

Morgan, Julia and Arthur Byne, 1923

5-A-44-04

81
September 7, 1923.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Byne,
Monte Esquinza, 6
Madrid, Spain.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Byne:

Enclosed is a check for three thousand (3000) dollars. Please take out of this any loss or cost you were put to in connection with the "slipped up" order on the Andalusian house. Then please deposit the remainder as a nucleus fund to Mr. Hearst's account.

Mr. Hearst finally arrived out here, and on my explaining to him the situation, said he was very sorry you had been put to expense and annoyance on his account, but that since Mr. O'Reilly's death last spring (Mr. O'Reilly was his secretary) he has not had anyone who even kept him properly informed. He telegraphed east for your "dossier" from his files and on going over them I realized what probably happened.

If you care to try us once more on a strictly cash-in-hand basis, all right, and if not, just say so. What we

What we would like are ceilings especially, door trims, interesting architectural motifs -- not so much furniture or object d'art.

We have three buildings completed and one large one well underway, but there are a number more contemplated.

I really do not think you would have any financial embarrassments again. We are having no more trouble on this end, adequate financial arrangements having been made for us.

Yours sincerely,

JM
deM

COPY

October 4th,
1 9 2 3

Miss Julia Morgan,
Merchants Exchange,
San Francisco, Calif.,

Dear Miss Morgan:

Your very nice letter of September 7th with its agreeable enclosure of a cheque for \$3000 from Mr. Hearst was duly received. I have not acknowledged receipt as promptly as I might have for we have been much upset by moving.

I enclose herewith receipt for the above-mentioned amount deducting \$34.00 for expenditures in connection with the sending and returning of the ceiling albums and various cables. An itemized bill for these details was sent Mr. Hearst on July 10th but was never answered.

We shall be very glad indeed to continue on the new basis you suggest; too bad that much good material has escaped you in the meanwhile. Addison Mizner, the Palm Beach architect, was here last spring and tons of stuff were carried off. Furthermore we have been supplying all the material from ceilings to bed-sheets for Mr. George Steedman's house in Santa Barbara.

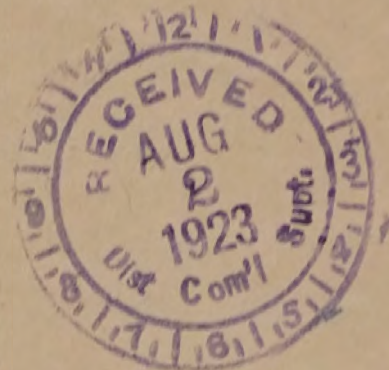
I have in hand however a rather good ceiling and will resume negotiations with the owners. The little house in Granada (which we were once instructed to buy) I believe is still for sale; unfortunately a part of it has collapsed destroying one of the two ceilings but the beautiful little carved eaves brackets of the patio are still intact.

Also the extraordinary collection of sixteen painted ceilings, various portals, windows, fireplaces, columns and capitals etc. is still for sale in Granada. But I think Mr. Hearst definitely passed this up; the owner came down to \$75,000 at the time but Mr. Hearst was only inclined to pay half that amount. Since then the price has risen rather than fallen.

Hoping to soon report favorably

Sincerely
(Signed) Arthur Byne

6
MR. W. R. EDMONDSON,
CITY SUPT. S. F.



JULIA MORGAN 1135 MER. EX. BLDG. REQUESTS A COPY OF A RECEIVED
TELEGRAM OF FEB 1922 ABOUT THE 8TH OR 9TH FROM W. R. HEARST NEW YORK
READING "BUY SEVILLE CEILING AT 1200 PESETAS ETC." PLEASE HURRY
ALL POSSIBLE.

S. F. CAL AUG 1 1923

W. R. Hearst
MGR. MX

aug 3rd M Red Lynch
Overland Ltd
Trav #1
Agden Utah

Berry 3/89

~~W. L. G. S.~~
W. L. G. S.
655-Stockton

aug 3

Miss Campbell
Mg. 4X

all telegrams for Feb 1922 have
been destroyed. They are only kept
for one year.

Info clerk

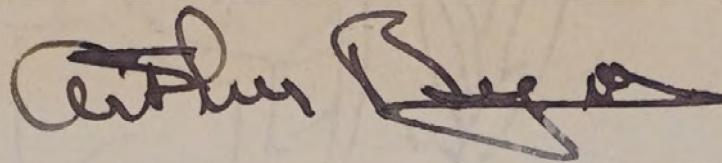
ARTHUR BYNE
PASEO DE LA CASTELLANA, 19
CABLE ADDRESS, STAPLEY
MADRID

October 4th,
1 9 2 3 .

