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Weybridge, Nov. 23, 1857, 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.

4 Fichier(s)

Les mots clés

[Amis et relations](#), [Correspondance](#), [Femme \(de lettres\)](#), [France \(1804-1814, Empire\)](#), [France \(1852-1870, Second Empire\)](#), [Presse](#), [Publication](#), [Réception \(Guizot\)](#), [Travail intellectuel](#)

Relations entre les lettres

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

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Date1857-11-23

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Lieu de rédactionWeybridge (Angleterre)

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23/

Weybridge

Nov. 23^d

1857.

Dear Sir & Friend

The little wrap I have cut out of the Athenaeum is hardly worthy of your notice, & an homage ^{quite} too trifling to be laid at your feet. Yet it struck me, when I read it, as having a certain value - for two reasons. It is the work of some one whom ~~probably~~ you may know, & it is found in a journal of a very democratic inclination. It may therefore pass for a fair expression of the popular sentiment - the sentiment of those who neither love your person, nor share your opinions. What they feel, ^{who do} I have some tolerably measure of, within. Do not think that we imagine for a moment that the impotent malice of a coxcomb without honour, sense, or the most ordinary discretion can in the slightest degree wound, any more than it can injure you. It is for ourselves we blush. The bare thought that England has been represented by such a man fills one with burning shame. St. Pierre writes that L. Claretton & others of his "friends" are indignant - & so on - Let his view. But why

in they appoint such a man to send
a book to be used to write in one copy
of the same, & the first two persons
to be made, indignation will not deliver
them from their share of the disgrace.
It will be assumed - perhaps a little
hesitant to hear that my husband will not
open a book. He is afraid of being
blamed for the mauvais sang of the first
page not opened it yet - I doubt if I shall
perhaps feminine curiosity will be too
strong for me - perhaps not.

In all events, I have to thank this
person for breaking the sort of spleen
under which I have lain so long like
a person with the nightmare, tormented
with the thought every day wishing to
write to you, & with myself that I
did not write yet yielding to the impulse
which would be upon my
mind & grow stronger & more invincible.
I am left. I went, as usual, to
work & dawdled away a month there,
glad of rest, after the hard work (for me)
I had been doing - besides my usual
work I had done several little things
& corrected the proofs of two friends' books - no slight sacrifice to friendship.
I had the great pleasure of inducing
Lord Haughston to spend some days in
the little fishing village, & of seeing him
revive in the fine air & enjoy humble
pleasures with all the freshness of youth.

We had many long & pleasant
aspects of the tenderness of
appear to me gloomy. He is
to me, but I struggle against
This appeared charming
with Simon, especially at
Lew, keep alive the cause of
humanity - you are always
gent. From Cromer I went to
Hydon Gurney for 50 years
friend of Lord Aberdeen. He
began at Paris in 1802, & is
that what Hudson Gurney
on earth is a Aberdeen. He
curious incidents of past
time. Some French balls &
parties & all the strange
society. He is 83 & shows
of animation & curiosity
one of the hopeful. But is
given to all. I made some
at Trinity Lodge & found
Master only removed
spirit which has found
our universities by other
qualified as zeal for
there is, here & elsewhere,
how much of each, others
I confess the prevalent
submitting all sorts of
judgment of masses, &
all its forms mischievous
enough. But the country must

I wonder if H. Neve will send you
a little brochure containing 4 letters
from my cousin Meadows Taylor
deputy Commis^r of the ceded districts
in the Deccan. They were written to him
without the least view to publication
nor are they published - only printed.
If I mistake not, they will give you
a high opinion of the writer, & a deeper
insight into this terrible mystery than
any thing you have seen yet. Meadows
has been in India from his boyhood,
& is well acquainted with the natives, &
several of the languages, & took an active
share in the suppression of Thuggee. On
the whole, his view is rather cheering
than otherwise. He regards this as the
death struggle of "savagery" against civi-
lization, wh^{ch} he says "is pressing hard on
Hinduism". This, the general & fundamental
cause of revolt, has been aided by much
mismanagement & misconduct on our
part. But the fact remains that the people
have shown little sympathy with the
Britishers. A most striking proof of the
progress of civilization is the transfor-
mation of the warlike & predatory Marhattas
into a peaceful industrious agricultural
people, & their princes into our firmest
allies. But thousands of curious & intri-
cate questions, scarcely intelligible to Euro-
peans, remain to be sifted & discussed
before any clear insight can be obtained.