

[Accueil](#)[Revenir à l'accueil](#)[Collection](#)[Les correspondances de François Guizot : 1806-1874](#)[Collection180_181_Correspondance entre Sarah Austin et François Guizot : 1840-1867](#)[Collection180_Lettres de Sarah Austin : 1840-1867](#)[ItemBlankenberghe, August 6, 1847, Sarah Austin à François Guizot](#)

Blankenberghe, August 6, 1847, Sarah Austin à François Guizot

Auteurs : Austin, Sarah (1793-1867)

Les folios

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

6 Fichier(s)

Les mots clés

[Conditions matérielles de la correspondance](#), [Femme \(de lettres\)](#), [France \(1804-1814, Empire\)](#), [France \(1830-1848, Monarchie de Juillet\)](#), [histoire](#), [Interculturalisme](#), [Ministère des affaires étrangères \(France\)](#), [Politique \(Allemagne\)](#), [Politique \(France\)](#), [Presse](#), [Travail intellectuel](#)

Relations entre les lettres

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Présentation

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

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Lieu de rédactionBruges (Belgique)

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Blaukenbergle via Bouges.
6th August - 1847.

Dear & most honoured Sir

I have been so long devoid from
you all that now - nothing less will content
me than writing to your self, your very
great, & much more good & dear, self.
This is possibly impudent - to make one's
short. coming a reason for claiming a parti-
cular indulgence; but it is a policy I have
seen answer - and, this is perhaps it may
satisfy you. But I need not be difficult about
that - if there is a human being on whose
exhausting kindness I rely, it is yourself.

My I have not written before to the dear
children is a long story. The birth of it is
a luckless article for the Ed. Rev^d - promised
& at length sent for the next number. I had
had this long in hand on in part - too long -
had got far too much material, & taken
too much pains, to that I rather think I have
spoiled it. I grow weary & discouraged, &
if I ever happen to fall short in my inter-
nal supply of hope & cheerfulness, I get more
from without. My nearest partner has not
even had enough for home consumption;
much less, to give to his neighbours. Another
had thought that the subject matter formed was
(Germany from 1830 to 1846)

into a sort of hostile attitude vis à vis
of France. Ah, now you are alarmed,
But let me dispel your fears - by saying
that it is Rome ^{basilic}, invading ^{into}
rooms ^{ergo} ~~admittable~~, as all ^{such} countries are
with which I have to do - the name of Napoleon
the more I read & think of that man, the more
execrable he appears to me & the more I am
persuaded that he did Rome more mischief
than one would think it possible for ^{a single} ~~one~~
man to do to so great a country. I speak
very boldly, for I don't know how it
you think of him - though I am sure
from necessary inference, not well.
On the other hand, everybody I suppose is
agreed that the thrashing of Germany was
"the making of her" to use an excellent vulgar
phrase. In order to force myself through
my task, I was obliged to determine &
half to vow that I would not write a
single letter except on business till I had
done. Yesterday my packet went for Bang.

I fear you are not even yet at dear Pél
Richer, under the arbutus tree, or sitting
by the most venerable Bonum Matrem
on her seat near the pond. I long to pay
you there. I almost wish I had taken my
chance of being swallowed up in a
quicksand, & gone to Dives - though indeed

it was
grandiose
sed me.
back in
but the
one thing
to think
the world
a great
add for
to say the
here who
as to be
their own
Glorious
The truth
great so
call it
German
but the
the people
German,
the cause
(what a
like") of the
state in
gracious
but you
take any
I feel that
They are

