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

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Handschrift: RGASPI f. 21 op. 1 d. 82/4
Handschriftenbeschreibung:

Soweit aus der s/w-Fotokopie zu ersehen ist, besteht der Brief aus einem Bogen Papier. Barry hat drei Seiten vollständig beschrieben, die vierte Seite blieb vermutlich leer.

Absender: Michael Maltman Barry
Schreibort: London
Schreibdatum: 1872-01-08

Empfänger: Karl Marx
Empfangsort: London

| 8 January 1872

Dear Sir,

You evidently misapprehend the sense in which I used the word “party”, I used it merely as a convenient term describing a number of men. I never supposed that you or your “continental friends” opposed M[r] Hales[a], or did anything else, from any other impulse than duty; indeed, were I not fully convinced that you are entirely impersonal, caring only for the large and general interests of the Association[b]—which mean the welfare of humanity—I should not have troubled myself to consult you. I quite understand that you “did not invite” M[r]Mottershead[c] to stand for the Secretaryship, hence my note, submitting his candidature for your approval; at the same time, I must say I was under the impression, perhaps unwarranted, that you in|tended to support him. But, even if it were so, you are fully entitled to change your mind; fresh circumstances or further reflection might, indeed, make it an imperative duty. For myself, I have not concealed from M[r] Engels my opinion that M[r] Mottershead does not possess satisfactory qualifications for the post; but I thought, and do still think, that his faults are less grave, less dangerous to the independence of the General Council, than those of the present Secretary. This, if I have read your note correctly, is our sole point of difference; and, so far as I am concerned, I “agree to differ”. [1]I assure you that I share your sense of difficulty in the matter, hence my anxiety that action should be guided by a consensus of opinion. I am informed, however, that, in consequence of M[r] Hales known enmity to me, my co-operation with his enemies may, possibly, by those who do not | know me, be attributed to personal motives; and as this would not only deprive me of their friendship, which I value, but diminish my power of usefulness to the Association, to which I attach infinitely greater value, I shall now wash my hands of this affair. [2]I am satisfied that all the points of the case are thoroughly understood on all sides—that was my great desire—and I

am now, equally with yourself, willing that circumstances shall, by the hands of others, determine results.

Yours faithfully
M. Maltman Barry

D[r] Marx

Erläuterungen

a) Hales, John (1839-nach 1882)

b) Internationale Arbeiter-Assoziation (IAA) / International Workingmen's Association (IWA) / Association Internationale des Travailleurs (AIT)

c) Mottershead, Thomas (ca. 1825-1884)

Kritischer Apparat

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

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