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Edward Jones an Friedrich Engels in London. Manchester, Donnerstag, 3. Oktober 1872

Lindenberg, Thomas (Bearbeitung)
Lura, Caroline (Bearbeitung)

Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften (BBAW) Marx-Engels-Gesamtausgabe

Handschrift: IISG Marx-Engels-Nachlass L 2526/L V 45. Fotosign. 14315a–d
Handschriftenbeschreibung:

Soweit aus der Fotokopie zu ersehen ist, besteht der Brief aus einem Bogen und einem Blatt weißem Papier. Jones hat fünf Seiten vollständig und die sechste Seite zur Hälfte beschrieben. Schreibmaterial: schwarze Tinte.

Absender: Edward Jones
Schreibort: Manchester
Schreibdatum: 1872-10-03

Empfänger: Friedrich Engels
Empfangsort: London

| 107 Sanderson St
Miles Platting
Manchester
Oct 3 1872

Dear Citizen Engels.

We had a full meeting of The Council of The Manchester Federation last night all the members being present after the transaction of the usual routine business—“ Letters were read from Hales[a]—to give you an idea of their contents would be impossible as they occupied over half an hour in reading—He makes a desperate effort to vindicate himself—he says with regard to his motion condemning Marx[’]s observation concerning English Workingclass leaders being sold— “That he sent the account of the Federal Council meeting to the English Press—and he claims the right to rebut the statement in the same manner | that Marx~~s~~ took to propagate it[1]. He also states that no delegate at the Hague[b] could get the official Report except Barry[c][,] who was correspondent to the Standard[d][.] Marx gave it to him while he refused it to Sexton[e]—

He also desires to repudiate the Hague Congress because it has made the Association into a Political one—“He objected to our separate Sections being represented considering that the Manchester Federation was represented in Sexton[f]—” In answer to this we passed the following resolution~~.~~ :

“The Secretar[y] be instructed to write to the F. C. informing them that D[r]Sexton[g] represents only one Section of our Federation viz “ ‘The Central” ’ and has no more to do with the remainder

then he has with the Liverpool Section. The rule states that each Section has the right to send a delegate[”]

—passed unanimous.

| Our next resolution was passed on the following remark which was contained in Hales[h] letter to the Council[:]

“I do not say that Marx is absolutely dishonest. But I do say that his life of Exile and proscription has led him into torturous paths of intrigue that would damn the Association”.

“That the Letter read be sent to E Hills[i] Sec[y] to the British F. C. to be read to the Council ~~*assemblied*~~ assembled[,] asking if the enclosed Letter has receive [d] their official sanction as it bears their official stamp.”

unanimous

In case the above letter has not rec[d] the sanction of the British Federal Council.

“It is the opinion of the Council of the Manchester Federation of the International Workingmen[’]s association that Citizen Hales[j] has acted unwise in maligning the charecter of any member of the | association[;] such a mode of proceeding is calculated to sow disunion in our ranks”[.] See remarks concerning Citizen Marx in enclosed letter,”

“unanimous”

Hales[k] has been writing letters to Manchester as if he alone composed the association[,] if the members of the Federal Council have any spirit in them at all—they will expel him; before last night he had some friends on our Council[,] he is friendless now—

One thing that he is making a ~~*speciallity*~~ speciality of in his letters to the sections is that the Hague Congress has made the association political—therefore we ought to repudiate their actions—I took with me to the Council my minute book containing the proceedings at Nottingham, and read to the Council the following resolution—[:]

| Proposed by Hales[l]
sec[d] by Hazard

“That this Congress of delegates hereby wish to express its utter astonishment that any Trade or other Society should passively, or otherwise, abstain from politics. Seeing by past and present ~~*expeirence*~~ experience their very existence is threatened by so doing and would therefore impress upon them the necessity of taking immediate political action by joining the new labor party”[m]

Hales[n] also moved that we accept the resolutions of the conference of delegates that assembled in London Sept 1871[o]—

If we give him rope enough he will hang himself—to judge by the number of letters that he writes to Manchester I should say that he scarcely does anything else.

He has requested the Sec[y] of our Council to give him the addresses of all our Sec[ys][,] having failed to gain his purpose through the Council he thinks of trying the sections seperately—

| he will not meet with anymore success, his acknowledgement of having furnished the press with the proceedings of the Federal Council has killed him—

We are determined to take no more notice of these squabbles[.] Winter is fast approaching and we ought to be doing work[.]

Do you know half a dozen good speakers—that you think would lecture for us[?]

Yours Fraternally

E Jones.

Erläuterungen

a) Hales, John (1839-nach 1882)

b) Der V. Kongress der IAA fand vom 2. bis 7. September 1872 in Den Haag statt.

c) Barry, Michael Maltman (1842-1909)

d) The Standard

e) Sexton, George (-)

f) Sexton, George (-)

g) Sexton, George (-)

h) Hales, John (1839-nach 1882)

i) Hills, Edmund (-)

j) Hales, John (1839-nach 1882)

k) Hales, John (1839-nach 1882)

l) Hales, John (1839-nach 1882)

m) Weiterführung siehe Beilage: Resolution proposed by John Hales (Auszug aus dem „minute book containing the proceedings at Nottingham“ von Edward Jones) (IISG, Marx-Engels-Papers, L 2526/Bei L V 45, Fotosign. 9588c)

n) Hales, John (1839-nach 1882)

o) Zotero Link für: resolutions of the conference of delegates that assembled in London Sept 1871

Kritischer Apparat

1) wohl ergänzt