

Morgan, Julia and Arthur Byne, Nov 1930

5-A-45-24

MEDIEVAL

SPANISH ART

RENAISSANCE

ARTHUR BYNE

PASEO DE LA CASTELLANA. 19

MADRID

Cable Address  
STAPLEY-MADRID

Nov. 5th,  
1930

William Randolph Hearst, Esq.  
Los Angeles, California

C  
O Miss Morgan  
P  
Y

Dear Mr. Hearst;

I enclose herewith a photograph of one of the most important Romanesque portals in Spain, dating from the 12th century and illustrated in the recently published work, "Spanish Romanesque Sculpture", by A. Kingsley Porter.

This portal has been carefully taken down and each stone well boxed. Though it was sold by the order of the Cardinal Archbishop of Burgos and his receipt for the sale given, the Spanish State has raised a terrific howl over the matter, for which reason a certain amount of caution must be exercised in the sale.

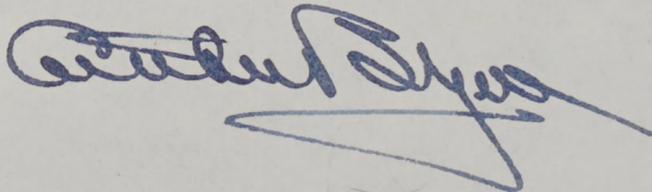
A museum is the natural resting place for a work of this importance and it was my intention to wait a year or so until the present storm blows over and then submit it (museums give such publicity to every purchase that they often get themselves into no end of trouble). If you can see your way to use this portal, I don't suggest San Simeon, but any museum project you may have, it offers an opportunity. No more like it will come out of Europe.

Seeing the photograph alone Brummer of New York offered \$25,000, which was immediately refused (this is confidential of course). The price demanded at the time was \$50,000. I can put the portal in New York for \$35,000. I know this price is higher than you are accustomed to pay but we are not treating of a decorative object now but a historic piece.

Cable reference ROMPORT *not bot*

Thanking you for your attention and with kindest regards, believe me,

Sincerely yours,



CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Full Rate	
Half Rate Deferred	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cable Letter	
Week End Letter	

Patrons should mark an X opposite the class of service desired; OTHERWISE THE CABLEGRAM WILL BE TRANSMITTED AT FULL RATES.

# WESTERN UNION



# CABLEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Number
Number of Words
Time Filed

Send the following Cablegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

November 12th, 1930

STAPLEY  
MADRID

SEND HEIGHT GOTHEFACADE IS COLOR RIGHT FOR HILL OR IS  
REFACADE BETTER

JULMORGAN

Charge to account of  
Julia Morgan,  
1135 Merchants Exchange Bldg.

# Postal Telegraph

(THE MACKAY SYSTEM)



ALL AMERICA  
CABLES

COMMERCIAL  
CABLES

RECEIVED AT

25 *Joh*

STANDARD TIME  
INDICATED ON THIS MESSAGE

This is a full rate Telegram or Cablegram unless otherwise indicated by signal in the check or in the address.

BLUE	DAY LETTER
NL	NIGHT LETTER
NITE	NIGHT MESSAGE
LCO	DEFERRED CABLE
NLT	NIGHT CABLE LETTER
WLT	WEEK END CABLE LETTER

Form  
16

25MKPA 16 CCC

MADRID 1040AM

LCO JULMORGAN **616** NOV 18 30 MISS JULIA MORGAN  
MERCH EXCH. BLDG.

SANFRANCISCO CAL

REVISITING GOTHFACE BUT CERTAIN RENFACE BETTER COLOR DECISION ON RECENT  
CEILINGS URGENT

STAPLEY

423AM

MEDIEVAL

SPANISH ART

RENAISSANCE

ARTHUR BYNE

PASEO DE LA CASTELLANA, 19

MADRID

Cable Address  
STAPLEY-MADRID

Nov. 19th  
1930

William Randolph Hearst, Esq.  
Los Angeles, California

Dear Mr. Hearst;

The following cable just received:

SEND HEIGHT GOTHFACE IS COLOR RIGHT FOR HILL OR  
IS RENFACE BETTER - JULMORGAN

To which I have just replied:

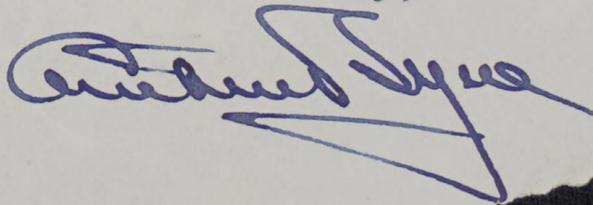
REVISITING GOTHFACE BUT CERTAIN RENFACE BETTER  
COLOR - DECISION ON RECENT CEILINGS URGENT - STAPLEY

My first visit to "GOTHFACE" was a very hurried one and I had no time to measure it. However, as stated in my original letter concerning it, the color of the granite is dark and rather dull, though otherwise it is a piece of work of great interest and importance. "RENFACE" on the other hand is gay and warm in color, intoning, I should say, very well with the scheme on the Hill.

