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A.C. letters to

G. J. Yerkes

1928-47

I 10

1. A.C. to G.J.Y. 1928 to 1947. (Originals in possession of G.J.Y.) 157

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This or originals are at the Warburg Institute
They were copied circa 1951. Inked notes added 1979
and penwriting done by John Symonds 9

Letters 287, 8, 9 on pp 141-3
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to the Book of the Law and my
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His 71st year A.C. 666 and Uncle Tom Cobley
and all!

Letters 287-300 are generally good &
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1928 for opms

1928 73 pages 157. I 10.1
A.C. to G.J.Y. Undated (?28)

Fontainebleau

Was stopped as I left the house yesterday by a rather enthusiastic note from Holroyd Reece. So I stayed put and called him up and arranged a date before he leaves for U.S.A., so I hope to bring off a decisive victory next week. That's why I want not to complicate matters, or have you compromise possible deals.

It's glorious here, very fine and freezing hard. I'm praying for a 15 mile walk to-morrow. Back in Paris Monday. Regardie's news doubtful. I can't make out whether it will be wise to swap horses (c f flats) while proofs are pending.

I write a contre-coeur be sure! Nothing would please me more than to spend next month or two in these woods. But it's over two hours to get to Paris and what one saved on the swings one would lose on the roundabouts. Also, of course, one might as well be dead, from the point of view of possible business.

--- 2
A.C. to G.J.Y. Hotel Foyot.

Notes for Essay on the Difficulty of Crossing the Street

1. I get stuff from Pitt and Scott at once
2. I can open all but one trunk—the only one with MSS in it.
3. I had all my other keys with me. This one—having forgotten what it was—I deliberately left behind in Fontainebleau
4. I hear this A.M. from F'bleau "What is this key you have left?"
5. I write back: Bring the key to-morrow when you come up.
6. I learn to-night "Oh I'm not coming to-morrow: the dentist's changed the date".

P.S. However—bar another set of accidents you'll get the Astrology at least by Monday.

--- 3
A.C. to G.J.Y. Hotel Foyot.

Your wire just in. The concierge is forwarding the first of the 3 parcels. (It is quite beyond the limits of my poor intelligence—e.g. a colis postal has no part in the Post Office intrigues—I can't describe them as transactions. I can't 'insure' the packages: I can only have a valeur déclarée. There must be starred paper and special seals. It sounds like the Lambs' Book of Life.

I enclose the latest note from the Amexco about other things in storage. You being a man of business might be able to arrange this directly—as I suggested might be desirable. I think it would save us both trouble in the long run, if you could. In any case it might take months for the stuff to arrive— I know 'em and what is F.P.A.???? ask me rather to give a list of the Kings of Israel and Judah

--- 4
A.C. to G.J.Y. Hotel Foyot Paris 17 Jan 28

I didn't mean to press you to worry the Amexco: sorry if it's a strain. But I think it will feel better to have made a clean job of it and it will certainly save ultimate expense. And my mind is very much relieved...

I wouldn't bother to copy all that Astrology. The thing to tackle is Book 4 Part III as that is a complete treatise on Magick of all kinds, and contains the columns of 777 that you need to know. The hour of your birth--The difficulty in judging is that some people are more ruled by the Ascendant, others more by the place of ☉

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stamps & paper flooded and stock of books damaged

5

2

A.C. to G.J.Y. Hotel Foyot. Jan 26/28

I got your wire and sent off the 3rd parcel. Yes: have things copied, but with very wide margins on good paper to be bound up. Can you try to get Book 4 Part III published? That alone would pull the Work right out of the gulf of misery it's in.

I see no chance of leaving for Egypt at present. Lawyers want to see which way the cat jumps over the Westminster floods- we might get more compensation in certain cases. *[scribble]* *Aquar is*

I'll look carefully into your horror when I get more time. Can't you really get the time an hour or so earlier? *is* rising seems so unlikely while *is* would do well. *is* till your Sun is the great thing with all those planets so near. Saturn passing through Mars this year may give you a pretty poor time; I should play my cards pretty close to my chest.

...

6

A.C. to G.J.Y. Hotel Foyot. 27 Jan 28

...Some of the essays in Batch 2 of documents are of very great importance. Unfortunately all are not properly finished. That is through being thrown about and parted constantly from my MSS. Now we have a G.H.Q. once more, we must fix up all the loose ends. I shall have to have a secretary and an editor - the latter because my own mind is so broken up over the wreck of the work that it won't face the job of reorganisation. Unless I had a real long rest free from worry. If only I could put everything in my wife's name - but as that name is *so* Sophia, who has no *etat civil*!

I shall be glad to hear any remarks of yours on Bk 4 Pt III and generally your impressions from week to week of what you read. I've been feeling rotten - got a bad chill driving around in an Amilcar and wandering in the slums in the rain. I need a month's rest badly.

A.C. to G.J.Y. Hotel Foyot. 1 Feb 28.

7

Good letter O.T.O

I am very glad of the safe arrival of the third package. A great weight off my mind. The principal item apart from the Naples possibilities is now the secret O.T.O. documents. I confess that I am far from clear in my own mind how to deal with these. Owing chiefly to the War, I find myself saddled with two conflicting responsibilities, that of keeping the knowledge secret and that of transmitting it to the right people. It is true that I have a group of young people fairly well fitted; but (for one thing) they are widely scattered, and are tied economically - I can do nothing at a distance - unless in an emergency so serious as to be almost too bad to contemplate. You see: this knowledge concerns certain precise formulae of practical magick. And you (with the unerring eye of genius) have spotted already that the Mass of the Holy Ghost is in question. But also (with the erring nose of the untrained sleuth) you have spotted it all wrong, and that in a very dangerous way. You are likely to "eat and drink damnation to yourself" if you ~~think~~ try any funny business in practice. For though I could write the whole main secret in less than half-a-dozen words, the right use of it implies a point-of-view as well, as an extended knowledge of and technical ability in Magick etc etc

Now just at present the regular apparatus for teaching is out of order. We need a comprehensive scheme of reconstruction. This implies first of all a concentration of the persons whom I propose

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to entrust with the gradual initiation of the others. Therefore a certain amount of capital. The business is self-supporting once it is started, as the lower grades and new members supply a steady income, and only a few get through the tests to the top. It is the arranging for adequate leisure of the central initiate to start with that makes the difficulty. One full initiate in a good centre can take care of his sector from the start.

About your "mother and father". Why this inversion, which is incorrect English unless there is some strong reason for choosing that order? I would like this analysed. Abramelin warns us about these family troubles. In my own case I simply disappeared and lived under an assumed name. But then I had my own money-lots of it. I do not see anything for you to do but to say plainly and sternly that you are "free, white and 21" (as they say in the U.S.A.) and that you have bought a hawker's licence and a stock of matches, and propose setting up in business yourself next day unless you have an absolute pledge on the spot that all interference in any matter whatever is barred. By doing this as a matter of principle, not in respect of the rights and wrongs of any particular case, you are bound to win out. The alternative is a somewhat humiliating stern-chase of Liberty, dragged out over years with all sorts of incidents and the constant temptation to concealment and flasehood for peace' sake. All really successful men of business make a point of this attitude. They say to the employer or whoever it may be "If you can't trust me, I will have nothing to do with you". And the opposite method spreads like a leprosy, and contaminates one's every act. You begin by sparing the feelings of some-one you love, and you end by being unable to look anyone in the eye.

Yes I was rather depressed. I've an infernal cough and am perfectly broke. The Pickford's business stagnates. But I'm Satanically proud of the way the work is going. Especially the new blood is blazing like sunrise. In Germany the publication is going on splendidly, and in America there's a boy of 20 tackling the leaders of thought all on his own! And so on. If I could only get to Egypt and finish that job! As things are I'm handicapped in the very means to attempt any constructive work. I really need about a tenner a week that I could rely on - as opposed to the present system, by which I get more in fact, but never know when it's coming, so that I can exercise neither thrift nor foresight. Well that's neither here nor there.

A.C. to G.J.Y. Hotel Foyot. 8 Feb 28

1. No. Thelema-Verlag. The firm is really in my own control: it was founded only to do my books.

2. Can't understand why my American agents do nothing. But they don't. So your free.

3. I think 500 of both Part I and II (of Book 4) at first. Then 1500 or 2000 more of Pt 1. Not sure if Pt 2 was reprinted. Fancy war stopped

4. it. Not sure.

4. I thought of a totally new title e.g. Theory and Practice of Magic
[no] 7
for Book 4 part 3.

A.C. to G.J.Y. undated.

Sorry to hear your news. It is part of the magical attack on us.

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But that is I think passing over. I always find the forest or the desert more soothing than the sea, which tends to irritate me. You would be most welcome as a guest at Fontainebleau. The lonely rambles in the forest where everything is interesting without being exciting are marvellous for the nerves. I'm going down myself just as soon as I can. Meanwhile things are moving.

Part 3. Please don't try to edit. Let me do that in proof. Books read so differently from the typescript. Glad of any suggestions of course. I'd like to have your ideas on (a) title (b) financial and distribution plans. I think a limited edition, high-priced, to be ~~subscribed~~ subscribed by selected booksellers might be the best idea. Let me know if you'll come and rest up

A.C. to G.J.Y. Feb 19 '28. Hotel Foyot. 10

I'm sort of wondering why I have not heard from you. I wanted for your ideas on Book 4 Pt III-in particular. There is no news here: I am working quietly and waiting for two pieces of business to get themselves finished. I hope all is well with you

M^{rs} Thia Walker

A.C. to G.J.Y. Hotel Foyot. 25 Feb 28 11

Called on the Amexco with your letter and answered questions. They said "all right". Weeks passed. They telegraphed me to answer those questions all over again. They are like that. But I have been down to F'bleau and started sorting MSS etc, it is at least a month's work for a trained secretary with every convenience. Incidentally a certain (or rather uncertain) person has let us down into a deep pit and into the miry clay about the upkeep of the house. This is very serious because all those papers -and there are lots of important things hidden somewhere in the mass- might be seized. The compensation claim drags on, and so does the sale of my play 'The Three Wishes', which everyone likes enormously and nibbles at. The worst of it is that I have no copy here, or I might sell it for say £100; which sum, if I had it, would put me on my feet for 3 months or more. I detest borrowing on principle; but if you could find a friend to help out, it would be an economy. Because if one goes smash, it costs so much more to pick up the pieces.

Now under brighter auspices. I think you have got the points of 4 III fairly well, but you don't mention the scientific and sceptical basis which is the really unique feature.... I doubt if I could write that prospectus. But I will ask a man I know who writes "popular appeal" stuff

I can't help you much with addresses. I've got agents everywhere, but they seem as paralysed as I am myself. I believe the best way is to find a publisher: preferably not a regular occult publisher, with his fads and foolishness,

You'll find English Masons hold up their hands in holy horror at the idea that Masonry could ever be anything but a Booze Club, plus an excuse to escape from 'the wife'. I think that you'll find that the only way to sell the book is on its merits. You might well imitate the German crowd by forming a private company to publish our books. They are going ahead A.I. Constant new publications.

About O.T.O. You seem to have misunderstood the word 'political'. I don't remember the connection but it has nothing to do with any external activities.

It would really be a good plan if you crossed ^{not} not

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for a night but a week -or as near that as may be. Supposing I survive the various catastrophes impending! At Easter the boss of the biggest Occult paper in Berlin is coming to see me.

--- 12
A.C. to G.J.Y. Hotel Foyot. 27 Feb 28

Just a supplement to my last. Went to F'bleau yesterday. The financial situation is more urgent than I thought. On the other hand, magical release is promised within a week or so, and this should lead at once to material improvement. What worries me is the Cefalu diaries. They contain metaphysical essays etc; but particularly psychological researches which are absolutely unique. Stuff that grew out of Magick, but is not necessarily involved in it; so that the appeal would be to profane science. The trouble is that the MSS need editing under my own supervision. There's cypher and a general mix-up; so that it would be mere futility to send them to be copied. Also they are intercalated with all sorts of intimate personal notes, which mustn't be shown to the vulgar. Perhaps I'm over nervous, being as sick as a dog with flu and about 7 other mortal maladies. Probably the kindest thing you could do would be to give me a letter of introduction to a really ~~reliable~~ reliable undertaker! (Don't think this to be that Monday feeling!) I imagine everything will go as it should in about 10 days from now at the outside, if I can last till then. Too much fever to write intelligibly; so please excuse it.

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A.C. to G.J.Y. 3 Rue de Fleury Fontainebleau. Undated

Hope your better. Any chance of your coming over? We're getting rid of most of our impediments, and only have to worry about a new G.H.Q. on April 15. Which is rather a problem at the moment. Your advice (and possible help) would be of immense advantage. The forest has been gorgeous and peaceful - till the snow began! 'Twill be spring again in a day or two. If you can come wire, not write Foyot.

A.C. to G.J.Y. Undated

--- ? refers to Somerset Maugham's first book
A.C. was Hadley.
P.S. to my last... The Magician scheme is going very strong. I've an excellent American lawyer. The film will be on the Grand Boulevard on the 23rd to the 30th. Wish you could come over to see it. This is the best opportunity yet for complete reversal of all bad conditions

A.C. to G.J.Y. 16/3/28

I need not say how glad I am of your decision to get out Book 4 Part III. At the same time I think it might be arranged more easily than by personal sacrifices on your part. Could not Foreman get some booksellers to subscribe for a private edition, limited, to say 300 copies. Reserving the right to reissue say 6 months later on cheaper paper. Etc etc.

MSS The trouble about the Cefalu diaries etc -and all other MSS, is that any day now there may be nothing to edit! Mrs W (aker) did not let me down over the rent. But she promised her personal presence and assistance in the big task of sorting out the papers etc and has put me off on transparently insincere excuses. There are 3 cases still unopened and 10 or 11 more still to come from Italy. The upshot is that a flimsy lock is all that stands between the bulk of my life's work and a demented (I use this word with full medical responsibility)

(? Ninette Shumway)

responsibility. The dementia is partial) female, who may at any moment set fire to the house - which would damage the lock! in any case the lease expires on April 11. And we shall have to be once again without a G.H.Q with everything in storage- if indeed we can get it to that storage. There are moments when one wants to kick everything to hell. If I had not other people to work for, I wouldn't lift a finger again as long as I live! The only way out (unless Pickfords come across suddenly) is to raise at least £500 on a short term loan- say one year - With this we could take a suitable house-even pay for it by taking in people all summer-store the stuff properly-arrange to sell the pictures etc etc. The nuisance is that the lack of working capital compels me to live by dint of various expensive expedients. (E.g if I could be sure of £25 every month I could live well within that margin. Without it, I cannot live on twice that sum; because I have to use credit and waste time etc etc. So though I'm getting more money than I need, it will only buy less than I need. Solely because of the uncertainty of the dates. And oh! the waste of time. Film of Mauphin's book

The Magician has been released in France I am applying for an injunction to prevent them showing it. This I can get easily; and fortified by with the decision, can sue for damages in England and U.S.A. where it has been running for years. But I propose to compromise with Metro-Goldwyn on the basis of their giving me a fat contract as their Tame Magus. Through this I could get educative Magical films on the screen, and do lots and lots to help the Work ~~with the / that / margin /~~ Also there's a whole bill of publicity, and my long-sought- for chance of vindication. It's the Dreyfus problem: it only needs a little judicious management to transform The Beast overnight into Prince Charming. *[I have stills from the film in the big scrap book not yet at the works]*

To put this over, and to protect the MSS for the time being, are the two problems of the moment. The middle of Marengo.

--- 14

A.C. to G.J.Y. Hotel Foyot. 23/3/28

Surprised at Amexco. They assured me that 3000 francs would cover everything. However I expect there will be no duty to pay, so you should get your cheque back in time. I don't think you quite understand about 'The Magician'. (From one or two things you say I wonder if a letter of mine has not gone astray. It's a hell of a handicap not being able to make copies.) The lawsuit is only a pretext for a business deal.

Vindication. I'M quite ready to stand or fall by what I have really done. This matter is not a question of morals, but of facts. And I am not a cocaine pedlar, cannibal, white-slaver, traitor, etc etc- sorry if I'm destroying your illusions about me!

The money problem is indeed most serious. Various sums due have not arrived so far. The F'bleau question involves packing up all MSS et I had got them all out and started to sort them, expecting Mrs W (alker) to, come over and help with the work. At the moment it will require a young miracle to get food even for the day. It is particularly annoying as I have now got my right magical partner and big Work had begun. But the case is the same there- money due from U.S.A three weeks ago and nothing arrived. The hotel is looking irritable too! (Kasimira Bass was the magical partner. G.J.Y.) Really there is no way out that I can see except to borrow in the regular business way on the tangible security

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of the stock. (People in Paris will not lend on stock in London, if it were here I could raise £500 easily enough) With your business experience and good credit you ought to be able to put this through. Something of the sort must really be done. Living from hand to mouth with no reserves means complete paralysis of all work... I really wish you could send me by International Telegraphic M.O. this £25 which would save the situation for a month, and give time for the cash due to us to come along.

I have recovered from Collins the full rights of 'The Diary of a Drug Fiend' - got their letter last night - and expect to be able to sell the book here to Titus, who is really interested, especially on account of 'The Magician' publicity....

A.C. to G.J.Y. 24/3/28

I think I have the solution to the Book 4 Part III problem. It can be printed in Germany for probably less than half the London cost; and it can be printed on my credit (possibly with the second string of a guarantee from you...)... In this way the book could go to press at once. Will you then prepare a copy for the press, marking those passages where the reading is doubtful... If so send me over the book piece-meal... as you get a section ready. And we'll have the book ready to bind by the Solstice. *I did this 477*

A.C. to G.J.Y. Foyot. 29/3/28

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A good deal of the trouble is cross-purposes. I should never have put you in direct communication with Amexco. All arrangements had better be made through me. The strings must be all in one hand. (For I was filled with alarms at your suggestion to send the cases to England. The Customs would make some excuse to destroy them. E.g. there's a picture called 'The Religion of New York' which they would call blasphemous - like 'The Pilgrim's Progress, the Origin of the Species and their kind. And on that they would seize and destroy the whole shipment. There is no real danger about debts. I owe probably less than £100 in all... Mrs W turned up at F'bleau sub rosa. The Gods smote her with lumbago; so she had to appeal to me. She has been very silly and is having to pay for it. You can't break the Laws of Magick and get away with it; not even if you 'hold the thought' 'What a superior person I am'. Upshot: I've brought up some of the most important papers not too bulky. And the balance goes to storage. It can rot there until I've got an assured G.H.Q. and staff for months ahead.

Metro-Goldwyn made me an offer of compensation about 'The Magician'; but I'm holding out for publicity and power. I hope to see the big man on Friday.

The question of the business partner still dominates the situation. If Raymond Radcliffe is still alive he might help. Just before the war he was forming a syndicate with £3000 to run my work. Things should be much easier now I've got all the publicity we need; it wants merely a push to turn them all to good... You say nothing about the possibility of raising £500 for a short term: is it so hopeless... We are trying to arrange with a dealer here to handle the pictures

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I have recovered from Collins the full rights of 'The Diary of a Drug Fiend' - got their letter last night - and expect to be able to sell the book here to Titus, who is really interested, especially on account of 'The Magician' publicity....

A.C. to G.J.Y. 24/3/28

I think I have the solution to the Book 4 Part III problem. It can be printed in Germany for probably less than half the London cost; and it can be printed on my credit (possibly with the second string of a guarantee from you...)... In this way the book could go to press at once. Will you then prepare a copy for the press, marking those passages where the reading is doubtful... If so send me over the book piece-meal... as you get a section ready. And we'll have the book ready to bind by the solstice. *I did this 477*

A.C. to G.J.Y. Foyot. 29/3/28

15

A good deal of the trouble is cross-purposes. I should never have put you in direct communication with Amexco. All arrangements had better be made through me. The strings must be all in one hand. (For I was filled with alarms at your suggestion to send the cases to England. The Customs would make some excuse to destroy them. E.g. there's a picture called 'The Religion of New York' which they would call blasphemous - like 'The Pilgrim's Progress, the Origin of the Species and their kind. And on that they would seize and destroy the whole shipment. There is no real danger about debts. I owe probably less than £100 in all... Mrs W turned up at F'bleau sub rosa. The Gods smote her with lumbago; so she had to appeal to me. She has been very silly and is having to pay for it. You can't break the Laws of Magick and get away with it; not even if you 'hold the thought' 'What a superior person I am'. Upshot: I've brought up some of the most important papers not too bulky. And the balance goes to storage. It can rot there until I've got an assured G.H.Q. and staff for months ahead.

Metro-Goldwyn made me an offer of compensation about 'The Magician'; but I'm holding out for publicity and power. I hope to see the big man on Friday.

The question of the business partner still dominates the situation. If Raymond Radcliffe is still alive he might help. Just before the war he was forming a syndicate with £3000 to run my work. Things should be much easier now I've got all the publicity we need; it wants merely a push to turn them all to good... You say nothing about the possibility of raising £500 for a short term: is it so hopeless... We are trying to arrange with a dealer here to handle the pictures

A.C. to G.J.Y. 4 Apr 28

The cases have come (from Italy) I go to Douane to-morrow to clear, and hope to win back that £12 for you. We are trying to get a dealer to handle the whole affair. F'bleau. Still trying 'to iron out the current deadlock' as the P.M. so wonderfully said last week.

Magick. Wonderful developments. It seems that there is a chance of recovering the Book M (found on the breast of C.R.C. in Vault) (Note Kasimira Bass tried to read it in vision; she failed G.J.Y.) But Magick is a tricky business even for the Old Parliamentary Hand. (For Heaven's sake don't let Viscount G get hold of this card)

---- 17

A.C. to G.J.Y 23/3/28 (out of order prpper sequence)

The 'young miracle' happened and saved us for a few days. Meanwhile Mrs Walker came to Fontainebleau without letting me know. A pretty low-down trick. However I'll get after her, and let you know the result in a couple of days. Then also I hope to lay the basis of my compromise with the Metro-Goldwyn and we may be out of the wood this week; if only I'm not crippled again by some new disaster...

---- 18

A.C. to G.J.Y. Foyot II/4/28

Package of 4 III to p 243 safely to hand. Latter O.K. and your suggestions, as far as I have seen, very useful..I will expect you on Saturday morning Apr 21...We will discuss the editing problem. I will show you certain press cuttings which may or may not encourage you to believe that the Most Revd the Archbishop of Canterbury, No, no, Shakespeare was right "Be thou pure as ice etc" "Mrs Webster, the German woman" (see Drug-Fiend) cannot sit at our editorial desk. Great men have to tread on all sorts of toes: trying to avoid them leads to utter catastrophe. Was Moses tactful about the Golden Calf?...

---- 19

A.C. to G.J.Y. 5 Apr 28 Foyot

My private finances. There ain't no sich animile. I am wholly consecrated in the Great Work. I should never bother about money at all, but go to live in a convenient desert; only (worse luck) They gave me this job to do dirty job of editing etc which demands certain conditions. The "business partner"...I've thought of another name - a very old friend, the Hon Everard Fielding...I do not want to deal direct. I am too great a fool in all business matters, except to plan a general idea...You need not recommend a man to do it, just put it up to him.

Editing (Book 4 pt 3) Your suggestions may be very valuable. only remember that things may look different to you in 50 years time. I shouldn't have passed a lot of that book when I was 25. Nor would I now if the date were 1890. But things have moved since then. You are watching the cornered rat reaction of superstition; don't take these violent outbursts of 'morality' and 'religion' for movements of growth. We consider business details when the book is nearly ready. But I don't advise you to use your name, or compromise yourself in any way. We must have a G.H.Q. somewhere, somehow. I'm rather a nervous wreck from overstrain at the new Magick operations. Have taken a day off, and hope to start again to-night very fit.

A.C. to G.J.Y. 3 May 28 Foyot.

A.C. to G.J.Y. 3 May 28 Foyot.

Very glad to hear Raymond Radclyffe is still about... We want to call booksellers attention to the existing high prices- to get the facts talked about... Avoid the word 'remainder', which applies only to left-over stock of large editions. My scheme from the first was to create complexity and rarity. The Prospectus (for Magick) is not so bad...

We are starting a Preliminary Magical Retirement to clean up things so as to be ready for the Egyptian adventure

...

A.C. to G.J.Y. No date.

21

I have found the Mark of the Beast ritual. It needs working in to a complete form, as there is a Qabalistic analysis and also an 'impression' of the ideas in it, very ill written. It ought to be done all over again, and preferably by another hand. I'll send along something soon with the 777 stuff....

22

A.C. to G.J.Y. II May 28

Cure Magister (To see if A.C. would fall for it 974)

Not C.M. please! We are brothers by our common aspiration to the G.W. Magister is not any relation to anyone except the Demon Crowley. (I can only write from the wrist, my axilla having got infected. Excuse scrawl, even even this hurts) Crowley is horrified at you selling books etc; but remembers that he too bought a black egg without haggling, and it hatched into The Swan! Consider your point about using your credit again. It took me ~~not~~ 10 minutes to decide to give up my possessions for the Pearl of Great Price; but it was many years before I learnt to trust the Gods, and do Their work with the confidence that They would supply the means.

We are looking for a cheap place to retire, which we'll do as soon as your cheque comes.

You may yet convert the son of Ion. If he admits that I have the Wisdom, why not trust my judgement? If he would write me direct, I might overcome his objections. Also can't he trust the Wardens of the Secret Knowledge.

... I don't agree about the price (of Magick). Cheap edition later. But there are certainly 1000 people in U.S.A. alone who will pay 10 dollars gladly for the book if properly advertised. Send some more prospectuses with subscription forms attached when ready.

I should beware of that woman. She may be the Vampire that Neophytes always get. And though you are not a Neophyte yet, officially, one never knows now-adays. For some years the regular order of ordeals seems to have been upset, just as people now take the 8-3 oath at all stages.

23

17 A.C. to G.J.Y. 17 May 28

"Trusting the Gods". Victorian prudence is old Aeon. To-day we know that any one may be dead, bankrupt, or a millionaire within 24 hours. This is the chief doctrine of the Yi. Curiously Gē the prophesied a condition when the gambler should prove to be the sound man of business! The moral problem is thus now to do the right thing on the data that one has. And that is devilish hard! Also 'interpret every phenomenon etc' - I feel that the storm of July 17 was no accident. I could give you yards of detail about the way I am nursed to do certain things at certain times. I am a peculiarly blind agent. And I have

learned to be content.

More practically \$200 wouldn't see us through publication. The one good chance is to leave me free to interest monied people. We have all sorts of ways of conducting this matter to a good issue; but all is paralysed if the King's Government cannot be carried on. A general strike ruins all interests, however indirectly concerned.

We have moved to a cheaper hotel, and are looking for a tiny corner near Paris where we can work, coming up when business makes it necessary. We hope to be able to cut down living expences to about 10/ a day... Is your June visit on?...

Magick. The price question worries me... I too want ALL to have the book. But (1) people think that what they get for nothing is worth nothing, and (2) Magick is an expensive game, and it is useless to have the book without the means to do the work...

Re the Vampire. I am seriously concerned. From 1912 to the War no less than 9 brethren, all of great promise and some of marked achievement went on the rocks. Your noble motive makes things worse, i.e. the danger is greater, because your 'conscience' is on the enemy's side. The only line of meditation I can suggest for you - from your letter - is this. "My idea of G.W. just now is to see 'magick' published. I will do all things which will advance that aim, nothing which might hamper me in achieving it". (Also perhaps, "Who appointed me to help her?" Again "May it not hurt her to interfere with ther Karma?") But the first line is the safe one because impersonal.

24

A.C. to G.J.Y. 25 May 28

The briefest line in answer to yours. The rest when my arm gets well. (We were both attacked magically - lack of due precautions, I think. One gets careless with success. Don't)

C would say to Y "He probably has a man on his tail the trail; the first indiscretion might cost a career". 666 says "When one has taken an important magical step, and a person appears suddenly, it may be a vampire, or a Messenger from the Gods. In your case there seems no claim to the latter possibility, and the circumstances generally are suspicious. So don't compromise yourself morally, in any way, from any motive".

We are retiring to a fishing village near Marseille, by name Cassis. One can get pension at 25 francs a head - or could 2 years ago.

Please tell nobody where we are. Paris was dreadful magically

1. Prana all spoilt since John St John days
2. Damp let magical force leak away. "e were five or six times on the brink of a really big thing, and it fizzled out somehow
3. No sun and monotony of life depressing.
4. Too many worries and distractions.

Any fortnight will do. Important thing for you is to look up referances to fill gaps in that 777 text... In haste and pain.

I was working on what is now the

text of 777 revised

A.C. to G.J.Y. 6 July '28

This letter cancels all previous directions. The new address is hotel du Chateau, Carry-le Rouet, Bouches du Rhone. Wire me time of arrival in Marseille...The place is admirably suited for work -also swimming-bring bathing suit. Extremely quiet.Plenty of room. Excellent possibilities for (a)temporary (b) permanent G.H.Q....The Yi symbol is "Nourishing". Also silence etc- very good indeed for our purposes.

----- 30

A.C. to G.J.Y. 3 July

I think I acknowledged the £50 in my last. Have been rushing round after villas, but my French is hardly equal to explaining that I am looking for the Elysian, windless, fortunate abodes beyond Heaven's constellated wilderness. Anyhow no luck so far; but there seem hopes at a place near here Carry-le-Rouet. Will seek diligently to-morrow.

... --- 31

A.C. to G.J.Y. Hotel Royal Condé 10 Rue de Condé Paris 15/7/28

Do I really have megalomania? If you only knew how I kick myself for my utter brainlessness and lack of moral virtue. I can't even manage to learn German! My claim, if it interests anyone, to be a Magus is a matter of record and of history. It means nothing, and matters nothing, except to the authorities of the Order, down to 7^o = 4^o at present. Of course, please always use your individual judgement. Only, suspend it unless adequately informed.

