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ACCESSION NUMBER: 230

REFERENCE: DD/230/1

PROVENANCE:

Ref.

DD/230/

1

ND [pre-1896]

Letter

[Edward] Burne-Jones, The Grange,
West Kensington

to

Mr. Haines

Asks for date of meeting to be postponed until after he has returned from seaside. Suggests Haines should contact [William] Morris since Morris makes all Burne-Jones' designs into stained-glass windows at Merton Abbey Works, Wimbledon, and that Morris should visit the church, see the space and give an estimate. Invites Haines and 'Miss Louther' to meet him to arrange a subject

* Afterwards sold to Mr Sanford h Berger
of California.

ACCESSION NUMBER: 235

SHORT TITLE: Photo-reproductions of letters and papers relating
to the firms of Morris, Marshall, Faulkener & Co.,
and Morris & Co., 1862-98

REFERENCE: DD/235/1-29, see also DD/90, 230, 277/13, 341, 343, 348

PROVENANCE: Originals in the possession of Mrs. P. A. Dearle, * 360
displayed in the Commemorative Exhibition to 377
Sir Edward Burne-Jones at Fulham Library,
21 October - 11 November 1967

The firm of Morris, Marshall, Faulkener & Co. was founded in 1862 to give concrete expression to the artistic aims of William Morris and others involved in the Pre-Raphaelite movement. It was dissolved in 1874 and replaced by the firm of Morris & Co. The two firms produced furnishings of many kinds but were perhaps most famous for their stained-glass windows, many of which were designed by Sir Edward Burne-Jones. The designs were executed at the Merton Abbey Works by J. H. Dearle. The letters from Morris and from Burne-Jones, who after Morris's death had to take more part in the supervision of the work, to Dearle are therefore working notes, often written in haste and containing only allusive references to work in hand. Most of the letters are undated and it has therefore been necessary to date them from internal evidence. Reference books consulted include: M. Bell, Sir Edward Burne-Jones, 1898, hereafter cited as Bell, and G. Burne-Jones, Memorials of Sir Edward Burne-Jones, 2 vols., 1904, hereafter cited as Memorials. Bell, Appendix III, lists cartoons for stained-glass windows, with the location of the windows, for the years 1857-93, but after 1893 gives only the number of windows in each church. Bell's list, however, only cites the first occasion on which a cartoon was used. As many designs were in fact executed more than once, dating by Bell's list is not wholly reliable. The help of the staff of Birmingham City Museum and Art Gallery, who provided information from Burne-Jones' Accounts, hereafter cited as ACC, the Revised Glass Cartoon Index, hereafter cited as RGCI, and Case Book, hereafter cited as CB, is gratefully acknowledged.

Four letters which have been impossible to date and which could not easily be summarised have been transcribed in full in an Appendix.

<u>Ref.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
DD/235/ 1	Dec. 1862 - Nov. 1874	Minute book of the firm of Morris, Marshall, Faulkener & Co.
2	ND	Letter D[ante] G[abriel] Rossetti to [William] Morris

<u>Ref.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
DD/235/ 2 (continued)		Has that day (Sunday) received the minutes and note from Q[ueen] Square; has no objection to the method of appointing assessors and will not attend meeting on 4th Endorsed in different hand
3	6 May 1894	Letter William Morris, Kelmscott House, Upper Mall, Hammersmith to J. H. Dearle Refers to Burne-Jones' preference for the 'Adoration of the Lamb' rather than 'Majesty with Apostles' for a window. Estimates for both to be sent to Mr. Jackson, whom Morris has advised to accept Burne-Jones' preference
4	12 July 1894	Letter Correspondents as above Leaves a decision over a design to Dearle, but states his own preference for 'the two together' and for a border
5	10 Jan. 1896	Letter Correspondents as above Invitation to dine at the 'Blue Posts', Cork St.
6	18 Apr. --	Letter Correspondents as above Asks Dearle to make corrections to a 'paper' and fill up ground so that Morris can 'put in the lacking places, do the detail and make a first draught of the colour.'

