

THEIR LETTERS TO A GOOD FRIEND

A SERIES OF LETTERS
TO THE PRESIDENT OF
THE UNITED STATES

FROM QUEEN VICTORIA
NAPOLEON I, NAPOLEON III
AND WILLIAM I

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WITH EXPLANATORY TEXT BY HENRY L. BRYAN

The "Good Friends" of the President, whose person represents the American people, are the Emperors, Kings, Queens, Presidents and other potentates of foreign nations, who, on the occurrence of an important event in their country—such as the accession to power, a marriage, birth or death in a Royal family, the selection of a diplomatic representative—send a letter to their "Great and Good Friend," the President of the United States, similar to those which are here laid before the readers of THE LADIES' HOME JOURNAL. The archives of the Department of State preserve these links in the chain of history of the nations.

Ms. A. 9. 2. 10. 11

Victoria, by the Grace of God, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. &c. to the President of the United States of America, kindest Greeting! Our Good Friend! It is with the warmest affection that we announce to you the access of our most beloved and beloved Uncle, His late Majesty King William the Fourth, of blessed memory, whom it pleased God to call from this World on the morning of the 20th instant, at Twelve Minutes past Two o'Clock, in the 72nd Year of His Age, and the 7th of His Reign. While we thus communicate to you the earliest intelligence of this momentous event, we feel convinced that you will participate in our own and the public grief for the loss of a Sovereign whose memory is justly dear to His Family, and to the Subjects of every Class. In representing you at the same time with our accession to the throne of this Kingdom, we cannot omit to assure you that it will be our most ardent wish to cultivate and maintain the Relations of Friendship and good Understanding which so happily subsist between the Two Countries; and that it will always afford

us pleasure to have fresh opportunities of proving the interest which we take in the Welfare and Prosperity of the United States. And so we recommend you to the Protection of His Almighty God. Given at our Court at Kensington, the Twenty Third day of June, in the Year of our Lord 1837, and in the First Year of our Reign.

Your Good Friend
Victoria R^y

Alarcon

Ms. A. 9. 2. 10. 11. 12

Victoria, by the Grace of God, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. &c. to the President of the United States of America, kindest Greeting! Our Good Friend! It is with the warmest affection that we announce to you the access of our most beloved and beloved Uncle, His late Majesty King William the Fourth, of blessed memory, whom it pleased God to call from this World on the morning of the 20th instant, at Twelve Minutes past Two o'Clock, in the 72nd Year of His Age, and the 7th of His Reign. While we thus communicate to you the earliest intelligence of this momentous event, we feel convinced that you will participate in our own and the public grief for the loss of a Sovereign whose memory is justly dear to His Family, and to the Subjects of every Class. In representing you at the same time with our accession to the throne of this Kingdom, we cannot omit to assure you that it will be our most ardent wish to cultivate and maintain the Relations of Friendship and good Understanding which so happily subsist between the Two Countries; and that it will always afford

Your Good Friend
Victoria R^y

Alarcon

QUEEN VICTORIA ANNOUNCES TO PRESIDENT VAN BUREN HER ACCESSION TO THE THRONE OF ENGLAND

QUEEN VICTORIA ANNOUNCES TO PRESIDENT VAN BUREN HER MARRIAGE TO PRINCE ALBERT

Ms. A. 9. 2. 10. 11. 13

Victoria, by the Grace of God, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. &c. to the President of the United States of America, kindest Greeting! Our Good Friend! It is with the warmest affection that we announce to you the access of our most beloved and beloved Uncle, His late Majesty King William the Fourth, of blessed memory, whom it pleased God to call from this World on the morning of the 20th instant, at Twelve Minutes past Two o'Clock, in the 72nd Year of His Age, and the 7th of His Reign. While we thus communicate to you the earliest intelligence of this momentous event, we feel convinced that you will participate in our own and the public grief for the loss of a Sovereign whose memory is justly dear to His Family, and to the Subjects of every Class. In representing you at the same time with our accession to the throne of this Kingdom, we cannot omit to assure you that it will be our most ardent wish to cultivate and maintain the Relations of Friendship and good Understanding which so happily subsist between the Two Countries; and that it will always afford

Your Good Friend
Victoria R^y

Alarcon

Ms. A. 9. 2. 10. 11. 14

Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, to the President of the United States of America, kindest Greeting! My very Good Friend! The Queen, my beloved Mother, has sustained an overwhelming loss—the death of my most beloved and revered Father, His Royal Highness The Prince Consort, Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, Duke of Saxe-Coburg, which took place at Windsor Castle at Ten Minutes before Eleven o'Clock on the night of the 14th instant, after a short illness in the 43rd Year of His Age. You can well conceive the utter desolation and grief of the Queen, under the unexpected bereavement which Her Majesty, Her Family, and Her Country have undergone. In these deeply afflictive circumstances I have been commanded to write, in this one instance, on behalf of My disconsolate Mother, for the purpose of announcing to you the fatal event. The Queen is persuaded that you will kindly receive this

certification

certification as from Himself, and that you will give Her your friendly sympathy, under the heavy trial with which it has pleased Divine Providence to visit Her. And so I recommend you to the Protection of His Almighty God.

