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Londres, The 1st of Nov. 1863, 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.

3 Fichier(s)

Les mots clés

[Amis et relations](#), [Correspondance](#), [Deuil](#), [Femme \(de lettres\)](#), [Femme \(santé\)](#), [France \(1852-1870, Second Empire\)](#), [Tristesse](#), [Voyage](#)

Relations entre les lettres

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

Présentation

Date1863-11-01

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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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London 1st Nov^r

1863

Dear Monsieur Guizot

It is no small addition to one's own sorrows to feel that one is become a source of pain to one's best friends. How strongly I felt this when I read your last letter! The true & warm sympathy (where else shall I look for sympathy so true & so warm) the more distressing it must be to you to think of sorrows for which you must be sensible you could offer no consolation that a wounded & wearied spirit could find efficacious. To the blow coming from the hand of God, however heavy one may resign oneself. But ceaseless anxiety, doubt, suspense, ceaseless alternations of hope & fear, changes of mood & of plan, — oh! who can express the weariness of soul that follows them? No well might you exhort the body

was exhausted with toil
& hard work, not to feel fatigue,
as the mind beaten by such strains
to preserve its serenity & its confidence.
I know you have felt this for
your poor friend, & have not expected
from her superhuman fortitude.
He now ~~sees~~ ^{sees} eager and I to make
you "a partaker in my joy" if joy
be not too strong a word for the
comparative relief from tacking
surgically afforded by my dear daughter
Her last letters. He arrived at
Alexandria on the 17th ult. & ~~last~~
writes that the more ^{say} ~~say~~ ^{say} one
so much altered for the better as
his mother is. He herself writes
in very good spirits. She had written
to me, not depressed, but evidently
under the impression of her great
danger, from Marseilles. He told
me that she had coughed up a hard
lobelium which he supposed to
be tubercle, & to justify the worst
view of her disease. And she
added some words intended to
justify & console me - but ~~which~~

peace & tender & unselfish as
they were, had, as you may im-
agine, a direct & contrary effect.
I was crushed at once the hopes
which her comfortable state at
Bourges had during the 6 weeks
we were together had excited in
my mind. Simultaneously, wrote to the
physician here (who saw her last)
& received from him the assurance
that this symptom was the best
that could present itself - that
there were tubercles, had alas.
long been evident, & that this expec-
tation proved that the process
of 'crystallization' (nature's effort
to effect the diseased matter & so
to effect a cure) had set in &
afforded the best hopes of final
recovery. This view of the case
is quite confirmed by Dr. Mussy
who has written to her to that
effect. So, dear Monsieur Guizot
I send you your share of this
gleam of happiness - faint & distant
but yet enough to sustain a
sinking spirit. All the physicians

concur in the strongest injunction
on her to remain in Egypt through
this winter & another. My only
chance of seeing her again is then
fore not great; but if I can
hope that she will be restored
to her husband & children,
I shall leave the world in peace.
The prospect of a solitary old age &
a deathbed uncheered by her presence
is not very enviable; but anything
is more tolerable than losing her.

Her letters are wonderful for
originality & interest. He has found
her way into the hearts of the nation,
& her return among them with tears
of joy, & proofs of fidelity, rare in any
country. I am now busy making
a selection from her letters which
will be printed. She tells many
things which Europeans ought to
hear, but which few will tell. They
are not acceptable to the arrogance
of conscious superiority.
Unfortunately, I read for some weeks
been suffering from weak & inflamed
eyes - but for which I should have