<u>Ref.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
DD/235/ 7	11 July --	Letter Correspondents as above Asks Dearle to call to explain what correction is necessary to an [un-named] 'paper-hanging'
8	ND [Christmas 1887]	Document written by Edward Burne-Jones stating his grievances against 'the firm'; from an envelope marked 'Extracts from Burne-Jones' account books' Complains that his recent designs of 'St. Michael', 'St. George', 'Peace' and 'Justice' are to be used for a window in Berlin; that his payments for these, for 2 cartoons for the windows of St. Phillip's church, Birmingham, for 'Christ blessing children' for Naworth [Cumberland], for a 'Visiting the sick' and for 'Christ entering Jerusalem' for Marshall and Snellgrove, are inadequate, and states that his charges will in future be in guineas
9	ND [pre-Sep. 1892]	Letter E[dward] Burne-Jones, The Grange, 49 North End Rd., W. Kensington to J. H. Dearle Refuses to allow a design for window in Hillhead church to be entered in a competition but agrees to send a rough scheme to show the sort of composition intended, although he cannot promise that it would not be altered during execution. (Hillhead [Glasgow] window erected 1893; <u>The Builder</u> , lxiv. 465; lxv. 344; payment for it received Sep. 1892, ACC)

<u>Ref.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
DD/235/ 10	ND [1895-6]	<p>Letter</p> <p>Correspondents as above</p> <p>Denies that his recent talk to Dearle was meant as a criticism; suggests that the misunderstanding was because he expressed himself hurriedly due to anxiety about [William] Morris who was present, and explains that he had asked Dearle to come because he feared Morris might not be well enough to travel to Merton [Abbey Works]. Repeats that, as he has often told Morris, there is still a defect in the execution of 'the line and touch', but it is not Dearle's fault. (Morris was ill from 1895 until his death on 3 Oct. 1896; <u>Memorials</u>, ii. 268-288 <u>passim</u>)</p>
11	ND [Oct. 1896]	<p>Letter</p> <p>Correspondents as above</p> <p>Has tinted the 5 cartoons, which Dearle can now have; the tints are not guidance for the final colours. Has doubts about 'Fortitude' but if her military symbols are left out she looks too like 'Patience'. Her 'flowery earth' can be omitted if it conflicts with 'Charity'. ('Fortitude' and 'Charity' were made for St. Cuthbert's, Newcastle, 1896; ACC, RGCI and CB; the 2 un-named cartoons are presumably the 2 'David subjects', also for St. Cuthbert's, on which Burne-Jones worked after the death of William Morris, <u>Memorials</u>, ii. 289)</p>

<u>Ref.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
DD/235/ 12	ND [Oct. - Nov. 1896]	Letter Correspondents as above Finds the colour scheme for the [un-named] window satisfactory, but wants to discuss the colour of nimbuses for future windows. especially the 'Judgement' at Birmingham which will be ready in about a fortnight. Thinks that he was going to charge £30 each for the 2 'David subjects' and £20 each for the other 3. (The 3 un-named designs costing £20 were presumably those referred to in DD/235/11)
13	ND [Oct. - Nov. 1896]	Letter Correspondents as above; headed Sunday evening Has finished [design for] the Birmingham window but wants to discuss some points about it. (<u>Memorials</u> , ii. 289)
14	ND [Autumn 1897]	Letter Correspondents as above Wishes photographs to be taken of the designs for the Rottingdean windows before they are executed, to be shown to the bishop. Has designed the Hawarden [Flintshire] window and wishes Dearle to do 'the business part of it' when the design is returned. (<u>Memorials</u> , ii. 317)
15	ND [1897]	Letter Correspondents as above Asks to see the Rottingdean window before it is sent away, and asks Dearle to come to look at the 'Stanmore work'

<u>Ref.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
DD/235/ 16	ND [pre-1898]	<p>Letter</p> <p>Correspondents as above; address of Burne-Jones not given</p> <p>When he has returned to town (in late August) he wants Mr. Hollyer [Frederick Hollyer, Kensington photographer] to photograph his stained-glass cartoons, and asks Dearle to send those at Merton Abbey. (This letter seems to be earlier than DD/235/17)</p>
17	ND [1897-8]	<p>Letter</p> <p>Correspondents as above; address of Burne-Jones, Rottingdean, Nr. Brighton</p> <p>When he has returned to town (in September) he wants Mr. Hollyer to take fresh photographs to provide a collection of all that he has done that is worth recording. Has written to Hawarden but has not yet received a reply. (Window at Hawarden designed 1897-8, <u>Memorials</u>, ii. 317, 338)</p>
18	ND [1897]	<p>Letter</p> <p>Correspondents as above; address of Burne-Jones, The Grange, 49 North End Rd., W. Kensington</p> <p>His design for the Hawarden window is accepted and will be returned immediately; suggests that they should discuss the possibility of making the window more quickly than usual since it is a gift to Mr. Gladstone from his children</p>