Received this day from Julia Morgan the sum of three thousand dollars (\$3000) on behalf of Mr. William Randolph Hearst for the purchase of architectural details for his house in California. This sum has been deposited in the International Banking Corporation, Madrid, under the name of Arthur Byne (if deposited under Mr. Hearst's name I would not have been granted the credit without special papers according to Spanish law). From this sum \$34.00 has been deducted for expenses incurred for Mr. Hearst.

BALANCE \$2966.00

(signed)



ARTHUR BYNE
PASEO DE LA CASTELLANA, 19
CABLE ADDRESS, STAPLEY
MADRID

October 29th
1 9 2 3 .

Miss Julia Morgan,
Merchants Exchange,
San Francisco, California.

Dear Miss Morgan;

I am very glad to say that I have been able to secure the Toledan ceiling that I had in mind for Mr. Hearst. This ceiling was first brought to my attention some time ago and because of its desirable form interested me very much; the price asked however, 25,000 pesetas, I thought out of all proportion (at the exchange of a year ago this approximated \$4000). With a threatened revolution and a consequent drop in the exchange I recently found the owner in a much more reasonable mood; in fact rather anxious to sell. Several days ago I offered him 8000 pesetas for the ceiling and ~~yesterday~~ we closed in at 9500, which I think is a bargain price. At to-day's exchange this is \$1335.

In the same house, in fact in the same room, were an excellent pair of Mudejar doors and a pair of shutters. These I am still negotiating for. and hope to secure as they are perfect examples of the style and practical as to size. As customary, doors and shutters are of much finer workmanship than ceiling. OK

In our book on Ceilings in Spain we repeatedly remarked that the unpainted Spanish wooden ceiling is generally coarsely carved. This is true of the ceiling bought; but once the wood is cleaned and rubbed down with oil it is surprising how imposing the result is.

In the accompanying drawing you will find careful measurements of the ceiling; also I have numbered the actual timbers to correspond with the key plan. All this meant careful supervision of the taking down and packing which, of course, is not included in the owner's price. I am charging for myself the minimum commission of ten percent plus any expenses I have been put to. Cost of ceiling, demolition, packing, and my own commission I shall pay from the \$3000 fund; On your end the transportation will have to be paid. Not knowing Mr. Hearst's shipping agents in New York in this case I shall employ mine, Messrs Tice and Lynch, 33 Pearl Street, New York. Naturally the ceiling will be sent in bond on to San Francisco and fully insured.

Dear Miss Morgan & You will remember that photos of many ceilings columns etc. were sent us. I think I made an offer much less than the price asked at the time. Can we take these matters up again now
W.R.H.

*I am
please
send the
money.
Set up
from Mr.
Bryant*

Just as soon as I receive the packer's bill I will send you a complete statement including the owner's receipt for the sale.

I am enclosing herewith the drawing I mentioned consisting of an isometric perspective and plan; likewise a description of the ceiling and other particulars.

Hoping these matters will meet with your and your client's approval, and thanking you again for thinking of us, believe me,

Very sincerely,

Arthur S. Squire

Dear Mr. Hunt -
I hope this
is according to your
wishes. F. J. Squire

CEILING DESCRIPTION

Good example of a 16th century Toledan Mudejar ceiling. Bought from an old house in the Calle de Sevillanos in the city of Toledo.

Consists of seven bays in length (six beams) of irregular width. The main transverse beams measure $6 \frac{3}{4}$ X 10 inches in section and rest on carved wooden corbels or "zapatas". These latter preserve a thoroughly Gothic tradition. The secondary beams, running the length of the room, are approximately $2 \frac{1}{4}$ X $3 \frac{1}{2}$ in section. The intervening panels are framed with a simple carved mold. The actual panel boards (which extended the width of the bay) were so badly warped and cracked that it was not thought worth while to send them. A few have been included to give an idea of what they were like. The remainder of the ceiling is extraordinarily sound and well preserved.

The wood is entirely of pine brought down the River Tagus from the mountains of Cuenca which supplied all the timbering for Toledo in the 15th and 16th centuries.

