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REFERENCE: DD/348/1-14; see also DD/341, 343
PROVENANCE: Photocopies of originals purchased at Sotheby's by the
Baldur Bookshop, 44 Hill Rise, Richmond, Surrey, and
offered for sale 25 June 1972



Jane and May Morris, letters to Sydney Cockerell. Hammersmith Public Library

<u>Ref.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
DD/348/ 1	1 Dec. 1896	Letter Jane Morris to Sydney Cockerell Pleased to hear of his holiday out of England. He can hear all news from Jenny. They are doing little at present.
2	6 Jan. 1897	Letter Jane Morris to Mr. [Sydney] Cockerell Thanks him for concise statement of her finances. Is writing to Mr. Smith about apprenticeship arrangement for John. Walter can help in the house until she returns, but must look for employment. John will stay at Kilmecott House until earning enough to keep himself. She promised this, before leaving England, to John's aunt who is to be shown this letter. Is feeble after rheumatism. Asks for 'the Chaucer drawings' to remain until she returns. Had talked to Mr. Walker about 'giving them up'. It seems hard that 'having been paid for twice over' they should not belong to her. Could perhaps give Mr. C. Smith 'something else he would value as such, and I should miss less' Glad to hear of the print- ing of 'Sigurd'. Asks how 'E[arthly] P[aradise]' is progressing. Returns all papers signed as directed. Asks him to acquaint the Burne-Joneses and Mr. Webb of her condition

Ref.DateDescription

ND/348/

3

13 Aug. 1897

Letter

Jane Morris, Kelmscott Manor
to

Mr. [Sydney] Cockerell

All right to give away 'odd volumes', but not to let the stairs-boards go. 'The goods' are to come by rail. Does Mr. Morris know the distance from Lechlade? Has talked to Mr. Hobbs about founding 'a sort of club-village reading room', but there seems little chance of success. Cockerell is therefore to dispose of the lecture-hall piano. New syringe has turned out badly - particularly wants 'the Ham[sworth] one. Hopes 'the Bart:' will return 'those doors' varnished only.

Note subscribed [by Sydney Cockerell]:

'Walter borrowed gardener's own'

4

24 Sept. 1897

Letter

Jane Morris, Kelmscott Manor
to

Mr. [Sydney] Cockerell

Returns signed form for post-master. Asks him to make sure that 'Walter' disposes of an empty cider-cask before new tenants come in. Has had no patterns of bindings yet from Mr. Leighton

5

15 Oct. 1898

Letter

Jane Morris, Kelmscott Manor
to

Mr. [Sydney] Cockerell

Thanks him for letter and cheques received that morning, and again for the 'very successful winding-up of the K[elmscott] Press'. Is willing finally to leave 'her copies' to the British Museum, 'if not handled constantly'. Is expecting Mr. Fletcher on Monday next to arrange about 'the bit of land'. Is to leave the following week. Will see to the 'private ledgers' being placed in safety when they arrive

Ref.

DD/346/

6

Date

23 Feb. 1899

Description

Letter

Jane Morris, Quetham House, Igms Regis
to

Mr. [Sydney] Cockerell

Thanks for his letter. Had strongly objected to 'the illness being mentioned at all' but had consented after reflection. Would have refused if she had believed 'that Jenny herself would mind'. Now as 'you all think there is a chance of her being vexed', has written to J[ohn] W[illiam] M[ackail] to cancel 'the sheet' if printed and say less about the illness. Encloses letter from Mr. Marillier. Asks for advice in answering 'what he says about the portrait'. Does not mind it being engraved if it is well done. Received recently a photograph of 'the picture sent from Hollyers'. Does not know who caused it to be sent. Expects to be in town the week after next. Enquires about 'Judith's official title'. Do 'they' still have letters sent to the Continental? Has written no letters for weeks except 'absolutely necessary' notes

7

16 Dec. 1912

Letter

Mey Morris, 8 Hamersmith Terr. London, W.
to

Sydney [Cockerell]

Compton Rickett has found 3 or 4 letters from her father to Phil[ip] B[urne]-J[ones] 'which Mackail didn't have', and sent them to her for permission to use in a book on Morris. She 'impounded the important one' and wrote to Burne-Jones for permission to use it. (Encloses ensuing correspondence, described.) Is surprised that Mackail did not use the letter. Does not see why 'any little whipper-snapper of a University Extension Lecturer with adenoids' [Compton Rickett] should use it - he cannot without