2
I was the ten hours of sea for child &
grandchild, & not the quinquend. That deter-
red me. This is a tolerable place, enough - a
reach without a pebble between this & Holland
but the Belgian Wissen does not please me
for this hand to be cosmopolitan, & not
to think oneself better than all the rest of
the world, but I have heard you say "If you
are in Rome or England", & if you
add Germany, I am afraid I shall be forced
to say the same. We have many great letters
here who seem to be afraid of nothing so much
as to be supposed to understand a word of
their own language - My efforts to speak
Dutch pass for a sort of insanity.
The truth is my philological soul finds
great solace here in the study (if I may
call it so) of this Netherlands between
German & English. It is very amusing;
but the language is like the people. Only
the people are a half-way between French &
German, &, unluckily, seem to me to combine
the coarseness of the latter with the impertinence
(what some call once called the "délire d'ign-
orance") of the former. The French are insubordi-
nate but, d'egal en egal, well behaved &
gracious: the Germans are more to be feared,
but give respect unto whom respect is due.
I see two of them newspapers - & no other.
They are - of course - extremely dis-
contented.

The loudest complaints are respecting the great
degenerating pauperism, - with which they
reproach the government! It is curious, but
undeniably to observe ~~how~~ every
country busied in solving the insoluble
problem - how to have a perfect govern-
ment in the midst of a very imperfect people.
that ~~these~~ ^{very} people, at the same time exercising
a powerful control over its ^{government} ~~flow~~ we all
turn round & round upon this, like ~~spins~~
in a cage! Perhaps by the time William
grandchildren are men, the world will be
tired. I heard from Lord Lansdowne two or
three days ago. That with Education & In-
dust, he says he never had so much to do
in any year of his life. So much the
better for us that he can do it. I think
he is the one man among us who wants
the energy that great ambition gives.
He says, we shall have a parliament of
railway kings - & now I pray you, what
can be worse than that? The dissipation
of money by a whole people. As L. Proudhon
says, we have no right to give ourselves
pharisaical airs. I must give you the
story of L. L. sends me. Mr. Hudson, the
railway queen, was shown a bust of
Marcus Aurelius at L. Westminster.

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on which she said, "I suppose that in
not the present Marquis" - To greater
this, you must know that the extreme
vulgar - (hackney coachmen &c) in Eng.
pronounce Marquis, very like Marcus.
I have got the last Edin. Revⁿ. Here is
a good little article on Stein & Hackney
Agrarian reforms - simple & to the point -
and a good long article on Penal
Colonies. I have rec^d. a curious & valuable
book on the Agrarian Verhältnisse of
Russia from the author, Reichen v. Hapthausen
It is a novelty to get anything dispassionate
about Russia - the theme of invective &
flattery. Andri's 'Nothgedrungenes Perichiton'
Leben is said to be very interesting
containing many very curious letters.
There is one great comfort in reading history,
especially that of the last ^{50 years} years. One sees
how many things were done that could
not be done now. - After all, that is the
true result - Summa summarum - of all
the, apparently, useless talk & turmoil.
Now I will stop; for this goes beyond
all bounds of convenience. Tomorrow
on Sunday we expect our dear children

They have been detained in London.
If I had not been so busy, I should
have been crazy with impatience.
I think in two or three weeks we shall
move on to Liège, & explore the Ardennes.
Shakespeare's 'Forest of Arden' in which
I have so often wished to live "under the
greenwood tree". So perhaps enter France by
Mezières. You ought to give me an opportunity
to see France for you. I am a very practical
seer - alas! too much so. Bruges is really
the pearl of cities. Nothing is ^{so} antique & so
fresh, so sketchy & so burgervlieh - in some
respects it beats Nürnberg, especially in Dean-
ship. How much more Rome.

But I put no more the publication of the
great heart of Europe. Paris is 1000 leagues
nearer to London - the map knows nothing
about the matter.

I shall ask my beloved Harriet to write
to me, having not the least pretension
in the world that you should, dear Sir.
I am sufficiently grateful if you take
in good part the monstrous delirium
of gossip. It is such a pleasure & such a
privilege to be allowed to tell you ^{with how}
much respect, gratitude & affection, I am
always yours
S. Austin -

My husband joins his most respectful
compliments to you