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Laura Lafargue an Karl Marx in London. Paris, Montag, 18. April 1870

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Handschriftenbeschreibung:

Soweit aus der Fotokopie zu ersehen ist, besteht der Brief aus einem Bogen und einem Blatt weißem, vergilbtem Papier. Laura Lafargue hat alle sechs Seiten vollständig beschrieben. Schreibmaterial: schwarze Tinte.

in russischer Übersetzung: *Переписка Карла Маркса, Фридриха Энгельса и членов семьи Маркса / Perepiska Karla Marksa, Fridricha Engels'sa i členov sem'i Marksa...* (1983). S. 463–464.

Absender: Laura Lafargue
Schreibort: Paris
Schreibdatum: 1870-04-18

Empfänger: Karl Marx
Empfangsort: London

Schlagworte: „Das Kapital“ – Französische Ausgabe, Frankreich, Zeitungen der IAA, Internationale Arbeiter-Assoziation (IAA, A.I.T., I.W.M.A.), Lektüren im Korrespondentenkreis, Privates - Marx (Familie, Gesundheit, Finanzen)

| April 18th/70.

My dear Challey,

I should have written to you long ago had I not been waiting for news from Keller^a. Paul^b called on him yesterday & the account I had of his visit is not exactly the one I should like to give you.

Keller^d has translated up to the 365th page of your book^e, but not having, up to the present, found an Editor, he has been obliged to interrupt his translation.^c The poor fellow, you must know earns his living by translating from the German into the French, books of all kinds I suppose (he is busy just now with a volume he has to get through with in two months “on the Microscope”) which he is paid for at the rate of a franc & a half per page. A page takes him about an hour & a half to do.

He did not like to inform you of all this & hence his silence. He hopes by dint of getting himself known | to the different editors he drudges for to be able to find a publisher for your book. For the present he has to work hard for his living & has no time for any work which is not paid for immediately.

You know by the **Marseillaise**ⁱ what is going on here. There is nothing so much talked over as the “Plebiscite”, the “Complot” and the “**Grande Internationale**”^j. The latter is doing wonders here. The workingmen seem to have an unlimited confidence in the Association; different sections are forming here daily. I don’t know whether they pay their subscriptions as members, but at any rate they do all they can for the different strikes going on. Every fresh movement among the workingmen, every fresh strike is considered as due more or less to the International & every strike seems to react upon the Association in bringing more & more societies & individuals to adhere to it. The title of “member of the International” is beginning to be highly considered here. Any person, in that quality, calling at the Office of the Marseillaise is received with open arms. A meeting is being held to-day at Paris for the purpose of uniting, I believe, the different sections, into one body. **Paul**^k has gone there so I shall know by & by the purpose of the meeting. –

The unfortunate men now at Mazas appear to be suffering greatly from their incarceration. The small-pox broke out there some time ago & many have been seriously ill in consequence. One man died there. **Bazire**^l is said to be going mad: he was suffering from a nervous disease previous to his imprisonment & was refused admittance into an hospital.—**Moilin**^m is likewise “au secret since” some two months. He was caught calling upon a certain Dupont accused of having arms in his lodgings. He is exceedingly ill & moreover ruined having altogether neglected his patients | since his last attack of acute political fever. The furniture of his grand apartment of the Rue de Rivoli is being sold to pay his house-rent.

Paulⁿ’s **aunt**^o has given us a curious account of the past life of this great agitator. He is an out and out quack in all that he undertakes, medicine, magnetism, socialism etc etc.

The poor wretch is paying dearly however for his quackery & love of domineering.

Will you make my compliments to M^r Williams^p, but please to inform him that in the case of his one day’s waking up & finding himself famous, not to fall out with the Tooley Trinity^r. **Keller**^u knew Jenny was the author of the **letters on Ireland**^v having learnt the fact from a workingman who had called on you at London, I think, but whose name I forget. | I mention this to prevent Jenny’s scolding us for having broken the news to **Jaclard**^w. Au reste, I don’t see why she wants to hide her light under a bushel.

Paul^x went to a grand banquet the other evening of the Libres-Penseurs de Paris. There were about 600 men & women present, all of them most enthusiastic. By the bye I saw **Verlet**^y, the Editor of the **Libre Pensée**^z the other day & he seemed very anxious to have some communications (anti-religious & non-political) from London. I thought on the occasion that **Jenny Williams**^{aa} would be his man. In case she should have the time, she ought to send something to the paper as it may get to be worth something by & by.