There is no painted decoration whatever. It was customary to oil and slightly wax these ceilings every eight or ten years. Having been abandoned for years the present ceiling is naturally much in need of some surface treatment. Once cleaned (but not scraped) and then vigorously rubbed to a dull polish the quality of Spanish pine is quite remarkable. Of course if the general treatment of the room requires a darker tone some burnt umber may be added to the oil.

The carving is typical of the period and district, that is to say crude. Only the finest Renaissance ceilings which were later to be elaborately decorated in color were ever beautifully carved. In the present example the ornament is confined to the corbel-ends, the main-beam edges, chisel cuts on the secondary beams, and the panel-molds.

This type of ceiling is seen at its best with plain, undecorated walls, and the simplest of furniture. The only other built-in accessories which accompany it to advantage are Mudejar paneled doors and window shutters. For this reason I am particularly keen to secure just those pieces which formerly existed in the room but at present their purchase is held in abeyance as another person has the refusal of them.

Original to Mr. Hearst

ARTHUR BYNE
Paseo de la Castellana, 19
Madrid

October 29, 1923

Miss Julia Morgan,
Merchants Exchange,
San Francisco, Calif.,

Dear Miss Morgan;

I am very glad to say that I have been able to secure the Toledan ceiling that I had in mind for Mr. Hearst. This ceiling was first brought to my attention some time ago and because of its desirable form interested me very much; the price asked, however, 25,000 pesetas, I thought out of all proportion (at the exchange of a year ago this approximated \$4,000). With the threatened revolution and a consequent drop in the exchange I recently found the owner in a much more reasonable mood; in fact rather anxious to sell. Several days ago I offered him 8000 pesetas for the ceiling and we closed in at 9500, which I think is a bargain price. At to-day's exchange this is \$1335.

In the same house, in fact in the same room, were an excellent pair of Mudejar doors and a pair of shutters. These I am still negotiating for, and hope to secure as they are perfect examples of the style and practical as to size. As customary, doors and shutters are of much finer workmanship than ceiling.

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I am enclosing herewith the drawing I mentioned consisting of an isometric perspective and plan; likewise

a description of the ceiling and other particulars.

Hoping these matters will meet with your
and your client's approval, and thanking you again for
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(Signed) Arthur Byne.

[1923]

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Paseo de la Castellana, 19
Madrid

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The wood is entirely of pine brought down the River Tagus from the mountains of Cuenca which supplied all the timbering for Toledo in the 15th and 16th centuries.

The cost of the above ceiling is 9500 pesetas, which, at the exchange of October 29, 1923 is \$1335. Including commission, crating, etc. the total cost of the ceiling is \$1953.30.

ARTHUR BYNE
PASEO DE LA CASTELLANA, 19
CABLE ADDRESS, STAPLEY
MADRID

November 12th,
1' 9 2 3.

Miss Julia Morgan,
Merchants Exchange,
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Miss Morgan;

I enclose herewith the consular invoice for the ceiling, along with the two pairs of doors and one pair of shutters, from the house in Toledo.

After considerable chasing about I was able to secure the doors and shutters from a Madrid antiquarian who had had an option on them. Though forced to pay him a little more than I might have secured them in the first place he had in the meanwhile cleaned them so in the long run we came out about even.

The shipment has now left Madrid, carefully boxed, for Santander, where it will be shortly embarked for New York.

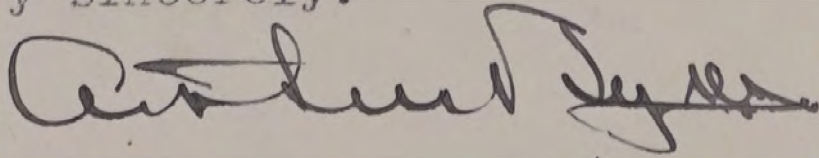
I hope you won't find the ceiling too much of a puzzle; for once an old ceiling is taken down, what looked simple enough in place, becomes just so much old wood and rather discouraging to look upon.

I have ordered my New York Customs agents, Messrs Tice and Lynch, 33 Pearl Street, to look after the shipment and send it on to you in bond. If you prefer to use your own agents in the future please let me know.

Likewise I enclose herewith a statement concerning the prices and charges in connection with the purchase and shipping of the ceiling and doors. The additional charges which you will pay in San Francisco commence with the departure of the shipment from Madrid.

Thanking you for your consideration and hoping that I may soon find something of interest for you, I remain,

Very sincerely.