As to 'Magick' you have been letting people see MSS and asking opinions all round, and letting them sap your Will. Try this method with any proposal such as "Shall I wear my dark blue suit to lunch?" and see how doubt creeps in.

The Home Office. There is nothing against me. I know this for a positive fact. It is merely cowardly persecution. Rather queer, their methods being shewn up so prettily these last few months. Perhaps we have a man on the job. Who knows? Anyhow Jix is a frenzied Evangelical, and one can't expect him to like me. I am sure they would not dare to try to suppress the book by any open action. A big trial would be the dawn of Sun on Austerlitz for us. You should never have let a press typescript out of your hands. Oh my poor nerves! Please send it to me, with all possible precaution against loss, as soon as you get this letter. Also T and S estimate. I will send to press to them or to a man here on Sept 23 ... Investments. I don't want to influence your judgement: but please act passively as between principals. There are some very firm proposals here prospects here. I have a press agent for one thing. You'll meet him on Saturday...

--- 32

A.C. to G.J.Y. Undated

Got your budget and other matters this a.m.. will answer fully when I have considered. Meanwhile wired you to transfer £200. Essential to take Kasimira seriously. She's fine; but must be kept fine. Doubt would queer the pitch. This remark applies generally. "we are doing a Magick. You argue: A.N. Other is 25. 50 years hence he will be 75. Argal he can't play football.

Shall buy only barest essentials of decency until something

breaks. Mrs Walker may come through too...All papers and MSS at Bayley's had better come to me unexamined in one parcel. They might contain confidential matter.

33

A.C. to G.J.Y 30 July '28

Yes: you were the villain of the piece. K (asimira) started to recover at once, and bar a little aftermath, became her usual light and sunny self- as Ethel M Dell might say. We go to Grenoble to-day where the nights should be cool (It is still p.b. hot here)...

All work by July 1st -- now coming to me and to let doled him out - 7 days - 2 to 3 weeks (27) 1874

A.C. to G.J.Y. 20 Aug 28. From Grand Hotel Lombard. Gap. Hautes Alpes.

-On no account jeopardise @ III. I had no idea that £30 would embarrass you, or I wouldn't have taken it. I thought it was part of the £400, as against the July remittance from Germer. (By the way I'm frightfully stupid about such matters: you'll have to make every allowance)... I asked the Yi about how the money of the loan or loans was to be spent. Up came your special symbol (55) again! I interpreted it: 'Leave the whole matter in Yorke's hands. I may make suggestions; but please be absolutely firm and not allow my supposed wishes or necessities to warp your business judgement...'

Kasimira

Olsen has a very good friend, a millionaire, about 90, deaf and nearly blind? He might well put up any amount. Please write her very energetically... Curious about the boils- as K and I were both attacked in Paris. N?B. Her lack of mental resources make it infernally dull for her in any really decent place. She needs flowers, and cocktails, and new clothes, and theatres to be her best self. Nature starves her. So I want to give her a "good time" (help!) at the critical moment. Have just got my Saturn @ Knos from Berlin with my Little Essays towards Truth and good reviews in the German publications. So we have two gangs in Berlin more or less adherent to the Word.

② The Journal of Grosche, account occult order Erdmann, Salerni

34

A.C. to G.J.Y. Hotel des Glaciers, Coli du Lantaret. 13 Aug '28

Yours of Aug 2 just too late to avoid a mess- unless my telegram worked. I closed my account with Lloyd's before leaving. I expected 3 sums paid to Bankers Trust @ Paris before Aug 14. 120 dollars from Germer, 900 fr from you £10 from your bank. If none of these turned up I left me with 900 odd francs in the bank and 1000 in my pocket. I had to pay a bill of 1200 odd for my week at La Grave. So I drew 1500 on Paris... We are now living within our income at last! (K cannot contribute anything at present, but will probably put up one of these 10000 dollar bets in ? September. I do not want any increase on this income; so have told everyone to send anything to you direct. The only expense now required is to renew my wardrobe. (I have only one per presentable suit, very thin and much too big for me now, thank God! and no overcoat, this and any missionary journeys must be paid for by a special grant ad hoc. So I told Germany they must put up 4-5000 marks if they wanted me... All monies are going to be handled by you, and expended as your business judgement dictates. Should you want to wire me, it would save a day to address Grand Hotel Grenobles. We are evidently stuck in the near neighbourhood until a largish sum comes in, either through you or to K.

Jane Wolfe has the synopsis of Mortadello, and is very hopeful of selling it for the talking screen, which is the next craze. Thanks about K (asimira)'s kids. K Jun is a Pole. She will write you shortly with

full details. I was out on the Alp 10 hours on Friday, and not too tired. Yesterday I got K about 1200 feet up the slopes here to the snow line. Remember Magick on Set 21 at the worst.

--- 35

A.C. to G.J.Y. 2 Aug (this letter should be two letters previous)
I smelt the snows on the way here: I feel like a young colt in spring. Nothing for it but to look once more on a great peak. Bussing it to La Fare Grave. I want to make K doss it in an alpine hut. She's a good kid. I enclose two inserts for Magick...

---- 36

A.C. to G.J.Y. Grand Hotel Lombard. Gap. 23 Aug 28

A long letter from Germer this a.m.... Cora Eaton will put up 5000 dollars at least when she gets back from her holiday - I suppose about end of Sept. The one genuine obstacle is the question of prudence. They fail to realize that you are a business man, and that I shall leave the whole management of the affair in your hands...

The question now arises, whether, other sources failing, we should not go ahead with the preparations in Paris for the possible German tout. I should like to be ready to start by Oct 1, in case the invitation arrived, and not have to wait for tailor etc... If you think it right to trust the Gods to that extent, wire me here on receipt of this and transfer £200 to Paris. I would then travel straight up and get to work. But if you have the least doubt or fear - don't do it.

Publicity. J.C. Squire and Middleton Murry might be sounded. I think both are friendly but scared. The appeal should I think be for fair play and the honour of English Literature. (To be taken in a little sugared water) Nothing about Magick: at least not until the book is ready. Pure poetry only.

K sends her love. K jun is on holiday and doesn't write... Joan's future depends on K's affairs, which hang fire at present. I hope we can arrange all these small matters before the Equinox, and start everything right from that date: direct creative effort as opposed to cleaning house.

--- 37

A.C. to G.J.Y. Hotel Lombard. Gap. 26 Aug 28

K wrote you this A.M. definitely about the 10000 dollars. I think it good enough, as she is very keen to get to work, and has all the qualities required to negotiate between me and the outer. She quite understands that she has got to make good, and that she must devote herself to the job without allowing her personal views to interfere. This plan will also make it much easier for me to establish various connections, as well as to work on my new book. She cannot be absolutely sure that the money will be paid on time. There may be some delay, or she may get only a portion. But I see no reason why things should not go through without a hitch. She is quite willing to repay any sums advanced to her in the case of the loan falling through at the last moment for any reason. I was very annoyed at having to discuss the matter with her at all; but time pressed. I have a strong feeling that I ought to be in Paris; perhaps there may be some Americans there whom I should see before they return to U.S.A. Or---?---? Anyhow it's a strong instinct. I leave here to-morrow Monday, reaching Paris on Tuesday..

If you think this good enough to go on, there is no need to transfer more than the £200. I will advance her what she needs out of this

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(I -G.J.Y.)- minuted the above letter "Answered that I had instructed the Bank to transfer the £200. Consequently cannot guaranteed to put Book 4 Pt III in press on Sept 21. Must have money sent me now for that purpose. Sent figures showing that on present scale of expenditure £1970 will be spent in the first 12 months. Urged economy and expedition?

--- 38
A.C. to G.J.Y. Hotel Royal Conde Paris No date.

...K's salary is for her general ~~expenses~~ services to work and would stop if she proved useless. Trustee must be judge of this... There is plenty of river sand. But we'll import a load from Mecca or Jerusalem and charge more. Stylus should be a little magnet (straight) Paint with suitable design. (This refers to a Geomancy Box he was trying to market G.J.Y.)

--- 39
A.C. to G.J.Y. Hotel Conde I/9/28

I shall send you receipted bills for clothes and hold on to balance tight till Sept 21. K. wont use any of this money. This is nobl but a nuisance in so far as she doesn't want to get to work till she's dressed... Your estimate errs. E.g. the clothes aren't wanted twice. Secretary and house are paid out of salary. Could save on that too once the house was there... You can reckon on the Gods. Your letter depressed K. too, reaction against doing it. But he who hesitates etc. Things are going to go big.

--- 40
A.C. to G.J.Y. 6 Sept 28

We thought the enclose note would serve to show the printer, in case other sources fail. Please let me know at once if this is so, as in that case K will feel free to buy a few things. Other contracts differ from K's by having no salary clause. The inducement is 6 per cent, put aside for 5 years put aside out of capital (?) and up to 25 per cent ~~paid~~ paid out of net trading profits. K's letter was not definitive, but a general guide...

--- 41
Undated note headed for G.J. Yorke

The Herb Dangerous might be published. Aesopus Island record may be read. Please send me diplomas. Buuterfly Net -offer for publication. W S Gilbert play (item 18) please send me. Item 22 is the Statagen among these? If not get from Eng Review and send me. Odd cloths - dispose of. Revolvers-sell, they are special pattern. Press cuttings -send me. Sell old French novels. Take clean copies for your own collection. Sell Harris and Bruce Papyrus, they ought to fetch a good round sum

--- 42
A.C. to G.J.Y Undated

Yours of. Sept 5.

A) You should not have 'tried to accept' anything. You should will to understand. Liber Legis has bothered me from the beginning. The Book is not written from any human standpoint. It takes no account of man's ideas of what is good for them, any more than a surgeon of a patient's pain. You are not enough initiated to judge at present: you should be content to study for years. For the Book is certainly the work of a praeterhuman

*Karl Garmann was to marry
her for her money to
hand it on to A.C.*

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*published later a Moonchild
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--- 41
Undated note headed for G.J. Yorke

The Herb Dangerous might be published. Aesopus Island record may be read. Please send me diplomas. Butterfly Net - offer for publication. W S Gilbert play (item 18) please send me. Item 22 is the Statagem among these? If not get from Eng Review and send me. Odd cloths - dispose of. Revolvers - sell, they are special pattern. Press cuttings - send me. Sell old French novels. Take clean copies for your own collection. Sell Harris and Bruce Papyrus, they ought to fetch a good round sum

--- 42
A.C. to G.J.Y. Undated

Yours of Sept 5.

A. You should not have 'tried to accept' anything. You should will to understand. Liber Legis has bothered me from the beginning. The Book is not written from any human standpoint. It takes no account of man's ideas of what is good for them, any more than a surgeon of a patient's pain. You are not enough initiated to judge at present: you should be content to study for years. For the Book is certainly the work of a praeterhuman

intelligence, and this makes it an unique document.

B. You merely register the fact of the existence of a definite campaign of persecution. I assured you of this from the start, and you would not believe. At the back of this campaign are the enemies of mankind and all progress to higher things. Judge them by their methods: persecution of the innocent, and attempts to prevent the diffusion of knowledge. You, the historian should recall that all great men in any domain-literature, science, art, politics- have had this to fight. (I personally as Crowley would stand by any man thus persecuted, even if I detested his work. I propose to come to London as soon as the fight is on, not before. I want a fair fight in the courts, I am preparing in health and all other ways for this). I do not think I am a great man but I have been chosen to do a great work. All thus chosen are tested in every way: the steel must have no flaw. You have been tested about the Demon Crowley etc and came through. Face the present issue firmly and you will find that this Home Office bogey is just a painted pole turnip on a sheeted pole in the graveyard of England's honour. I honestly doubt whether any decent newspaper would attack me unfairly. Even Beaverbrook is, I think, sorry: at least, they refused to carry on the attacks, as I told you. But I would rather look at the worst, and appeal to your manhood. You are free to say "I don't agree with this work, but I think this man has been badly treated. I stand by him". But in any case before you make a final decision, it would be only fair to your own magical honour, as well as to the trust I have placed in you, to come over for a week-end and put before me the actual difficulties about Liber AL, since you will to understand.

43

A.C. to G.J.Y. 12 Sep 28

It was your true will repeatedly expressed to get Book 4 Pt III in the press by Sept 23. You went through the MS most carefull and removed all possible causes of offense- which makes it hard to understand your volte-face. As your Guru I am bound to see that you keep your Oath. In the circumstances it will be best if you transfer the £190 to Paris and send me the MSS, also K's bill endorsed over to me...

Enclosed was telegram from Germer to A.C. reading 'Cora mailing Yorke Thousand dollars Thursday' On the telegram form A.C. has written 'Please have this transferred at once and I will put the machine in motion...I have private information about Home Office. They could do nothing, but would naturally love to bluff us out of the game, poor fish'

44

A.C. - G.J.Y. 30 Sept 28

Kasimira

Astarte Lulu Benitez his daughter by Winnet Shumay nls Grant

Saw Hunt at once. Am paying him £20 to get started-unless you wire disapproval. Sending Cape samples of MSS of Hag... Please hustle that agreement with K. She has been in a bad way for some days. There are times when I fear for her reason. Boiling rages about the regular order of nature-as if God sent rain only to annoy her etc... Astarte (his daughter. G.J.Y.) here since Wednesday. Very fine and fit but won't talk English any more. A friend is motoring us out to Mory Monday so I'll see what the place is really like. Sorry you missed her.

K's cash if available at all may not be here for months. She thinks she may have to go to Los Angeles to get it. The moral is: hurry up Cora if necessary. But I hope things will turn the right way...

45

A.C. to G.J.Y. 5 Oct 28

Last night I dined C.K.Ogden..He revealed the Mysteries of Creation as to "my friend Arthur" and Co. Name is Vivian. Just a kid. Sieveking is a 'personality man' for the B.B.C.-calls on important blokes and persuades them that the country is lost unless they give a free talk!!! a quite minor post.I fear we were badly bluffed. Ogden agrees with me ~~that~~ about Jix's bogey game.Nobody protests against suppression of any book.The publisher just thanks God and pockets the shekels.But Jix wouldn't prosecute if defied openly-of course where his action is plain persecution,as it usually is.Now Ogden is the man with Kegan Paul to whom Sieveking was to show 'Magick'...Really I do think the Gods are on the job. Gave him Book 4 Pts I and II...

A.C. to G.J.Y. No date

46

We have just seen Church,American lawyer about the loan.He wants to see a copy of the letter K wrote from Gap agreeing to invest.Please mail one by return.

Hunt is doing wonders at present.I am meeting two millionaires and a duke to-morrow;and something big may break at any moment. Will you have the chemist send a reasonable sample of Abramelin Incense .I want the flat consecrated properly. Astarte had a fine time in Paris.I took her back yesterday. Is the Giant's Thumb one poem or a whole book of MSS? If the latter we are saved... (Was the letter)

A.C. to G.J.Y undated

47

To confirm my wire of 2 P.M. 'Come this Saturday Situation improved.Bring pudding". Pudding connotes Cheshire Cheese, but is to be extended to include my watch if it is ready. K had a terrible set of crises de nerfs but recovered on Foreman's departures.I hope Regardie won't upset her too much.I thought it best for you to come this Saturday to clinch the contract business;also to assess Regardie...The new page for Magick is very much better and cleaner...

Became his secretary: was 20 or 21 from USA

A.C. to G.J.Y 18 Oct 28

48

...Please do not be disheartened about Simon Iff.It was accepted by Robert McBride in New York,and there is actually an existing contract with William Collins in London.It is just possible that proper representations might persuade him to carry out his agreement. You should remember that the first six stories dealing with American English life are really an introduction to Simon Iff,and the American stories are hardly intelligible without them...

not yet published 1979

A.C. to G.J.Y. 55 Avenue de Suffren 22 Oct 28

49

The Bolsheviks are after us again.The All-High Commissar of the Soviet in Edingrad disapproves of the manuscript after a month's masterly inactivity. (This I think was yet another printer who refused to print 'Magick'. G.J.Y.)...Mrs Hunt telephoned that the ambassador has been held up in Belgium because his passport was too old.Why he should have gone to Belgium is a mystery of the Gods,but as far as I can make out,if he can bribe the necessary officials sufficiently,he will cross to-night. (This refers to Hunt,I think.G.J.Y.) I really wish God would take steps to keep the planets in a little better order...

A.C. to G.J.Y. 55 Avenue Suffren 26 Oct 28

50

A.C. to G.J.Y. 55 Avenue de Suffren 26/10 /28

Bass

The news from California is far from good. If K.B. would go the Church over the whole business, I think some arrangement could be made immediately, but one can't press her,

Turnbull (printed for Magick) had the £ 200 all right and returned it. They wanted to edit my manuscripts. All this business about Jack being as good as his master is plain Bolshevism, and I will have nothing to do with it. A printer has no right whatever to an opinion about a manuscript given him to print, except in so far as he is legally responsible. In such a case he has a perfect right to refuse to print certain specified portions, and a compromise may be arrived at. But for him to write a dictatorial letter to his employer is plain impudence.

To be published by N. Mandrake as Moonchild

With regard to the 'Net' it is undoubtedly very plain spoken, but the chief people implicated are dead, although they were not when the book was written. Indeed I wrote it with the express purpose of tickling their tails with my magic scourge. The only people left are Yeats, who is treated quite fairly and in any case would certainly not take action, and Waite who would probably justify his cognomen as he has done since I began to make fun of him God Knows how many years ago...

I believe it will be best to send me back the press-script of Magick by Hunt. I know a man in Paris who will do it quite well; and it may be quicker if it is under my eye. At least they will not protest against the use of the word 'bother', also 'blow' of wickedness the germs. I admit to sharing your anxiety, but it is a mere weakness. Remember that ~~it took~~ 777 took two years to print and the Goetia three. There is always every kind of opposition when one is trying to get out this kind of stuff...

I had a further interview late last night with Mr Goedel. He is leaving for Munich this morning with a copy of the Drug Fiend. He proposes to translate one or two chapters and submit them to Hunt for his approval... Goedel is convinced that this can become a best seller. It requires minor alterations. For example the word 'Boche' which we use in a perfectly friendly spirit is a terrible term of abuse in their language. Goedel was very struck by the good psychology, as he knew of a case of cocaine where the woman thought she was going to give birth to the Messiah. Goedel will also try to interest Prince Hohenlohe-Bartenstein in the whole business, as well as a number of other people of importance. I have put him in touch with Miss Kuntzel. His general objection to the Movement in Germany was that the people we have so far are quite unimportant, but I have pointed out that though that is the case they form a nuclei all over the country and in the hands of a good organizer might be made of great service to the Work.

A.C. to G?J.Y. 27 Oct 28

51

When you are cheerful about things then they must indeed be flourishing. I immediately fear disaster. I am only happy when there is no ray of hope anywhere on the horizon.... I heard from Miss Olsen this morning, that her friend won her lawsuit to the tune of 10,000 dollars. She promised Dorothy to bring her to Europe when she won, but I think you might apply for an investment of, anyhow, half the amount... About England My general plan is to do something spectacular without being indecent, such as the ascent of Mount Illiman in the winter and come to England to stand for Parliament in the general election--on the plank of Sunday

11

Saving of course.

I am not telling anyone about Hunt's project. You can rely on me entirely to hold my tongue about things in general. In fact people say that I am too secretive. When I babble foolishly, I have a very good reason for it. It's awfully decent of you to have settled Hunt for November. Owing to Kasimira's escapade, several hundred francs were wasted. She has made a sudden and miraculous recovery. I am constantly reminded of the woman with the issue of blood. How long it will last I can't tell, but she imported Vouvray and cold beef last night, as it is written "They did eat and drink and saw God also". Which reminds me that you have so mild a master to deal with. In other days the barren Bristol Channel might have been cursed because the time of lampreys was not yet.

Of course I want Hunt to have control of everything, and about the first thing I want to do as soon as adequate cash arrives is to make a regular contract with him. I think he is distinctly a man to encourage. In the beginning he may have thought you a mug, and wanted the earth; but now he is reasonable I should give him a bit more than he asks.

The O.T.O. is so to speak the quintessence of Freemasonry, and is run on strictly masonic lines. There is no question of spiritual advancement as in the A.A. It teaches nothing but theoretical and practical philosophy of life and death. There is no question of the attaining of higher states of consciousness. It is true that some of the practices involve what might on analysis turn out to be supernormal conditions; but it is not mystical in any ordinary sense of the word. Further it works almost entirely in groups; and this is what makes the attitude towards money entirely different.

The point about Ogden was that he appeared mysteriously at the psychological moment; and this was dependent upon Sieveking's equally mysterious appearance, because if it had not been for meeting Sieveking the situation would not have arisen in which the moment of meeting Ogden was psychological.

A.C. to G.J.Y. 29 Oct 28

I have had a conference with Hunt, who seems hopeful about the proposition... It seems evident that Cape will take the Memoirs if they were re-written with an eye on libel action, and in my opinion Hunt ought to be set down to do this as soon as possible. What is wanted is a definite and exclusive contract with Hunt. He has got too many irons in the fire. We want him on the job all day and every day...

A.C. to G.J.Y. 29 Oct 28

I should not take (my against) hunting admonition too seriously. It is too picturesque to be accurate satisfactory. Again with the passing of Saturn over one's Sun and the planets close to it, while it is true that I had a very bad time on the last occasion when this happened, the previous transit 30 years earlier was associated with the best years of my life, from the point of view of improving health, getting out of trouble, coming into money etc. I want you to remember too that my astrological studies are nothing but studies. I don't use it at all as I do the Yi to base decisions on. I observe the phenomena as they occur. I will undertake a regular research when I have an adequate staff of about six calculators. In any case I rather agree with the views of astrologers expressed in Abramelin; and,

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one of the Golden Dawn matters 20 motto

astrologers expressed in Abramelin; and, further, I don't think that in any case the planetary motions are more than a background. Sapiens Dominabitur Astris. Saturn again is not necessarily a bad planet. In my own horoscope he is one of the strongest and best. It depends on us to bring out the best in our planets. Further I quite agree with the attitude you yourself took about this matter when we discussed it. Everything started to go well with the arrival of you and Kasimira on the scene. The function of the latter is, perhaps, not at present thoroughly clear, but, as it is written; "There was a man whose name was Job". I think the above gives a fair summary of my mature vies. If in the darkness you break your right arm, I should not be quite contented without requiring any further disasters from you..

(I minuted the above letter 'no answer, no accident'. G.J.Y.)

))) --- 52

A.C. to G.J.Y. 55 Avenue de Suffren 30 Oct 28

Last night I had to send Marie (Theresa Ferrari de Miramar) down to the Bourse with a telegram for you, and I spent the whole evening talking over the situation with Hunt instead of doing the important work I had planned. Really I should be glad when Saturn has got clear of your Herschel!

However there seems to have been some sort of a special providence in it. It is a very good thing that these matters should be cleared up once and for all. I will deal with the points in your letter seriatim.

1. If you and Hunt think or any other person supposes that the world contains treasure sufficient to induce me to allow any inaccurate statements, or even any statements made in slipshod English, to go out over my signature, you had better buy a new thinking machine. I don't care in the least what rubbish people write; and the more money I can get out of it the better I shall be pleased, but 'Honorem meum, nemine dabo'. The matter, I think can be arranged quite well by stating that the serial to have been compiled by Hunt from my Memoirs with my authorization.

Don Carlos 2. I am perfectly aware of the extreme inconvenience of the button etc. (Note. I was objecting to A.C calling himself Sir Aleister Crowley, and to wear the button of some continental order in his button-hole. G.J.Y.) The obvious reply is that your remarks would have been more fitly addressed to the German usurper. One of the reasons is a feeling of loyalty to a king who is in exile. If he came to the throne I should be the first person to clamour to have him garotted. There are of course magical and other reasons into which I need not enter, but there is no deception in the matter; and on the Continent people don't take the same view of the matter as in England. Since the lamented death of the Citizen Capet no one has had a shadow of right to be called even Monsieur. The whole system is different here primarily because there was no primogeniture. The practical point is that to act in the way you suggest would be perfectly ridiculous and have the worst possible effect. (A.C. told me that the title and decoration had been given him by Don Carlos, when he spent a vacation form Cambridge supporting Don Carlos. I always refused to write to him as Sir Aleister, and when he left France he dropped the title and rosette for good. G.J.Y.)

3. I very much doubt if you are at all right in your estimate of Kasimira's character. As you yourself pointed out to Hunt, she has been of considerable value in the past and has always acted with extreme decency. Her behaviour, when plunged into the Fontainebleau ordeal, was

f

beyond all praise, and in all subsequent crises she has acquitted herself nobly. It rather amuses me that you should give her credit for the one thing which she does not particularly deserve. I should have got into very much better physical shape (and very much more quickly) if I had been alone tramping the desert. Her physical senses, as you know, are praeternaturally acute; and she suffers in ways which we can't begin to appreciate/ understand, any more than we can appreciate the effect of the Spirit's Chain on the recalcitrant demon. Her tantrums, unreasonable and outrageous as they are, seem to be the shrieks of an animal who is being vivisected. In those states she is not responsible for what she says any more than ~~the~~ a supposed criminal in the Scavenger's Daughter with the thumb-screw gauge machine 333. (Note. A.C. used to call this the Boulometer. You judged your resistance to pain by the extent to which you could turn the screw. He had mislaid the instrument by the time I first met him. G.J.Y.) For instance, having gone to really a great deal of trouble to get her the facts about her boy's career, she would not send on the information to you on some ground perfectly trivial; so trivial that I forget it. I think it was that she had her own money, and did not want help from anyone, and was not going to be dependent. She does not understand the subjunctive mood, or the precise weight to attach to any statement of fact or expression of opinion. And she has no sense of humour. If you say to her 'you must be crazy', she wants the Lunacy Commissioners to intervene with the judgement that she is in full possession of her mental faculties etc. She is also liable to create misunderstandings by this same unfamiliarity with the English language. She strenuously denies that she received any 400 dollars. She merely talked volubly about hoping to get it. Hunt did not understand this and of course the fat was in the fire. Now (personally pending investigation) I believe her statement. I cannot believe that even a Slav can be so finished a comedian as to weep in season and out of season, and whether other people are there or not, over a misfortune which has not occurred. In the course of last night's fireworks, the principal display was the further statement by Hunt that the capital was actually available, and that the letter sent by Mrs Reynolds was written for the sole purpose of being sent to you and deceiving you about the situation, and that the covering letter was destroyed. Now if this statement is correct, a gross and mean fraud has been perpetrated, and the matter cannot possibly rest where it is. I will not be a party to any such intrigue. If at any time I am mixed up in any way with any criminal action, I make a point of demanding a full investigation. It is part of my magical formula that I should be able to show that I have never at any time associated myself with any forms of dishonesty with which people prominent in the Occult world have always been associated. Now, if I sit tight at the present moment, it is quite clear that I make myself an accomplice. My position would be absolutely impossible, for I should be acquiescing in the misappropriation of Miss Eaton's money. (With regard to yours the position is a little different, as you specifically left me a free hand as to how I should dispose of it). Now I am not going to have it on record that I, for one moment, condoned or winked at any action which would jeopardise the capital entrusted to us by Miss Eaton. The utmost I would do is this. Supposing that, say, a thousand pounds fell from the skies unconditionally, I would just pay off all debts, tell the criminal to go and get herself hanged some where else, and start afresh. But, pending this golden shower, I cannot see anything much for it, but to

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make a will in which my estate is to be administered for the benefit of the creditors--which it would then ~~am~~ be amply adequate to do- and shoot myself.

Hunt explains earnestly that any kind of scandal at this moment would destroy the whole work which we are trying to do. But that work is based upon my personal integrity and my success, which involved a doubt being legitimately cast upon that integrity, would vitiate the entire base of the syllogism. I don't care what scandal might result. I do not care if I have to sleep under one of the numerous bridges over the Seine- some of which are artistically beautiful, and others, I understand, more hospitable. I don't care what happens in any sense whatever. My first consideration is to keep my honour unsmirched. It would not make any difference to me if I were certain that a jury would condemn my action. A miscarriage of justice does not hurt one. What I cannot do is to allow suspicion, even if that suspicion existed only in my own mind, that I was being induced by some material advantage to ~~acquiesce~~ acquiesce in fraud.

not
Hunt's statement is, of course, so monstrous that it is hard to believe that there is some misunderstanding. The motive of Kasimira's action, taken as a whole, is totally inadequate. Her conduct would imply such complex perversity as to be inhuman. If we build this statement into our logical structure we can only ask ourselves, why in heaven's name she does not simply go off and be happy. There can be no doubt of the fact that she is worrying herself to death in the present circumstances. Perhaps I need to read a few more works of Dostolevsky, but that is the way I feel.

It may strike you that this letter is developing into a mere defence of Kasimira, but that is not the case. I am simply recording a personal impression. I know she says all sorts of perfectly rotten things, but I believe these to be (as I explained) mere cries of pain. They are not associated with well-being, and secret satisfaction in having to put one over everybody, but with serious nervous and physical distress. Her happy moods are those in which she is charming and willing to help in every way.

However the doubt subsists and must be resolved once and for all. The whole situation must be investigated independently. Affidavits must be obtained from Mrs Reynolds and others. Kasimira herself ~~must~~ must be induced to give us access to all necessary documents. She feels or pretends to feel very hurt that doubt should be cast upon her good faith; and this is only natural. At the same time, she apparently cannot see that the only person who has ever cast doubt on her honesty is herself. (By the way she sends one arrow back to you by reference to your famous letter at the time when Saturn was passing over your moon) She does not see that it can only be to her own advantage to put her cards on the table. But as she won't, there is nothing for it us but to look in her sleeves. Hunt is writing you separately. He wants to arrange the whole business diplomatically, and I see no reason why we should not be allowed to do so. The real point of honour with me is to safeguard Miss Eaton's interests. I should like to make one remark about the magical aspect. She began by getting some remarkable magical results, but every time something turned up to upset the entire apple-cart. I am inclined to put the whole trouble down to the original magical opposition to our work.

