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Schreibort: Matlock Bridge
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Empfänger: Karl Marx
Empfangsort: London

| Matlock Bridge 8 Octr 1872

My dear Friend,

It was well, kindly & wisely done to send me the first part of “Das Kapital”[a] at the moment that I learn the loss I shall sustain by your daughters[d] marriage[c]. If anything could lessen that bereavement it would be the study of the First part, which, I am told, is the most difficult. When any evil, loss or other calamity befalls me, I set to work in some brain-searching study; so, to solace myself, I have set to work to read Burke[e] and send you an extract by which, I am sure, you will profit and see the wisdom of the ancients.

I shall return soon & will come to see you, Madam[f] & Eleanor[g], now, my last hope. But I must to my studies or my misfortune will be ever present.

I fear the League of Peace & Liberty[i] have done no good at Lugano[h].

Ever faithfully & fraternally
T. Allsop

|Fas est ab hoste doceri.

But as it is in the interest of the government that reformation should be early, it is the interest of the people that it should be temperate. It is their interest because a temperate reform is permanent; and because it has a principle of growth. Whenever we improve, it is well to leave room for a further improvement. It is well to consider, to look about us, to examine the effect of what has been done.—Then we can proceed with confidence, because we can proceed with intelligence.

—Whereas in hot reformations in what men call making clear work, the whole is generally so crude, harsh and indigested, mixed with so much injustice; so contrary to the course of human nature and human institutions, that the very people who are most eager for it are among the first to ~~*be*~~ disgusted at what they have done. Then some part of the older grievance is recalled from its exile to become a corrective of the correction. Then the abuse [assumes] all the credit & popularity of a reform. The very idea of purity and disinterestedness in politics falls into disrepute, and is considered the dream ~~*of*~~ of hot and inexperienced men; and thus disorders become incurable, not by the virulence of their own quality, but by the unapt and violent nature of the remedies. A great part of reform should operate gradually; some benefits will come sooner, some later. We must no more make haste to be rich by parsimony, than by intemperate acquisition.

Speech of Edmund Burke, 11 Feb 1780[j]

Erläuterungen

a) Bezieht sich vermutlich auf die 2. Auflage von 1872?: Karl Marx: Das Kapital. Kritik der politischen Oekonomie. Bd. 1. Buch 1. 2., verb. Aufl. Hamburg: Otto Meißner 1872[b]. Sie erschien zunachst in 9 Heftlieferungen von Ende Juli 1872 bis Mitte Mai 1873, 1873 dann als Buch.

b) Zotero Link für: Karl Marx: Das Kapital. Kritik der politischen Oekonomie. Bd. 1. Buch 1. 2., verb. Aufl. Hamburg: Otto Meißner 1872

c) Heirat von Jenny Marx und Charles Longuet am 10. Oktober 1872 in London.

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

e) Burke, Edmund (1729-1797)

f) Marx, Jenny (1814-1881)

g) Marx, Eleanor (1855-1898)

h) 6. Kongress der Ligue de la Paix et de la Liberté am 23. September 1872 in Lugano.

i) Ligue Internationale de la Paix et de la Liberté

j) Siehe Speech of Edmund Burke, Esq. Member of Parliament for the City of Bristol, On presenting to the House of Commons (On the 11th of February, 1780) a Plan for the Better Security of the Independence of Parliament, and the Oeconomical Reformation of the Civil and Other Establishments. London 1780[k]. S. 11–12.

k) Zotero Link für: Speech of Edmund Burke, Esq. Member of Parliament for the City of Bristol, On presenting to the House of Commons (On the 11th of February, 1780) a Plan for the Better Security of the Independence of Parliament, and the Oeconomical Reformation of the Civil and Other Establishments. London 1780

Kritischer Apparat