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## Alverbank Gosport, the 29th Dec.. 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.

8 Fichier(s)

### Les mots clés

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### Relations entre les lettres

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## Informations éditoriales

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Lieu de rédaction West Molesey (Angleterre)

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

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West Molesey, Surrey

29<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 55

Monsieur Ami - Let me begin in the old fashioned style of wishing you & yours health & happiness for the coming & for many future years. Except in that unfortunate business, into which our two countries have so rashly & so unjustly precipitated their armies, the past year has been a quiet & prosperous one to Europe, & except in the mourning which the loss of 100,000 gallant fellows has spread over France & England; and also except, prospectively, the misery which our extravagant & really foolish expenditure must eventually inflict upon us in taxes & loans & taxes again to pay for the loans. Nor do I see any end of the war - At least if English councils are to prevail; for our newspapers have (I know not why nor how) worked themselves up to pitch of arrogance - I might say frenzy, that no other opinion

opinion that Napoleon could make with  
any degree of honour would satisfy them,  
and they are now the governing power.  
Your Emperor, besides thinking of him-  
self, as all men do, also thinks for him-  
self, which perhaps no other sovereign  
in Europe is now in a condition to do;  
and, if he thinks it for his interest & his  
hold of France, to make peace, he may  
do it & be alone. I heartily pray that  
it may suit his domestic policy to  
make the experiment - as it is, if we  
have not an early peace, we must  
have a universal war, <sup>by</sup> which not  
only the smaller States, but our own  
proud England her self, <sup>with</sup> runs the risk  
of being, essentially if not vitally, endan-  
gered. After this Jeremiade on our  
<sup>political</sup> prospects let our two years  
retrospection back to a question of  
~~your~~ both literature and history which  
has just now revived itself in my  
curiosity

curiosity  
of it before  
amidst  
your great  
in 1830 (by  
"public's  
Mr. F. de M  
dante. Tom  
air of an  
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that have  
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could with  
or the mean  
of small an  
between  
really by  
his long d  
tical obje  
fact, not

curiosity & which if you have not thought  
of it before may excite yours.

Amidst the shower of memoires concerning  
your great revolution, there were published  
in 1930 (by Lacombe) in 2 vols. those of Bispe  
"public's par son fils, avec notes de par  
M. F. de Montreal" - Their names & the confi-  
dent tone of the editors give them an  
air of authenticity, but on re-reading  
them lately, I have seen many reasons  
to doubt it - I need not attempt to  
pick out the hundreds of circumstances  
that have excited my doubts, but I may  
mention the improbability that Bispe  
could either have had the will, or the time,  
or the means, of writing such a bulky patras  
of small anecdotes during the awful crisis  
between June & October 1793, when he was  
really lying in the protracted agonies of  
his long death - but besides ~~these~~ these <sup>cri-</sup> ~~cri-~~  
tical objections - there are some matters of  
fact, naturally more decisive. The writer

writer quotes literature & comments upon  
"La Correspondance de Louis XVI" which was  
not published (& Barbier says, not written)  
till after Louis <sup>and queen Brissot's</sup> XVI's death. In one place the  
fabricator attempts to obviate this ob-  
jection by saying that he, (Brissot) had  
seen the letter in the pieces of the King's  
trial - but that would not have enabled  
him to collect & quote: "..." the iden-  
tical words of the letters not printed for  
two years later. And this objection occurs  
throughout the whole 4<sup>th</sup> vol. Quite as  
decisive seems to me a ~~trifling~~ blun-  
der which Brissot could not have made.  
In treating of Mirabeau's death, he mis-  
takes Mirabeau's sister for an image =  
young brother, & instead of Madame de  
Saillant - he talks of a M. Mirabeau sail-  
lor. He <sup>had</sup> found Madame de  
Saillant's letter in the newspapers of  
the day in which she deplores "son frere"  
& mistaking the sea has built a folle  
on



I guess the same person who was afterwards  
Comte de Montalambert, French minister  
in Sweden & a pair de France. Can  
the present Montalambert be that son  
born in London in 1810. I find in the  
Biographies of your chamber that  
after the February debate, the Comte de  
Montalambert was a deputy in both the  
Republican <sup>as well as in the present one</sup> ~~assemblies~~ - but it states that  
he was born in Paris in 1812 - He may be  
a younger brother, but yet I know that  
my friend Montalambert was still li-  
ving in London in 1812 - so that I am at  
a loss as to the identity of our author.  
It will certainly not diminish the im-  
mense value of his work, that he has  
some of our blood and such good oppor-  
tunity for being acquainted with our  
institutions, but these circumstances  
would certainly make a great difference  
on the Continent as to the weight of his  
testimony. Now I throw myself on your  
intellectual friendship to let me know  
the exact state of the case that if I  
should assist Mirra's translator I  
may do so in pleine connaissance de  
cause. I need not assure that I ask &  
shall receive your information in secrecy  
and confidence - but in truth what I  
enquire

enquire of  
general  
In lo  
the other de  
graphiques  
you have, &  
this old ch  
to you or  
like to lan  
Vol Riden  
ble  
it  
so -  
me -  
I shall roll  
address it  
hand of  
Pray  
I want to be  
gratulate  
selves of the  
this odious  
Tell her I lo  
ble of Bonn  
sheet which  
have heard  
"tot-tot-rot"

P.S. I do not believe Barbier's story that  
Louis XVI's letters were forged by one Barbier.  
I do not doubt that some of the fragments



M. Guizot  
L'Éclair

SS

were & the celebrated letter to the Abbé &c;  
but the greater body of them were I think  
genuine - one would like to see mention  
that the remarks on the Manifesto were his.  
L'Éclair vous envoie?



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P.S. I was almost ashamed to ask  
you two more questions which will  
appear trifling

Duploy the carpenter, Robespierre's friend  
& host had three daughters. The more  
dite Concubina, Rob's Amie, another  
(married to Liban) who was living very  
palely & whose son was or is a member of  
the Institute & who both, I suppose, gave  
Lamarine his love-colored medallions  
of Robespierre. The third was married to  
a conventionalist whose name I can-  
not find. Can you tell me?

I wish also to know the real names  
of Louvet's wife whom he calls Lodovica.  
Both her name & that  
of the husband of the first Duploy  
have

have been so studiously omitted (if not concealed) that I am  
anxious to discover them. There  
must be thousands who know, but  
I cannot find them any where in  
print & I have certainly looked  
into 30,000 publications of those  
times without happen<sup>ing</sup> to light  
on that fact.

Al