4. I hope you have not written the letters to Germer and the

the others. Your letter to me was evidently composed in a very excited and nervous frame of mind. Letters such as I imagine you would write would knock the whole castle about our ears. Let me point out that you are taking a totally false point of view of the state of affairs. You write of 'Cape's refusal', and Cape did not refuse anything that I proposed. I have maintained all along that the Memoirs, as written, are merely compilations of material for the production of a book. I think they should be printed ultimately in their present form, rather as one prints Hansard - as a state document for future reference. But you don't expect anyone to read Hansard unless their living depends on it. Cape said what I should have said in Cape's place, that the manuscript should be boiled down to a reasonable size. Of course in this process any libellous statements would be suppressed. The interest of the Memoirs does not depend upon my opinion of other people. It is a record of work and adventure. My disagreements have been very few, and don't involve any serious issues.

If you have mailed these devastating documents, I hope you will immediately telegraph the addressees, saying that you wrote these letters in complete misapprehension of the facts and to await further letters. (Needless to say I let them stand. G.J.Y.) Apart from that I don't understand why you should have written them at all, however gloomy you might have been feeling. You distinctly told me that any lender or potential lender had no right to know anything of the action of the directors, except at the annual general meeting or in the annual report. It seems to me the worst possible thing you could do to shake confidence; both in our interests and theirs. The way things are, unless Hunt is childishly optimistic, an extra 4,000 dollars in the bank would immediately enable us to pull off the whole bag of tricks. The only reasonable possibility of paying back the loans is success; and we have got to secure that success by any and every fair means....

(I minuted the above letter "Kasimira a bloody nuisance. Cut adrift as soon as possible, but first get her to repay her/loan the money lent her. Use any subterfuge. G.J.Y.)

53

Copy of letter A.C. to C.V. Church (an American lawyer) I Nov 28

Last night Mrs Bass (Kasimira. G.J.Y.) owned up to a course of double dealing in this affair of the investment. I am sorry to say that the confession was not spontaneous but wrung from her conviction that discovery was immanent. She did not come across frankly, ..and in the course of the confession itself attempted all sorts of shifts. The principal points are these. She has been borrowing money on the grounds that she had not got any of her own at all, but it now transpires that she has for some time had 800 dollars or so in the Bankers Trust. Mrs Reynolds of Los Angeles, who holds her power of attorney to collect this 10,000 dollars, was induced by her to write send a fake letter to Mr Yorke for the purpose of deceiving him. This letter stated that the money would not be available for a year or more, whereas it is the impression of Mrs Hunt, who saw the genuine letter covering the fake, that the cash was now available. This letter has been destroyed... In my private capacity I should be prepared to shoulder the whole responsibility and replace from my own resources the 2000 dollars or so which represent roughly the extent to which Mrs Bass has benefitted by her spontaneous offer to invest this capita, but the money is, at the moment, not to hand...

Mrs Bass repeated last night that the money was not available at present, but that if it were she would be glad to invest it. She offered to go to you and talk things over. This is excellent... On 11 October she left this apartment without informing me of her intention, removing her clothes etc secretly under cover of night. This however appears to have been a more or less nervous gesture. She returned on Oct 23 on the strength of a memorandum handed to her the previous day. The essential passages are as follows

"... Now what I propose is that you should put the whole affair in the hands of Mr Church, instructing him to collect the money for you... Provided that you do this, I don't see why there should be any serious difficulty in financing you to a certain extent, paying for Joan's schooling etc..."

She has hitherto evaded compliance with these terms. Last night however she offered to go to you and talk the matter over... I do not feel justified in spending a single penny further in her support unless this matter is settled... I hope you will impress on her the seriousness of the position, and not allow her to get herself deeper into trouble. Any overt act, such as another secret departure or the withdrawal of the funds at present in her possession with a view to evading this question, would leave me no choice but to resort to public action...

----- 54

A.C. to G.J.Y. 5 Nov 28

I sincerely hope nothing is wrong. In your last letter you said you would send me some toothpaste the following day--which has not arrived. This does not matter except as a symptom, but you have taken no notice of a very important letter which Hunt and I wrote you. I am too busy with ~~important~~ the unfortunate developments of this matter to go into the details... The whole thing is clearly, to my mind, part of the magical opposition to the publication of Part III of Book 4. The fantastic nature of the difficulties is evident. The great misfortune is that one has to work with people whose initiation is inadequate. They do not know how to protect themselves from attacks to undermine their loyalty. However there is only one thing to be done - to stick to our gun and win the battle...

----- 53

A.C. to G.J.Y. 5 Nov 28

Yours of the 2nd. Hunt and I are now quite in agreement as to the form of the Memoirs. You and I and Hunt are now quite in agreement about the button. (A.C. stopped wearing it and calling himself Sir Aleister. G.J.Y.). You, Hunt and I are now in agreement about Kasimira, insofar as practical considerations are concerned. I am still convinced of her essential integrity. All this trouble is due to misunderstanding on her part, and perhaps a certain lack of tact on ours. But that again is chiefly due to her hysterical moods. Church however does not seem to see his way clear to go on with it. He thinks there is no case as far as criminal proceedings are concerned, but I think we shall get a French lawyer to handle the matter for us...

--- 54

A.C. to G.J.Y. 7 Nov 28

Thanks for toothpaste and Abramelin oil... It is not worth my writing to you about Kasimira, as the situation is still too complicated. I am still in the hopes of arriving at a compromise... You need not be afraid of my

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afraid of my falling out with Hunt...

A.C. to G.J.Y. 8 Nov 28

--- 54

...Without any reason in particular, I am still quite hopeful about Kasimira. I think that the basis of my optimism is simply that her little stay in the country appears to have calmed her nerves, and when she is normal she is perfectly delightful. I have never faltered in my opinion about her goodwill and good faith. On a great many of the subjects of disagreement she has been right. The real errors have been her insistence upon trivialities. One is right, for example, to pick up one's hat which has blown off, but one cannot do it in the middle of a bayonet charge. But I am quite sure that all these little fusses were dictated by a genuine concern in my welfare, and we all have to admit, generally speaking, she did very good work and helped enormously in the reconstruction. I could tell you various incidents which prove astonishing devotion.

If you agree to Cora's proposal (to guarantee a loan from her by taking out a life insurance policy. G.J.Y.) I hope that you will cable her that you will arrange the matter. We do need 1000 dollars at once to carry on...

Hunt's limitation is that he sees everything in the terms of journalism. He is apparently unaware of the existence of the serious occult public. The trouble with him is that he is a cynic. If he could only believe in people, and look for noble motives instead of base ones, he would be in a very different position today. But of course if you expect to find nothing but copralite out of a mountain side and don't believe that the gold nuggets that you pick out are gold, you can't expect to get rich.

P.S. What happened about that sample of the geomancy box? A thing of this sort should be put through without any delay at all. Our great need is marketable propositions to show to possible buyers

A.C. to G.J.Y. 12 Nov 28

I believe everything will be all right now that the eclipse is over. It was squaring my Herchel and my Saturn, and really rather knocked me out of line time. I had disturbed nights and bad dreams. All this ~~next~~ month Saturn is going to trine of my Herschel and sextile of my Sun and Saturn, and this ought to make for very great success. The only trouble is that Jupiter is still hanging about in opposition to his radical position in my horoscope; and I am afraid this is going on for some time, as he is retrograde and will pass over the bad spot some time next year...

The immediate crisis is rather irritating. I am cabling Germer this morning to try and send 100 dollars weekly pending the arrangements... We are all right for this week, but next week several rather heavy payments have to be made. We need thirty or forty pounds more than we are likely to have...

By the way I don't think that K's share of the expenses comes to more than 1000 dollars, though of course I can't give exact figures, and if so we have lost nothing provided that we can get that bill paid. I am going to see what I can do about it.

Hunt interrupted this letter by ringing up and said that he had heard from you about Miss Eaton. Are you quite sure that it is wise to tell him all our business? I think Hunt is a good man, but I am quite

idea

sure that he has to be made to toe the line all the time. In two months he has seen one man, Stapley, and introduced me to two people, one of whom is perfectly useless from my point of view. I don't think that is a ~~lot~~ whole lot to have got for £40. Nothing but success would justify him. His ~~idea~~ seems to be to have as many ~~drone~~ drons in the fire as possible, and to give the minimum of time to each. It is of course quite an absurd policy and explains his non-success. Of course you must use your own judgement, but you are handling the business end of things, and I doubt whether it would do any harm if you made it quite clear to him that there would be nothing doing on December 1st unless his results to date justified it... He claims that his total expenditure is in the ~~nature~~ neighbourhood of £20 a month, and he was therefore to devote all necessary time to pushing our business. If he regards this salary merely as a retaining fee and just throws out a little ground bait here and there in the hopes of getting fat commissions, I don't think it is good enough... A financial statement of sorts should be ready sometime during the week. It is going to be very complicated, but it will clear the way for simpler dealing in the future.

A.C. to G.J.Y. 14 Nov 28

55

...I think prospects here are very good... A number of miracles of a very obscure nature have occurred. I can't at present foresee the issue

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*Translating the Golden Verses Only
some 16 verses survive unpublished*

A.C. to G.J.Y. 55 Avenue Suffren 18 Nov 28

...My Greek dictionary has come from Leipzig, so I shall be able to go on with the Pythagoras.

I think your letter to Hunt was a very good one. He was considerably depressed by Stapley's failure to get the Memoirs across. My impression is that the price would have been in the neighbourhood of a couple of thousand pounds, so that he and Stapley would have been able had about sixteen hundred pounds to divide. I did not protest, because the victory would have been invaluable; but I think that in settling future terms you should mistrust blind contracts...

The instalment from Cora, mailed last Thursday, should reach you about the 22nd or 23rd. It is imperative that the money should be in the Banker's Trust Co by Monday the 26th at latest as there is a post dated cheque for the 27th which must be paid...

Relieved from the strain of Kasimira, I have been able to start serious magick with ritual precautions. The climax of the first ceremony was marked, as it should be, by the sudden arising of a violent wind; and subsequent ceremonies have been equally notable. I think the results are already beginning to appear; and, bar accidents, something important should break during the week.

I have further (and probably final) news about Kasimira tomorrow morning.

The thing I really lack is Abramelin incense, I don't see why the package should not be mailed. I don't think there can be any duty on it, if it is declared as incense for religious purposes. It would be a good plan too if you could have a pudding sent over. It is wanted as artillery in the campaign against Mrs Freeman.

Claude Farrière was tremendously impressed by the story I told him at lunch - the story of the ghost of Father Bernard from the Memoirs. He has asked my permission to use it as the foundation of one of his own

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books of short stories. He has also given me a very warm letter of introduction to Pierre Benoit, the author of Atlantide. Mount Illiman may come to something.

A.G. to G.J.Y. 20 Nov 28

57 *Magick*

All along I have had the gravest doubts as to whether anything could be done with the serial rights in England. It would be quite different if some really important person (? Wales) undertook to back the vindication. It is a vicious circle.

Montagu Summers appears to know what he is talking about. People generally do want a book on Magick. There never has been ~~one~~ an attempt at one, anyhow since the Middle Ages, except Levi's. I don't see why you should expect me to give authorities. I am not one of the scribblers. The book is revolutionary. On whose authority did Buddha base His work? But this is all confusion. We have the world-famous expert, Mr Arthur Vivian complaining that the book is not original. We have these other world-famous experts saying that it is so entirely original that it is worthless. And then there is the other world-famous expert Dr Birven saying that the book has to be read in the light of the authorities from whom I have taken it. You are quite wrong by the way in thinking of it as having been dictated. It is true that the skeleton was dictated about 18 years ago, but the whole thing has been re-written repeatedly, and the original dictated portion does not amount to more, I imagine, than 5 per cent of the work...

The opinions of Evans, Earp, and Ogden need not be taken seriously; with the possible exception of Ogden they know practically nothing about Magick. I think I know pretty well what they want. A lot of high-faluting stuff with a literary angle to it. They don't understand that fundamentally it is a cold dry text-book. The idea of the 'sole purchasing public' amounting to 150 is ludicrous. There are many thousands of people all over the world who know my name, and respect me as the greatest living authority on the subject. This is admitted by my bitterest enemies. It is even insisted on by them. Without exception, students of occultism who have looked at the manuscript accept it as a classical text-book. You note that they themselves say that they were anxious to read it; ergo, there would be plenty of people just as eager, and those people will buy it, which is all we need worry about at the present moment.

My system is no more traditional than Darwin's. At the same time he relied to some extent on previous authorities, such as Cubier, Bouffon etc, and I have presented the occult tradition faithfully, throwing at the same time an entirely new light on it. You cannot answer the criticism, because the criticism is nonsense. Incidentally, it is not even true. There are quite a number of references to people like Frazer, Poincaré, Eddington, Einstein, and Levi, and at the same time to the great ancient classics of the East. But the point is, as the book itself explains to some extent, that the whole bulk of magical writing in Europe is either hopelessly obscure or nonsense. Do not forget that the tradition which I represent has always been a secret tradition, and that I only publish it to-day because of the impending catastrophe to our present civilization.

I quite understand the difficulties about the Three Wishes. The ending is quiet in the way that a judge's summing up is quiet. But

the criticism would also apply to almost every successful play that has ever been put on the stage. The whole idea of the last act is that the storm and stress of the play is over, and the public is asked to survey the results. I challenge you to mention either a Greek play, or one of Shakespeare's, which lacks this quiet ending—this judicial summary.

The question of the two equal female parts is of course, I understand a crux, but this should be turned into an asset. You have got to find two good actresses good enough to have the guts to play against each other. That is just the psychology which will make the play a tremendous success once it is put on... *Hapiography or Compassions Moonchild*

Of course the Hag needs rewriting. About the Net—some of the names could be changed. That being done, I don't think anybody is coming to court to wash all the dirty linen of the G.D. *Golden Dawn*

It is never any good asking a writer, who is not a publisher's hack, to chop his books about. Self-respecting authors won't do it, especially when they have no clear idea as to what is actually wanted. How can they have? They have already written the book with a certain idea in mind; and you cannot expect them to write some book which is not their's at all...

I have no objection to publishing the whole of the A.A. instructions, preferably in a cheap and popular form. Liber LXV should be printed separately with the comment. *[We added a number in as appendices]*

The Cactus was never written. What existed was a package containing something like 100 records of people who had experimented with Anhalonium Lewinnii, and this package was sunk in the Mudd. I could however write a short treatise on the subject, if I were commissioned to do so. *[Was destroyed by the Customs when crates of 1955 etc were sent from Cephalus]*

I think Ogden and Earp might like Liber Aleph, as it is very literary. The Urn is simply a magical diary. Liber CVI is just a brief essay. Liber 265 has not been written. What we have is the material in my diaries of my own work on the subject. (What I want is a staff of about six trained people to put all this immense wealth of material into publishable shape). You might try them with The Voice of the Silence... *Alaph now published CVI on Death. Published in the International 265 on Structure of the Quinaxil* *Mind not known*
About the Geomancy Box; Regardie and I will ~~try~~ do it ourselves; if you will send over the specifications... I can then get a professional model made... Then you can offer it to the proper people in London....

The way to get me to complete any given piece of work is to commission me to do it, and to have it ready by a certain day. Then I am on my honour and the things gets done.

A.C. to G?J?Y. 21 Nov 28

D. John Dee

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A.C.'s disciple head of OTO in S. Africa

...I don't see what Windram has really done with his manuscripts (re Dr Dee) He does not seem to have made any genuine discoveries, which I think is quite absurd, because he is an extremely advanced Exempt Adept and has had all this stuff for a long while. I only had ten days in the Bodleian, but in that time I had advanced so far that I felt quite sure that an extra month would have put me in possession of the whole secret. My time being limited, I just had the manuscripts copied; but they were sent direct to Windram and I have not been able to see them since. I am making a stab at going on with the Pythagoras. In fact I am quite enthusiastic about it. But I really need a Skeat's Etymological Dictionary. Mine was destroyed by the Custom's authorities on account of its gross obscenity. If you happen to have one I should like to borrow it

it. If not you might look out for a second hand copy.

P.S. Our Yi symbol for dealing with Mrs Freeman is 28, the Well, which appears to indicate we should have a very carefully prepared clean plan. I think it is very possible to interest her, but you are certainly the person to do it.

A.C. to G.J.Y. 22 Nov 28

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taken later by Mrs's 2nd wife

This is to confirm my telegram "Eighty pounds but transfer whole amount other obligations imperative. Letter follows". ..I think it would be quite useless to try and make explanations before your visit of Dec 3rd. The situation is much more hopeful than either you or I suppose. It is not easy to explain why, as a man whom I telephoned was not in, and I can't reach him before to-morrow morning, and I have to send off this letter at once, but I stick to my psychology...

Cora's remaining 3000 dollars ought to be here within a few weeks, and I personally doubt whether we shall need any further capital; but there is no reason for not trying to get some. The immediate urgency refers to rent, about 3000 francs, and cash to carry on at least until your arrival...

Kasimira's defection left us unexpectedly without funds. What I did was to arrange with the tailor to pay the balance on the 27 Nov with a cheque for 10,000 francs, on receipt of the balance 2,400 in cash. That enabled us to live for a fortnight; and (as Mrs Moser voluntarily compared my financial status with the Bank of France) there is no real trouble about the rent. But it is much better to pay the rent on Saturday, than say a week later. Otherwise she will probably change her bank; in the matter of comparisons.

I hope you will not think me perfectly gaga; but I have not at all lost hope with regard to Kasimira. The whole question has been one of misunderstanding on her part and tactlessness on mine, complicated with these worries of hers which have deranged her nervous system. It is perfectly stupid to forget that her whole action was spontaneous, and the logical sequence of a number of other actions which displayed the noblest characteristics - much nobler than the three characteristics of the Buddhism! She was simply put off by quite natural worry. She had not patience required to take her through the last ordeal. But if you think she will act in the way that you presume she will, she would simply be the most heartless fiend that ever lived; (alas my fears proved true. G.J.Y.) and she is nothing of the sort, and it is ridiculous to pretend she is. The above eloquent discourse is intended to indicate to you that negotiations are still pending. There is no point in their being pending if she simply intends to cut the painter. (This expression is a nautical and not an aesthetic metaphor).

The real problem is Hunt. He is so badly poisoned by his newspaper experience that one cannot drive it into his thick German skull that I am straight. His idea of introducing me to someone is that I should carry out some comedy with a sinister expression and mysterious gestures! Here am I trying to change the whole course of the world's history, (and succeeding pretty bloody well, whatever you may think) and he wants me to play a trick that might be all very well for one of the innumerable chiefs of the Rosicrucian Order whom I have known. As the French eloquently say, and as their dictionaries now admit is proper to say, "merde" -- and the English for that is - consult the Dictionary!

A.C. to G.J.Y. 55 Avenue Suffren 23 Nov 28

I have been elected a member of the Caledonian Society. Can you possibly get over (with your glad rags) for the banquet on Friday night? Your presence might be extremely helpful. I think about the best course that I can possibly take in the present circumstances is to be seen about with some of the good English crowd in Paris. The thing that made the Sunday Express trouble possible was the fact of my always having led such a solitary life. I was personally known to so very few people. It is partly my shyness, and partly my feeling that social intercourse is a waste of time. But now that it can serve the Great Work I shall overcome my reluctance.

P.S. Magick going very strong-phenomena.

P.P.S. Reception is at 7 and dinner at 7.30 p.m. Dance to follow.

P.P.P.s ... If Ogden fails us I shall send "Magick to a Paris printer getting it out in six parts and I should like to do this by the time of your visit. So try to get in touch with Ogden before you come over. That is the one great issue. (Note. Ogden was connected with Kegan Paul Paul at the time. G.J.Y.)

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A.C. to G.J.Y. Y Marconigram 26 Nov 28

Disaster unless immediate telegraphic transfer hundredforty.

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A.C. to G.J.Y. 26 Nov 28

I must preface my letter by saying that yours of the 23rd seems to have been written in a rather nervous state... I cannot help thinking that it was a great mistake to tell Hunt that the £200 had come in... On general principles Hunt is our paid employee and has no right to know anything about our headquarters plans.

The cheque for £90 is ..quite useless. The way things are run in this country, it might with luck be cashed in four days, but it is just as likely to take ten. The situation is briefly as follows. (I have already told you about the cheque for the tailor). On receipt of your telegram on Thursday I wired you, and proceeded to draw cheques payable on Tuesday morning for rent, and some other small items. With my last week's salary and also my present week's salary, the total is about one hundred and forty pounds. These cheques will be presented to-morrow at the bank; and I think the best course is for you to have your bank telephone the Banker's Trust Co to honour my cheques. Germer writes that Cora is sending the other 3,000 dollars so that there is no cause for financial anxiety for months to come, even if nothing else turns up, provided that you trust me to use the money properly... You do not understand this question of accounts. Writing you would seem to be hopeless. There are so many points. But I will give you an example of what I mean. I have to pay for household expenses out of my salary (the £10 a week on which he was supposed to and had agreed to live. G.J.Y.) Now sometimes I give Regardie the money to pay the concierge. Sometimes I buy the things down town out of my own pocket etc. However all this sort of thing is of no importance whatever in reality. It simply makes it difficult to keep track of items. ... You next club me by postponing your visit. I sent Aumont his fare to come and see you on Saturday next. He can't alter the date of his visit ... There is also the question of seeing a lawyer with regard to Kasimira : and I do hope you can come in time for that banquet on Friday night. Please telegraph that you can. "With you there to buckler my shyness, I can make more useful acquaintances than Hunt could get in forty four thousand years.

...When you say that it will take a ~~maximum~~ minimum of five years to check my system, which is not mine at all but the traditional system expounded in the light of modern scientific thought, you probably mean five incarnations. You do not know; you cannot know; you cannot even ~~believe to know~~ imagine the constituents of the public. The people who will buy this book perhaps at the cost of months of saving, are very often in all essentials the same public who think I am a cannibal. They will value the book very largely because they don't and can't understand it. This is a pity; but it is a fact, and from a business point of view it is a favourable fact.

I think it was a great mistake for you to put off Hunt from using my letters of introduction. I was not proposing that he should go to these people to raise money or even 'a meal'. It was all part of an elaborate scheme in my mind; and I don't know what curse I have involuntarily incurred, but I find that the people with whom I am trying to work cannot follow the workings of my mind, and they always manage to mess up my plans in some perfectly stupid way. I want you to realize that my mind is one which can formulate combinations in chess. Now suppose that I wish to explain to you why I make some move on the board. It would take me not only hours to do it, but, in order that you should even be able to understand it, it would require months of severe study on your part. "God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform".

...I did not mean that I was waiting for six secretaries to make a start. I meant that had I six secretaries I would employ them all usefully. I am working like hell to get things done, and I am perfectly furious ~~with you~~ that I have to waste to-day and to-morrow (which I had mapped out for all sorts of things) in trying to rectify the confusion caused by your failing to telegraph the £200 as soon as you received my telegram sent last Thursday. The whole idea of this salary, and so on, is to enable me to work in tranquillity for a number of months, and if I cannot do this there is no chance of success, I should have thought this was obvious. I give you a precise example. I have a business appointment with a man down town this afternoon. If I succeed in getting him to see my point of view, it means thousands of dollars in the fund. Instead of this going properly, I have to do various things which are technically illegal, and might conceivably get me into serious trouble, in order to be able to get down town in proper condition... Incidentally I have to write to all these people who very charmingly accepted these post-dated cheques to explain. All this takes time and causes intense worry.

I welcome you with enthusiasm to the mysteries of the Square and the Compasses. I hope you did not mind the little ordeal, and I thank you for passing it on. I will explain this mysterious remark when you arrive.

Astarte sends you her love. She is having a hell of a birthday
His daughter by Ninette 61 Shumway. A nice child

A.C. to G.J.Y. 28 Nov 28

...It appears that we may have to wait indefinitely for this 3000 dollars from New York (Miss Eaton G.J.Y.), but I am still of the opinion that arrangements can be made in the other direction. An interview has been arranged for Friday morning....

Thanks for the Skeat. I want incense by the truckload, but I already have enough oil for at least a year. Oil is wanted but rarely - a

drop to consecrate a given object--whereas incense can be burnt at the rate of something like a quarter of a pound per day if one is getting materializations. This in fact is just about what we are getting. The phenomena that have taken place in this apartment, since the High Priestess of Voodoo (de Miramar, G.J.Y) displaced the woman from Samaria (Kasimira Bass, G.J.Y.) would be quite interesting to the Psychical Research Society, if any of them are not in a coma.

The pudding may be regarded as a business investment. I am going to arrange a luncheon party for the lady of the well (Mrs Fremman, G.J.Y) to discuss the aforesaid pudding. I think her husband will be back by that time, so that any considerations of propriety will be met in a manner exquisitely satisfactory to our finer feelings.

...I have arranged with the tailor not to present the cheque until your £90 comes through. He was not in a hurry, He was very decent about it... About the £10 a week allowance, you have to realize that it is also £5 for secretarial expenses, and we shall have to arrange for that amount to be transferred.

We are, just at present in doubt as to whether to go into a studio. We can get a real big place, where all the pictures could be stored, for about half the price of this apartment, but it would involve a certain capital expenditure with regard to furniture... I will let you know details in a day or two...

I am extremely glad that the head of Kegan Paul is a Jew. There may be some chance of getting some sense out of him. The man should be fed with all the newspaper cuttings about me being a cannibal. It is just the sort of thing that would strike him as a chance for the exhibition of his talents. There is only one policy from a business point of view. And that is to treat me as Jesus Christ- the much wronged man, the Saviour of the World in disguise. Telegraph the Pope if you don't believe me. "Quantum nobis prodest haec fabula Christi".

I have written to Aumont to postpone his visit, if he is able, till the time of your arrival...

I thank you for arranging for the transfer of the further £30. It was a great pity that I had to pay the tailor in full, but there was no obvious alternative. I shall charge the 7,500 francs to the £200 which I get under the terms of the loan for my clothes. But of course the loan still owes me the balance which I have already paid for other things. I am now fixed up, insofar as clothes are concerned, for quite a long time, unless I go to Mount Illiman, which would be an entirely different and separate proposition.

Your astral visions in Carry, though not very evidential, ought to have encouraged you about the technique, but I object very strongly to your accepting the whole system en bloc on account of success in early practices. I might be wooing you with honest trifles to betray you in deepest consequence. Please accept nothing until you have proved it up to the hilt.

You will find very full information about bills, all properly stamped and receipted... The difficulty is the apportioning of the expenses... There is no question of any money being squandered or improperly spent. We live lives of virtue so sparkling that the Eiffel Tower finds it difficult to compete with us.

About Hunt. The question is how to get him to work at all... As far as I can make out he has made no attempt to sell the Memoirs to an

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American newspaper. I particularly did not want him to know that the £200 had come in. My argument was that unless he went out and did something definite, he would not get his £20 on the first of December. I am fully convinced that this is the only argument likely to have any weight with him, ridding him of the possible conviction that we are a pack of bloody fools with more money than brains....

P.S. All's well that ends well -as the girl said when she saw the chancre on the man's penis.

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A.C. to G.J.Y. 3 Dec 28

Aumont has been here since Saturday morning.. We had a long conference with Hunt yesterday afternoon, and everything has been satisfactorily arranged. The Manuscripts are to be sent to Paris at our expense, and Aumont is to come up again and go through them with us. In the meanwhile the question of financing Aumont can be discussed between us when you arrive....

Mr Freeman is now back in Paris from New York, and I have asked Mrs Freeman to bring him to lunch to eat the pudding. Mrs Freeman is extremely charming and sympathetic in every way, but I don't wish to approach her personally about interesting her in our plan. I think it will be far better for you, as a business man, to talk things over with Mr Freeman, supposing that you get on well together. I am more strongly opposed than ever to doing business with women; the advantage is too unfair on both sides.

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A.C. to G.J.Y 4 Dec 28

...I met some quite possibly useful people at the Caledonian Banquet. But the harvest is not yet. Of course further money has to come in before any definite new start can be made, but as soon as it is possible it would be the greatest economy if it could be done. What you say about Hunt is alright. I don't think it is worth paying him any more at present. But you are making no allowance for my converting Hunt. He was very useful in the conversation with Aumont.

My dealings with Kegan Paul had nothing at all to do with the strangling of any woman. The unsold copies of my books were taken over by the Society for the Propagation of Religious Truth, because Kegan Paul were making no efforts to sell them. There was no sense in giving them any rake-off. The idea was to sell the books by means of personal advertisement. The main feature of this was the offer of £100 for the best essay on my works, which was won by Captain Fuller with the "Star in the West" So please loosen the rope round the poor ladies neck.

Dealing with Rodker is going a little too far East for to be odorous. He was (1913-1914) the dirtiest, slimiest kind of person that I ever met. He used to come round to my studio because there were free cigarettes. Mary Butts picked him out of the gutter; had him washed and dressed, and married him, owing to a complex which she had? She wants a man who will in no way compete with her, and so bought Rodker and Cecil Maitland. She left Rodker to live with the latter. My relations with her were never very intimate. We enjoyed exchanging views. I had a friendly letter from her two or three weeks ago in which she said she was going to Italy and would see me when she came back. I will try and find time to look her up between now and your next visit, in case she has returned to Paris. We must talk the Rodker matter over at length.

I think your attitude about the A.A? system is all wrong. You cannot

** She and Maitland stayed at with A.C. M. Cepalu*

test out the system unless you buy the black egg without haggling. I supposed you had been doing this, and was correspondingly optimistic. The best evidence at your disposal is my Magical Diary. The Gods have been extremely generous with me. "No more than others I deserve, but God has given me more". They have come down very handsomely indeed in every matter but money; and I am pretty sure that I know the reason why I am not a millionaire. They have been training me to get over the feeling of anxiety about money. It is very largely gone, but I still have moments of weakness. It is not that I mind any possible hardship; but when things go wrong I have a feeling partly of annoyance at the interference with the work, especially with regard to the possible destruction of the material and partly of irritation at the stupidity of the people who have brought about the crisis, which often includes myself. But I am not in the least worried as to the present issue...