The reason there was urgent need of a decision on the two Gothic ceilings was due to the fact that Loewi of Venice has been here and much interested in the two examples. I didn't wish to mention this in the cable for fear you might think I was trying to "hold you up". Naturally I would prefer to sell these fine examples to you direct or to some museum in America but I have a great deal of money invested in these things and there are times when I am forced to make a turn over whether I like it or not.

Thanking you for your attention,  
and with kindest regards, believe me,

Sincerely,



MEDIEVAL

SPANISH ART

RENAISSANCE

ARTHUR BYNE

PASEO DE LA CASTELLANA, 19

MADRID

Cable Address  
STAPLEY-MADRID

Nov. 19th  
1930

William Randolph Hearst, Esq.  
Los Angeles, California

Dear Mr. Hearst;

The following cable just received:

SEND HEIGHT GOTHFACE IS COLOR RIGHT FOR HILL OR  
IS RENFACE BETTER - JULMORGAN

To which I have just replied:

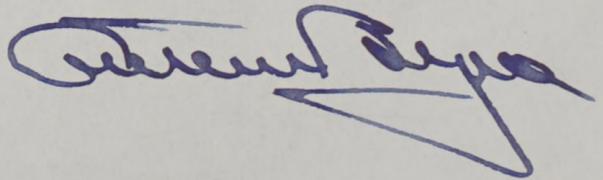
REVISITING GOTHFACE BUT CERTAIN RENFACE BETTER  
COLOR - DECISION ON RECENT CEILINGS URGENT- STAPLEY

My first visit to "GOTHFACE" was a very hurried one and I had no time to measure it. However, as stated in my original letter concerning it, the color of the granite is dark and rather dull, though otherwise it is a piece of work of great interest and importance. "RENFACE" on the other hand is gay and warm in color, intoning, I should say, very well with the scheme on the Hill.

The reason there was urgent need of a decision on the two Gothic ceilings was due to the fact that Loewi of Venice has been here and much interested in the two examples. I didn't wish to mention this in the cable for fear you might think I was trying to "hold you up". Naturally I would prefer to sell these fine examples to you direct or to some museum in America but I have a great deal of money invested in these things and there are times when I am forced to make a turn over whether I like it or not.

Thanking you for your attention,  
and with kindest regards, believe me,

Sincerely,



MEDIEVAL

SPANISH ART

RENAISSANCE

ARTHUR BYNE

PASEO DE LA CASTELLANA. 19

MADRID

Cable Address  
STAPLEY-MADRID

Nov. 20th,  
1930

William Randolph Hearst, Esq.  
137 Riverside Drive,  
New York City

Re. GOTHCEIL  
& CASTLECEIL

Dear Mr. Hearst;

Hereby acknowledge your cable of 19th.

DONT THINK WE CAN AFFORD BOTH CEILINGS WILL TAKE SMALL  
ONE NAMELY CASTLECEIL FOR TEN THOUSAND DO LLARS- HEARST

To which I replied under same date:

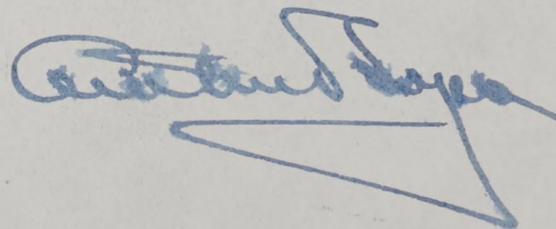
PESETA AGAIN FALLING WILL CEDE BOTH CEILINGS IN TWENTY-  
FOUR THOUSAND PITY TO SEPARATE THEM - BYNE

The fact is we have had some rather riotous days here for which reason the peseta, which had been slowly recuperating, has again plunged downward. This makes it possible for me to reduce the two ceilings from \$28,000 to \$24,000. Of course I am taking a long chance on the exchange but I should like to see you have the ceilings.