P.S. I would appreciate any definite request from you; for instance are you in need of a chimney-piece?

Arthur Byne
Paseo de la Castellana, 19
Cable address, Stapley
Madrid

November 12th
1 9 2 3

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Merchants Exchange,
San Francisco, Calif.

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Arthur Byne
Paseo de la Castellana, 19
Madrid

November 12th
1 9 2 3

Statement of purchases made on the instructions
of Miss Julia Morgan for William Randolph Hearst, Esq.

One 16th-century Toledan Ceiling . . . 9,500 pesetas

Two pairs of doors and one of shutters 1,600

Dismantling of ceiling 450

Packing and boxing of ceiling . . . 1,000

Packing of doors and shutters . . . 60

12,610 pesetas

10 percent commission 1,261

Expenses (railroad fare and hotel) 75

Consular fee for shipment 20

Total -----
13,966 pesetas

At dollar exchange \$1953.30
(7.15)

Received on account September 26th \$3000.00

Expenditures to date 1953.30

\$1046.70 Balance

Note: I present no bill for dismantling
of ceiling as I hired day-laborers for
the job.

Arthur Byne
Paseo de la Castellana, 19
Madrid

27 encls

November 12th
1 9 2 3

Statement of purchases made on the instructions
of Miss Julia Morgan for William Randolph Hearst, Esq.

One 16th-century Toledan Ceiling	9,500 pesetas
Two pairs of doors and one of shutters	1,600
Dismantling of ceiling	450
Packing and boxing of ceiling	1,000
Packing of doors and shutters	60

	12,610 pesetas
10 percent commission	1,261
Expenses (railroad fare and hotel)	75
Consular fee for shipment	20

Total	13,966 pesetas

At dollar exchange \$1953.30
(7.15)

Received on account September 26th	\$3000.00
Expenditures to date	1953.30

	\$1046.70 balance

Note; I present no bill for dismantling
of ceiling as I hired day-laborers for
the job

ARTHUR BYNE
PASEO DE LA CASTELLANA, 19
CABLE ADDRESS, STAPLEY
MADRID

February 25th,
1 9 2 4

Miss Julia Morgan,
Merchants Exchange,
San Francisco

Dear Miss Morgan;

Having had no word from you concerning the arrival of the two shipments of antique material I take it for granted that they have not yet reached California. You ought not to be long with news of their arrival however as I have received a report that the second of the two has already passed through New York.

Last week I bought up all the doors of a 17th century palace which is being demolished in Andalusia. These I have divided out between various clients and have chosen four for Mr. Hearst. These are of the best type of Spanish paneled doors and remarkably sound. They have been painted at some later date (everything in Spain seems to have been daubed over in the early 18th century)

The doors average in price 700 pesetas each, making a total of 2800 pesetas; after the purchase of the Calatayud cornice we had a balance of 2949 pesetas. As you see this cuts down my commission somewhat in the transaction but we will ignore that detail. This closes our account for which reason I have rendered a complete statement.

The sizes of the doors are as follows;

3'-5" x 7'-0"
3'-6" x 7'-0"
3'-4" x 6'-4"
3'-4" x 6'-9"

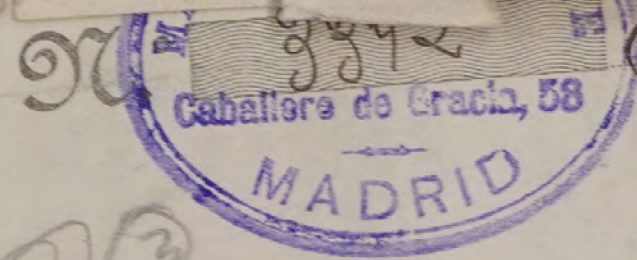
As there were no funds left for boxing I have instructed the shipping agent to add that item to the transportation charges and the total may be met in San Francisco. I am enclosing herewith the consular invoice for the present shipment; also a complete statement up-to-date.