P.P.S. There will be a theatre on Friday night and two actresses to supper- apropos of the Three Wishes.

A.C. to G.J.Y 55 Avenue Suffren 10 Dec 28

It was delightful of you to leave your shoes and shaving tackle behind. We are sending them to you in the morning. It is very difficult to make a program, because we cannot be sure of the day of the arrival of the money from America, and I have either to pay a month's rent or get out on the 20th. I would prefer to get out, and take a month or two Magical Retirement, fixing up Pythagoras, and so on, leaving the Serpent (Regardie, his unpaid secretary, G.J.Y.) in Paris to get everything ready for a spring campaign. I shall probably see the Freemans to-morrow: and you never know your luck. In the meanwhile I am filled with immense courage and confidence. The High Priestess (Marie de Miramar. G.J.Y.) snorts so fubiously that I am compelled to break off what would otherwise be a long and charming letter.

P.S. She explains she was only laughing.

P.S.II. There is silence in Heaven for the space of half an hour. I can now continue my informative narration. First, the French post office strenuously opposes all efforts to send your shoes. It appears that one has to go to some remote quarter of the city, and take a number of oaths before a notary public, and then it will cost 65 francs. As there is probably some method of bribing one or two cabinet ministers, negotiations are in progress.

I repeated my last month's operation with the tailor, so that now we are free from all anxiety until the end of the month. On that date there will be a cheque for five thousand francs to be honoured. As this money is borrowed without interest, I think it is good business. The one thing that really interests me is whether we can get out of here on the 20th. That is only ten days from now, and I think it would rather break up the even tenor of our progress towards the City of God. However we will see what the next few days bring forth. I am mailing you the ritual tomorrow, as I have to go through it and put in some of the things that could not be typed.

---- 64

A.C. to G.J.Y. II Dec 28

...It is not exactly my view that the flat is too expensive. It is that we could get a much more suitable place for rather less. Now that we have got that pill around we can have an honest-to-goodness studio where we can have a circle, and do honest-to-goodness dances...

I have really very good hopes of Mrs Corey. "e seemed to take to each other at once. I think it is about a thousand years since she met a straight straight and simple man who could talk to her real self. She has been accustomed to all these syphilitic Archdukes. She spontaneously remarked that I ought to be financed. I replied that I was in no need of money, but wanted a chaperone. About the best solution possible is a person with some social connection who will run about doing our business in the way that I originally wanted Kasimira to do.

With my remarkable powers of negotiation, I think I can ~~pp/p~~ probably fix up everything here including the printing of "Magick", provided that the 3000 dollars comes from America before the end of the year. Next time you invoke Thoth, you might send a Bud-will to Cora. Astarte gives you her kindest regards, and Madame sends you a kiss.

--- 65
A.C. to G.J.Y. 9 Dec 28 (Thes should be two letters previous. G.J.Y.)
This is to remind you that it is extremely urgent, indeed imperative that I receive £50 within 3 days of Dec 9; also 3000 dollars before the end of the year.

--- 66 Good
A.C. to G.J.Y 12 Dec 28
I have found a studio which I think in all respects ideal. It is situated in the Rue Pergolèse between the Avenue de la Grande Armée and The Avenue de Bois, in quite the best part of Paris. Besides a small kitchen and bathroom, there is only one vast studio, but it is high enough (in case we want to go tiger shooting on elephants with lofty howdahs) with ample room for a full sized Circle. The furniture is really old stuff and very artistic. Absolutely genuine and just the place where one can receive royalty. There are one or two drawbacks of convenience. For instance the telephone has to be installed. But it is in a very quiet blind alley, fifty yard or more from the road. The rent is 3000 francs a month in winter and 1500 in summer. I think by taking a yearly tenancy we might average it out at 2200. The place is quite big enough to store any amount of books and furniture. It is extremely comfortable and there is a dais, occupied by a bed it is true, but which could be arranged by means of screens to form a throne in case of our wanting to put on ceremonials of the Rites-of-Eleusis type or semi-Masonic type. In other words, it appears quite heaven-sent. It has even the advantage of having a large establishment of young girls next door, who can with appropriate rites, be transformed into modern representations of the Convulsionaries of St Médard, which I think would be quite evidential.

It is also an ideal place for doing ordinary work. Such as producing masterpieces of art and literature. I think taking this studio will realize considerable economy, and (what is far more important) enable us to establish a Rashith ha-Gilgalim - a centre of whirling force from which to direct the planet--a soil and atmosphere and sun, through whose activities the Lotus that blooms only once in a thousand years may bloom.

Please let me have your paternal benediction on this scheme, and I will try to put it through within the next week. By the terms of my lease I have to give 15 days notice before leaving here, as far as I can make out. If so I should get into th new place on or about January 4th. I might perhaps arrange to take it from the 1st, so as to have everything ready there before actually moving in. In that case we might be re

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we might be ready to invoke the most terrific demons on the date of your next visit...

A.C. to G.J.Y. 14 Dec 28

67 Typical

Your dinner jacket and black waistcoat have been discovered in the secret chamber where my nineteen wives and goats are seething in their blood. It was very wrong of you to enclose the 100 francs. I am too angry with you to send them back. It was not a question of the postage. It was a question of the positive refusal of the Post Office to accept any parcels of any sort for any reason in any way. I am going to get the printed regulations - it's too annoying. I think it rather a good sign that you left behind your social uniform to take away the magic robe.

The rest of your letter has thrown us in such confusion that everything has been messed up for to-day... Miss Eaton is too stupid for any words of mine to describe. It is the only thing that she can do to lose her money, to hold it up every time at the exact moment when something can be put over. She cannot possibly tell what is going on here, and I cannot even tell you everything that is going on. I should have to write you thousands of words, and I have not time to do so. I can just indicate typical case. Yesterday I went down to see the Studio at half past two; at half past three I was seeing someone (who is neither here nor there so to speak) who knows a whole lot of people who might finance the studio as a magical proposition.

The effect of Miss Eaton's esteemed communication is to jeopardise the whole business. It throws me completely on my beam ends with regard to getting this magical support. It was already very difficult to get it on account of all sorts of domestic considerations, and really when I have to play more than sixteen games blindfolded I really do get mixed up as to whether the Bishop is on Knight's five, or the rook on Queen's eight. She has manoeuvred you into granting terms which would cause Mr Hamish McPherson of Jersey Street to have a fit of apoplexy. And then she does not carry out the contract at all on the terms agreed. She has done us 2000 dollars worth of damage by dribbling up the ball in this ~~way~~ absurd fashion, and I should put it plainly to her that if she loses her money, I don't care and you don't care and it's entirely her own fault. On the terms you offer I am sure that you can get all the money you want from the first financial agent in Cornhill or Eastcheap or wherever it is. I think you could get money on easier terms on a post-obit. And really these people can't have it both ways. They want to gamble to make all kinds of money, and then they want security which would make the Governor of the Bank of England turn pale; then they jockey us in not sending the cash at all. I am so mad about it that I would like to write off Miss Eaton as a bad ~~bet~~ debt, if I could raise the money elsewhere and tell her to whistle for her 2000 dollars. It is all she deserves.

Frankly I really do ~~wonder~~ wonder if the time has not come of ~~making~~ making a clean sweep of all this business with women. As priestesses of Voodoo they are beyond reproach. But in business I heave a heavy sigh. In the best cases they do seem to have a sense of honour, but it works in such an eccentric way that one would rather be much more at one's ease dealing with a registered swindler duly accredited by fourteen countries and the League of Nations

...What we really want is a man, with the appurtenances of a man from the beard downwards, preferably with thirteen magnificent streams of oil streaming down that beard, who will write off the whole debt as a

liability and start things fair with an adequate amount of capital

You remark that it would be folly to keep on the flat. But I put it to you whether it would not be even more foolish to leave the flat and at the same time pay rent for it. It appears that under my agreement with Zipporah we are subject to 'tacite reconduction'. If you have a dictionary which informs you as to the meaning of this expression, it is a better dictionary than that of the wife of the commissary of police of the 16th arrondissement! However my conversation with her was perfectly friendly and perfectly fair. I ought to have given notice that I was going to leave the apartment on the 5th of December. In consequence of my having failed to do so I was technically liable to renew the lease for three months, so that we are liable to pay only until the 20th of January,

I may point out that we could not in any case have done otherwise as a move costs money, and in the absence of this 3000 dollars I have to economize in every possible way. I am going to sign the agreement with the Red Cross heroine who was gassed by the Germans, provided that she will accept the terms dictated by my lawyer, and I think this should envisage our moving into the studio on the 15th of January. But we could not have undertaken all the packing and moving and all the rest of it at such short notice, even if Mrs Moses had preferred to show us out, because the petty expenses of moving would have eaten up all our reserve petty cash...

I also feel that Ogden will do something sooner or later. That bird is a curious bird! he seems rather a survival of Victorian times. There were lots of people going round London with fifty four packs in their sleeves. For instance he has seven houses in Cambridge, which he bought for some mysterious activities: if I remember correctly, to house secret societies for the purpose of studying Euripides or something equally formidable. He is therefore just the kind of person that would go head over heels into a scheme in which he was to fail to appear as the Great God from the machine. He likes the sense of secret power. I am extremely pleased to hear of your missionary efforts with General Blakeney, but the only thing which will convince these people is an interview with me. I should say that if this well-meaning but misguided Patriot would go to Amersfoort to get a document of no importance to anybody, including the recipient, he could venture as far as Paris to confront the Lion in His lair.

You say you wish you could invoke Thoth again, but why not invoke Thoth? What hinders you from invoking Thoth? There is only one way to invoke Thoth; and that is to invoke him. I want to thank you for the Abramelin incense, which is going to put everything right. We are going to burn it regularly, and do regular invocations, and that is going to put everything right in a very short time.

...I am not sure whether my attitude to Catholicism is generally understood, especially by Catholics. I have little to criticise for in the matter of the Renaissance Popes, for example. I cannot see why they should want to graft a Jewish legend, which is utterly contemptible to every Jew, on to a Pagan system which would be perfectly admirable if it were interpreted in strictly magical terms. My quarrel with the provincial of the Jesuits, who came to see me in St Moritz in 1904, was simply that he wanted me, as a member of the master class, to accept the slave psychology. That we never got any further than that was due to my youth and ignorance. I feel sure that the point behind his insistence was

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was that I could not use a doctrine to dominate the slaves unless I believed it myself. They would find me out. This is evidently justified by the history of the French Revolution, where the nobles accepted Rousseau, mocked at the theory of Kingship, and therefore had no true self-confidence whereby to dominate their serfs. They abdicated spiritually, and were properly guillotined. It is the strength as well as the weakness of these Patriot people that they really imagine every old clothes-dealer to be the secret emissary of Anti-Christ. This makes it very difficult to deal with these people. The obvious practical way is simply to fool them; and my talents do not lie in that direction. On the other hand the task of educating them to be genuine patriots with a sane outlook appears exceptionally severe.

I enclose you a letter accrediting you as my agent.

I have no fear about the issue of Marengo.

Millage and Mrs Page spent a couple of hours here last night. They seem to be almost entirely ignorant of what I really stand for. I found them extremely sensible, quite ready to listen to practical political programs, instead of bothering about minor details of the Law, and I think they are very sympathetic. But Mrs Page had the idea that we could get subscribers (for 'Magick', G.J.Y.) by whistling a popular tune, which is quite wrong... Subscribers have been fooled so often - they have paid first instalments and got left the way Miss Eaton is leaving us) that they are fed up. Given a Banker's guarantee that we can and will deliver the goods, I have not the slightest doubt we can get more subscribers than we can easily deal with in less than no time.

I expect that Mrs Page is Millage's mistress, though she did not say so, probably for some Freudian reason. I think, that if he can be made to see his way to undertaking an important part in the Work-- for instance he could be accredited as my sole representative in France, or something of that kind; one never knows what these people want, probably because they do not know themselves--he might either walk himself, or make her walk, whichever way the wind blows... I wish that 3000 dollars would arrive. I would arrange for Reggie to motor down to see him. I think he is a good sane man and a man of the world. About his magical attainment I am not so sure. I think he has been tied up rather too much with mere phenomena...

66

A.C. to G.J.Y. 16 Dec 28

... Germer tells me in so many words, not to pay too much attention to Miss Eaton's letter, because the money is coming over. He does not quite know when... Mr Shoecroft sent me a letter the day before yesterday from Mrs Bass. It is really quite pathetic, and I am confirmed in my view that she is really little off her chump. I saw Shoecroft about it yesterday morning. I think he began by regarding her as a much wronged woman, but he has had sufficient evidence to make things clear. I have a feeling that we can count on him to induce her to make a settlement....

P.S. Since then above I have received a telegram from Germer "Cora's refusal final. Further efforts hopeless", from which I gather that we shall receive the money in a few hours from now... I am utterly sick of making trying to make deals with women. They want government security, money-lender's interest, and marriage into the bargain! Then they refuse to fulfil their contract. They have no sense of honour, no sense of secency, no sense of business. And I am beginning to think we had better get a concession to exploit the palm-oil industry in

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Russia. It is jolly lucky that we have got enough to go on with to the end of the year. Between now and then I may be able to turn the trick...

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A.C. to G.J.Y 20 Dec 28 55 Avenue Suffren

...I am really not surprised about that violent headache. We seem to be in the middle of a Magical attack-about the worst there has been for a long while. We must surely be on the brink of some striking success. Everyone here has been ill in some way or another...

I spent a very pleasant hour with Mrs Freeman. I think Hunt tried to make trouble. I fancy things will develop sooner or later in a favourable sense, but I want to talk to Mr Freeman, not to her ...

Yours of the 17th... I am of course putting the matter in the hands of the Ministry of the Interior and the Sureté Général. (Hunt had written me what A.C. interpreted as a blackmail letter. It probably was the first step towards blackmail. G.J.Y.) I must say that I gasped. The truth of the matter is that the rascal is quite desperate. By betraying everyone, he has lost everybody's confidence... I admit that I was wrong about him. I thought he could at least do the job he has always done... What he did was of course to pocket the money as if his uncle had given him a Christmas present. He was never playing a straight game at all. I don't yet know what it was, but I do know that it was crooked. I am going to tell you a story to give you an idea of the sort of thing that people seem to be able to think of.

A lady wanted to get into the movies. A man came to see me and engaged me as an expert to go down to her little villa at Barbizon, on the border of the forest. I was to direct the taking of the test film, and I was to have 1000 francs and my expenses. So far so good. But what he told her was that I was the director of a wealthy film corporation, and that not only would I engage her as a star, but I would rent her place at Barbizon to have part of the films taken there.

I don't know if this idea seems to you particularly brilliant or not. But to me it seems perfectly stupid, because there was a showdown within twenty four hours, and the whole thing came out, and everything was blown sky high. However that is the sort of thing that that Hunt does. At my interview with Mrs Corey, it seemed clear that Hunt introduced her on some false pretence or other, I don't quite know what. However we got on very well, and she then invited me to go out to lunch and see her place in the country last Friday. Then Hunt's manoeuvres started, and I really don't know what they were. The point was that Hunt had described Mrs Cory to me in the grossest terms, which are quite unjustified, exactly as he did in the case of Mrs Freeman, and I made it plain to him that I was not going to be a cats-paw in any crooked scheme. I cannot imagine that Hunt would be so asinine as to attract the attention of the Sureté Generale to himself.

I quite agree with you that we have to concentrate on Book 4 Part III. I am going to refrain from any overt action unless actually compelled in defending myself.

I am very glad that you take the view that I do about Kasimira, it is an abiding grief to me that she should have gone so terribly off the line. I sometimes wonder whether I have not been foolish of late years in taking the banishing pentagram as read. But there is something about ceremonial magick which reminds one of certain diseases. At a certain point they begin to cure themselves. A resistance is set up

39

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against going on with the practice, it is quite an irrational instinctive thing.

On this subject, the priestess of Voodoo has come out very strong. We have been doing a good deal of work despite ill-health. One of the things she has discovered, without any prompting on my part, is that there is some influence in my neighbourhood which hinders me from putting anything over. This corresponds exactly with the facts. Aumont jeered at the whole thing, when I told him about much more loudly than you did, and six months later he said to me that "if I see you across the street and want to cross it to talk to you, I feel very uncertain about getting there". But that is the situation that we have got to meet. Whether it is the opposition of these mysterious forces or not, I cannot say. It may be some grave error in my working. I am going to investigate and conduct a careful examination into the business on original lines, and will let you know the result in due course.

At the risk of giving you a swelled head, I have to say that I am almost frightened at the progress you have made in understanding. Madam de Miramar, too, is extremely impressed by your capacity as a Magician. So am I, only afraid you will do too well too soon, and become fanatical. She talks about you all the time. I feel very satisfied about the whole situation in every respect. The things that bother us are accidents which pass at any moment. Realities are perfectly sound and perfectly satisfactory.

I won't bother about Hunt at all unless something transpires. I am having his letter copied, returning the original to you. I only want to add one thing... I believe you have my own fault. My own great fault, about which I was told in the Vision and the Voice! It is the problem of keeping silent. Several times you have told Hunt things of which there was no need for him to know, and thus put weapons into his hands. Perhaps the most curious thing is that I had a severe scolding from the priestess, out of a perfectly clear sky, on exactly this point. I confess frankly that I don't understand this question of silence. The nearest I can give it is written in one of the Little Essays on Truth.

P.S. I send you Leegram's letter giving an estimate (for Magick)... it is probably more expensive than Turnbull and Spears, but we shall have less bother...

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A.C. to G.J.Y. 22 Dec 29

Just a line about the Geomancy box. We have a sort of rough model, and only lack the geomantic signs of the planets, which I thought you had given me at Carry. But I cannot find them anywhere... There have been no new developments of any kind, and I am rather fed up with being sick. I hope you have a merrier Christmas than we are likely to have.

(Think letter)

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A.C. to G.J.Y. 23 Dec 28 55 Avenue Suffren

3

...I received a cable from Germer that he is mailing 3000 dollars on Monday. Allowing for Christmas delays, I assume that this will be available on Monday. Allowing in Paris by about the 3rd. The plan which I propose is as follows. The experience of the whole of last year

seems to me to indicate that the opposition is first and foremost due to the publication of "Magick." We have therefore to concentrate entirely on this. I enclose a letter to Lecram, which I think should do the business.

I propose to leave here on Jan 20th and hide myself in some remote village with Pythagoras and the Yi-King, there to live in the very cheapest way possible. Most of the things here can be stored. What is really necessary for the carrying on of correspondence and other essential business, can be left with the Serpent (Regardie). This will be good for him too, as he will be able to perform Yoga instead of crabbage. You will notice I am contemplating an edition of 3000 copies. This means a very great economy in the long run, and gives us a reserve of stock. You must remember that books of this kind are not like best-sellers, but have a steady sale for years. Only yesterday I heard that people are still wanting the Goetia in America, despite the fact of it having been pirated by some Yankee thief.

P.S. The Stilton is still holding out bravely; in fact some of the wise ones are offering a shade of odds that it will win by a K.O.

A.C. to G.J.Y. 25 Dec 28

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[knock out]

Hunt's original letter was, I suppose, pure bluff. His recent letter to you is obviously his poor attempt to climb down without losing face. As I said before, the best thing we can do is forget him...

My marginal note was not intended to affirm that any given manuscripts have not been seized. (This refers to cases brought by Mudd to England from Cefala. The whole shipment was seized by the Customs as containing indecent material. G.J.Y.) It is in fact probable that duplicates of these diaries were in the cases, but I don't care in the least about this. What I meant by my note was that these particular manuscripts had not been destroyed. These exist and I think it will be a reasonable precaution to have them re-typed and put away in different places for security. I am delighted with your report about the Customs. It is deliciously characteristic that they should preserve just those portions which they suppose to be obscene, and destroy the rest. What other portion would they understand? You say that the Attorney-General prosecuted. But I want to know whom did he prosecute? I wrote to the police--whether Inspector Collins or Inspector Goddard, I am not quite sure--offering to come to England on condition that I was prosecuted, and asking them to preserve the contents of the twelve cases as material for my prosecution. This challenge remained unanswered. *One or two of these letters survive. I have copies*

~~Please~~ Please do not minimize these documents. They are clinical observations of the first importance. It has always seemed to me to be an important part of my job to clear the world of the plague of sex, and it should be obvious to nearly everybody that the first thing to do is to explore the psychology and pathology of the subject in the most complete manner possible. (I don't make any considerable contribution to medical science, if I write that 'cancer is a troublesome disease' and that applications of lanoline often fail to cure it'. Krafft-Ebbing, Freud and others have done valuable work in the observation of behaviourism on one side, and of subconscious psychology on the other. But what I have done

have done isto analyze every detail, and to bring up every impulse into the region of rational consciousness. If ,for example, Mr Robinson, the Churchwarden at Little-Footling-on-Sea, without the slightest warning rapes his wife grand-daughter, what it concerns us to know is what the mind of Mr Robinson was during the process of his conversion from a man whose principal pride in life is to pass round a velvet bag, to the atrocious madman who commits this crime. I claim to have made a serious contribution to this problem. There is no sense in saying, "well, these things do occur" and blaming the devil. We want to know why they occur, and not only on vague empirical motives, like the general iniquity of human nature, and the fantastic forms which insanity takes. We want to know, and follow the process step by step. The whole blaa about obscenity is an attempt to cover up the facts. No-one in his senses wants unpleasant things to happen to anybody. But unpleasant things are always happening, and the chief reason is that the aetiology is not understood.

I find that in practice when I make some perfectly simple remark, or plain statement of fact about this matter, I provoke either a frown or a leer. In either case, it means that I have uncovered something in my hearer which he wishes to keep concealed. I remember trying you out in the Luxembourg Garden by using the word 'cunt', You would not have been shocked if I had said 'finger-nail' (I refer you to my poem in the Equinox- 'Sorites'.) A surgeon has no such troubles. He may have to operate on a woman's brain or her uterus; but his sole preoccupation is with the anatomy of the part. He is neither excited nor horrified. He has completely forgotten the fact that the generative organs possess the reproductive function, and we have got to get the world back to that state before any clean-mindedness can obtain.

Your remarks about Capri take me back into the Faerie Queen of Herbert Spencer. I went to Capri with Leah Hirsig, the afternoon of Set. 18 1920 e.v. We put up at the Hotel Tiberio. The following morning we went round the island in a boat to see all sorts of grottoes, which were all very boring and Leah was horribly sea-sick. That afternoon we returned to Naples. It was the most tourist thing I ever tried in my life, and it is really quite remarkable to think that I made all those enemies. We did not even speak to any people, other than the waiters and boatmen etc. It really make me cry to hear 'such bloody nonsense' If I may quote the pregnant phrase of Mr George Bernard Shaw.

You rather surprise me in talking of the Sunday Express backed by the Daily Mail. The Daily Mail has, so far as I know, kept very sensibly out of the whole business. It has never printed anything disparaging about me. And then you go on again about Capri. Really, I begin to believe the story of the bicycle pump and twins that the 'Duchess' gave to the Prince of Wales. I have grave doubt whether the authorities could bring any such evidence as you suppose in any real or imaginary prosecution. We have not yet got that far.

...My idea is to get 'Magick' printed and distributed in Paris. It never occurred to me that you should handle the distribution. Apart from any personal question, you have not got the machinery required. I don't think you will hear much more from Jix, a few months from now.

I think the Daily Mail is quite right in supposing that the flappers are in revolt, and I should not be in the least surprised to see Mr Cook Minister of Occult Agriculture, or something similar. With D.O.R.A on the one hand and the entire corruption of the police on the other, England is morally riding for a fall. The people who are going to be hit

* Home Secretary. ~~More~~ Hear more is inaccurate

The geomancy box was to be called The Empire of Fate. As the needle of a compass in the center of a circle. You approach your forefinger ready to it until your body heat causes the needle to swing round. Withdraw finger, the needle stops pointing to a number. You look the number up in the pamphlet & there is your answer. It failed. The delicate balance is evidently the people who are not at all to blame. England will go the way of Russia unless something serious is done about it. What makes me apprehensive is the complete blindness of all these people about the actual situation. They are frightened. They are too frightened to analyze conditions. Giving Christmas puddings to starving miners is not going to stave off any revolution that I ever heard of. What annoys me is that if I am to become Home Secretary I shall have to stand as a Socialist, whereas I am not merely a Conservative, but a Tory, as nearly as possible like the first Duke of Wellington.

It would be a good plan for that £60 to arrive without delay. It would leave the 3000 dollars from America perfectly clear.

It is absurd to be depressed. Athanasius Contra Mundum. But it was the world that lost out. ... The Geomancy Box will be ready to go to the professional model-maker within the next 48 hours. *broke down was the box*
P.S. I find it difficult to reconcile Fabre D'Olivet's translation (of the Golden Verses of Pythagoras. G.J.Y.) with the Greek, and I cannot find anywhere in the book the edition which he used. I have been all round Paris to more than a dozen shops which specialize in classical books to try to get a critical edition, entirely without success... *was moved about*

A.C. to G.J.Y. 26 Dec 28

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...I am still on the sick list. I expect to know my number in the course of the afternoon.

We had a very good time with invocations last night. The Priestess went into a lucid state in which she saw the general O.T.O. symbol, and the interesting thing is that she saw it in such a form that it could not have been a memory of the symbol we normally use, in case she had happened to see it somehow.

A.C. to G.J.Y. 28 Dec 28

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Jix (the Home Secretary about the Harper Conf. Conference 474)

At the expense of the publication fund, I had Mr George H Slocombe to ^{sup}lunch. He is the Paris representative of the Daily Herald... He agrees that ~~are~~ hearts are likely to be excoriated by the deace of our beloved monarch, and that the young Rehoboam will begin by cleaning out all the prehistoric Teutons who have been running the court for so long... *(The Home Secretary about the Harper Conf. Conference 474)*

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The mistake you have been making is to appeal to people whose experience connects them with this cannaille, whose sole interest is the obscene, and they naturally give you the reactions of just that kind of public, whose sole function in life is to dam everything decent. It is the

The geomancy box was to be called The Emperor of Fate. As to the needle as if a compass, in the center of a circle, you approach your forefinger slowly to it until your body heat causes the needle to swing round. Withdraw finger & the needle stops pointing to a number. You look the number up in the pamphlet & there is your answer. It failed: the delicate balance is evidently the people who are not at all to blame. England will go way of Russia unless something serious is done about it. What makes apprehensive is the complete blindness of all these people about actual situation. They are frightened. They are too frightened to analyze conditions. Giving Christmas puddings to starving miners is not going to stave off any revolution that I ever heard of. What annoys me is that if I am to become Home Secretary I shall have to stand as a Liberal, whereas I am not merely a Conservative, but a Tory, as nearly as possible like the first Duke of Wellington. *The needle was so delicate that it*

It would be a good plan for that £60 to arrive without delay. It would leave the 3000 dollars from America perfectly clear. It is absurd to be depressed. Athanasius Contra Mundum. But it was the gold that lost out. ... The Geomancy Box will be ready to go to the professional model-maker within the next 48 hours. *broke down when the box* I find it difficult to reconcile Fabre D'Olivet's translation of the Golden Verses of Pythagoras. G.J.Y.) with the Greek, and I cannot find anywhere in the book the edition which he used. I have been around Paris to more than a dozen shops which specialize in classic books to try to get a critical edition, entirely without success...

73

was moved about.

G.J.Y. 26 Dec 28

...I am still on the sick list. I expect to know my number in course of the afternoon.

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The mistake you have been making is to appeal to people whose experience connects them with this cannaille, whose sole interest is the obscene, and they naturally give you the reactions of just that kind of public, whose sole function in life is to dam everything decent. It is the

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sole satisfaction of their suppressed instincts. You are an intelligent man with diplomatic qualities, and I am an ass. It is therefore your particular job to put these things over with the wisdom of the Serpent, I reserving to myself the innocence of the Dove.

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A.C. to G.J.Y. 29 Dec 28

My number is not I20 as it might have been, nor O, as I thought quite possible. As a matter of fact, my diagnosis, both from a magical and a medical point of view, has been vindicated with such distinction that I am liable to burst with pride. The trouble is a species of local infection, which appears to be the common characteristic of a magical attack, and I have an idea that we are being subjected to something of the sort. The Shulamite is herself completely under the weather, although not at all in the same way, and I am beginning to wonder if your silence of the last few days may not imply that you yourself have been got at. You will remember that just before we left Paris, all three of the persons cooperating were stricken with blains and boils. This exactly at the moment when we started to get some big things going in the magical line.

Things will be all right financially if relief arrives before the 3rd January, though it is somewhat hard sledding. I am quite determined to cut down expenses in the most radical way after January 20th, unless something quite unexpected turns up to justify us continuing on something like our present scale. Unfortunately it is the old dilemma. If I have to live in Retirement, I cannot do any business. If once we can break through the vicious circle at one point, the Victory will, be won. After all, things looked worse in March 1918!

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A.C. to G.J.Y. I Jan 29 55 Avenue de Suffren

I think Aumont may become very much more important than ever in the next few weeks. Some French people of importance are nibbling; and it ought to be possible to interest them in getting translations made, if it is only that they put up a certain amount to have copies of the first typescripts...

I gave up hopes of that studio. The old woman was quite impossible. She wanted references, and I proposed an interview at Church's where we could exchange references... She did not reply to my letter, but went to Church behind my back, and started trouble. It is obviously impossible to have anything to do with such a person. However we shall look for another studio.. and if we can find one for 1500 francs a month, it will be best to take it. In any case Regardie's rent is now 500 francs, and even if I sleep under bridges, it will cost me more in roasted chestnuts. It is also a great pity to destroy the continuity of work. They used to tell me as a child that 'three moves were as bad as a fire' The Serpent will excuse my putting the quotation in so gentele a form.