It was urgent to arrive at a decision because Loewi of Venice has been here again and wished very much to have two ceilings immediately. I didn't mention this in the cable for I didn't wish you to think I was trying to "hold you up". Of course I would prefer to sell to you direct, or to some of our museums, but I have a good deal of money tied up in these things and there are times when I am forced to make a turnover whether I like it or not.

Awaiting your decision, believe me with kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,



*is this Loewi's  
intended 26-1930*

*Julia*

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

Nov. 24th  
1930

Miss Julia Morgan,  
Merchants Exchange,  
San Francisco,

Dear Miss Morgan;

Just a line to you; the fact is "our client" requires so much attention that I have had very little time to write to anyone else.

In accordance with my wire to you in reply to yours inquiring about the height of GOTHFACADE I have just made a motor trip down to Andalucia where I had a number of affairs to look into.

To begin with the color is better than I recalled. It is rather golden with dark weatherings in the recesses and carvings. Of course like all Gothic in Andalucia it is coarse but at the same time picturesque.

The height is 32 feet; the width 16 feet. When I say height I mean the actual stonework. The house sets on a sharp grade and at some more recent date the hill has been cut down so that there is a sort of base of white stucco nearly ten feet high.

However I consider this purchase impossible for the moment; there is no danger of its been sold to someone else and it will do the owner good to cool his heels and illusions for a while.

Hoping you are well and with kindest regards from us both, believe me,

Sincerely,

*Arthur Bynne*

MEDIEVAL

SPANISH ART

RENAISSANCE

ARTHUR BYNE

PASEO DE LA CASTELLANA. 19

MADRID

Cable Address  
STAPLEY-MADRID

Nov. 24th  
1930

William Randolph Hearst, Esq.  
137 Riverside Drive,  
New York City

Ref. CASTLECEIL  
GOTHCEIL

Dear Mr. Hearst;

The following cable received on the  
eve of my departure for Seville:

DONT THINK WE CAN AFFORD BOTH CEILINGS WILL TAKE  
SMALL ONE NAMELY CASTLECEIL FOR TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS- HEARST

To which I replied from Seville:

IF YOU WILL PAY FIFTEEN THOUSAND CASHDOWN WILL SHIP  
TWO CEILINGS AT TWENTYTWO THOUSAND OTHERWISE EXCHANGE  
FLUCTUATIONS FORCE ME TO HOLD TO TWENTYFOUR - BYNE

On my return to Madrid this morning  
found your cable reply of yesterday:

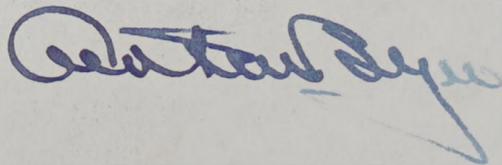
WILL TAKE TWO CEILINGS AT TWENTYTWO THOUSAND TENTHOUND  
IMMEDIATELY TWELVE THOUSAND NEXT MONTH - HEARST

I am very glad you have secured these  
two exceptional examples, even though it has not been  
a brilliant "negocio" on my part.

While in Andalucia I went again to visit  
the little Gothic facade (GOTHFACADE) which I submitted  
to you a month ago. The color is far better than I  
thought - a golden gray - but we will have to let that  
affair stand a while until the owner is more reasonable;  
not only is it too expensive but it would be disastrous  
for any future deals to establish any such precedent  
as to price for stonework.

Thanking you for your consideration,  
believe me with kindest regards,

Sincerely,



MEDIEVAL

SPANISH ART

RENAISSANCE

ARTHUR BYNE

PASEO DE LA CASTELLANA 19

MADRID

Cable Address  
STAPLEY-MADRID

Nov. 26th,  
1930

William Randolph Hearst, Esq.  
137 Riverside Drive,  
New York City

Dear Mr. Hearst;

I must inform you that the delivery of the "Alcantara" Monastery has been indefinitely delayed - I hasten to advise you of this fact in case you and Miss Morgan are counting on receiving it in the near future. This may cause you some disappointment; for me it is both irritating and costly. In the long list of your purchases this is the first serious snag I have struck.

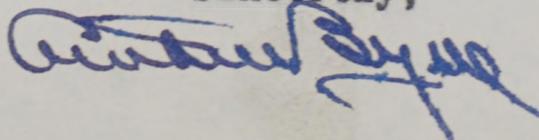
No sooner had we removed the wooden refectory ceiling and started on the stonework when a so-called art-lover of the province began a campaign in the press against us. Had the present provisional government been replaced, as promised by normal constitutional government, I could have counted on help at court. Until this change takes place all thought of exportation must be abandoned. Unfortunately the affair has had so much publicity that there is danger of the building being declared a National Monument in which case it could never be touched.

