (I mention
names because I know that M. Guizot
has already heard this from another
quarter) prepared an article on
Cromwell for the Edinburgh Review
which was to have appeared in the
last No. St. L. told me this, & I resol=
ed to keep our essay back that the two
might not clash. There were reasons
which ultimately obliged the Edinburgh
editor to postpone his review till
Christmas, & I immediately apprised
St. Librie of the fact & added that of
course

course was
Spring. If you
I should feel
him that the
passing his
upon the 20th
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course ours would not appear till the
spring. If you are writing to Mr. Guizot
I should feel obliged if you would tell
him that there never was a thought of
passing his book by & that he may rely
upon the article's appearing early next
year." This I hope will be satis-
fying to you. I wish I could find
some one to do justice to Guizot's
Memories - The subject tho' nearly the
oldest in literature, is as far as I know
almost a novelty - but it would not be
easy to find amongst us scholarship
enough to treat it with originality. I
mean sufficient knowledge of the subject
to make the critic independent of the
author. Your son in law's work on
Washington will find no great cbs here.
Our own history, I might almost say our
own memory, & the numerous & volumi-
nous publications in America leave
nothing to excite curiosity; and in the pre-
sent state of literature, curiosity seems
to be the chief, if not the sole, incentive
to reading. Your own grand portrait of
him admits of little improvement from
details, & in truth there is little of
detail to add - Washington can hardly
be

be said to have ^{had} any private life. His history is in bulletins & gazettes - he is an object of admiration, not of interest - of respect rather than curiosity.

And now allow me to ask you what will seem a strange enquiry & one that I fear will produce nothing; ^{apparently} a trifle too; but, if cleared up, it might lead to important historical results. On the 29th June 1792 complaint was made in the Nat. As. that the Society of Jacobins had given a certificate of civisme to a galicien échappé. The fellow's name was, it seems, different, caught by the different reporters. The Moniteur calls him Perraud - ^{Proprietary of the} the Debats Terraud. Poudhomme's Revolutions N° 156. Desnos - no christian name is given, tho the Debats gives the contested certificate. I suspect Desnos or Dénat to have been the right name. Could the fact be ascertained? Perhaps it might, by consulting the many other reports that no doubt were given of the affair - but I ^{hope} ~~can~~ only ~~find~~ the three I have mentioned. The Debats give the dates of his conviction but I suppose the records of 1781 & 1788 are beyond the reach of a search. Yours affectionately James Walker