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West Molesey, 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.

8 Fichier(s)

Les mots clés

[Amis et relations](#), [Femme \(de lettres\)](#), [Politique \(Angleterre\)](#), [Réception \(Guizot\)](#), [Recommandation](#), [Lettre de](#)

Relations entre les lettres

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

Présentation

GenreCorrespondance

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(Thalim, CNRS-ENS-Sorbonne nouvelle)

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

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Informations éditoriales

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17

Wes 9

Dear Monsieur Guizot
You will not be
appointed at my sending
you a young lady's
letter to read. Though
you know what to think
of the full air one
breathes under domestication,
you will be curious
confirmations here.
The letter contains exal-
lent sense in excellent
English & is worthy of
Mr Wheaton's daughter.
Poor things! & poor Mr Wheaton

My husband has
expressed to me for
some days an earnest
desire to speak to you,
but as I foresee that
his shyness will prevent
him, I must.

We are afraid the
Stonewall demonstration
& banquet will make
a very prejudicial impres-
sion in England - even
among our best friends.
They do not understand
the state of parties &
opinions here, & will therefore

2
people who are not
only violent but opposed.
Do not think that we
will any thing done
to suppress it. The men
in whose honour it is given
are despicable. &
I presume to think the
motives that prompt
this demonstration are
not less so.

All I wish is, that
no one should be able
to bring your honoured
& beloved name into
the affair; that nobody

should be able to ima-
gine that you were
opposed a demonstration
merely because it was
hostile to England, &
encouraged the anarchists
who embarrass her
government. I well know,
Valer! how little that gov-
ernment deserves its
own hands - but the
people of England - it
is of their opinion I
think. You know how I
covet for you the honour
respect of the whole world,
& I think a few words

17 suite

3

of generous &
consistent protest would
win the best hearts in
England to you -
I do not understand
M. de Montalembert's
hatred of demagogues -
- ~~because~~ he has no
scruple in exploiting
fanaticism in favour
of the most frantic
demagogues the world
ever saw.

Pray forgive your
very faithful & affec-
tionate
S. Austin.

I shall very likely call
tomorrow morning.

17 bis

New York, 18th Dec. 1849

My Dear Mrs Austin,

I have intended to write you for some time past, as Fayat's occupations and various displacements have left him but little leisure for letter-writing since his return to this country, and we are most anxious not to lose sight of our European friends, nor to be forgotten by them. We have indeed so many reasons to regret having left Europe, that our thoughts turn with more pleasure to what we have left behind than to any thing around us.

Although Fayat's reception in this city was both kind and flattering, I doubt whether after so long a sojourn abroad he can ever again feel entirely at home here. He is at present at Cambridge, where he is to deliver a course of lectures on International Law, as there to not commence till March, he will be at his ease to go to Washington during the Session.

My sister will probably accompany him; in the meantime we are spending some weeks here at the house of a distant relation. I cannot say that we are much pleased with society here. The women here are seldom well educated; they leave school at the age of sixteen, and from that time their reading is confined to indifferent novels and worse poetry, and all rational conversation seems to be considered a bore. As young persons give the tone to society, you may readily imagine from what I have just said what it is. As to the equality, which in theory is the basis of every thing in this country, we are every day astonished to find how little it is practised in reality. You will hardly credit that a man whose whole life is spent in acquiring money, who has no leisure for reading or intellectual improvement and cannot even speak good English, is called a gentleman - while a Professor of the French language and

literature is not considered

One position is most generally exposed to a thousand importunities with regard to our feelings. Envy and parting with early friends, and are ever compelled to listen to the assertions without venturing to contradict them. I cannot conceive of any tyranny than that which consists of the privilege of ever exposing what one thinks, and receiving an increasing admiration of it about you, not because it is American.

is in Rhode Island with and although she had the pleasure of finding him in the preservation of his health and mental faculties at the age of 87, she is by no means disposed to return to this

any, any thing, literature is not considered end! —
depending on
a distant relation
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conversation. Some
young persons
are more readable
than just said
quality, while
every thing in
day established
practised in
mind that a
is spent in
has no leisure
actual improvement
good English,
while a
language and

The position is most painful; we are
exposed to a thousand impertinent questions
with regard to our feelings on leaving
Europe and parting with all our
early friends, and are constantly
compelled to listen to the most absurd
assertions without venturing to contra-
dict them. I cannot conceive any worse
byranny than that which deprives one
of the privilege of ever expressing freely
what one thinks, and we are
unceasing admiration of every thing
about you, not because it is good, but
because it is American.

Mamma
is in Rhode Island with her father,
and although she had the happiness
of finding him in the perfect enjoyment
of his health and mental faculties at the
age of 87, she is by no means averse
to his return to this country.

We look forward with great anxiety
to the arrival of the British steamers,
for nothing gives us so much pleasure
as the receipt of letters from Europe.
Mr. De Fieumont has written to us and
I hope will continue to do so, as we
value his friendship and remembrance
of us most highly. I trust, my
dear Mrs. Jackson, you will think of
us sometimes when you have a leisure
hour, for a letter from you would always
give us the greatest pleasure.
My sister desires to be very cordially remem-
bered to you. With our best wishes for
your health and happiness during
coming year, believe me, yours very
sincerely,

Abby Wheaton.

We were very much shocked at hearing
the death of St. Rufus; he was an old
and valued friend of my father's.

Please send a copy of your letter to Mr. De Fieumont.