I enclose a local clipping denouncing the demolition and one sent me from Paris which appeared in the Chicago Tribune there in which it speaks of the exportation as a thing already accomplished. These newspapers!

Of course this operation has cost me a good deal of money to date (not a cent appearing on your bills however). I paid 75,000 pesetas along for the Monastery (about \$9,000 at the exchange of the day). In addition all the timbering is in place to commence work. This however is my loss; my chief grievance is that I have failed to turn over the monastery.

<sup>Man</sup> Hoping you will understand my difficulty and that <sup>^</sup>will not be too disappointed, believe me,

Sincerely,



MEDIEVAL

SPANISH ART

RENAISSANCE

ARTHUR BYNE

PASEO DE LA CASTELLANA. 19

Cable Address  
STAPLEY-MADRID

MADRID

Nov. 27th  
1930

William Randolph Hearst, Esq.  
137 Riverside Drive  
New York City

Reference  
GOTHCEIL  
CASTLECEIL

Dear Mr. Hearst;

RENFACADE

Confirming your cable of to-day:

WILL SEND TWELVETHOUSAND THIS MONTH AND TENTHOUSSAND  
NEXT MONTH FOR THE CEILINGS TOTAL TWENTYTWOHOUSSAND-  
DOLLARS - HEARST ✓

To which I have replied by cable;

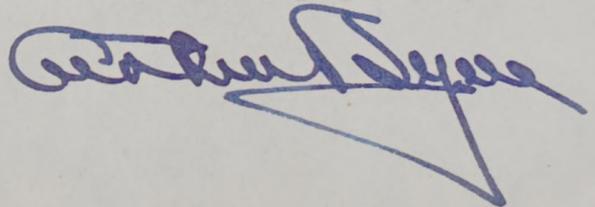
ACCEPT TERMS AWAITING MONEY - BYNE

We are at present packing the famous painted ceiling from Campos, the one ordered April 15th, and which due to the war going on between the Church and State I have not been able to secure sooner. However it is now safe in my warehouse and just as soon as it is shipped we will commence on the two Gothic ones just purchased. ✓

My principal object in going to Andalucia was to look into the purchase of RENFACADE (the Renaissance facade which you offered \$7,000 for Oct. 27th; my lowest price was \$8,000). I found that the sale of this work of art had created a tremendous stir locally and that a complaint against its exportation had been read before the Academy of Fine Arts (I enclose a clipping). Under the circumstances I concluded that no time was to be lost so immediately bought the facade, carted it to my yard in Seville, and started boxing. We shall ship it in a week or so. In these matters one must strike while the iron is hot.

Thanking you for your consideration, believe me,

Sincerely yours,



MEDIEVAL

SPANISH ART

RENAISSANCE

ARTHUR BYNE

PASEO DE LA CASTELLANA, 19

MADRID

Cable Address  
STAPLEY-MADRID

Nov. 28th  
1930

William Randolph Hearst, Esq.  
137 Riverside Drive,  
New York City

C  
O) Miss Morgan  
P  
Y

Dear Mr. Hearst;

I am rather surprised never to have had a reply from my cable of Oct. 14th which I repeat:

JUST FOUND 350 YARDS STRIPED GOLD AND GREEN MAJORCAN SHAGGY VELVET IN LONG PANELS AND FRIEZE - ENOUGH TO HANG ROOM 20 BY 40 FEET 16 FEET HIGH - RARE AND BARGAIN PRICE 8,500 DOLLARS - STAPLEY

If you are still interested in hanging your little theatre on the Hill, or any other large room for that matter, I consider this an opportunity. The strips are 26 inches wide and 14 feet high; total number of stripes 56. In addition there is a frieze of the same material 26 inches deep.

The coloring is most agreeable, alternate soft green and gold-colored silk. This Majorcan velvet is much sought after, rare to find in quantity, and is like a heavy velour in quality except that, like velvet, it is all silk. In our work Spanish Interiors and Furniture (Vol. I, plate 72) there is a room in Majorca hung with this velvet but in pattern instead of the more impressive strips.

To-day I can offer this for \$7,500 instead of \$8,500; this is dirt cheap - a little over \$20 a yard.

Cable reference; SHAGVEL

Thanking you for your attention, I am,

Sincerely,

