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Absender: Joseph Patrick McDonnell
Schreibort: London
Schreibdatum: 1872-04-20

Empfänger: Friedrich Engels
Empfangsort: London

| 8 Southboro Terrace, Carlton Grove
Peckham. Saturday

My dear Engels

Your letter to hand. I shall act according to your advice on Tuesday evening when Hales[a]'s motion comes on. I shall also see what can be done to upset the scoundrels in the "Black Swan"[b]. The report of their miserable proceedings is calculated to do great mischief. I have just had another letter from poor De Morgan[c]. News most distressing. He is completely "done up". On Wednesday he had £ 6. 5. 6 rent to pay but had no money to meet it. They now threaten | to turn him out. He seems quite desperate and thinks it cruel that he should be abandoned in his present position. He has certainly been ruined through his devotion to principle. He tells me that Carmody[d] who was discharged after the ~~*Athæneum*~~ Athenæum meeting is also in a terrible state. Poor fellow has a large family. I told him in most of my letters that I would do my best to rouse the Irish Branches to action and of course he cannot see why I have failed up to this. He seems to think that we could & should have done more for him. Goodness knows I have spared neither time nor thought nor action | on his behalf but such things cannot be accomplished in a moment. I have ordered 300 sheets for a "Propaganda Fund" which will be established to-morrow evening at our Conference. Every person will pay to this weekly according to his means & have his name &

contribution regularly entered down on the sheet & acknowledged in the Press. All money to be sent weekly to Cork. But how to get over the present difficulties I know not. He appears to be in a frantic state. He ends by saying "If you could only send me about £ 10 as a loan I could repay it as soon as the atmosphere is a little cleared". He seems to think that if he | could conquer present trials and rest on his oars for a couple of weeks he might be able to make some sort of a position for himself. He sends me a prospectus which I enclose, issued March 7th[.] I wish we could do something instantly for him. If necessary it could be paid back from the "Propaganda fund". To[-]morrow night the latter commences and I offer to pay weekly towards it 5/– which when my other expenses are taken into account, is just as much as I can afford. I expect it will bring in a weekly sum of £ 2 or £ 3 after a short time. The Cork papers have published "M Richarde[f]'s meeting". De Morgan asks is it true. Delays are dangerous. I am sorry we did not adopt your resolution on Tuesday night. Write to me as soon as possible. I feel quite troubled owing to the responsibility which he throws upon me[.]

In haste. Always yours truly

J. P. McDonnell

|([Umschlag]) Frederick Engels Esq[r]
122 Regent['s] Park Road
Primrose Hill
Immediate [1] Regent['s] Park

Erläuterungen

a) Hales, John (1839-nach 1882)

b) Siehe The Times. London. Nr. 27351, 15. April 1872. S. 11, Sp. 6: „A Happy Family. —A large meeting of the seceding members of the International was held at the Black Swan, Leicester-square ..." (s. SUB Göttingen); Pall Mall Gazette. 19. April 1872: „The International, besides the attacks to which it has lately been subjected in various quarters, appears to be suffering from internal dissensions. On Sunday night a large meeting of 'seceding members' was held at the Black Swan, Leicester-square ..." (s. The Pall Mall Budget. Vol. 8 (From April 5 to September 27, 1872). S. 32).

c) De Morgan, John Francis (-)

d) Carmody, (-)

e) Die Beilage ist überliefert: A NEW SYSTEM OF EDUCATION (RGASPI, f. 1 op. 5 d. 2851).

f) Richarde, M. (-)

Kritischer Apparat

1) | _ |*Horizontale Lücke von 1 Wort*