Regardie whose motto was Nachesh - the Serpent in Hebrew.

The essential requirement about the Golden Verses is an honest -to-God crib. The fact is that I am so uncertain of my scholarship that I am afraid to write down the translation which appears to me to be correct if it differs too obviously from that of Fabre d'Olivet... *[It is never finished]*

My immediate needs, as you humourously describe them are approximately as follows: the tailor 5000 francs; Marie, the femme de ménage

the 500 francs; the concierge, 400. An act of truth in the form of a cheque to get cash to buy actual food -666 francs. I shall try to get another cheque for the same amount cashed this evening. (P.S.Nothing² doing). This is the damn nuisance of the thing. In order to cash a cheque when you haven't any money, you have to lunch or dine somewhere ~~and~~ and bang goes another saxepece. There is a small cheque due on Jan 3 Besides the accursed tailor. The others will be on the 6th. But I do need £70 urgent. This will merely cover outstanding debts; it takes no account of immediate necessities. (I am really annoyed about this; at least 5000 francs could have been postponed indefinitely if there had been cash in hand

Cleopatra (de Miramar.G.J.Y.) has come out very strong as a housekeeper. She makes admirable soup out of the atmosphere when the wind is blowing from Grenelle. Incidentally she is deeply touched by your expressions of esteem and affection, and I think you will have the greatest difficulty in interpreting the secrets of the IX degree O.T.O when you arrive in Paris. Incidentally (again) we have been doing very intense magical work for some days past, despite ill-health and this acute attack of nixes on the kick.

To continue about the immediate needs, there is a check out for 300 francs approximately, and I have to pay Regardie's rent which is 400. In view of the heroic conduct of the aforesaid lady, I really think we ought to be able to manage on the £10 a week. You have to remember however that I have had no salary for the last fortnight, and there is an overdraft of about £8 at the Bank

.... My old and dear friend Fidelis wants me to go to Frankfurt. But this is hardly the time of year. I believe about the best thing if we have to move is to go to the Studio Apartment Hotel in the Rue Delambre, for say a week to give you a reasonable show (when you come over).. Even the Serpent feels he ought to have something like a genuine headquarters to work in. Not merely a hotel room where he can stack books and manuscripts in a corner. We have gone so far on the road to complete reconstruction that it will really be rather a tragedy if we have to break the whole thing up.

The only books on lunacy suited for your perusal are those of Henry Maudsley. He was an ultra-materialist, but probably the sanest man that I have ever met. In particular he had the unique gift of writing on insanity without disquieting the reader on that particular point. He understood, and it is one of the greatest lessons I ever had, that any given idea is not necessarily insane. It is the exaggeration of the importance which one attaches to it which determines the morbid condition. For example I firmly believe that I am the Knight of the Holy Ghost, and I am prepared to argue in favour of the idea. But if it is going to come between me and my dinner, I am not going to bother about it for one minute. If I started worrying the House of Lords, and spending my time with lawyers, and the College of Heralds and so forth, I should be a little bit touched on the subject. I want you to lay this very much to heart. Your own nervous composition is delicate, if not unstable. You get very rightly the proper reactions to various magical propositions, but so far you have not done anything stupid from the ordinary point of view of the ordinary man of the world. What I want you to do is to keep in that condition. At a pinch I want you to be able to say that you are merely playing a comedy... On the other hand, that point of view is not

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to prevent you from making the supreme gestures, because you can equally well argue that the approval of Society, or whatever it may be is just as much a bogey as Taphthartharath...

You don't seem to have quite got the essence of this idea of crossing the street. The point that is that Aumont is competely sceptical of Magick, and that a long chain of circumstances convinced him that there was some mysterious opposition to the most ordinary matters being successfully accomplished where I was concerned.

The question of confidence does not arise. It is quite obvious that 'if the sun and moon should doubt they'd immediately go out'. That is what I have been trying to drum into you and Germer. I never doubted for a moment that we should get this \$ 5000 dollars...

Your remark that to admit the existence of occult apposition is to incur it, is, in a sense, quite true. But one must not shut one's eyes to plain facts and live in a fool's paradise. But don't you think, to come down to brass tacks, that you might try these theories on Ionides? But here we approach the question of silence, and I must again admit that I am very far from sure what that means in practical politics. It certainly does not refer to the mere cunning of the average knave or politician, who double crosses his pals. The very sanctity of the idea shows that it cannot refer to anything less important than the/ a settled habit of mind, and what that habit can be, I am not capable of making even a

conjecture... I am. I am particularly intrigued in this matter because old Nile herself (de Miramar. G.J.Y.) has been giving me several smart lessons on the subject... If I understand her aright I should depart for Jericho astride a unicorn on the 20th of January, without acquainting any one of my intentions, and that on my return, while I might admit that I spent a pleasant winter in Assyria, I should say nothing about the unicorn. I am a plain man, and there are moments when I deplore that her method is so bloody oracular. But with regard to the mere circulation of knowledge, I cannot see that anyone need doubt that the guards to that knowledge are adequate. what.. can be more secret than a paper on the acetyl derivatives of the benzoyl compounds of india-rubber? It is true that I often do the wrong thing at the right time. But if you will consult my works, you will discover why it will be very hard to convince Scotland Yard of the fact. This is a joke!

Your understanding of Magick is becoming deplorably formidable. Your psychology about me though is quite wrong, But it is so rightly wrong as to extort my reluctant admiration... You say that you do not propose to do any magical work of your own for 12 months. But I thought you had read Book 4 Pt III? In case you have not let me emphasize the fact that any act you do is a Magical act, and that you are advancing according to the Will of your Holy Guardian Angel, and that to use the somewhat suggestive phraseology of the Holy Books, your coetry is merely one of your magical weapons. You are so to speak a dangerous woman... The mistake would be if you allowed yourself to admit consciously the existence of the aforesaid coetry. One does not wish to see you in the position of the man-eating virgin, whose mother had brought her to India as a forlorn hope. At the same time you are quite right not to miss any chances. So let us try to put over something really important for the 18th or 19th. From the magical point of view, I do think we need to have some kind of studio with a floor big enough for a circle. And everybody is going to work like hell to get one...

I think you are quite wrong to regard England as hopeless. The

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reactions which we have recently observed seem to me the last stand of a desperate people. They started raiding the night clubs, which were, I assume, quite harmless imbecillities, with the result that everybody is going insane playing poker for fantastic sums in their own houses.

I wonder how long it will take people to see that all these public restrictions are merely encouraging private extravagance. I think it is fair to say that public vice takes care of itself. People of common sense limit their follies. The others knock themselves out in very short order. When you have private vice, you stimulate the instinct, and what is even worse, you put the people on their guard. Therefore they last longer, and do more harm in deceiving other people, than they would if the whole thing were open and aboveboard.

The affair at Brooks', which as a matter of fact was the Portland Club has been minimized. The cat was a full-grown lion, and if I had not alleviated its pangs, it would have assuredly raped Queen Alexandra. Kindly recommend me for the M.V.O...

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A.C. to G.J.Y 3 Jan 24

...What you say about the trust deed seems inadequate. I may have in some optimistic moment said that Regardie and I could live at a pinch on £10 a week, but that must have meant mere living. Is there to be no allowance for postage, paper, etc. I also call your attention to para (a) of clause 2. I only do so to show how impossible it is to make hard and fast rules of this kind. Exceptional circumstances are always turning up. If the capital would allow it, I should certainly think it wiser to keep on this apartment. We could economize Regardie's rent if he came to live here. Otherwise the whole plan of constructive work would be broken up. We have the address of several studios, and will try to find something at a reasonable price. But we ought to have in view something like semi-permanence... It is absurd, when people are getting interested, to break the whole thing up. As things now are, £10 a week plus rent is adequate.

I saw Church yesterday and he is making out a contract with Aumont.. The main point is that he is to deposit with us copies of the translation as soon as they are ready...

Regardie has got his hands extremely full with the most important work. Altogether apart from his training the work he is doing for us even had he no interruptions, would take something like six months. He must be regarded as the apple of none's eye. He must be protected like a pregnant queen. It would be absolutely comical to put a man of his value on the job of addressing circulars (to get sales for 'Magick'). Personally I don't think that the circulars sent out in the way you suggest would bring in a dozen subscriptions. Most of these people are either hostile or scared, or both. Our appeal is just to those people who are sick of all the bloody nonsense of the Hoosehoo (How's Who).

I really think that the key to your letter is the combined cold and headache of which you complain. I tell you we are in the middle of a magical attack. Last night was the first night I had a natural sleep for about 10 days. The Queen of Sheba is herself feeling pretty rotten, constant cold, fever, and headache, and heaven knows what else...

I am not taking any further notice of Hunt, because the business in hand is

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in hand is to get out Book 4 Part III. But please don't imagine that I am afraid of any libel actions. I have looked in every cupboard in the flat, and I can't find one, and it is a good many years since I began calling people scoundrels when I felt in a pleasant humour after dinner.

...
Either we get a studio suitable for Magic, or we simply leave Regardie where he is, and I pack my rucksack. What you say about making money last is not quite fair. I have really a high sense of economy so highly developed that I am positively accused of avarice. You must recognize that it is necessary to make a show of decency if one is to attract the right kind of people. The problem is simply how to do this on the available funds. To mention one incident. There is a Mme Barbe, whom Galignani told me had got all the Equinoxes and was exceptionally interested, and had written me, only I did not get the letter. Mme Barbe has disappeared, but her sister the Countess of Something (connected with spiders) had an address, so I wrote to it, and the aforesaid Countess (of the sixth part) forwarded my letter to Mme Barbe. The next thing is that the Countess rings me up and says that Mme Barbe will be back in Paris during the month of January. I say, well I'm here until the 20th and after that I'm not sure. This seems to upset her, because she has probably got private information that Mme Barbe will arrive on the 22nd. This may mean absolutely nothing. On the other hand, it is an opportunity, and if I am to do any good at all, I have got to be in a position to jump at opportunities...

I applaud your courage in admitting that you do not agree with Goethe. In my humble station, I can only say, 'Who am I to argue with Jesus Christ?' I refer to the matter of the sparrows and the lilies and all those buggers. I must ask you to define the word 'miracle'. As I take it, it is something at which one wonders. It appears to me, that it does not matter in the least what the thing is; it depends upon one's own faculty of wonder. Now please don't write back that you disagree with Berkeley.

P.S. The Bank have no money yet. Anyhow we need about £20 arrears; i.e. £30 to arrive Monday next, and after that £10 arriving Monday is good enough. Oh the waste and worry of these waitings!

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A.C. to G.J.Y. 5 Jan 29

A rather extended magical ceremony last night gave us -among other things- more 'Light on the Path'. It appears that Aumont gauged Mr Hundt's intellectual capacity much more accurately than we did, and proceeded to pull his leg by a tale of my raping a little girl in Tunis; and -this is where he really became funny- and that his family put up enormous sums of money to hush the matter up. Hunt swallowed this hook line and sinker, and wrote off that idiotic letter to you under the impression that he had got some genuine information at last...

I hope that the Vision and the Voice will be ready in a week. But it is very difficult work (the Comment thereon; G.J.Y.) as the pages have to be arranged so that the footnotes fall as they should. My idea is to have a book which can be published separately. There is another difficulty about this book. The intensity of the Visions is such that after all these years I can hardly bring myself to read a page, at least of the more important Aethyrs. I think if I were in the desert, I might be able to stand the magical strain. But as things are, I am simply

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a Equinox 5 Supplement

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shaken like a leaf at the mere touch of these things. This prevents me from supervising Regardie's work as I should. There were a few ~~omissions~~ omissions of quotations etc in my manuscript, and I don't seem to be able to force myself to look for them. If you could understand what this means you would be very much encouraged, and very careful...

Madame de Miramar thinks that this apartment (55 Avenue de Suffren) will do perfectly well for ceremonial, if we get her a piece of canvas on which she can paint the circle. This can be put down when we want to work, while the furniture can be moved into the dining-room or the hall. I do think that this is honest-to-god good sense. When you vacillate it has the most paralyzing effect on the work... I am still on the sick list, but expect to be all right in a week.

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A.C. to G.J.Y. 7 Jan 29

In pursuance of your esteemed instructions of the umpty-umpty instant we have imported the Serpent, thus saving some 500 francs or so for the present. But the combination of my health and the weather is not immediately favorable to flat house-hunting. I really think it will be best to carry on here. But I want a telegram from you to say so...

I had a long and very interesting interview with Holroyd Rhys of the Pegasus Press... I am sending him the Net and the synopsis of the Memoirs...

I think people interested should be asked to contribute either £5 or £10 a month. If the former sum they would be entitled to all works published. If the latter, to receive copies of the typescripts of unpublished works as they are got ready...

A.C. to G.J.Y 9 Jan 29

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...I will take on this apartment for one more month... I am doing everything possible to economize. I expect Madame de Miramar is going into the country for a few days, so that will reduce expenses in a sort of way... Really I could do nothing to find a studio. The weather has been perfectly impossible, and I have been practically confined to the house... We are quite penniless... If you cable £40 immediately on receiving this we should be able to carry on at least till your visit.

...

A.C. to G.J.Y: 10 Jan 29

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...I am very annoyed about the Golden Verses. The only thing I can do is to get a first rate Greek Scholar to go through the text with me, and make a literal word-for-word translation. It could be done in two or three days, and it ought not to be difficult to find a sound man...

I have just received a letter from Mr Reeck, and send you a copy with a copy of my reply. Please make the necessary dispositions on the strength of this answer. This reappearance of Reeck messes me all up about Goedel. I understood that Reeck had abandoned all hope of placing the Drug Fiend... In consequence I handed the book to Goedel, with full authority to go ahead. My only plan is to refer all business questions to you. With your clear buoyant brain, you will be able to clear straighten out all my iniquities...

The last paragraph of your letter reminds me very much of my

[I was 28 at the time]

myself at your age. But your 'act' is not sufficient. You have not made any magical link. Your act is not an act of truth, but of superstition, a sort of '13 Club' stunt. If you 'knowingly and deliberately' spill salt, as the municipality of Paris has been doing by the thousands of tons a day for the past week or so, one need not expect any particular misfortune. There is a catch in all this business somewhere, and it is up to you to find out where it comes. I thought I had made it perfectly clear that in order to evoke a demon, it is not sufficient to go through the preparations and conjurations as laid down in the Grimoires. It is just the same thing trying to make an artist by buying him all the colours and canvasses he wants, with a short book of instructions, preferably by Ruskin, as to how to do it. Hitherto I have been profoundly impressed by your comprehension of Magick; for the first time you appear to me ~~to~~ absurd. As I said before, I am reminded of myself (and that is not a nice thing for you to have done.)

A.C. to G.J.Y II Jan 29

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L of Magick

...I did not ask you to correct Lecram's proof. I supposed you would understand that what I wanted was your approval of the general style. Your remarks about my retiring until the final proofs are ready is a grave ~~ex/pt~~ misunderstanding of the situation. My constant supervision is required until those proofs are ready. Afterwards not before is the time for a run across to Bagdad on the Rolls-Royce.

I am cutting down the supply of mineral water after to-day, as you are right in thinking that typhoid fever is cheaper in the end.. I note your remarks about Aumont and the £20 are entirely contradictory to those in your previous letter. It is this sort of thing that messes up arrangements. I really do wish you would read that agreement since you are always talking about it. It is no good telling me that the money arrives automatically on Monday, when it does not do anything at all, but arrives about 11 o'clock Thursday morning, and then take no account of back salary owing. All this hamstringing of your race horse diminishes his efficiency out of all proportion... You must not think we are being extravagant. We have none of us been to a single place of entertainment of any kind since your visit. General expenses have been very much cut down. The High Priestess, despite really serious ill health is acting like a real trump. But your suggestion that we should take turns to scrub the floor is not really as economical as it sounds.

I am sure you will see from the two matters of Rhys and Reeck that it is fundamentally necessary for us to carry on... It would not save a penny to move into a cheaper apartment. It would cost just the same to eat and drink, and any economy in the rent would be offset by the inconvenience of getting at papers, and the complete loss of credit which would follow any transferring of headquarters to a slum... The rent is due on the 20th. As you say it is 3000 francs...

A.C. to G.J.Y. I2 Jan 29

I have received a very satisfactory letter from Aumont. I have not received your promised draft of £20 to his order. You have made me break my word to him. Like the late Queen Victoria, we are not amused. He is very anxious to receive the money on Monday. I have

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sent him my cheque for £20 I ask you therefore to arrange with the Westminster Bank to telegraph their branch in Lyon to cash this cheque over the counter on Monday...

...Incidentally we never know whether we are going to have anything to eat, because it is quite impossible to find out from the Bank what money is or is not there. This also induces an irritation unsuited to our exalted grades. I want to have enough money in the house to go on for a month without bothering.

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A.C. to G.J.Y 13 Jan 29

The Serpent had returned to Eden (from hospital G.J.Y.) My rheumatism is almost right; and I cut short the chill by taking severe precautions. But we had a terrible day yesterday coming back from Fontainebleau. I am not worrying about my own health, but I am very concerned with Regardie's. He has to be extremely careful not to overstrain himself in any way for the next couple of months. This puts out of the question any possible move for the present. We shall also have to keep the femme de chambre ménage here all day to make telephone calls and run messages commissions...

Now I have to write you very seriously. A certain very unpleasant incident occurred which I am asked not to describe at present. But it shows that Hunt and Mrs Bass are engaged in a criminal conspiracy and are quite desperate at the failure of their pretty plot to pull the legs of the police. I have got a feeling that they are being forced into a counter attack, but I shall not do anything unless something further occurs, and then only after giving you the full facts. At the same time it is perfectly clear that a cause célèbre filling the papers at the time of the publication (of a glick) would make us millionaires, especially as we have just got a clean bill of health from the Préfecture. //

Levi himself mentions the difficulty about the 'presence of the master' and certainly his life is one long example of the difficulty of 'crossing the street'. Here was a man of extraordinary talents in numerous lines, and he did not receive one per cent of the recognition that he should have done.

If my letters are really being opened in transit, it is your duty as a tax payer to send in a formal complaint to the P.M.G. that they are doing it so clumsily that you find it out at once,.....

P.S.IV. I am now at liberty to reveal to you the terrible secret which I hinted to you in the body of this letter. It appears that I, having departed for Fontainebleau on Friday afternoon, Madame de Miramar went forth for her own base purposes, I think to the cinema, on Saturday afternoon. She was followed, I understand, more or less from the house or its vicinity by Mrs Bass. At any rate Kasimira took her seat beside Mme de Miramar in the omnibus, accosted her and began a sort of *ciné* cinema-Roman conversation. She was evidently quite furious at having lost her last chance in life. From various details it seems certain that she must have been in communication with Hunt as part of a general plot, and further that the house has been watched. For instance, it seems that she knew that I had left for Fontainebleau the day before, and therefore took this opportunity to waylay Mme de Miramar. Her avowed object was to unsettle de Miramar, and if possible to detach her. But women will be women you

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know. De Miramar is quite certain from the malice in her eyes that Kasimira would be quite capable of doing some really serious mischief; such as throwing sulphuric acid where personally I don't want it.

It is really very funny that I can never get anyone to stand up to me. They always wait to do something dirty when my back is turned. (You may quote this remark to Inspector Gogdard (Collins ?) the next time you meet him. He will know how to interpret it)

You know this policy of sitting tight is all very well, and is apparently justified by the remarks of the late Right Honourable W E Gladstone to Lily Langtry. But there is a point at which one gets ~~the~~ tired of being shot at, and remembers that both in French and English there is a proverb to the effect that the best defence is attack.

It is I think quite certain beyond doubt, as we read in the Divine Pymander, that Hunt stole my articles. He was entrusted with them; he did not return them, and the police say that they have them. Hunt being in the position of my employee, I do not see that he has any defence in law. Also incidentally I think that we can count on the sympathy of the French police. I think the proper course to pursue is to have a conference with Mr Church and the French lawyer that he employs in this kind of case, so that the accusations are formulated in such terms that the other people have no come-back

It is further my conviction, from data supplied by Smith and others, that the moment Kasimira realizes that her skin is in danger at the hands of justice, she will start to play the part of the sincere honest well-meaning woman who was momentarily misled by the scoundrel Hunt. Hunt is of course to be absolutely relied on to play the same game. His first capital was the pennies he stole off his dead mother's eyes. Please let me have your views about this by the return mail.

(It is quite possible that this letter is misdated in the original and should be 23 Jan and not 13 Jan. G.J.Y.)

x W.T. Smith A.C.'s disciple in Casadone had given Kasimira a letter of introduction to A.C.

A.C. to G.J.Y 17 Jan 29

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The final proofs of the prospectus (of Magick) have arrived to-day, and we should be able to get delivery of a good bunch by Monday. But there the matter will have to stop. I cannot even begin to formulate plans for the distribution of this prospectus, unless I know that there is money available for that purpose. This is a matter of prime importance. Incidentally my salary is still two weeks in arrears and this fact keeps me in constant difficulties. No money is being saved, but a great deal of time is being lost. Also I don't think it is quite fair; even the most patient lady expects to be able to go to the hairdresser at least once a month. This woman has behaved damned decently, helping us in every way to save, and is not making any kick, so I have to kick for her.. I ~~presume~~ assume that you will be here on Friday the 25th...

Millage sent me a Madame Sedir yesterday. She is the widow of a well known French writer and occultist. We can probably enlist her in the Cause. The main thing is to getumont in touch with her...

P.S. Since writing this trouble, possibly very serious, has arisen - will know more on Saturday. But please don't leave us penniless to fight it. It's the whole silly story, and the cop complains that, for the first time in his life, he can't understand!

A.C. to G.J.Y. 18 Jan 29

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...I cannot possibly tell you how much the whole of Lecram's Bill (for printing Magick. G.J.Y.) will come to. He cannot tell himself. There are some items which he cannot even estimate upon. There are others which are not even decided. In any case it is quite impossible to treat the capital in the hard and fast way you propose. There is not enough of it, and what we have to do is to find some more somewhere. As I said before we are in the middle of a battle, and we cannot possibly tell from one moment to another how we may have to use the money in a given emergency.

Talking of emergencies, I am now at leisure to give details of my scribbled postscript to yesterday's letter. I think Mr Hunt has been skunk enough to carry out his childish threat. The only doubt is that it seems a little too stupid even for Hunt. I don't mean the thing in itself, but the way it was done...

The facts are these. Some man from the Prefecture of Police blew in yesterday afternoon, about half an hour after the first volume of the "Magick" manuscript had been taken to Mr Cope (of the Lecram Press. G.J.Y.) - Regardie thought this a very queer coincidence, and I must say what with one thing and another, it does look as though the whole magical attack is being directed against the appearance of this book. We have got to set our teeth, and go all out and get first past

the post-. He planted himself very positively in a chair, I then asked him if he would be good enough to give himself the trouble of taking a seat. This remark seemed to recall him a little to a sense of his unfortunate position.

He began by asking all sorts of disconnected questions about Regardie, the main pretext being that Regardie has not yet obtained his carte d'identite. But there was something sinister in the way his way of putting these questions, and I realized from the first that he had something back of his mind. The upshot is that we have all got to get new cartes d'identite. He then started cross-examining me about all sorts of silly stories. "Why was I called the King of Depravity?" Did I take drugs? and what about my having been expelled from America? He cross-examined me very closely about my whereabouts for the past year. So I gave him the day and hour, every time I changed my hotel, and he began to get tired of this, and felt he was rather up against it, and stopped keeping his magical record. He asked a lot of other questions totally disconnected, evidently based on the totality of these nonsensical rumours. He even wanted to learn the Holy Qabalah, but I pointed out that it required seven years of uninterrupted study to begin to know anything about it. He said "People come to consult you, and what do you advise them to do?" I said it depended on the question I was asked, but that my sheet anchor was common sense, and that in any case I should not advise them to do anything against the law (which I honestly respect as far as it will allow me to do so).

NB

Under this treatment he became quite polite and even genial. There were moments when he so far forgot himself as to seem amused. But the main psychological phenomenon in his mind was bewilderment. He said to me frankly "for the first time in my life, I don't understand at all what is being said to me". I said that is very natural. I have been spending over 50 years trying to make myself clear, but nobody seems to benefit by my endeavours. It puzzled him that I did not take money for consultations, and that I did not tell fortunes, and so on, and so on. But he said he I think he went away in a perfectly good frame of mind. But he said that he had to make a report on the subject, and would I see him again on Saturday morning, when I go for the carte d'identite. So that is where the matter rests.

At the same time I have thought it best to try to see Church this afternoon, and get him to come with me to the Prefecture to-morrow morning. Unless thrown into the Bastille, or guillotined on the spot, I will endeavour to communicate to you the results of this further conference as soon as it is over. I don't think that anything serious will come of this, but nevertheless one must not neglect any precautions. As you say this is the moment when we do not want any scandal.

A.C. to G.J.Y 19 Jan 29

Mr Deibler has a weak heart and cannot walk up the stairs, so they let him stay in his apartment. For the same reason my execution has been postponed until he is feeling stronger. I got the little man at the Service des Etrangers in a very good mood. He seemed to be beginning to understand my jokes. He as good as admitted that Hunt was at the bottom of the whole thing, seizing with avidity upon the copy of the blackmailing letter to you, with which I furnished him.

Church thinks (but is not quite sure, as it requires further

consideration) that we can get after Huntin both the civil and criminal courts on the strength of that letter to you. There is further a plan which I have had in mind how for several years, but have not had the means of working. This is to send round some mild person to a dozen or so of people, and get /x/ who know about my crimes, and get them to tell him the horrible truth. Then suddenly turn round and serve the whole lot with writs.

I am asking you very seriously to consider this ~~problem~~ policy. It is very true that we want no scandal. But then I don't think it can be any worse than it is, since the results in the complete inhibition of all our activities. If, on the other hand, we blow the whole thing up in court, we shall be able to expose the atrocious foolishness and malice of these people, and get the whole of the public in sympathy with us. I personally think that Hunt may have unwittingly put the whole game in our hands. It is quite probable that the police will send down a man to interview him, and when they find out that all he has to say is blather, it will be a very strong point in our favour.

I hope that you will be able to spend Monday in Paris. It would be a very good thing if you could go down the the Prefecture with me and Aumont, and clear the whole thing up as far as they are concerned. The only week point in my case is my contre-espionage articles during the War.

But by a special dispensation of Providence, though I must admit I was as mad as hell about what I considered to be the stupidity of the British propaganda, and was ~~seriously~~ sincerely anxious about the whole conduct of affairs in England, ... you cannot find a single word in all those articles which is derogatory to France. I have always thought and said that France behaved splendidly throughout the whole war, and was very badly treated indeed after the victory. So from the point of view of spilling the beans, in France I think we have nothing to fear. Again, the people here judge cases fairly on the facts. They are not prejudiced by insinuations that a man has once so far forgotten himself to copulate with a woman to whom he was not married.

We have a very valuable witness in Aumont. I am not sure whether he told you of his adventures with the police in Tunis. I once gave a little tea-party at the Tunisia Palace Hotel, and somebody brought him along as interested in literature. Within a few hours the police called upon him, and asked him if he knew who he had been having tea with, because it was a man who had strangled three women in Sicily. Aumont persevered in seeing me on frequent occasions, and presently the police, who had spent thousands of francs in having me watched at night and day, came round with tears in their eyes and asked him whether he would not please explain why this monster of iniquity did not seem to be committing any crimes. So the whole matter was cleared up, and we all got quite friendly. Aumont moreover with his journalistic connections, is just the man to make the most of this business in this ~~country~~ country. It will help him enormously in his career if he is the man who knocks this house of cards to pieces. I have always said that what we want is another Dreyfus case, and I really think that the moment has arrived for us to get one.

I am sure you cannot but agree that if a splash of this sort coincides with the publication of Magick there will be no limit to the demand for the book.

Of course I am not going to do anything about until

I confer with you. But I want you to think over the policy very seriously.

I will discuss the money question when you arrive. But I cannot admit that we have "disagreed fundamentally on the subject of entertaining". An hundred francs per week would cover any costs of that kind. The only question is being able to do the obviously necessary things at once... With Paris/telephones the way they are, and the clocks going at the rate they do, I think it would save money if we had an office boy, which we could get for 300 or 400 francs a month, to call our numbers for us and run errands. It is not merely the time that Regardie and myself lose in doing these unnecessary jobs, it is the general disturbance to our work. However it is quite clear that we have got to get in a whole lot more capita in one way or another, and I am going to concentrate on that..

Regardie to G.J.Y. 21 Jan 28

... The police thank God have now discovered that all these stories about phallic orgies are nonsense. But in view of the remarkable sense of importance of, and the really disproportionate amount of idiotic ideas prevailing amongst the French police, they want you and Aumont to call at the Service des Etrangers next Monday to answer all sorts of asinine questions, which they could answer themselves, and to tell them about the 'unsuspecting secretary' and the 'King of Depravity'. Incidentally the expenses connected with this police affair have amounted to something like 500 francs....

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A.C. to G.J.Y 22 Jan 29.

Lecram is waiting for your cheque for £300 before ~~beginning~~ beginning the composition of 'Magick'...
(I sent £300 on the 23rd G.J.Y.)

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Something missing here

feeling pretty rotten, with coughs and colds and chills, and the rheumatism has begun to come back. I am taking good care of myself and going more or less on a régime. Bayley wrote me that Hunt has been writing abuse in the American papers. But it appears that it was a false alarm. He was referring to an article which appeared in April last by that super-idiot Nigel Trask. There were twelve of the ~~Seabro~~ Seabrook articles, but I had I think only ten of them. There are apparently seven missing... I understood from the police that they had the articles Hunt stole from me. It is also pretty certain that he gave them a copy of the Gilbert Operetta. (This was Gilbertian pornography. G.J.Y.) I don't propose to take any action at present...