Osborne House, the 5th day of January 1862.

Your very Good Friend
Albert Edward

Alarcon

QUEEN VICTORIA ANNOUNCES TO PRESIDENT TYLER THE BIRTH OF THE PRINCE OF WALES

THE PRINCE OF WALES, ACTING FOR THE QUEEN, NOTIFIES PRESIDENT LINCOLN OF THE DEATH OF HIS FATHER, THE PRINCE CONSORT

Victoria, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, Empress of India &c &c to the President of the United States of America, sendeth greeting! Our Good Friend! We have received from the hands of Mr. Whitelaw Reid the letter which you addressed to Us on the 28th day of May last, and in which, in the name, and on behalf of, the People

of the United States you offer Us your sincere congratulations on the occasion of the celebration of the 40th Anniversary of our accession to the Throne. We return to you and to the People of the United States our most thanks for these congratulations, and we assure you of our hearty wishes both for your own welfare and the prosperity and good of the Nation over which you so worthily preside.

preside; and so we recommend you to the protection of the Almighty. Given at Our Court at Osborne the twentieth day of the month of May 1877, and in the 40th Year of Our Reign. Your Good Friend Victoria R. I.

THE LETTER FROM QUEEN VICTORIA IN WHICH SHE ACKNOWLEDGES TO PRESIDENT MCKINLEY HIS CONGRATULATIONS UPON HER DIAMOND JUBILEE

Très chers et grands amis, vous nous avez appris par le retour de notre ambassadeur à Paris, et par le départ de nos ambassadeurs à Vienne, que vous nous avez informés de votre mariage avec l'Archiduchesse Marie Louise d'Autriche. Nous sommes très heureux de vous en féliciter et de vous adresser nos vœux pour le bonheur de votre union. Nous sommes également très heureux de vous en féliciter et de vous adresser nos vœux pour le bonheur de votre union. Nous sommes également très heureux de vous en féliciter et de vous adresser nos vœux pour le bonheur de votre union.

NAPOLEON I ANNOUNCES TO PRESIDENT MADISON HIS MARRIAGE TO MARIE LOUISE

VERY DEAR AND GREAT FRIENDS: We will not defer informing you of our marriage to the Archduchess Marie Louise of Austria. We know too well your sentiments regarding us not to be persuaded that you will take part in the satisfaction which this event affords us. The interest we take in all that concerns you makes us wish for opportunities to prove it to you, and you may count the more upon our sentiments in that they are founded upon the sincere attachment and affection we bear you. We pray God, therefore, very dear and good friends, that He may have you in His holy and safe keeping. YOUR GOOD FRIEND NAPOLEON

Très chers et grands amis, la conviction de nous sommes de l'intérêt que vous prenez à tout ce qui nous touche ne nous permet pas de différer à vous informer de notre mariage. Nous sommes très heureux de vous en féliciter et de vous adresser nos vœux pour le bonheur de votre union. Nous sommes également très heureux de vous en féliciter et de vous adresser nos vœux pour le bonheur de votre union.

NAPOLEON I ANNOUNCES TO PRESIDENT MADISON THE BIRTH OF HIS SON, THE KING OF ROMÉ

VERY DEAR AND GREAT FRIENDS: Our conviction of the interest that you take in all that concerns us does not permit us to defer informing you that the Empress, our very dear and well-beloved spouse and consort, has just been happily delivered of a Prince, who, by his birthright, has received the title of King of Rome. In partaking with us the satisfaction caused by an event so interesting to our Imperial family, and for the happiness of the people which Providence has intrusted to us, you will give us renewed testimony of the friendly sentiments you have often manifested toward us. You cannot doubt our continued disposition to give you evidences of our attachment for you, and it is with veritable pleasure that we seize this opportunity to renew the assurances of our high esteem and of the sincere affection which we bear you. We pray God, therefore, that He may have you in His holy and safe keeping. YOUR GOOD FRIEND NAPOLEON

Très chers et grands amis, vous nous avez appris par le retour de notre ambassadeur à Paris, et par le départ de nos ambassadeurs à Vienne, que vous nous avez informés de votre mariage avec l'Archiduchesse Marie Louise d'Autriche. Nous sommes très heureux de vous en féliciter et de vous adresser nos vœux pour le bonheur de votre union. Nous sommes également très heureux de vous en féliciter et de vous adresser nos vœux pour le bonheur de votre union.