If I can be of any future service to you do not hesitate to call upon me. With kindest wishes in which my wife joins, believe me,

Very sincerely,

Arthur Byne

B.7007468



Madrid

21 de 11

Por Jhon

A cuatro d
de cambio, no habiendo hecho por la
Lyonnais

se servirá V. pagar por esta
a la orden del Credit
la cantidad de dollars doscientos men

valor en cuenta que contará V. en la misma

A Señores Eice & Lynch
33 Pearl Street
New York

según aviso de J. S. S.
CASA GARROUSTE
Un socio

L. Auvouard

DE

SOTERO MARTÍNEZ

SOTERO MARTÍNEZ

VENTURA DE LA VEGA, 13

S. Don Arturo Vique

Debe:

BAREA - HORTALEZA, 81

Mes.	Día.		Pesetas	Cts.
		Madrid 3 de diciembre de 1923		
		Embalar en dos cajas		
		seis puertas.	60	
		Packing and boxing of doors and shutters		
		Receí		
		P. Martínez		

B.7007469



Madrid 21 de 11 de 1923

Por Dólar \$264'00

A Cntr d r se servirá V. pagar por esta Segunda
de cambio, no habiéndola hecho por la 1ª 3ª a la orden de Credit
Lyonnais CREDIT LYONNAIS la cantidad de dólares doscientos sesen.
V 32005

La y matro MADRID
valor en cuenta que sentará V en la misma según aviso de S. S. S.

A Señores Eric & Lynch
33 Canal Street
New York

CASA GARROUSTE
Un socio

L. Garrouste

N.º

25

de octubre de 1923.

Recibi del Sr. Arthur Byrne
la cantidad de Ptas. Once mil

Quinientas
como importe total de
la venta del entesonado

Receipt from owner of ceiling

Jose Sanchez-Santa

Ptas. 11 950 //

A. D. Salzedo

27, CALLE DEL PRADO

Madrid

Sr. *Heyse*

Debe:

		Pesetas
4	Puertas grandes del S. XVII	
2	d. p. pequeñas S. XVII	1600
Madrid 8 de Bre 1923		
He recibido		
P. D.		
E. Glass		
Bill of doors and shutters		



A. DELVAILLE SALZEDO
ANTIGÜEDADES
Calle del Prado, 27
MADRID



December 6th, 1923.

Dear Miss Morgan:-

Am returning herewith letter to
you from Mr. Arthur Byne, on which please note Mr.
Hearst's memoranda.

Sincerely,

J. Millicomb

ARTHUR BYNE
PASEO DE LA CASTELLANA, 19
CABLE ADDRESS, STAPLEY
MADRID

December 6th,
1 9 2 3

Miss Julia Morgan,
Merchants Exchange,
San Francisco

Dear Miss Morgan;

I have ventured on another purchase for you; this time a carved wooden cornice. The purchase in question is similar to the Sanguesa example you were once interested in but far superior in detail. I am enclosing several photographs and a rough section. None of the photos are good as they were taken in the pouring rain but they will serve to give you an idea of the material you have to work with.

The cornice came from a late XVI century house in Calatayud, Province of Aragon. I saw it years ago and as the house was very delapidated tried then to get particulars but was unsuccessful. Curiously enough a dealer came to me last week and asked me if I would be interested and we went out to Calatayud together and I bought it.

It is about 28'-0" feet long, of pine, and richly carved. All things considered its condition is good. It may be used either as a cornice or as a support for an overhanging story.

Along with the cornice illustrations I am enclosing a statement up-to-date of Mr. Hearst's account with me. The consular invoice for the purchase has not yet been returned to me; if it is delivered too late for this letter I shall send it under separate cover.

According to my shipping agent the ceiling has arrived in New York and ought shortly to start westward.

Thanking you again for your consideration and wishing you the best of holiday greetings in which Mildred joins, believe me,

Very sincerely,

Arthur Byne

Arthur Byne
Paseo de la Castellana, 19
Madrid

December 6th
1 9 2 3

Account with Julia Morgan acting for
William Randolph Hearst, Esq.

9 packages

Received on account September 26th, 1923 \$3000.00

Purchase of Toldedo ceiling 1953.30

Balance \$1046.70

Calatayud cornice

Purchase price paid to Pedro Montal pesetas 3600

Carfare to Calatayud and return 40

Shipping of cornice to Madrid 65

Boxing of cornice (9 pieces) 300

Consular invoice 20

Byne commission (10 percent of 3600) 360

pesetas 4385

At dollar-peseta exchange
day of deposit 7.15 \$613.28

November balance \$1046.70
613.28

Balance \$433.42

#3000 purchase

Toledo Caring
Calatayud Carner

Down & shutters

Received payment

Julia Morgan

by

Toledo Ceiling

or

Calatayud Cornice