<u>Ref.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
DD/235/ 19	ND [1897-8]	Letter Correspondents as above; headed Monday Asks Dearle to call to discuss Hawarden window
20	ND [Feb. - Mar. 1898]	Letter Correspondents as above; address of Burne-Jones not given Wishes to see Dearle before they settle about the Bothwell window; sympathises with his illness and suggests it is the influenza which has afflicted himself for the last 6 weeks. Has no objection to the [un-named] gentleman keeping the cartoons but feels the window is unfitted for an 'Ascension'. (<u>Memorials</u> , ii. 325, 329-30 mentions Burne-Jones' influenza)
21	ND [Mar. 1898]	Letter E[dward] Burne-Jones, The Grange, 49 North End Road, W. Kensington to Un-named correspondent Feels that to hasten work on the Hawarden window he should inspect it in instalments but asks if it will all be available by Friday. Is making a drawing for the Bothwell [Glasgow] church window
22	ND [1897-8]	Letter E[dward] Burne-Jones, The Grange, 49 North End Rd., W. Kensington to J. H. Dearle

<u>Ref.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
DD/235/ 22 (continued)		Is pleased with the [Hawarden] window; one of the topmost angels is overshadowed; feels that the musical instruments should be a subtle 'purply-brown' colour with the near nimbuses in the same shade but paler; other colours not suitable because present elsewhere. Asks Dearle to inform the minister when the window approaches completion and to arrange for setting it up; repeats the urgency of the matter
23	ND [May - June 1898]	Letter Correspondents as above Knows nothing of 'Mr. Wunderlich'; feels that any reproduction must be inspected by himself before it is allowed to be published. Wishes the window [Hawarden] had been set up in time. Asks Dearle to make the usual estimate for the designs for 'The Orkneys' and add about £30 for the actual designs. (Gladstone died 19 May 1898, <u>Memorials</u> , ii. 341, and Burne-Jones died 16 June 1898)
24	ND [1898]	Letter Correspondents as above; address of Burne-Jones, Rottingdean, Nr. Brighton; headed Sunday Sends scheme for new window, another Nativity, with notes for the committee on the reasons for the subject chosen. Asks Dearle to fill up the tracery with blots of colour, preferably with foliage since it is unsuited for angels, and to make a fresh transcript if the original seems too 'blotty'. Has also started

<u>Ref.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
DD/235/ 24 (continued)		the 'Tapestry design'. (The Nativity is probably the design for the Orkneys referred to in DD/235/23. Burne-Jones began a tapestry design, 'The Passing of Venus', at Rottingdean in 1898; <u>Memorials</u> , ii. 331)
25 - 28	ND	See Appendix
29	30 June 1898	Letter P[hilip] Burne-Jones, The Grange, 49 North End Rd., W. Kensington to J. H. Dearle Is withholding from the sale of his father's works the tapestry design on which his father was working until within a short time of his death, in the hope that Dearle will make the tapestry from it. If this cannot be done the design can be sold

Appendix

Note: The haphazard punctuation of the letters has been replaced where necessary by standard forms. (DD/235/26-28 may refer to the designs for the Bothwell windows made in 1898, (see DD/235/20-21)).

DD/235/

25 Addressed from The Grange, 49 North End Rd., W. Kensington

Dear Mr. Dearle,

I'm very glad - we'll make a fine window of it and that shall content us. I'll start it at once, as soon as I have the right scale (brown paper is best).

Yours sincerely,

E.B.-J.

26 Address as above

Dear Mr. Dearle,

I have found the tracing - and the colour scheme is quite right - the tracery will come well treated in the way - blue wings - red 'nimbuses' - white dresses.

In short keep to this colour and the cartoon will be ready for you on Monday. In the afternoon of Monday I will try and get out to you about 4 or 5. If I fail on Monday then it will be Tuesday, same time.

Yours tr[ul]ly,

E.B.-J.

27 Address as above; headed Thursday

Dear Mr. Dearle,

I enclose letter for you to answer, please. Can you come over Tomorrow at about one to consult about the windows - I have difficulty in understanding what the subjects are meant for.

Yours truly,

E.B.-J.

28 Address as above; headed Saturday

Dear Mr. Dearle,

£200 [marked with a tick] that would be £50 a panel - the tracery we will consider afterward - I would make no separate charge for that - we must have angels by thousands that could be used.

Appendix, continued

DD/235/

28 (continued)

But if the Client wants to keep the drawings I should
finish them on [white, more] presentably.

Yours tr[ul]y

E.B.-J.