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London, 20 March 1841, Thomas Carlyle à François Guizot

Auteurs : Carlyle, Thomas (1795-1881)

Les folios

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

3 Fichier(s)

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Relations entre les lettres

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Présentation

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

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Informations éditoriales

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Notice créée par [Richard Walter](#) Notice créée le 19/02/2025 Dernière modification le 02/04/2025

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5. Cheyne Row, Chelsea, London

20 March, 1841-

Dear Sir,

May I without impertinence, among the many great things which now occupy you, venture to recall the faint impression you may have of me, in favour of an altogether private interest, - that of two unfortunate young Italians, neighbours of mine, to whom in their remote position here it has become incumbent that the French Government have evidence about them which it can credit. I will trespass on your humanity so far.

The Brothers Giovanni and Augustino Ruffini, young Genoese men, of good family, of honourable character, talent, accomplishment, and one of the best prospects in their own country, were connected long ago in a mission which they call Giovane Italia; of which I know

Political Exiles. Their Mother, an aged lady, in extremely infirm health, has become a widow since they were parted from her, and has lost all her family but these two. She would fain see them once more before she dies. She is entirely unequal to a journey into England; she has property and connections not far from Nice, and could meet her unfortunate sons, and spend some time amidst them this summer, in the South of France. They now address to M. Duchâtel Ministre de l'Intérieur a Petition for leave to gratify her in this. Their statement once credited, how can their request be refused? All turns on the getting quit credited. If the announcement of my clear belief could produce belief in you, a word of yours to your honourable Colleague would accomplish the desired result.

I have known these Ruffinis personally for some two years, and can testify that they are men of integrity, veracity, of honourable principles and conduct; I have no doubt whatever that the statement they have made to M. Duchâtel, and the object they assign for their visit to your country, are altogether true and the whole truth.

I can say further, what indeed is most of all important for them, that, by personal converse and direct insight into their ways of thought, I judge these young men to have altogether quitted their political activities and notions; all idea of political activity. Their Giovane Italia, I do believe, has become for them a dream of youth; and any future activity of theirs is likely to be ^{be} unavailing for themselves, and less offensive to

Official men. In requesting leave to be, the natural of the east. This over justice, is

With me all learnable in that the work

S. Cheyne Row,

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official men. In a word, I have the full conviction that their object in requesting leave to visit France is verily and altogether what they state it to be, the natural desire to meet their aged solitary Mother once again in the east. This is the case of the Kuffins; which I now leave to your justice, to your humane feelings.

With many apologies; with many wishes, in which I suppose all learnable Englishmen and reasonable Frenchmen must participate, that the work you are engaged in may prosper,

I have the honour to be

Always your most obed^t

Thomas Carlyle

5. Cheyne Row, Chelsea, London

20 March, 1841 -