About the publicity the ~~shes~~ point seems to be that the mud is as thick and black as it can be, and there is no room to put any more. Any change would be a change for the better, and as long as we ~~take~~ take no notice we are liable at any moment to have our operations messed up at the most critical point. Whereas if we hit back successfully, no one will ever try the game again. Bayley's information having been incorrect, the present is not a good opportunity...

Frank Harris, who is probably the greatest bargainer of all time, once impressed upon me the importance of cash in hand and the general air of prosperity. It puts one in a stronger position in dealing with any possible customers. As you may be aware, a great number of respectable middle-aged citizens keep expensive mistresses, who are no more use to them than a cautery on a wooden leg, as the French say, simply because it improves their credit on the Bourse, that they are known to be maintaining an expensive ménage...

Please see Longman. But do explain to them, just as soon as they have eaten up the synopsis (of the Memoirs, G.J.Y.) with relish, that the book, as written, is not properly speaking a book at all. It is a collection of documents, from which a book can be prepared by some ~~skill~~ skilful biographer. I am sure that is the proper form for the book to appear in at first. When that is exhausted will be the time to offer the entire manuscript, as it stands, privately printed at a fabulous figure, advertising that it contains all the suppressed passages. That is good business, and it is also wanted from the point of view of history...

I hope you remembered that the rent is due on the 20th

---- 88

A.C. to G.J.Y. 22 Feb 29

I am more or less all in with the most damned feverish cold, besides being a good deal fagged nervously. However we don't get any proofs until Monday, and I am going to look after myself very carefully till then. By the way the publicity has started! When I got to the Chess club last night, the secretary started reading a cutting from a French newspaper. It seems that the game I sent you the other day, made an impression, and I am glad to say they talked ~~of~~ about British tenacity. For all that the applause was rather embarrassing. Slocombe is coming to lunch to give me some tips about getting the distribution over. After that I propose to retire to my chaste couch until further developments from Lecliam.

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Regardie to G.J.Y. 24 Feb 29

...A.C. is quite sick, with no inconsiderable fever, and I feel a bit worried, because we certainly cannot have him of all people

sick. If he doesn't get better in a couple of days, I think I'll phone his physician, Dr Jarvis to come round and see him...

A.C. to G.J.Y 24 Feb 29

...Neptune seems to be trine to my progressed Venus for some considerable time, and this ought to enable me to put over all sorts of things in the artistic line. Jupiter moreover is passing over my mid-heaven, and that ought to bring all sorts of good fortune. At the same time I cannot conceal from myself the fact that I am still in bed with a temperature; feeling perfectly washed out. Between you and me, having gone to bed, I am going to stay there until my conscience drives me out. De Miramar is also far from well, but Regardie seems quite his little self again. It is only that he has to take extreme care not to overdo it for the next six weeks.

Our lady friend suggests our trying to get a pavilion outside Paris ~~on~~ from March 20th, where we could do Magick, and have Astarte Lulu Panthes and Monsieur ~~Laini~~ Lenine. The difficulty at present is that nobody is able to run round and look for one. We ought to be ~~abl~~ able to get a perfectly nice place with a good garden for about 1500 francs a month. But as apparently we shall not have one franc a month, the price hardly matters, does it?

... As soon as I am well enough, I will take your draft agreement down to Church. It varies so much from the original deed to which I agreed, I am not at all sure of the practical effect of the deed in its present form. For one thing I can find nothing about the £200, which is wanted for a special purpose of a magical character, and bearing on repayment of total. Another point is that the difference between £1,000 and £3000 changes the character of the whole proposition...

I still think that Hunt, with some general motive based on the idea ~~of doing~~ that anything dirty is likely to be profitable to him sooner or later, influenced K very strongly... Slocombe thinks that the Press Association ought to make an inquiry into Hunt's conduct. I can see no objection to this course. It seems to me that if Hunt gets it in the neck, it will prove to K that she has been making a fool of herself and urge her to repentance. I am sorry about any complications, but it would be silly to let the matter drop unless we get a couple of thousand pounds from some other source. We don't want to flop at the exact moment of the appearance of the first part of Magick...

A.C. to G.J.Y 25 Feb 29

Still in bed, but hope to be up to-morrow or next day. The rest had done me a lot of good and cleaned out a lot of the poisons. But of course I am pretty weak... Aumont arrives in Paris Friday March 22. We hope by then to have got a 'pavillon' somewhere in the suburbs. This plan involves of course some new finance. To change one's G.H.Q. always needs cash in advance. And we do want to change! Do a miracle please!

A.C. to G.J.Y. 27 Feb 29

...I am still in bed and the weather is so bad that it does not encourage me to do what Mrs Dombey ~~did~~ wouldn't. Nevertheless and notwithstanding I hope to be up on Friday and see Church. I am not quite clear about certain points in the agreement. It reads to me very different

indeed from the one I agreed to sign. I cannot quite agree with you about the £200. I have not had it as a lump sum for the definite purpose for which it was required, and the importance of the matter is that if I can carry out that purpose, the whole problem might be solved in the turn of a hand.... I too feel very depressed about the financial situation. It is quite impossible for me to do anything while this fever hangs about. But I am distinctly better to-day though very weak. (P.S. But my mind's gone

... I still stick to my belief that the appearance of 'Magick' will change everything. But we do want to be able to carry on somewhat largely for about a month after the appearance of the first part. It will have the effect of a resurrection, for one thing, and it will get people talking, which means not only sales, but contracts. Once they think we are succeeding, everyone will rush to get on the band-wagon.

I am sorry you don't like my fondness for fighting. But it is a poor heart ~~that~~ that never rejoices. There is no question of any legal action in what Slocombe proposes. His view is that the honour of the Press Association has been smirched by Hunt's actions, and that their committee should enquire into the matter. I don't know why you say that Hunt's action was not so very bad. I cannot imagine anything worse than an employee stealing his employer's property and using it to try and harm him. I personally think it is the most damnable thing I have ever heard of

... P.S. I came out of my hole to see the pictures of a man named Edward Bruce, whom I met last summer at Cassis. At the show was one named Martin Birnbaum, a very eminent and wealthy New York Jew who was, taking it all in all, a pretty good friend of mine. He has given up business for some years, as he had a perfect right to do, being the kind of man who makes forty thousand pounds profit on a single transaction in his clamer moments, and he wants to get a villa down on the South Coast of France. I told him about those beautiful promontories at Carry. Unfortunately he was leaving the following day, so I could not see him again. But he gave me his address care of J.P. Morgan and Co, Paris. I am writing him a letter of a purely friendly kind, but I shall mention what I am trying to do, and tell him that you may possibly put up a proposition to him. I think it is fair to assume that he respects me as an artist as well as personally, and could be easily convinced that I have been rather badly treated. But please understand that I am not attempting to advise the form of your letter. You might think it better to write in a purely impersonal way. But I think you should write.

P.P.S When banks bother you about overdrafts, it means that they are contemplating more extensive ~~tax~~ transactions. And the result/depends depends on your resources. Its a chess problem

A.C. to G.J.Y 4 March 29

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The weather keeps on being perfectly beastly. It has also been very awkward not having a femme-de-ménage. Mary had to go away to bury her brother. None of us are in good shape. I got up yesterday to have lunch with some men who have come from America to see me and may be useful from a business point of view. But my patriotism did me in. I went to play (chess, G.J.Y.) for the Coupe de Paris and they kept me to midnight, so now I have got more cold and fever. However I am working very hard in bed, and I really have a hunch that this week is going to produce some valuable results.

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It would be foolish to go out so I am writing to Church with my remarks about the agreement. My main difficulty is that there is nothing whatever, so far as I can see, about my position as Managing Director. Unless I am quite dotty I should have no authority to make any arrangements with anybody, and this is the principle duty to be fulfilled by me under the contract...

The uncertainty is particularly annoying because of the difficulty about keeping the flat. There is at present not one of the three of us fit to go round the suburbs and look for a 'pavillon'. Let's hope for a telegram from Beece about the ~~big~~ beginning of next week and possibly something doing with these blokes from America who are lunching here on Wednesday

---- 94 ? Regardie

A.C. to G.J.Y. 5 March 29

...I have still a lot of fever on me and de Miramar is very far from being well. The man of sim complains constantly of being tired. I am insisting on his lying down for an hour in the middle of the day... About the £200, you don't quite understand. The money is not wanted for clothes or other personal expenditures, but for the performance of definite magickal operation in an emergency. It is (for example) not wanted now, and could not be used now even if I had it. But the whole of the misfortune of last year's affairs were due to the fact that I was put to all sorts of unnecessary expenses in order to get this 10000 dollars. I had every reason to believe that we should be successful, and what happened was entirely unreasonable. I cannot accuse myself of folly or lightness. You repeatedly told me that last year's advances were in the nature of an unconditional loan. Of course I would have much preferred to have the capital secured on the general agreement, and as soon as we have passed the crisis I shall want you to do that.

You make me smile when you say the danger would be real if Birnbaum came in. What would happen on the contrary is that he would blow his nose three or four times, and the dollars would come tumbling into the Bank from every quarter. He is the kind of man who makes a success of everything he touches.

I think you are right about Regardie. But I personally do not think there is going to be any privation. It is a critical situation. The whole trouble is that we were delayed in getting down to real work by the ship grounding on the Bass rock. But we are now going ahead full steam...

Regardie

--- 95

A.C. to G.J.Y. 6 March 29

A.C. is in bed again with no inconsiderable fever and a hacking cough, and sneezing like the dickens... This looks like a real attack of the flu, brought on, I should say, first by getting out of bed last week before properly cured, and secondly by playing chess on Sunday for the Coupe de Paris again. All this plus the natural business worry, on which I need not comment, is probably the cause. On top of this de Miramar is not well - probably with enteritis. Myself, the less said the better, but I have been feeling perfectly rotten. I am only writing this merely to keep you informed of conditions here. I am quite nervous -- first with both of them sick, and with things in the condition they are

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A.C. to G.J.Y. 7 March 29

...The American bloke was here yesterday to lunch, and stayed

till nearly dinner time, which exhausted me very much, and I am back in bed again. (It is by the way no economy for everyone to be sick."e have to keep Marie (the femme de menage. G.J.Y.) on the job all the time, and the expenses seem higher than before. I hope to see the American, whose name is ~~Charles~~ Charles F Hart either to-day or to-morrow. He is very sympathetic personally, for private reasons which it is unnecessary to discuss, and I think it quite possible to get him to invest. He is a regular business man and evidently makes a good thing out of it. Certainly just the type of man we want...

I don't want to have to ask you for any extra money. Put it may be that I shall have to hold up certain payments for a few days. It is a perfect nuisance being in bed all the time, with all the energy drained out of me. The other two seem a little better to-day, and I am hoping to be all right to-morrow....

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A.C. to G.J.Y. 8 March 29 55 Avenue de Suffren

...The Ryerson scandal does not really concern me at all. I ~~may~~ merely went to Detroit to insist on the payment of certain bills that Rye Ryerson had given me with regard to Equinox Vol 3 No 1

The woman who sickens you should not do so. She is a Star. When I first met Jane Wolfe she believed in Woodrow Wilson, the left half of her brain, and her gall bladder. I am here to knock common sense into these people. Your conscience has to work in more than one way.

What you say about the Trust Agreement seems all right. I am probably going to Monte Carlo to-morrow--but not to play at the Casino. I cannot bother about the £200 at present. I seem to be rather busy. I telegraphed you this morning in the following terms: "Sudden most serious development attack Cross to-night if humanly possible. Shemhamphorash". What happened is that we were all summoned to the Prefecture of Police last Tuesday. I pointed out that I was ill, and could they kindly put it off till Friday. As I am still in bed, de Miramar and Regardie went down alone. They were furnished with slips of paper expelling them from France within 24 hours, and my own is expected to come this afternoon. I have immediately got hold of all the lawyers, consuls and such people; and the issue is still in doubt.

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The only indication that we have at all, is an unguarded statement by some detective to the effect that "we know what you are doing". As this is complete bunk, we are rather in the dark. But you will obviously see that if these people carry out their plot, it means complete ruin to ~~the~~ everybody concerned. If you are still in London I think you should get hold of some really important people and have them insist on an investigation. As I have told you about a million times, what we want is a show-down. And there ought to be some means of forcing one. I give it to you on my honour that we have been doing nothing in the least which is contrary to law.

If we don't get out of France tomorrow, we go to prison; and we much prefer to do this because sooner or later they will have to give some reason for putting us in prison, and when that happens we can argue about it.

It is a beautiful fine day and I hope you are having good weather in England.

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(Note. I wired back that I was not coming over. I did not want to become openly involved in a scandal which was none of my creating G?J.Y.)

A.C. to G.J.Y 9 March 29

98

I had hoped that on my use of the sacred word, you would have taken the message seriously and thrown up everything and come over at once. It is now probably too late to avert the most fulminating disaster. You would not agree with me that the only plan was to counter-attack vigorously; but if we had done this, the present situation would not have arisen. You have come to a moment in your life when you have to decide whether you are going to stand for truth and justice whatever it costs you or to keep on good terms with everybody and let your principles slide. If Regardie is allowed to go to London, he will explain the whole matter to you.

P.S. I shall of course have to give every penny I possess to Mme de Miramar, after paying Regardie's fare. I believe that the doctor's certificate will ensure my staying here for another 2 weeks. The one chance is for you to intervene effectively with the Ambassador, and insist on a show-down.

99

A.C. to G.J.Y undated.

I had your telegram of Sunday and now your registered letter of Saturday with 200 francs. I must be plain with you about your last paragraph. Did you not read that 'Fear is failure etc' as the first word said to the Neophyte? It is quite useless for you to aspire to any magical attainment whatever while you take this attitude. Better chuck it. But there is more to come. Men do fundamentally despise a coward- whatever his reasons for running away. And they respect the silliest fool who runs into danger for his side. That is what the V.C. is given for. Hang it, the first charge you brought against me was that 'I abandoned my intimates'. No, you've got to be ready to spill the last drop of your blood in the cause of righteousness. Men who do this are men, and go down to history as heroes. The other kind seldom succeed in life, but they earn their own contempt as they do that of their fellows. Even the cowards snigger at them behind their backs. "You cannot serve God and Mammon" If I were to acquiesce in your attitude, which would be the obviously good policy for me to pursue, I should never be able to look myself in the face again. You have got to choose between John Hampden and George Bubb Doddington Lord Melbourne Melcombe. It hurts me very much to write like this, but for all your fine qualities, this one vice will kill you spiritually and morally unless you stamp it out once and for all like a man.

100

A.C. to G.J.Y We/ Die Veneris.

Another 'thing-hard-to-believe'. During my absence a man called; a man whom I have known but slightly, though from 1915. He left a card "Hearing you were in trouble, I came to see if I could do anything for you". (As opposed to "I will come and see you as soon as I am quite sure that you are out of trouble"). Well, I got on to him by phone, as he happened to be in N.Y. (where I met him) just at the time when I was pretending to be pro-German, Irish rebel, etc in the hope of getting a job in our Naval Intelligence, to whom I reported all I did and heard. And this morning he came round and it turns out he knows the Minister of the Interior very well indeed- translated all his books into English etc. He also told me that Cosgrave was in Paris- Cosgrave the editor of N.Y.

Sunday world, through whom I got my introduction to the U.S. Dept of Justice as soon as America got into the War! So really I don't think it is going to be so awfully dangerous for you to come over in a year or two. In fact, if the whole trouble doesn't blow over in a week I shall be surprized.

Emilio 192 in Casaduna

Long letter from Smith this morning. He says he sent you £40 So I need/ don't need to worry about cash for a long while. Now perhaps you'll believe in those Romans! "We walk by faith, not by sight"--- Almost thou persuadedest me to be a Christian!!!

--- 101

A.C. to G.J.Y Die Jovis.

I have had to pay 2000 francs to the exiles, about 1600 for doctors and nurses to date & 5000 to the lawyer. For this he will find out who got Tardieu going and take adequate steps. But a further payment will probably be necessary at the moment of effective intervention. Once this is fixed they won't start any further trouble. "Honour among blackmailers". The lawyer will also find out the pretext of all this nonsense and we should be able to hit back hard. But I am just a little disappointed at not hearing from you-Still I suppose I shall see you Saturday morning. Still pretty groggy, but working like hell to get the Book out.

--- 102

A.C. to G.J.Y Die Lunae

By this time you will have had my miracle letter. My lawyer is away on holiday till the 8th, and has fixed up things till then. What I want you to see is that by quiet and discreet action we can clear up this whole trouble once and for all. If we can get the word passed round in the right quarters, we can sell the Memoirs and other books even in England. I had to stay on another month for Mrs Moses claimed that I had not given her proper notice. She's a tricky old swine, but this time I'll make sure. Don't accept Miss Kuntzel's £2. Those old people need it too badly.

His chief German disciiple

I'll expect you here Sat a.m. 6th April, and try to get the Minister's friend to meet you at lunch. Then we can all combine a final Victory for next week. Please wire me that you are coming. My nerves are all gone to pot, physically I shall have to have a month in the country once this foolishness is settled.

--- 103

A.C. to G.J.Y Die Mercrii

Thanks for wire. That Bank must be crazy. I had a terrible scene with Mother Moses. I think you're a little hard on the Chancellor of the Exchequer. He spends "other people's money" for the general welfare according to his best judgement and that of his technical advisers. What's the diff? Absolutely no news from my lawyer or the police. Doctor giving me strong toincs; feel a little better. No more fever but much exhaustion. And my nerves are feeling the strain. Our trouble is that the flat costs no less to run now than when we were 3. The whole show is going to cost £100 at least: but Victory will pay for all. Should hear from Carney in a week or ten days. Very annoying one can't help Aumont. I do hope you'll come over if only for a day. We have to reconstruct seriously. I've got A, Ex Co to see to all packing and storage if necessary. Shall get rid of apartment in any case on April 20th. Too tired and nervous to write any more. I need badly to see you.

A.C. to G.J.Y Die Martis.

I've got the first 32 pp through in page form. This is the last technical difficulty: so all should now be well. No news, good or bad, of the situation. I'M very weak indeed, physically; can hardly hold a pen. And having no-one to look after me its rather hard sledding. I wish you'd come over for Easter and take charge of some of the most important things, I'm really too weak to write more. No news yet of Berners 500 dollars.

A.C. to G.J.Y Die Solis.

I've been looking through your letter of Tuesday again. You talk about my 'oaths to my women'. Surely you are referring to my arrangement with the one-eyed Esquimaux about the markhor-horns! If not I confess, I'm puzzled. Really you know there is a point of simplicity in truth which you don't seem able to get. "My state is little, yet my state is good. I am a gentleman". I don't know any more.

You ought to have been here this morning. Aumont throws much light on affairs. Honestly, I congratulate you on not seeing Hunt's game. But don't you bet a sovereign that you can 'find the lady', or get interested in people who drop rosaries! I am delirious to the extent that I seem to myself to be still in Paris. (Why 'useless' if my One Work is to get out Magick?) I also believe that there are 'Veels vitnin Veels' and I take back all my derogatory remarks about the Disk. Also, don't you see that Victory counts for something, even if you've lost ~~20,000~~ 20,000 men to the enemies 12,000 as at Dettingen. You an historical scholar. Yet you don't seem to see that the whole story of England's freedom has for hero the type of man who says "Damn the cost! I won't stand by and see iniquity flourish". It's the one good quality in Puritanism, and for the first time in my life I thank God for my Puritan blood. Next week we'll see what we shall see!

A.C. to G.J .Y. 12th

Noble Hall came in this a.m. with rather bad news. Tardieu's secret secretary phoned him that the Minister knew the story better than Noble Hall did. (Note this business of my loyalty had got to be made clear, for it is a question of my personal honour and there is a prima facie case). He also lunched at the British Embassy and heard the usual rot that I was this and that, if they could only prove it! Denizot did nothing - not even turn in that certificate to the Prefecture. The inspector came this morning and was quite nasty for once. But gave me till Wednesday. I'm sure that the only way is to interest some big man in the case, as a pure question of hardship and injustice. Still in bed, fever, insomnia etc. Shall leave Wednesday night for Ostend (Hotel Etoile du Sud) unless something new.

A.C. to G.J.Y die Solis (direct correspondence)

I hope you are in touch with Noble Hall about marketing Magick. The advance copy is v good; extremely few mistakes and those unimportant.

Paris-Midi is supposed to be publishing a first article to-day giving the surface facts, interview with me to-morrow etc. Their man phoned the Embassy and Consulate and was told they had never heard of me!!! You see the idea? They daren't say a word against me, but hope to hush up the whole outrage at least till I'm out of their jurisdiction. That's were

Regardie

a man like ... (one of my uncles, G.J.Y.) might come in; with one word in the right ear he would cause an open enquiry, and the whole bag of tricks would open, and emit the mangy alley-cat. I don't see how any one could blame you for trying your best; at the worst, your only fault would be "mistaken chivalry". Denizot maintains his sublime silence, but I shall find him to-morrow. If nothing changes I shall go to Ostend Wed night by Dunkirk-Thurs a.m. The exiles seem unhappy in their pension, but R is looking for a villa. I don't know what my doctor will say, though, about climate; he may insist on my seeking summer realms e.g. Spain. I'm still pretty rotten with nervous exhaustion; have had to get a nurse in, or I'd have been quite up against it. A good honest sensible woman from Essex.

No more to say now. Bulk of stuff gone to Amexco; man calls Wed a.m. to settle balance. This is all a damned nuisance, but the Book had been definitely published; so there's only one word for the whole show - Victory.

Die Lunae

109

The new developments are amazing and I would rather not write them, if you can possibly manage to be at the Hotel Metropole Brussels on Saturday. I think we have got these swine by the short hairs, from the simple fact that they dare not come out into the open. We will dig the rats out of their holes. I leave for Brussels II a.m. on Wednesday - on Paul Boncour's advice

(Note. These letters are probably not in correct order. They are only dated by the day of the week. G.J.Y.)

A.C. to G.J.Y Die Saturni

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110

... You are all wrong about Hunt. His letter was very cleverly written - too cleverly for a man of your age. But it is recognized here as meaning; go on paying my salary or I make a stink. The other letters you send me confirm this. Also his other games. e.g. with the Grand Duke Alexander. Surely you see that if a man is discharged, his first duty is to return the papers entrusted to him. You are also quite wrong in thinking that there is any definite charge. It is a type of blackmail well known in France - Aumont can quote you dozens of cases. My lawyer says that he can certainly find out the truth; and then, Paul Boncour has only to say one word and the whole trouble vanishes. (Of course this may mean more money) I am sure Regardie was right in saying that your babbling to Hunt gave him his purchase..

Why should you think that I will come to England? I will go to Brussels to my poor friends, innocently expelled for my sake, and sink or swim with them. Don't worry about my finances. Read that Bible, hang it all! I may be fed by ravens or there may be a cruse of oil which faileth not. Or I may die; but, by God, I'll die in my tracks

About your Probationer's Oath, you should search your conscience as to what it implies. Note that because you have great natural possibilities, resources, etc you are tested harder than the average. I was myself. I had to offer all, without counting the cost; and I am well rewarded. If you could only realize how happy I am about all this! Surely at least you can see that the attack coincides with the issue of Magick. Do see, care frater, that the one and only point is to get out that book. I went yesterday to Lecram - though I nearly fainted with weakness - and put through the last difficult bits. Tuesday A.M. I hope to

65
O.K. this; and then I don't care if I'M in Brussels or Honolulu! Do see moreover that my advice to you is directly contrary to my own personal advantage.

About policy, the only way out is a complete show-down, the exposure of all these idiotic lies. I should go to my family with the greatest confidence, if the worst came to the worst. I have to have an operation on my nose die Martis. If things go wrong, may have to join my friends die Jovis. But I think my lawyer is a prettly good man

--- 111

A.C. to G.J.Y undated.

Thanks for taking all that trouble. I got the balance you sent to-day: double what I expected, so I'll be able to help R and de M when I get their address. It is absurd to suggest R going back to U.S.A. The Gods are putting him through the necessary ordeals and he is sticking to his guns like a little man. Observe it.

It is absurd to talk of keeping your name out of all this. Too many people know you as my backer. All they will say is "Why doesn't he come straight out and fight if he's innocent" Why does he hide behind Crowley, He has the money and is the hidden spring behind these atrocities"? Really you should read your Bible. "If they call the Master of the House Beelzebub etc" and about 50 stories of how it doesn't do to sneak out of trouble. Besides I cannot afford to associate with anyone who is ashamed to proclaim the truth from the house tops when need arises-as it has done now, thanks to your policy of hush hush. I

I am very sick, coughing all night; shall get out on 20th and go to hospital if not fit to travel. Meanwhile, I'm using political pull. This like the doctor and the nurse will cost money. I can't see why you shouldn't tackle Rosebery-who seems to be at Epsom. He used to stand for freedom. ^{using}

But do get this I g a man offer all his substance of his house for love, it would be utterly contemned (You might send us £10,000 a week and it wouldn't help you one cent) The Gods have picked you as a likely winner but they'll naturally make sure that you are not of the tribe of Ephraim, who, armed and carrying bows, turned back in the day of battle. There's no need to expose oneself uselessly; but you've got to be ready to ~~for~~ forget that there is such a thing as risk at all when the Zero hour comes. Incidentally please don't insult me by suggesting that I am doing something wrong behind your back. Either you know me or you don't. And I know you haven't been stealing teething rings from babies. Though by God, I wonder if you don't need one.

--- 112

A.C. to G.J.Y Die Veneris.

Thanks for your letters. I answer fully to-morrow. Incidentally, if you have not yet taken the Oath of a Master Mason, I should not do so. I am still very ill and carrying on hard. Pp up to p 78 will be revised to-day and sent to Lecram to-night. ^{Brooks & Napick}

A.C. to G.J.Y Die Mercurii. 113 [still in Paris]

I am still pretty sick, the coughing fits (which go on for hours at night) and the spells of fever exhaust me. Doctor comes again this afternoon. I sent 1000 francs to Regardie this a.m. so they should be all right for a fortnight.

The main plan is twofold. (1) an interview with the ambassador-the consul at Tunis intervened on my behalf last time they tried this idiot game (about the 3 women I was supposed to have killed in Sicily!!!) and (2) the intervention of Paul Boncour, who has only to telephone the Prefecture to get the order rescinded. But (2) will cost a lot of money-first payment £50 I gather-and the pretext is (like Tetragrammaton) one, one and alone. I must unmask my detractors, make all public, show that the whole attack is base malice. To do this is easy, and, incidentally, will vindicate your action before all the world. It is really in your best interest to do this. If not, you would have to go on all your life skulking behind around, saying "I know not the man". And all the cocks in Europe will crow at you. I think you ought to come over this week-end and see all the people who are working on my behalf. I am trying to raise some money here; but it is too early to feel sure. If I could get up and go about it might be easier. But then I would have to leave France-utterly messing up the production of "Magick". The immanence of this is probably the real basis of this mean attack. But your indiscretions-plus your discretion (which is no part of valour) made it possible. And, very likely, according to Regardie, they are starting to make trouble for you "In England -now" even before April's here. Wire me if you're coming, I'll get on and work my bloody guns. [in Brussels]

P.S. I have a letter from Regardie which would be heartbreaking if it didn't make my blood boil. He is sure that the police are after you for witchcraft. de M is very ill. I.R. is fagged out. These people will end by murder.

I have to get a ^{secretary} in this evening to make a statement of the whole case. What price the 14th century? I think you might get Arnold Bennet, G.K.C, H.G. Wells, Bertrand Russell to come in. Possibly also the New Statesman or some similar paper. I am ashamed to believe (from Regardie's last) that the real charge is 'Black Magic' because it's unknown, they can't really produce ~~cop~~ corpses and cocaine. Meanwhile raise money-tons of money-at no matter what cost. He show-down when we get it will pay for all.

P.P.S Long letter from Aumont. He could do much, but must have clothes. Wire him 2000 francs and he'll come up here in a few days and use his pull with deputies, journalists etc. A little pluck and we'll win ~~war~~ too. "Which it would be very unpleasant to say was won on the playing fields of the L.C.C. schools".

Waterloo
Die Luna.

I am holding the fort. The job is to get out Part I of Magick as near as possible on the date arranged. We should at least have the page proofs-and the galleys were not bad. This is my busy week. Tuesday I have to see my specialist about this operation (nose-trouble G.J.Y): to see Mr Paul Boncour about the refus de sejour Wednesday to see Cope-with the new proofs to receive ^{statte} and Monsieur Lenin (Scotland Yard please note) Thursday to attend the Banquet of the Chess Club (I shall probably cut this, if I have to cut myself!) Friday to attend the Full and Particular Enquiry of the Anglo-American Press Association into the whole show
Maurice de Lieram

17

Saturday to receive you as an exalted guest in mine inhospitable mans-
-ion. Also probably Aumont

Please bring with you with the utmost care Hunt's original blackmail letter to you. He can hardly deny it's origin, but we may as well have it in reserve. If we push this matter well ~~thru~~ through now, we can be clean for the rest of our lives from all this damned nonsense. There will certainly be a show-down of one sort or another, and it will be easy for us to show that our hands are clean and our detractors mediaeval lunatics.

115

A.C. to G.J.Y. Undated.

First portion illegible... I was ill indeed last night. This a.m. I saw the lawyer; he is quite clear that the whole matter is blackmail and backshish. We ought to have dashed that flic 500 francs and stopped the trouble at the source. Now we've got to pay A.B.C.D. up to Z. I suppose. It is the custom in France that if any one looks like getting a little bit prosperous, those in the swim get after him on some pretext for their bit. The one alternative I can think of is that you should put your foot down with our Ambassador here; he could probably shut up the story for good. This might save £1000. I'll know more to-morrow. But you be here on Saturday a.m. (~~It is not possible to raise £2000 on conditions and it may be useful for you to cable him this week-end. The weather continues fine and warm. Cope comes to-morrow with pagged proofs.~~) Germer can raise £2000 on conditions and it may be useful for you to cable him this week-end. The weather continues fine and warm. Cope comes to-morrow with pagged proofs.