Cokerell's permission. 'You see Phil[ip Burne-Jones] says one thing to me and another to Jenkyns'. Thinks it best to keep silent herself and asks Cokerell to do the job. Walker suggests the Trustees allow Compton Rickett to publish a summary of the letter, which she will print in full. Is getting over a chill

8

10 Sep. 1913

Letter

Jane, 'Mrs. William' Morris, Kelmscott Manor, Lechlade
to
Sydney [Cokerell]

Will be pleased to see him any day next week to 'discuss all the business together'. May will be there. 'There are rumours that the Hobbs' affairs are not quite flourishing'. 'Obviously Mr. Hobbs is trying to secure as much as possible without delay'

9

9 Jan. 1931

Letter

May Morris, Kelmscott Manor, Lechlade,
co. Glouc.
to
Sydney [Cokerell]

Mr. Pollard had written 'a good while ago' about a suggestion that the Kelmscott Chaucer should be 'reproduced on a greatly reduced scale and published at a price within the means of ordinary book lovers'. Knew that 'you and Walker' would be doubtful about it. The matter has arisen again - Walker thinks 'it might be discussed'. Invites Cokerell to dinner at Walker's on Jan. 21st. Will ask Mr. Pollard as well. Would have suggested meeting 'at No. 7 after dinner, on Dorothy's account, but she insists that a simple dinner won't worry her'. Asks him to send a picture post-card to Jenny [Morris] at Coombe Cottage, Plainsfield, Bridgewater, Somerset for the

<u>Ref.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
DD/348/ 9 (continued)		17th, her birthday - 'she is much more herself in some way'
10	7 July 1934	<p>Letter</p> <p>May Morris, Kelmscott Manor, Lechlade, co. Glouc.</p> <p>to</p> <p>Sydney [Cockerell]</p> <p>About Professor Baum: is not aware of any unpublished scraps of her father's that she would wish to have published, beyond the few things included in her 'unfortunate two volumes'. 'If there were anything good, we would certainly not allow a stranger the publication of it'</p>
11	23 July 1936	<p>Letter</p> <p>May Morris, Chilly Bridge, Dalverton, co. Som.</p> <p>to</p> <p>Sydney [Cockerell]</p> <p>Thanks him for his letter. Will send him more of 'those K[elmscott] P[ress] proofs' to give away when she returns home. The 'two American ladies' were charming - she took them round the house herself. Is settled in 'a charming field beside the Exe'. (Convenience of the place, food and weather described). Thanks him for 'Theo's paper'. Particularly likes the little she has read of his.</p>
12	9 Mar. 1938	<p>Letter</p> <p>May Morris, Kelmscott Manor, Lechlade</p> <p>to</p> <p>Sydney Cockerell</p> <p>Mentions 'a volume of memories' by 'my... neighbour Mary de Navarro' which speaks of Morris's wish during his last illness to die in Broadway Tower. Asks what the basis of the assertion is. Does not think what</p>

Ref.DateDescription

ED/348/

12 (continued)

is said in a 'chatty book' important, but wishes to know what to say if the matter is mentioned. R.A.F. planes are making Kelmscott 'a nightmare of noise'

13

15 Mar. 1938

Letter

M[ay] M[orris], Kelmscott Manor, Lechlade,
co. Glouc.

to

Sydney [Cockerell]

Thanks him for letter. Does not know what gave rise to Madame de Navarre's 'story about my father'. It could not have come from anything she had said about 'our few days' visit to the Tower'. Thames Conservancy is rearranging Hart's Weir and have put up a 'perfectly horrible bridge' (illustrated). Had written the previous summer asking them to 'consider the tradition and charm of the place', and received a reply. All 'living in a nightmare now'. The Government are 'obviously going to make us pay "willingly" for their long - drawn out blunders'.

14

11 May 1938

Letter

M[ay] M[orris], Kelmscott Manor, Lechlade,
co. Glouc.

to

Sydney [Cockerell]

Finds that the letters Humphrey Milford wants to use were written to Theodore Watts 'on the matter of the break-up of the Firm'. Fairfax Murray had told her about it 'in quite late years', and that it was principally B[Edward] B[urne]-J[ones] who 'wanted to clear out'. Had believed in the 'Morris-Burne Jones friendship being perfect on both sides', and was shocked to hear the facts, but realised that Morris would not want gossip-mongers 'to pick up anything in the future'

Ref.

Date

Description

DD/348/

14 (continued)

so always took care to write nothing
contrary to Mikhail's statements. Does he
think the letter of August 20th is likely
to arouse any curiosity? Depends 'on what
Janett Camp Traxell herself writes'.
Will pass the letters if he thinks it
does not matter