Did you see the article signed Suzamel (**Blanqui**^{ab})? It is a reprint of his pamphlet: **La foi et la science**^{ac}. **Tridon**^{ad}, **Regnard**^{ae} & many other friends | of **Paul**^{af}’s write in it. The paper is conducted by, & written for “workingmen”, consequently the articles to be inserted must not be too long or too difficult. The workingmen of Lyons read it a good deal & complain greatly, it appears, when the contents are “trop scientifiques”. Il est vrai que la science de **Verlet**^{ag} est diablement indigeste.

—My dear Master, I am waiting as usual for news from you all & from you in particular as I want to know whether you are quite well again.

Give my best love to all at home & many thanks to **Mama**^{ah} & **Jenny**^{ai} for their letters. To **Tussy**^{aj} a severe blowing up for having altogether forgotten me on Hot × blue day. I expected a letter from her.

My little **Schnaps**^{ak} is getting on famously & sends you a 1000 kisses.

Dear Challey, I am

Your affectionate Kakadou.

Tooley^{am}’s^{al} nose is a pale rose colour which means, as **Jenny**^{ap} knows, that we have fine weather.

Erläuterungen

- a) Keller, Charles (1843-1913)
- b) Lafargue, Paul (1842-1911)
- c) Charles Keller übersetzte einen Teil von **Karl Marx: Das Kapital. Bd. 1. Buch 1. Hamburg 1867.**^f — siehe Erl. zu Marx an J. Ph. Becker, zw. 9. u. 15.1.1866: „1200 Seiten Manuscript“. (**MEGA² II/5**)^g — ins Französische. Siehe dazu **MEGA² II/7**^h. S. 715/716.
- d) Keller, Charles (1843-1913)
- e) [Zotero Link für: book](#)
- f) [Zotero Link für: Karl Marx: Das Kapital. Bd. 1. Buch 1. Hamburg 1867.](#)
- g) [Zotero Link für: \(MEGA2 II/5\)](#)
- h) [Zotero Link für: MEGA2 II/7](#)
- i) La Marseillaise
- j) Internationale Arbeiter-Assoziation (IAA) / International Workingmen's Association (IWA) / Association Internationale des Travailleurs (AIT)
- k) Lafargue, Paul (1842-1911)
- l) Bazire, Edmond (1846-1892)
- m) Moilin, Jules Antoine (Tony) (1832-1871)
- n) Lafargue, Paul (1842-1911)
- o) Lafargue (Tante) (-)
- p) Pseudonym von **Jenny Marx (Tochter)**^q.
- q) Marx (Tochter), Jenny (1844-1883)
- r) Familie Lafargue (Paul, Laura und ihr Sohn Charles) mit Bezug auf den Spitznamen für **Paul Lafargue**^s in Anspielung auf **John Lawrence Toole**^t
- s) Lafargue, Paul (1842-1911)
- t) Toole, John Lawrence (1830-1906)
- u) Keller, Charles (1843-1913)
- v) [Zotero Link für: letters on Ireland](#)
- w) Jaclard, Charles Victor (1840-1903)
- x) Lafargue, Paul (1842-1911)
- y) Verlet, Henri (1847-1902)
- z) La Libre Pensée
- aa) Marx (Tochter), Jenny (1844-1883)
- ab) Blanqui, Auguste (1805-1881)
- ac) [Zotero Link für: La foi et la science](#)
- ad) Tridon, Edme Marie Gustave (1841-1871)
- ae) Regnard, Albert (1836-1903)
- af) Lafargue, Paul (1842-1911)
- ag) Verlet, Henri (1847-1902)
- ah) Marx, Jenny (1814-1881)
- ai) Marx (Tochter), Jenny (1844-1883)
- aj) Marx, Eleanor (1855-1898)
- ak) Lafargue, Charles Étienne (31.12.1868-1872)

al) Spitzname für **Paul Lafargue**^{an} in Anspielung auf **John Lawrence Toole**^{ao}

am) Lafargue, Paul (1842-1911)

an) Lafargue, Paul (1842-1911)

ao) Toole, John Lawrence (1830-1906)

ap) Marx (Tochter), Jenny (1844-1883)

Kritischer Apparat