--- 116

A.C. to G.J.Y. 29th

No I don't think it makes a pretty picture, playing at home when you might have been comforting these brave hearts in exile, or even consulting with me how to win the decisive magical Victory which will free us all for ever. Not too late even now if you made up your mind at once. Its all right "thinking the thing out by one's self": but you seem to have got all your basic facts wrong. My medical certificate expired Saturday 23rd; yet I hear no news so far.

The fight is taking place on the back stairs, I'm pretty sure; also, that we can get the decret annulled; and that then we can assume the counter-offensive, and insist on a show-down. If this is done it means a fortune for "Magick" and I don't doubt this whole outrage is a plan of the Gods.

It is damned hard sticking to this lonely fort when it would be so delightful to go and comfort the exiles and get nursed! But I just have to keep on with the lawyer and the printer. Never before in my life have they asked me quite such an ordeal.

I will certainly ask Holroyd Reece -and Cope too-about the Hymn and act accordingly.

But the essential thing is (a) that you see people here and learn the facts, since you won't believe me (b) that we decide whether to cut down the first edition to 1000, or else how act (c) that we combine a sound financial scheme.

I would dearly love 3 monthd rest in a fishing village: I'm all in.

A.C. to G.J.Y. 16 March 29 (This letter is too late in the copied

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After a ~~At 10/11~~ severe attack of delirium last night I knocked myself out with a hypnotic, with the result that I slept continuously until 10 o'clock this morning, and am still a little under the drug, but I am able to take in hand your three letters with the assistance of a young lady. Whether it is the delirium, the drug, or the young lady, I don't pretend to say, but I am going to take my gloves off and you are going to hear some home truths. Your letter of Tuesday is really difficult to believe as genuine, that an Englishman who went to a public school wrote it, shakes one's belief in the order of the Universe. The basic assumption that there is no possibility of reacting against this petty annoyance is so inconceivable that it leaves me wondering how you ever managed to get through a dinner ~~party~~ party. The feelings of your parents are going to suffer a rude shock. An enquiry into the circumstances will presumably be set on foot by the Anglo American Press Association, where I have numerous friends. In addition I have engaged Mons Paul Boncour, one of the most celebrated and influential advocates at the High Court.

Sooner or later the Press of the whole world will get wind of the affair, because, as you know, I am decidedly ~~not~~ photogenic, in a journalistic sense, and if you think that the sleuths are going to leave a mystery man dodging about in the background, you little know the Press.

All Paris is talking about the affair, and it should be over in London by this week-end at latest. People will be pointing at you in Clubs and places where they play bridge, and the only possible course for you is to hold your head high. If you slink out of your club leaving your chop untasted on hearing a word about the black man, you will only be considered guilty, and just because you have been the main-spring and the reviver of the whole business, you will have to carry it off better even than myself. It is for these reasons that to step aside would be the plainest imbecility.

Of course the truth will triumph in the end, but why should you suppose that my life-time has anything to do with it? I fail to follow. What about your life-time: After all you know I may have to stop in this stupid world for another quarter of a century, and you may die in the course of the next 10 minutes. Besides if you did not and I popped off next week, it would not change the situation.

You have the pitiful delusion of the rich man that money can accomplish everything: money never accomplished anything yet; the things which have to be accomplished may need money but that is another thing altogether. The disk is the fourth of the weapons, what you need is a wand not a sword.

Your remarks about Regardie are equally futile. He came to me astonishingly ignorant of the world, and I gave him full value for his work, but he is now in a position where he can spit on you especially as Brussels sprouts are excellent for generating saliva. Don't you worry about him. He is a little man all right, and it is not inconceivable that he should get twelve million Jews at his back...

Your news from New York and Los Angeles was not unwelcome. The cash should be transmitted me by telegraph.

I repeat my wish that you should read your Bible - "So long as hast thou been with me, and yet thou hast not known me Phillip". My faith is fixed as flint

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My faith is fixed as flint to go to Jerusalem, and my object will be purely and simply to show up the whole business. The date of my journey, of course uncertain, but your idea that I should expose my loyal friend to further humiliation is really unworthy. Your ideas about my solvency show a great lack of perspicacity. The book on Magick and the Memoirs will obviously get a great boost through this publicity. The incident really could not have occurred at a better time. Your reiterated declarations of cowardice and disloyalty do not make any difference. If you do not go into the business bald-headed, you will be shoved into it from behind. Your failure to see this is absolutely pitiful. It is also peculiarly imbecile of you to say write that I am the responsible for the whole trouble. The real accusation is simply Black Magic, and that cannot be proved or disproved. It is just the same as throwing a witch into the water and if she drowns she is innocent and if she swims she is a witch. I cannot find anybody to whom I sold cocaine, and the corpses of all the ladies I murdered are equally elusive.

This is why you are responsible for the whole trouble, because you gave Hundt his handle. You let him make you drunk and babble about invocations and Thoth and so on. I am quite sure that this is not a crime, but it is a handle on which to hang base a story of dark doings.

I would have you bear in mind that this is not an expulsion. It is a refusal to authorise residence, and Aumont... feels quite sure that we are absolutely clean handed with the Prefecture of Police, and that the blow from the Minister of the Interior was set in motion by the whisper of some personal friend inspired by Hundt, who simply said 'while of course there is nothing against these people, it would be very convenient to me if you upset their apple-cart.'

Your Letter of Thursday. I was glad to get this. It looks as if you were plucking up a little courage. You made a big mistake in not coming over this week end. You will have to borrow money next week, and the sum had better be \$2000. It will all come back from the Memoirs and Magick. The one important issue is the Show-down, and with your influence you could force it on. People like Rosebery and your uncle have only to ask a question in Parliament or have it asked, to make a thorough stink.

I have engaged Monsr Paul Boncour, who is not merely a Deputy, but a man of extraordinary back-stairs influence, and it is quite simple on the cards that the refus de sejour will be annulled any moment. The President of the Chess Club is also going to try to arrange for an interview with Sir William Tyrrell, the Ambassador. We have got about a week to work on. I really cannot see you losing your Directorships on the ground that you are acting dishonourably. I will not believe that the spirit of fair play is altogether dead in England. I even believe that the man who blew on the spark might find himself applauded by quite a lot of respectable people.

In any case I do not see why you should expect to grow up to adulthood in the hands of a wet nurse. The first thing I had to do was to throw up my career and fortune and wander in desolate places of the earth, undertaking every kind of hardship. You cannot expect any different education. It is the same in sport, you have got to accept the conditions and the risks, and you either win out or you go under, but I did win, and the most important world's records in mountaineering were not made by sitting at my fireside. These are the actual facts

A.C. to G.G.Y. 5 Feb 29

Your genial letter cheered me much- as for Mme de M -it was 5 hours before she admitted she was tired. Perhaps you may get a surprising photograph shortly-Brighter Paris.

Yes £2-2-0 for 'Magick', but arrange at once with Simpkin or t another to choose their own form. At printer's yesterday. Found a perfect paper cover -all going well now bar flu, which shorthands them. My arm still n.g., Regardie probably ten days more in bed at least, and Holroyd Reece going to Germany again to-morrow. The combination suggests F'bleau for the week-end, esp esp. as I know some folks there that might help directly or indirectly. I must clean up this elbow!

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A.C. to G.J.Y undated.

Got rid of most of the rheumatism, but acquired a chill instead. ...Mme de M came here Sunday to help look for a place. N.G. so far; Americans have sent up the prices, 'em all insane about prices. Hopes of one house at 8000 francs for 6 months. Possibility for March 21. Serpent won't be able to get about much for 2 months, the quack says. By issuing Magick in 4 parts we save 12 per cent buying tax! One more hard to believe. I wrote out a wire the a.m.-as always in capitals, with dots to divide the words. And the man said the dots counted as words!!! Yes Horatio! And inquire for yourself Thomas!

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A.C. to G.J.Y 14 Feb 29 55 Avenue de Buffren.

I had a long conversation with Holroyd Reece this afternoon. He went away with a copy of the book 'Magick'...He is very interested in the whole proposition, I do not mean merely the question of 'Magick', or the Memoirs, or the 'Net', but of starting a definite movement towards the 'freedom of the artist', which is the absurd way in which he envisages the situation. He is going to New York...He will then cable me an offer with regard to 'Magick'.

In the meantime the Serpent having had to go to the hospital this morning to be injected with typhus fever by his favourite doctor, took occasion to call on Smith's and Brentano's on his way home. These people were rather intrigued and will take 200 prospectuses apiece in the firm expectation that they will crave for more.

I wish you could arrange with your family to lose a thousand pounds at Monte Carlo, so that you might understand that on a certain plane there really is something in following an upward curve. (Professionelles s'abstenir).

I have just had a very informative letter from Smith. It upholds my view that Kasimira was perfectly sincere, honest and straightforward. My present belief is that she was put off the track of by a combination of Hunt and Mrs Reynolds. She gave Madame de Miramar the impression that she will turn up here one evening unexpectedly, preferably when you were here, with the idea of making trouble. I have no data wherefrom to estimate the nature of the conspiracy between K and Hunt, but I think that our proper course is to put the fear of God into Hunt, and that when they will come running to us

...

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A.C. to G.J.Y 19 Feb 29

...Thank you for sending me £10 to cover distributing the prospectuses...Regardie is feeling very much better,...I myself have been feeling pretty rot

that one has to face, not the ones you suppose. Many a homeless wastral is now a magnate in wall Street and many a mother's baby is carrying a sandwich board.

Any money that arrives should be sent to the Banker's Trust and I will keep them advised of my address in case I change it, but I would not be surprised if next month did not still find me in Paris. *I met them in the boat and had no trouble. Was able*

P.S. The English police asked Kegardie a lot of questions about you. They also stole the letter that you wrote to M. You poor friend, it is your own skin that is going to be scorched, unless you turn on these idiots and rend them *to hand them some cash*

P.P.S. In order to save time this letter had been mailed without being read.

He had let his rifles --- de séjour to lapse. ^{it was not renewed} Brussels at last 122

A.C. to G.J.Y. Hotel Metropole Brussels. 7 Apr 29

I arrive here safely after the novel experience of having been accused of a crime which I really committed and had to pay for. You must please understand that I am now definitely on the map; and that nothing can possibly hush up the ~~the~~ enquiry on which I shall insist. It is the time for you to declare yourself definitely on the side of the angels. I hope you will manage to get over here on Saturday. I have a great deal to tell you of extreme importance which it would be unwise to write

I enclose cuttings from Le Journal and the ~~Petit~~ Petit Parisien, two of the three most widely circulated morning papers in Paris....

Be here on Saturday at any cost. And now is the time to come forward! It is just this row which is going to sell the book by thousands. Carney wanted to telegraph America for a definite answer about the Memoirs, and I told him to wait to get the scandal widely circulated over there, and then ask four times the price. He saw the point and agreed...

There is another awkward point. The fact that I have become a considerable personality means that I have to live like an arch-duke of the best period. And though we have plenty of money at present, we shall want more, and a lot of it, pretty soon. For one thing, our French supporters will probably require a good deal more cash to hand round in the proper quarters, although they have not at present said anything about it. And we owe God knows what to the Amexco. But the point is that if we were ~~simply wiped out~~ to make a 'poor face' as the Americans say, we should be simply wiped out. We have got the chance of our lives. Don't miss it by any weakness or timidity.

A.C. to G.J.Y. 16 April 1929

The beginning of the counter-attack! Lots of errors- but what can you expect. There's going to be the most almighty fuss. Nothing can stop it now, and we've got to work our bloody guns. And with ammunition. Manchester Guardian, Anglo-Amer Press Assn and Petit Parisien also on the job so far.

P.S. Regardie is in rather a bad way. He has varicocele and needs to be operated. That would cure most of his hypochondria- as in the case of Neuberg

A.C. to G.J.Y. From Hotel Metropole Brussels. 19/4/29

The letter to Sir Guy Grant seems all right. I think Alfred G Crowley and Abraham G Crowley are the only possible people. The Irish Crowleys have nothing to do with us. We have been in England since Bosworth. You might get further information by telephoning the Society of Friends. I noticed that there seem to be no Crowleys left in Alton Hants. I suppose all the male line has died out. But there will be Curtises and others. You ought to be able to find out who are the people that brew the beer... of the Golden Dawn, with Simpson

La Nation Belge had given us this morning an extremely fair article.... Mrs Eastlake (Soror Fidelis) is at Gunsterberg allee 60 Frankfort... Paris-Midi seems to be taking up this business very seriously, and wants a whole series of articles. There was one in the issue of the 18th.

The police are now trying to pretend that it is merely a question of morals/ my morals. Perhaps they thought it suspicious when Regardie came to live in the flat. Both he and de Miramar got the impression that you had it in your mind at Tilbury that Regardie's illness was due to my personal intervention. I can only assure you that it is enough to make a cat laugh. You ought to know well enough.. that I regard congenital homosexuality as a sign of grave defects of the nervous system. It is simply ridiculous that one cannot even ask a policeman the way without the world thinking one wants to bugger him...

On the whole I think things are going extremely well in every way.

With regard to the money question, as soon as I have put through the urgent things that I have to do in Brussels, I am probably going to stay with some Englishman, a friend of Charlie Rainbow, the celebrated barman, who has a converted country house with a trout stream is an excellent cook, and will do us for 50 Belgian francs a day

125 At his pro German attitude in New York during the war.

A.C. to G.J.Y. Hotel Metropole Brussels 20/4/29

I am a little doubtful as to whether Gaunt will reply to your letter. I think the obligation of professional secrecy may prevent him. I cannot immediately lay my hands on his letters to me. But the tenor of the correspondence was this. I pointed out to him that people like Vierick and Munsterburg were the real danger as intellectuals capable of turning American opinion against us. He replied very nicely though in a rather off-hand way, in which he said that he only knew of Vierick "as one of the lesser jackals around Von Papen". It is of course the characteristic blindness of people in high official positions to think that nobody matters outside their own tiny circles....

About cash, it would certainly be useful to have another

About cash, it would certainly be useful to have another 1000 dollars, say at the last week in May. We have to spend money very freely, not only in keeping up good appearance, but in getting documents photographed and various other unexpected things. I should like to import Aumont too.

I propose preparing a considerable bombshell for the Embassies. They have made the grossest blunders in dealing with the matter throughout. These people start with the fixed idea that they are Almighty God, and so they play bad chess.

The lawyer says that I should wait here for a few weeks before applying to the French consulate for leave to return and to start trouble. It would be quite absurd for me to come to England until it is possible for me to bring my staff with me. I don't want to be a man with a grievance! I'm a man fighting for an elementary principle of justice--often a worse bore!

A.C. to G.J.Y. Brussels 21/4/29

I think you will discover that the real point at issue in England is one which had better be left for discussion when you come here. It is a very difficult matter, and one which forces our hands in the matter of choosing a field of battle... England is quite out of the question for the purpose, until we have had a definite vindication in France, and it is a matter of life and death--not so much for me, but for all the men who are associated with me--that this should be done thoroughly and without loss of time...

A.C. to G.J.Y Brussels Apr 23 1929

...The fact that you really missed about the unlimited submarine campaign was that Wilson had been re-elected in 1916 purely and solely on the slogan "He kept us out of the War". I heard on all sides that the cause of the allies was desperate, and I don't believe that any other move would have solved the problem.

We will discuss my coming over and interviewing people when you arrive. At the present moment I do not see whom I am to interview. I don't think that the situation in France is at all bad.

My health is pretty good, but it takes me a long time to get to sleep at nights. I am trying to think of the original basis of the trouble, and how we can force on the open battle on our own chosen ground. I shall have some strange discoveries to impart when you arrive.

You don't understand French politics at all... Take the Dreyfus case in particular. I and most reasonable people think that Dreyfus was guilty; in spite of that he obtained complete vindication and reinstatement. The point was that they did not dare to produce the real evidence against him. Something not too dissimilar may here be the case. Raynes of New York and Oxford, the foreign editor of the Literary Digest during the war, a man of really remarkable intelligence and knowledge, always maintained that the persecution to which I was subjected-- you must remember it dates from the time I left Cambridge or thereabouts-- was due to the personal animus of some great English family...

Following your constant tendency, you take too literally what I say about Archdukes when it comes to the financial question. We are not spending more

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spending more in Brussels than we did in Paris. In fact rather less. The difference is that here we have not got the assets for making money, but work is being done at a great pace and the results should appear within a few days.

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A.C. to G.J.Y. Chez M Schlosser, Cugnon-Morteban, au Samois. 3 May.
Aumont writes enclosing Hundt's letter. The words are (date Dec 17 '28) "Je ne crois pas du reste que ce monsieur ait l'intention de demeurer definitivement à Paris". Showing that he had already started his snitch, or at least determined to do so...

I'm pretty fit now; merely the backwash of fever and bronchitis. I went an hour's walk yesterday up to Notre Dame de Prompt Secours. I promised the old bitch a candle if 1000 dollars came in before May 15. Encouraging letter from Denizot. He agrees that we can go for the Quotidien. And seems to have no doubt at all that we can return to Paris in a month.

Col Carter at Scotland Yard

About Carter. I think we should take as true Noble Hall's statement - for his funk was pitiful! Ergo tell C that you know for certain that all the spy tosh and the moral stink is merely smoke-screen, and what we want to know is what means "the real reason is so dreadful that we dare not even think of it". It may be a case of my making the amende honorable to Pudding and Pie - or it may be just Nothing. One is very strong when one is thought to have a ~~secret~~ terrible secret which can never be divulged - provided that the secret does not exist. Cf Blavatsky, the Dreyfus case, Freemasonry etc.

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A.C. to G.J.Y. Cugnon-Morteban 11 May.

Miramar

...I would add this: if there is any hitch about the marriage I might come over to London and put it up to them to let de M in on grounds of public morality. The only bore about it all is the money question. If they'd let us alone, and let us put quite normal things through, we'd have no need for six weeks at least. But every upset costs money.

I believe I can convince any really responsible person of my integrity. Remember I have not been attacked at any time by anybody when I had a chance to reply.

Have been utterly bewildered all day by your statement that the French are really worried. France, to me, has always stood for sanity and common sense. Surely the more I have been watched, the more certain it is that I have not devoted my leisure hours to dissecting multitudes of bodies. I may confess though that my nerves are on bitter edge, on account of the utter mystery of the whole bag of tricks. It might be useful if I had a formal invitation from you to meet Col C (arter) at dinner about the end of the 1st week in June. 7 arranged

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This GJY

A.C. to G.J.Y. Brussels. May 14

Bill here just a bit more than I thought. However including all all extras the three of us can get along for about £10 a week. Journeys obviously would increase this figure.

The Yi symbol for marriage is XX. A rash, romantic act (I knew

that before) to be carried out v quietly, de M's attitude to be careful and correct; then a great solution of much trouble.

The Yi symbol for a journey to England (with or without de M) before seeking readmission to France is XLVI. A very good symbol indeed. So that's that. Obviously any plan depends on the Campaign fund

...

Rayly from Mr. ... his chief disciple in the U.S.A.

A.C. to G.J.Y. From Cagnon-Morteban.

May 15 1929

From his first wife Maria.

As per my last, I doubt whether Albert the Great will anticipate my wish to come to Blighty. It is as you say largely a question of L/S. L.S.D. I've wired Saturnus, who has now his decree of divorce, to delay his marriage till after the funeral of Cora's brother. Meanwhile to send you 1000 dollars for London adventure... Once I get to town, I'll go after publishers. But it would be useless on a shoe string.

I don't expect Old Nock (Col Carter) to do more than shoot up the 27 airplane bandits. 'Tain't his job. But I expect to get access to Foreign Secretaries et hoc genus omne in one way or another. My few brains are rusting from want of use.

Greenlaw is the third cousin twice removed of Mrs 'Arris, out of Hegesippe Simon. I saved his life at the Battle of Agincourt, but an arrow-wound (poisoned by Arthur Macben) left him mentally non compos. Any further details?

Won't Lloyds' furnish a bond about those young virgins? The premium may be one tenth of one per cent. "Besides, they always smell of bread-and-butter" only, now-a-days; it's cocktails. *He was our consul there*

When you say I was present at the poisoning of Lytton in Burmah, I observe.

1. His name was Litton
2. As far as I know his poisoning was merely a theory of my own
3. You were present too, only about 6 weeks journey away, whereas I was only 4 or 5 days.
4. He wasn't in Burmah but in China.

Do tell me more about those muddlers in Paris. One day we'll blow up all this rot with One International Laugh.

A.C. to G.J.Y. Brussels. 20 May 1929

...I came back to Brussels in rather a hurry, as it seems impossible to find any two people to agree on the magical formulae requisite for Hymen. Tomorrow I propose to call a conference of Ambassadors, after which the matter will doubtless become more obscure,,,.

A.C. to G.J.Y. Brussels. No date.

Reparadis, his secretary & disciple

Returning to Brussels Tuesday 21st R's latest report is that marriage here is, if not impossible, a matter of months. They want too many papers, mostly inaccessible for weeks or months! So I shall ask the Vice-Consul to apply for a special permit to allow de M to accompany me to England on grounds of public morality, I don't see how they can refuse. You might get Niek to help here. I don't know about formalities in England, but we could go to the Land o' Cakes, where I know the ropes. I'm really getting bored with this nightmare.

P.S. If King Str is n.g. I must find a quiet but distinguished hotel, near the centre. What are the rates at Browns and sich?

A.C. to G.J.Y. Brussels 24 May 29

...The marriage bells are being cast by competent founders. I regret to state that this process is costing money. For example we have just had to pay 450 francs for one certificate and I shall owe perhaps £3 to Scotland when my divorce papers come. There will also be the expenses of having the papers done into Belgian by a sworn translator and I don't know how much this is going to cost...

If Brown's Hotel is too expensive, perhaps the First Avenue would do... The only thing I want to avoid is to have the papers and the enemy in general think that I am reduced to desperation. It would encourage them to renew their attacks and make it practically impossible for me to put over any big business in London as I hope to do...

Bar accidents then we dine together on Tuesday June 11th. If there are any hitches about the marriage I will come over alone. This of course will be an economy and might facilitate my getting things over in England. At the same time it seems pretty hard on the girl...

Perhaps Germer will have shown Cora where she gets off by then

let's get more money for A.C

A.C. to G.J.Y. May 25 1929

...This Patriot business is really very funny. I doubt whether it would be possible to go for them, though if we could get Col Carter definitely on our side, which perhaps we can do with a little piece of sugar, we might be able to spike any possible guns... I do not want any scandal or publicity in London until I am ready to come forward and fight to the death. I therefore propose to stay in London under my mother's name - Bishop. You might perhaps communicate this to Col Carter to make it clear that I have no intention of concealing myself from the authorities.

With regard to waiting for money to drop out of the sky, may I recall to your classical memory the fable of Hercules and the wagoner...

The remaining letters were put
in place in the Carter serial files

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135 Brother of my mother's
mother

A.C. to G.J.Y. May 23 '29

I was very sorry to hear from the newspapers of Rosebery's death. A wise man, I think, as well as a true one, and he might have been very much more useful to England, had it not been for our imbecile system of hamstringing anybody who happens to be born 'upstairs'. From my point of view, the really tragic thing is that he was the last of the statesmen that the average man ~~thought~~ felt could be trusted. I mean in a moral sense.

...I must admit to being in pretty bad form this morning having had three nights almost without sleep, and bad nightmares when I did drop off. There is something wrong with me; and I think it is mostly the eternal need of concentrating on problems which really should not concern me at all.

The Hotel de Ville people are most obliging in every way, and as far as all this official information is concerned, there is no reason to suppose that we cannot ~~not~~ celebrate these nuptials in the course of a fortnight at the outside. At the same time I cannot get over the fact that both the English high court lawyer and a Belgian notary recommended by the Consul state point blank that the proposal is impossible. They will not even offer to help, though it is obviously to their interest to do so. However within a few days we shall have all the papers which the Hotel de Ville claims to be necessary. It is no use getting excited until we have all these things in order. Excuse my not writing more but I am really a nervous wreck. I will let you know as soon as there is anything definite to report

A.C. to G.J.Y. I June 29

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Thanks for yours of the 30th with enclosure of £25...

Meanwhile everything seems to be going smoothly with regard to the marriage, and we ought to be able to get it through next Saturday and come to England on Sunday. But this of course depends on the supply of further funds and on de Miramar's appendix. I can't true leave the appendix to stew in its own juice, if you will forgive the expression. But I doubt whether I can successfully hold up the ticket offices. If her condition were not so serious I would transport her to a quiet suburban hotel at half the price. But she will eat green corn at unexpected moments when she is supposed to be on a purely liquid diet with the expected disastrous results. Women are always like that. It is one of the first things that I shall tell God when I die and go to Heaven.

While waiting for Germer I think it essential that I should keep the Carter appointment one way or another. It ought to clear up the whole French campaign for one thing and enable me to go forward. It might be quite feasible for me to finance the whole business and return to Brussels in two or three days. For this reason forgive me for urging you to make special personal efforts to dig up at least another £25. The bill here on Monday will amount to about 2000 francs. Regardie's two weeks about 700 francs. Food to Saturday will be about 1000. The fare single to London is 460 fr and there are extras for baggage etc on the journey. The £25 brought me 4375 francs, which I thought rather a swindle. The Socialist landslide which I expected seems to have taken place. I think it will make a good deal of

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difference. Nobody will be able to form a government, for one thing, and I imagine that we shall have another general election in a few weeks time, which is likely to result in another stale mate. I really believe the thing to do is something in the nature of a coup d'état. It is really ridiculous that all these stay at home 'idiots' (in the strict Greek sense of the word) should determine the policy of the country on affairs which the very experts, appointed to examine, fail to understand. If ever there was a case for 'hacking through', it is here to-day. As sure as eggs is eggs, America has got some secret understanding with Germany. And as our Socialists are extremely bitter about France, I think we ought to contract an alliance with Patagonia as soon as possible and preserve the balance of power. Chamberlain thinks a lot of Italy but in any kind of scrap Italy would crumble at the first touch. The Italian is no good except with a long knife in the dark, and a medical certificate that the other fellow is asleep. Excuse my being so aggressively British, but it has always been my habit. I have never in my life disgraced myself by voting. To vote is to abdicate. What we want are people like Clive, the 'debauched Dope Fiend'; or even Warren Hastings.

Let me have a note as soon as you can to say if any plan is practicable.

De Miramar is frightfully decent. She says she will go out and stay at Boitsfort in Regardie's little show, while I go to England. But in her condition of health I don't like the idea at all. I want to bring her to London and put her in the hands of a good doctor. I only hope that she will be well enough to travel.

A.C. to G?J.Y No date

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Thanks for yours with £15. Just enough for voyage but will have to leave de M and R more or less in pawn. However the Carter business seems to me hopeful. Arrive Sunday Victoria 4.40 and hope to see you there. Please make appt with good lawyers re Patriot etc. Also perhaps Otter, Ogden, Earp etc? No news from Saturnus; but I feel all will pan out O.K.

Just time to mail this.

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A.C. to G.J.Y. Brussels .Undated.

... "e are already in debt. deM is pretty sick. Probably appendicitis. Trying absolute rest in bed, ice-bags, liquid food etc but if she gets worse or not better by Saturday I shall have to get a second opinion. Self now o.k. as to health, bar nervous trouble, which is purely physical, and sometimes effects even my walking. Regardie practically well.

Am sitting very tight; at the same time I feel sometimes as if I should like to get a move on. I don't mind hardships and humiliations, but I don't want defeat. A reassuring word from you would do lots of good.

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A.C. to G.J.Y. Brussels 28 May 1929.

I paid the hotel bill today up to Sunday the 26th. That leaves us with very few hundred francs. I don't understand why the Germer money did not arrive today at the latest...

I have written Aumont severely, but we must not forget that he is a poor boob of a gabsie, living in Tunis where they have no idea of moral decency of any kind, and a complete absence of brains, for which they substitute the lowest form of cunning. I am inclined to believe that definite threats as of complaining to the police and writing to the Societe des Hommes de Lettres would twist the testicles he possesses in a satisfactory way. He must be made to see that you are really angry. I feel sure of that....

The weather here is absolutely overwhelming. It is worse than Tunis in July. I should not have believed it possible. I who love the sun feel no exhilaration, no sense of well being. I am simply crushed and fagged. Fortunately I am sleeping well and able to look after the business. I quite agree with you about marking time in Brussels, but it is not my fault. It is the stupid old Home Office. I can't leave de Miramar, who is incidentally in an excessively nervous condition, which is only natural, alone unless absolute necessity demand it.

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All the cash from disciples and ex-140 disciples still coming to me for the Crowley fund.

A.C. to G.J.Y. Brussels 31 May.

I received a cable from Germer on the 21st of May saying "Mailing Yorke 130 dollars tomorrow". This money ought to have arrived by the Mauretania sailing May 22, and I have received letters here on the morning of May 30 by that mail... The problem even of eating has become excessively acute. I want also to be able to cable Germer at once with regard to the 1000 dollars without which it is quite impossible to do anything but slowly drift to disaster. If this is allowed to happen it simply means God knows how much extra expense to pick up the pieces. One has to use all sorts of costly expedients to raise small quantities of ready money... Even if Germer's 130 dollars does arrive at once it will be practically exhausted by say Tuesday...

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A.C. to G.J.Y. Brussels June 3 '29

... Please be just about my 'turning down your proposition'. I have sent Regardie back to America ~~would have~~ ^{would have} ~~would have~~ ^{would have} to admit defeat, and to have plan ~~of~~ ^{of} de Miramar on Miss ~~Knutzen~~ ^{Knutzen} ~~has been to~~ ^{has been to}

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and to have planked de Miramar on Miss Kuntzel would have meant hardhip and disagreeable relations for both...

I have not yet got the necessary papers from Scotland. It is just a toss up whether the marriage can take place before Sunday. But in any case I propose to cross on that day.