NAPOLEON I ANNOUNCES TO PRESIDENT MADISON HIS RETURN FROM ELBA TO THE THRONE OF FRANCE

VERY DEAR AND GREAT FRIENDS: You will have learned in the course of the last month of our return to the shores of France, of our entry into Paris, and of the departure of the Bourbon family. The true nature of these events is now known to you. They are the work of an irresistible power, the work of the will of a great nation which knows its duties and its rights. The Dynasty which force had restored to the French people was suited to it no longer; the Bourbons were willing to associate themselves neither with its sentiments nor its customs. France has been obliged to separate herself from them. Her voice called for a liberator. The expectations which had decided us to make the greatest sacrifices had not been realized: we have come, and from the point at which we touched the shore, the love of our people has carried us to the very heart of our capital. The first need of our heart is to repay such affection by the maintenance of an honorable tranquillity. The re-establishment of the Imperial throne is necessary to the happiness of the French. Our sweetest thought is to make it at the same time useful in confirming the peace of Europe. Enough of glory has shone upon the standards of various nations in their vicissitudes of fortune have often enough caused heavy reverses to follow upon great victories. A grander arena is to-day thrown open to the Sovereigns, and we are the first to enter it. After having exhibited to the world the spectacle of great combats, it will be sweetest to know henceforth no other rivalry than that of the blessings of peace, no other struggle than the sacred one for the happiness of the people. France frankly proclaims this noble object of all her prayers. Jealous of her independence, the unvarying principle of her policy will be the absolute respect for the independence of other nations. If such are, as we are happily confident, your sentiments, and those of the other powers, the general calm is assured for a long time to come, and justice seated within the boundaries of the several States will alone suffice to protect their frontiers. We embrace with pleasure every opportunity to assure you of our wishes for your prosperity, as well as of our esteem and our constant affection for the United States in general and for each of them in particular. We pray God, very dear and good friends, to have you in His holy and safe keeping. YOUR GOOD FRIEND NAPOLEON

Written at Paris, the 4th of April, 1815

Très chers et grands amis, vous nous avez appris par le retour de notre ambassadeur à Paris, et par le départ de nos ambassadeurs à Vienne, que vous nous avez informés de votre mariage avec l'Archiduchesse Marie Louise d'Autriche. Nous sommes très heureux de vous en féliciter et de vous adresser nos vœux pour le bonheur de votre union. Nous sommes également très heureux de vous en féliciter et de vous adresser nos vœux pour le bonheur de votre union.

EMPEROR WILLIAM I ANNOUNCES TO PRESIDENT BUCHANAN THE BIRTH OF WILLIAM II, THE PRESENT EMPEROR OF GERMANY

WILLIAM by the Grace of God, Prince of Prussia REGENT TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA MR. PRESIDENT: It is a pleasure to me to announce to you that Princess Victoire Adelaide Marie Louise, wife of my well-beloved son, Prince Frederick William of Prussia, born Princess Royal of Great Britain and Ireland, Duchess of Saxony, gave birth to a son yesterday, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. Persuaded that you will take some part in this happy event, I beg you, Mr. President, to believe in the sentiments of high esteem which I bear toward you, as well as in the lively interest that I take in the happiness and prosperity of the United States of America. I pray God that He may have you, Sir, in His holy and safe keeping. Berlin, the 28th of January, 1859 WILLIAM

Napoleon, Empereur des Français au Président des Etats Unis d'Amérique. Très cher et bon ami, nous nous sommes très heureux de vous informer de notre mariage avec l'Archiduchesse Marie Louise d'Autriche. Nous sommes très heureux de vous en féliciter et de vous adresser nos vœux pour le bonheur de votre union. Nous sommes également très heureux de vous en féliciter et de vous adresser nos vœux pour le bonheur de votre union.

NAPOLEON III ANNOUNCES TO PRESIDENT PIERCE HIS MARRIAGE TO EUGENIE

NAPOLEON, by the grace of God and the will of the nation, Emperor of the French, to the President of the United States of America. Very Dear and Good Friend: We do not wish to defer informing you of our marriage to Madame Eugénie de Montijo, Countess of Teba. The friendly sentiments which you have evinced for us leave us in no uncertainty as to the part you will take in an event as interesting to our Imperial House as to the happiness of the French people. The assurances which you will give us will only increase our satisfaction, and for our part we will embrace with pleasure every opportunity to renew to you the expression of our high esteem and our sincere friendship. We pray God that He may have you, very dear and good friend, in His holy and safe keeping. Written at the Palace of St. Cloud, the 1st of February, 1855. YOUR GOOD FRIEND NAPOLEON