I am very sorry that you wrote the "Panther of the Prairies" that I was unlikely to arrive. All this lack of confidence is just what prevents other people having confidence in us. There is no need for boasting or bluster. But we do want the feeling that the Gods are with us and that in one mysterious way or another things will pan out all right in the end...

The newspaper cuttings that you sent are interesting. The Prague thing I can hardly read. But I have an idea that it is more or less friendly. It is certainly documented from accurate sources. The most curious thing is that the photograph appears to date from 1904 or thereabouts. The Bremen cutting is a mere weekly letter and does not matter particularly. The New York World rather surprises me as I was very friendly with a lot of the staff. The Patriot is such muddled balderdash that it seems to me hardly more libellous than the Hunting of the Snark. There is certainly a good case for putting these people into lunatic asylums. Nothing of course can be done without taking the best legal advice in London. I am quite sure that any good lawyer will say attack these people criminally not civilly, and I am pretty sure he will say don't do anything at all unless and until I have a good working arrangement with Scotland Yard. All this comes down to the same thing. I must come to England and see Carter and if possible the Home Secretary who he will be I cannot imagine, but I have written to Slocombe, in case the Socialists form a government, for an introduction to someone in high quarters.

The Socialists are useful people; not in the least because I am in any sympathy with them, but because they have intelligence, which the other parties seem to lack in a conspicuous degree, and because irresponsible maniacs say the same idiotic things about them as they do about me.

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A.C. to G.J.Y. Brussels June 3 '29

At one o'clock this morning I was called up by Captain Pattenson from Paris. I am not sure whether you know who he is. But he is a mutilé de guerre with regard to about two seventh's of a leg, and this occurred in 1923 as a result of a taxi accident, which presumes considerable ability on his part. He told me among other things that Denizot has told him that everything was now all right in Paris, but that I should be wise not to take any action for some little time to come. This, incidentally, suits my bill exactly.

The Rainbow has somewhat faded. A barman who drinks with his customers is not a good barman, and is not likely to put over any good business. We must therefore get hold of the alledged Mr Clifford, if indeed he exists, in some other manner

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A.C. to G.J.Y. Brussels 6/6/29

Bar accidents I cross by the express, Ostend-Dover... My

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and to have planked de Miramar on Miss Kuntzel would have meant hardhip and disagreeable relations for both...

I have not yet got the necessary papers from Scotland. It is just a toss up whether the marriage can take place before Sunday. But in any case I propose to cross on that day.

I am very sorry that you wrote the "Panther of the Prairies" that I was unlikely to arrive. All this lack of confidence is just what prevents other people having confidence in us. There is no need for boasting or bluster. But we do want the feeling that the Gods are with us and that in one mysterious way or another things will pan out all right in the end...

The newspaper cuttings that you sent are interesting. The Prague thing I can hardly read. But I have an idea that it is more or less friendly. It is certainly documented from accurate sources. The most curious thing is that the photograph appears to date from 1904 or thereabouts. The Bremen cutting is a mere weekly letter and does not matter particularly. The New York World rather surprises me as I was very friendly with a lot of the staff. The Patriot is such muddled balderdash that it seems to me hardly more libellous than the Hunting of the Snark. There is certainly a good case for putting these people into lunatic asylums. Nothing of course can be done without taking the best legal advice in London. I am quite sure that any good lawyer will say attack these people criminally not civilly, and I am pretty sure he will say don't do anything at all unless and until I have a good working arrangement with Scotland Yard. All this comes down to the same thing. I must come to England and see Carter and if possible the Home Secretary who he will be I cannot imagine, but I have written to Slocombe, in case the Socialists form a government, for an introduction to someone in high quarters.

The Socialists are useful people; not in the least because I am in any sympathy with them, but because they have intelligence, which the other parties seem to lack in a conspicuous degree, and because irresponsible maniacs say the same idiotic things about them as they do about me.

141

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142

A.C. to G.J.Y. Brussels 6/6/29

Bar accidents I cross by the express, Ostend-Dover... My

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papers can't arrive from Scotland till tomorrow at the earliest, so it seems that I shall have to leave deM in cold storage. Personally I think she ought to be in a nursing home for a month, and if I can persuade her to do that I will.

I quite agree with you about my coat. But I do wish you would cease to imagine that I enjoy present conditions. It is like sitting on the Baltoro Glacier waiting for two consecutive fine days, which never turned up.

I shall badger Ogden, Earp and such people at once for reviewing or reading for publishers. I shall probably stay at Duke's Hotel, 34 St James Place, But I can't say anything until I have the cable from Germer. P.S. Will wire if Germer cash arrives. If not I'm planted here

A.C. to G.J.Y. Hamburg. Undated.

"The whirlwind of the Eagle and the Lion"! Cora arrived this a.m. and we went to Hagenbech's in the afternoon, so it has been a very Zoological day. I hope to wind up the evening at St Pauli. Ha!

Cora is glad that Karl is going into the publishing business. Thynne wrote a very good letter about K's £1000 reaching him in the nick of time, $\frac{1}{2}$ hour before we left Berlin. So now I'm preparing her to put £2000 into the Aquila. I shall offer K Ordinary stock to the value of his loans to date, but if possible pay the interest to April 30 in cash. (I already gave him £50 as I told you. I think you should make an effort to pay Cora her interest to date on the \$5000 dollars. That would I am sure secure her rejoicing assent to the new loan.

I am proposing to offer you too ordinary stock for your loan. So make out the amount.

The difficulty immediately before me is to complete the purchase of the Aquila and start full steam ahead. The show-room needs special lighting put in; with that, one ought to get £10 a week for rent from painters. I shall collect social lionesses to give receptions weekly. Perhaps your mother would act as hostess for No 1.

The main point of the Aquila is to restore the conditions existing before the war, when I was making £2000 or more a year without effort. This time it will be £5000 at least, as I have learnt a bit since then. I am trying out Mrs H and the rest so that we can have the place to ourselves at night and start a Circle.

The main point to attend to at once is the purchase and working capital. I may have to wait till July for the second £500 - unless I can get a bill discounted, or Kenody comes in. I'd rather wait a month before bothering Karl and Cora for their £2000. And I must be in a good position to bargain with Thynne.

I don't propose to issue any new books till September, but to get them all ready for them, and have a really good list and spend the season in collecting cash and coronets.

Marie is very much better, but must stay in storage till Parliament rises.

(Note. Of the £1000 put up by the Germers for the Mandrake, A.C. diverted £500 to the Aquila Press. Had that £500 gone to the Mandrake, it would have lasted several months longer, and might just have tied over. It would however probably have gone bankrupt anyway in due course G.J.Y.)

Mandrake Mass

A.C. to G.J.Y. London 15/7/29

I am enclosing a duplicate of the proposed preliminary contract Germer was favourably impressed especially by Goldston. But with my morbid pessimism I took the thing down to Steadman Van Praagh and Gaylor of 4 Old Burlington street. These were the lawyers that fought the case against Mathers on Equinox I-3 and won. I could only see the managing clerk Mr Lloyd; but he impressed me as exceptionally shrewd, and he pointed out in general that the contract on the surface tied me up completely for a long period, while not binding them at all to any specific performance. But, as the Sabalah would say, this is a contract which is not a contract, because it refers to imaginary animals such as supplementary contracts which may never exist; so that there is really no compensation. and it seems doubtful whether the whole thing might not be null and void. There is also the objection that paintings should not be included in publishing contracts....

I do not for one moment impute sinister intentions to these mandragorors (the Mandrake Press); but as consistent neglect of the commonest business precautions has reduced me to my present state of complete destitution and misery (I start selling matches tomorrow morning without even a hawker's permit, so that I may sleep in jug) I think it is time to reform

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A.C. to G.J.Y. July 16

"Ay, Ay, sir!" (I seem to hear the voice of the old man on the steamer when he was not in the rigging. I'll meet them in every way, but with firm correctness. (Compensation in my letter of yesterday is an error for consideration.

Cope sends proofs (Of Magick) to near end of Gnostic Mass.

Saturnus paid in dollars 400 and is sending for the 600 to arrive in say a month's time. But we shall want more and lots more, unless the Krum Heller Villa plan comes off. I can't possibly draw any from the Mandrakes before Jan 30 on their own showing; and the contract will prevent me selling things elsewhere. Expenses- with all this entertaining etc are fantastically heavy. I dine with the Vampire to-night. Terribly overworked but very cheerful. Brussels cured my rheumatics and nerves at a single stroke.

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A.C. to G.J.Y. Georgian House, Bury Str, St James. July 23, '29

...I don't know where you get the idea that I was in a hurry about legal proceedings in France. I may have expressed myself badly; but I have other fish to fry. The long and short of it is that the Belgians wanted to turn de M and I.R. out- apparently because our Vice-Consul doesn't know the source of my income!!! So I sent Saturnus and Cora over a day early, and they picked up de M and took her straight to Leipsig, where she is "happily with Martha" as Germer wires me. (The Belgian police haven't found Regardie!!!)

I hope to sign contracts today, and the moment that is done (but not before) I go straight to Leipsig. I want to be back here by end of August to attend to business...

Please don't think I am stupid enough to bother about blackmailers when there's business to be done. But getting de M and I.R. here will save £12 a week, perhaps more. I've found a cottage next to

Stephenson's at 30/ a week. De M can cook; and I.R. will have a job with Goldston I hope....I hope to leave tomorrow at 10a.m.

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with the Mandrake ? Think

A.C. to G.J.Y. Georgian House . 24/7/29.

Another Hashish dream come true! A lawyer, C.B. Medley, Field Roscoe and Co who has a Cezanne and two Van Goghs in his office, and doesn't waste time. We sign 4 contracts - Memoirs, Moon-child (The Net) Simon Iff and "20 Short Stories at 5 o'clock to-day, and I go to Leipzig direct in the morning. Trying another new way to get married!...

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A.C. to G.J.Y. Georgian House. Undated

‡ am sending a cock to Stubbs to crow thrice, as he has denied you thrice. Says 'ontifex isn't on their books, and never was. I am laying myself out to give Cora the time of her life. I am snatching all spare time for this... Too tired to write properly.

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A.C. to G.J.Y. No address, no date.

1. Bayley back. Brussels marriage impossible. They want the Moon.
2. Opening a/c Westminster Bank Piccadilly, branch. Shall need balance. Bring it along to lunch.

...4 Am seeing an M.P. to-morrow, about Home Office asses (If I can catch him at The 'lough)

...6 Have discovered several new laws. Will consult eminent alienist.

P.S. I think we should burn a candle to St Nicholas and invoke him to visible appearance p.d.q. (i.e. ask Col Carter to dinner. G.J.Y.).

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A.C. to G.J.Y. No date. "Written on Piccadilly Hotel notepaper.

‡ hour to spare. So ‡ add: Immediate cash depends largely on your pushing through the subsidiary contracts (serial, movie and other rights) and arranging for a monthly account or getting them to make a monthly allowance on these rights, whether they win out or no. They mustn't think we need it too badly, of course, or they'll exact harder terms.

Hope your vac has done you lots of good. But it was a pity you weren't here. Write me Hotel Astoria Leipzig, though I may be in the country awaiting the Registrar's Certificate.

IF----- This modern trick of tying up honest people is damnable. The only profit-getters are the criminal classes, who need no licences to rob and murder. But when Antichrist is fully come---- etc!

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A&C to G.J.Y. Hotel Astoria Leipzig. No date.

All well here; and hopes for better luck about de M. We want to buy the plates of the photographs of AL from Weisenbach- to get the 777 plates from Hopfer etc. Saturnus says you should get dollars 600 from N.Y. during this week next week. When you do, please wire me half here, and put the rest to my credit at Westm. Bank.

We think of going to a Spa in Tcheko etc next week to get d some health if we can. Saturnus nerves are as bad as mine: or worse as I'm O.K. now, bar a touch of rheumatism now and then when it's damp... Trying to be back 1st week in Sept.

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A.C. to G.J.Y. Leipzig 29/7/29

Gave a big lunch Sunday in honour of Dr Heinze, an alienist of great repute. Cost over £5 but well worth it. He may help directly at need; but this is the big thing. He is treating all his patients by the Law of Thelema, and has got some good results. I told him some more. If this goes big, and gets known all over, we shall have made a real start. Much more than tons of contracts.

de-M is making good progress with her English, and is liked by all here. Can you send me an ordinary English school grammar 2nd hand?

I'm very busy - getting my little operation done to-day or to-morrow, I hope---Registrars, passports and what not. So excuse further news.

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A.C. to G.J.Y. Leipzig. 31 July.

They did not survive

Hopper has turned in the most marvellous drawings for 777. We'll make a big thing of it. Going on to Dresden to-day, thence to Jachymoff for this fool cure. I'll have to pay hotel by cheque and am doubtful of exact amount of balance. If you can pay in £20 pending the arrival of dollars 600 I shall be able to sleep. The people here are really A.I., all genuine enthusiasts without being silly...

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A.C. to G.J.Y. Grand Hotel, Dresden 1/8/29

All clear now; we should be able to fix things in Leipzig about Aug 17; if so I may return at once to London with the goods. We go to-morrow to Radio-Palast Hotel Jachymov Tcheko-Slovakia, where you can write me till Aug 15 anyhow.

Modelled by A.C. Also lost.

I found some pictures and a wax model of a dragon in Leipzig: these will add lustre to the show. If you can get my pictures from Pitt and Scott, Place Vendome Paris (There may be £10 or so to pay) and worry Noble Hall for the panels he has somewhere. The plates of AL were too old to use again. We will have better made in London. I sent nearly all the 777 plates to Mandrake. Hopper's work is superb. He has to send the Seven Palaces section, and to do another few plates which he didn't quite understand. They should be ready in 6 weeks.

Je profite pour vous dire un bonjour. Je crois que votre santé est bonne. Avec l'espoir de vous voir bientôt, recevez un chaleureux poignée de main de votre amie. Marie.

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A.C. to G.J.Y. Jachymov. 4/8/29

A sad anniversary for me - the day we turned back from Chogo Ri.... Zaehnsdorf. I owed him £70, offered it him in '22, asking him for stock. He ignored the matter. The South African man with beard is the late Murray. He and Mudd sold the Eqxs for a song, and pocketed the money without telling me - this while we were pawning our shirts to send them supplies. Madley is thought a B.F. in 6 foot electric signs by the vast majority of the human race for liking Cezanne and Van Gogh...

Think you're wrong about Monty Evans. He told me he'd spotted somebody in London who had swindled him last year, and wanted him jugged. You may have misunderstood him. I never suggested anything of the kind you mention. But - I've seen the real Communism in Leipzig,

A-C's daughter

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both nasty and dangerous. And I want to talk it over. The romantic imagination of some coffee-machine-beholders runs away with them.

Bayley has data about Astarte. Mother Ninette Shumway (née Fraux) 745 Ave Léon Gambetta, Montroye, Seine. She must be written to or advertised for so we can adopt Astarte legally.

A.C. to G.J.Y. Jachymov. 7/8/29.

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A.C. Marie. Karlfermer's Cook in the Schomer's car.

Thank God the Radiumspalatz Hotel was full. It is "a place of the wicked on earth and of the damned in hell" such as I never saw. People of all sorts of shapeless deformities and of decrepitudes, their faces -when not bandaged over syphilitic ulcers- lead-grey, ochre, or unripe-plum colour. They all exude a monstrous loathesomeness, and try to forget the howlings of their horror in the ravings of a continuous jazz. It is appalling. We got a room at the Tannhof till next week, when we migrate to one with a higher station and a broad view over the valley, until the Registrar's certificate arrives from London, if this happens in good time, we hurry back to Leipzig and thence to London as quickly as may be; but if we can't leave Leipzig before Aug 24, we are stuck till say Sep 3; for the Fair of Leipzig swamps the town utterly from Aug 24-31. One can't find a room in ~~any~~ hotel; or a meal without waiting for hours. Over 100,000 idiots rush from everywhere to see the latest improvement in W.C.'s... The air is very good here, and the pines and hills lovely. Good clean cold nights and sunlit days. Walks and fresh milk will be my cure, I think!

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A.C. to G.J.Y. Aug II.

Very wet yesterday, so did a Magick-so well that I am quite insane with lust to start new pictures etc. I've got to have a workshop and get down to business. I have two or three things right in my head, and am furious at being in this damn valley. All the same it's doing me good. The moral though is that if the Consul will put d. M straight on my passport without any fuss, we shall probably come straight through and be in town Saturday night for dinner, I suppose though I don't know the trains Sunday we can clear the decks for action, and start to paint on Monday. Will wire you on leaving Leipzig time arrival Lpl. Str. P.S. I must see that oculist on Monday tooo---Can you make a date for me?

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? Flushing

A.C. to G.J.Y. Leipzig 15/8/29.

D'Artagnan or the Headless Horseman or whoever you employed to convey your letter esteemed favour of the 4th inst must have ridden very hard, for I got it at Jachimov on the afternoon of the 13th - ^{Gross} only 9 days. ^{Stephenson & the Mandrake} speed! Progress! Efficiency!

I got your wire one hour after returning here and wired P R S at once that I would be at Lpl Str 8.26 Saturday night Avia Flushing, bar accidents. By "accidents" I must have meant Bayley; for ten minutes later I got his wire, addressed to me here, that he had sent off the Registrar Certificate to Jachimov!!! He is well in the running for the Prize Idiot of the Solar System-with the rest nowhere. I hope this will make no difference to the Consul's putting M on my passport Friday afternoon... I don't see why it should, as it is a matter settled by

International Conventions that we should recognize marriages contracted according to German law. Anyhow I'll see him this a.m. and arrange as best I can. if Marie has to stay, she has to stay. I've got to be on the job in London

A.C. to Walter Duranty .From Ivy Cottage Knockholt IA Nov 29

My dear Wally

[I think he was the Times correspondent in Moscow. 474]
An old or ex-disciple

...I should like to know something of your plans because I have an idea of running out to Moscow in the course of the next 2 or 3 months. I have not seen it since the war, and should very much like to get a first hand notion of the ~~regime~~ new regime. Most of the fanatic bourgeois nonsense appears to be exploded. What I really want to know is what life is like from the purely poetical standpoint.

I have also ideas that I should like to put before the Soviet. I was very sorry to hear that the 5 day week system had been abandoned. The fact is that I regard it as my pet child. My scheme (which I called the Sunday Saving Scheme) was however a little different in detail. I proposed to keep the 7 day week -principally for the convenience of the moon, whose revolutionary sentiment has never been doubted. Also with the half day on Saturday it gives a longer rest for the workers, and a slightly greater proportion of rest in the week. Besides I think people need a clear Saturday noon to Monday morning to get the cobwebs out of their brain. My scheme also envisaged a good deal of elasticity in the choice of the weekly day of rest.

My information is that the scheme broke down because people objected to being seperated by administrative means. At the same time I must point out that this scheme is already in operation when it is a matter of ~~the~~ important public services; and with special trades, such as barbers, pork-butchers, and the like. It is only a question of extending the natural normal conveniences,

I also want to get the U.S.S.R. to adopt a state religion. It is not so bad in the light of Skeat, although even he rather slurs over the true etymology by introducing the totally alien idea of God. He is right when he gives it ~~the~~ as the opposite of negligence.

My attitude is, to put it briefly, the following. The Russian temperament, perhaps more than any other in the world, demands something in the nature of spiritual debauch. Complete forgetfulness of the pain of existence in artificial exstasy. This is a national characteristic, and does not depend on Christianity at all. As you know all sorts of little Messaihs are always springing up spontaneously in Russia, and getting very often a wide and important following. The success of any movement depends more on its extravagance than any other qualities.

Of course the powers that be may say, and very rightly, that this indulgence, whether in alcohol or piety, is very bad for the people. That is no doubt true. But we have got to face the facts, and in the present stage of evolution of the Russian temperament, we cannot expect them to think like Ray Lankester. It consequently seems to me that the next step in their evolution is to give them the ecstasy for which they crave, without attaching it to any absurd theories such as Christianity or any other mystical cult.

I had Russia ~~in mind~~ particularly in mind when I wrote the Gnostic Mass. In this ceremony we have every opportunity for the enjoyment of those states of consciousness which will alleviate the pain of the realization of the futility of material existence. But there is nothing in the ritual which is not scientifically accurate. And the element ~~that~~ which produces fanaticism and other socially dangerous

states of mind is eliminated.

It is not only impracticable but dangerous to sit on the safety valve. I do think the authorities ought to realize that nothing tends to foster counter-revolutionary sentiment than depriving the people of the natural outlets for their pent-up energies. The Romans knew perfectly well what they were doing when they accepted the popular demand for bread and circuses. It is certainly not sufficient to ensure the material comfort of the people. There is another type of hunger which must be satisfied or trouble immediately results.

The adoption of my Gnostic Mass would, I feel sure, serve to wean the people from their superstitious beliefs and give them something to look forward to (on occasions when they feel like blowing off steam) without filling their minds with subversive ~~ideas~~ ideas.

You will understand of course that this proposition of mine is based on purely psychological grounds. I make no pretence to understand the economic and political situation in Russia or in any other country. It is emphatically none of my business, and I should not dream even of forming an opinion on such matters. The most I can say is that I regard the present regime in Russia as the greatest social experiment ever ~~adopted~~ attempted, and I should not like to see it

destroyed by mistaken judgement as to the national temperament. The danger seems to me that the optimism of the authorities as to the possibilities of enlightening the people may lead to their overthrow and temporary failure of the whole plan. We have already seen how ~~often~~ the

attempts to apply the doctrine of Marx too strictly have been defeated. At least partially! Modifications have had to be introduced. I am thoroughly agnostic on such points. It seems to me that no doctrine of any kind is universally applicable.

I wish you would let me have your ideas on these matters, and if possible those of any important persons with whom you may be in touch. In particular are you going to be in Moscow all winter.

A.C. to G.J.Y. Ivy Cottage Knockholt Kent. 10/10/29

...I want volume 3 (of the Confessions) to be devoted exclusively to the Book of the Law, and I want it sufficiently complete to fulfil the instructions given in the Book. It is quite reasonable to think that our failure to do this until now is largely responsible for the holding up of the whole show....Please have my easel and the portmanteau full of paints sent from storage down here.

A.C. to G.J.Y. Knockholt. 14/10/29 161

...It is quite essential to fix up the finances in some reasonable way. For example the filing cabinet is ready for delivery and we have not got £/-II-6 to have it sent down here, though it is most urgent for business that it should arrive at once. Also it is extremely annoying to have to stay down here with small debts owing to poor people and no possibility of going to London if events demanded it.

I note you don't say exactly what question you asked the Yi. It ought always to be very precise. It is true I got into the lazy habit of asking for a general symbol for somebody, or a message with regard to him; but I am not proud of this, and if it is allowable at all, it is only as a result of years of practice.

...A fat cheque means nothing to me. Any obesity specialist can inform you that fat is the enemy of figures. And I am for the latter. You don't seem to have understood about this cheque. It was sent at the moment when there was supposed to be money in the bank and if the money had been put in direct instead of by this laborious and lengthy method of transfer it would have been all right. In any case we could not let Regardie starve in Brussels...

What with 'pauvre Marie' and the rest of it, I don't know whether I shall not have to go to the South Pole for a rest cure. We can't possibly reduce expenses below the present figure, if we knew what that figure was - which we don't. But it is always quite senseless to tie us down to this figure, whatever it may be, as it makes it impossible for me to carry out all sorts of business in London, and from meeting new people who might be valuable...

P.S. Marie very bad again.

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A.C. to G.J.Y. Knockholt. 7/II/29

...I went over to see Marie yesterday and found her perfectly all right. But I think she wants two or three days more of perfect rest, and the fact that she doesn't like it is an additional argument. A good deal of that trouble was play acting and our prompt and firm action will tend to prevent a recurrence...

A.C. to G.J.Y. Knockholt 29/II/29 163

...I think you might take next week-end in town at least if necessary. To my mind Tattersal is the important man. I want you to make sure of the Beaverbrook business on Wednesday night, and then putting yourself at his disposal for any hour of any day or night to interview the Empire-builder. I emphasize this, because the cash that will come in from Beaverbrook's support will not be a loan, but actual earnings.

I am writing to Guy Knowles to ask him to dine with us Tuesday night, and I am writing to ask Germer if he will put in 10,000 dollars provided Knowles and another do the same... Your £35 seems to have arrived at the Bank too late. However I hope that will not happen again. You quite convinced me as to the question of post-dated cheques as soon as you approached me on the psychological side. I heard from Germer this morning that the money had arrived and would be available for you to-day or Saturday...

I believe a week of really concentrated effort on your part would put our whole work on a permanent footing. In the meanwhile we have got to carry on somehow without all these alarms and excursions. Last week's adventures would have been quite amusing to me in days of yore. But in my old age I am taking things more seriously - perhaps too seriously. The worry is hitting me physically, and I am also very upset about you and Germer. It is imperative that you should be repaid as soon as possible, and any catastrophe would jeopardize success. We have now gone so far and walked so quick, in the words of Lewis Carroll, that to fail now would be an almost irreparable blow - bar miracles...

P.S. I have heard from the Home Office about Astarte. They said that the immigration officer at the port of entry has the right to admit, and that there will be no difficulty provided I accompany her and explain at Dover...

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Astarte Lulu Samson his daughter by Ninette Stormans

A.C. to G.J.Y. Knockholt. 11/12/29 A.C. had a designed a set of chess pieces

I wish you could have been a little more precise about the chessmen. These pointless delays about absolutely simple matters are a nuisance. I am reminded of the Geomancy Box. We ought to have known that Gabriel Dee would try to strangle any competition. My plan was to have a proper model made and this offered to de la Rue. Please recover the box from her, and arrange for this to be done without delay. I don't want to have anything to do with her myself unless in case of serious necessity. But please arrange for the chessmen to be made without a moment's delay. We will send the design direct to the model-maker if you will let us know his name and address, advising him yourself of what we want. Have you yet received the Kalpaka magazine? We may want this to found an Indian campaign on.

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The Equinox of the Gods?

A.C. to G.J.Y. Knockholt 12/12/29

...Let me reiterate that the real battle centres on the publication of the Book of the Law according to the original instructions. We have now a magnificent opportunity, and we must bend every energy in this direction. The main obstacle is that Part 4 of Book 4 is an essential factor in this plan. Regardie tells me that there are two copies in Paris. As this is a matter of vital importance to the Great Work, I am hoping that you can manage to go over and retrieve these copies as well as a few other manuscripts. You could incidentally pick up Astarte at Amiens on the way back...

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W. Edgar to Goldston (of the Mandrake Press) The Claridge Gallery 21/12/29.

Re Aleister Crowley's pictures I really do not see that I can show

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them. I see nothing immoral in them and I think they would cause a stir - but I am frankly scared of the Press. I'm extremely sorry as I like him personally...

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A.C. to G.J.Y. 27/12/29

I had talked Mr Edgar into a satisfactory frame of mind, and asked you to Melinch the matter. You did not, and so he had had time to think, with the painful result enclosed. However I don't think it is necessarily final, provided that we do something spectacular by the time he returns from his holiday. *at the Mandrake*

Goldston seems to be in a very bad state. He has doublecrossed Stephenson just as badly as, or rather worse than, he had doublecrossed me... He seems to be a crook of the tupenny hapenny *class* kind, always doing cunning little things without any clear idea of the legal aspects of his actions, and if he is brought to book firmly, I think he will wilt. But I think he ought to be spoken to in a tone which will not allow him to suppose that we have any illusions about his social prestige or his integrity. It turns out by the way that he is more or less a receiver of stolen goods. He bought the escutcheon of the town of Ypres, and the Yard, at the instigation of the municipality, went after him. He denied he had it in his possession, and smuggled it off to the States. I think this should be kept in mind when dealing with him...

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A.C. to G.J.Y. Knockholt. 10/1/30

...It appears from Stephenson's report that we have got a good man with capital to replace Goldston. He appears quite sympathetic to our programme... *Turned out to have no capital. McAllan*

--- 169

A.C. to G.J.Y. Knockholt 13/1/30.

Stephenson got a letter this morning from Major Thynne, who may I think be confidentially referred, as 777 would have it, to Jupiter.. His letter is very interesting psycho-analytically. No date or address, all in long hand on both sides of the paper except in the case of the penultimate page, which was blank. It was supposed to be a business letter asking precise questions, but his questions seem to me rather vague, and to a great extent unanswerable. He gets carried away by his enthusiasm for the demon Crowley. I do think he is exactly the person we have been looking for... There is talk of making a limited company and giving a job as director - very different *from* to those greaser railroad directorships of course...

---- 170

From Hugh Speight, Secretary Oxford University Poetry Society to A.C. Undated.

I am writing to tell you that we have been unfortunately forced to cancel next Monday's meeting of the Poetry Society. It has come to our knowledge that if your proposed paper (on Gilles de Rais) is delivered, disciplinary action will be taken involving not only myself but the rest of the Committee of the Society. In these circumstances I trust you will understand why we had to cancel the meeting. I feel I must apologise to you for the trouble I have caused you. I must confess I had credited the University with more tolerance or at any rate with a greater sense of humour... I hope you will

will understand that no official step has been taken, if you did come to speak to the Society but it has been made perfectly clear that an official step would be taken if you did come to speak to the Society.

A.C. to G.J.Y. 2/2/30 ----- 171

...Oxford is going splendidly. We have got a don sleuthing around the wood pile, and when we have found the nigger, we will make him sing Hallelujah to a different tune. It is pretty certain, I think, that the University will not admit disapproval, so there will be a nice scapegoat to which we can apply our divine energy, even though he be of cast iron and the snowstorms raging without...

A.C. to G.J.Y. Knockholt 3/2/30 172
..The battle is on to-day at Oxford.

~~A.C. to G.J.Y. I. Percy Str. London. II/3/30~~

A.C. to G.J.Y. Aquila Press. 12/5/30

See A.C.'s letters to Germer
for the story