

Morgan, Julia and Arthur Byne, Mar 1926

5-A-45-03

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

March 12th, 1926

Miss Julia Morgan,
Merchants Exchange,
San Francisco,

My dear Miss Morgan;

I have to-day received the following cable from you;
NEED FIFTEENHUNDRED SQUARE FEET ROOFING TILE
STONE RECEIVED POORLY BOXED USE NO STRAW-JULMORGAN

As to the roofing tiles I shall immediately purchase them and have them shipped to you; these will be old of course but I am not sure that the American Customs Officials will pass them as works of art and therefore dutiless.

I had already received a cable from New York concerning the poor condition in which the first shipment of stone arrived. Naturally I was distressed and immediately set about improving the boxing. In the future I shall use still heavier wood and furthermore bind all boxes with metal bands.

The boxing has been one of my greatest problems, and incidentally one of my greatest expenses. I can only attribute the cases arriving in bad shape to either one of two things; the very bad winter on the ocean where they were probably tossed about; or, before being put on shipboard the shipment was drenched with rain and then perhaps frozen; we have had a very severe winter in Spain.

I am not one to employ often the word "impossible", but in the matter of using straw I can see no help. Excelsior is not made in Spain, is imported from Norway and our own country, is fearfully expensive and never procurable in large amounts. That is a detail where you will have to assist me.

We are now busily engaged in the demolition of the vaulting and boxing it. It is a tremendous job. At times I wish you had followed

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

(2)

my original suggestion of purchasing the cloister
arcading and roofing the walks with antique wooden
ceilings which I could have easily found.

Of course Mr. Hearst must be prepared to
do a great deal of restoration once he has his
monument in America. I mean to say, he will have
to do just what the Spanish government has to do
(or the French, or any other) once it is decided
to declare a monument national property. As you
know most of the finest monuments of antiquity
in Europe have been very much restored (some beyond
recognition unfortunately).

I had hoped to have an installment of
10,000 dollars from Mr. Hearst on the first of
March. It has not yet appeared though I cabled
again about a week ago. We must have no inter-
ruption in the work; the place is so remote from
anywhere that if the men were to leave once they
would never return.

I take it for granted that Mr. Hearst is
not interested in any of the palace propositions
submitted; that, marked LEON I considered a remark-
able opportunity and not at all expensive.

With kindest wishes from us both, believe me,

Sincerely,

Arthur Byne

C
O for Miss Morgan
P
Y

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

March 24th, 1926

Mr. C. A. McGregor, office of
William Randolph Hearst, Esq.
238 William Street,
New York City

Dear Mr. McGregor;

I am writing you in accordance
with instructions from Miss Morgan concerning a
telegram of yours sent to her on February 25th.
I will answer the questions in the order of their
asking.

The price agreed upon for the
Monastery of Sacramenia (see my letter to Miss
Morgan of Sept. 25th '25), was forty thousand dollars.
Thirty thousand to be paid down and ten thousand
when we finally left the premises. The thirty thou-
sand dollars was received and turned over (\$10,000
on Sept. 11th, and \$20,000 on Sept. 21st).

In reference to the breakage of
the first installment of boxes and crates I have
commented before in a letter to Mr. Willicombe. I
have since learned that this first shipment was
caught in a heavy rain followed by freezing weather
and the boxes suffered accordingly. I don't know
that anyone could be held responsible for this mis-
fortune. It was a mistake to undertake to ship so
many cases at one time, as there was no means of
covering and protecting the mountain of boxes. All
that was avoided in subsequent shipments; likewise
the boxes are now stronger and smaller, and all stones
are boxed, regardless of their importance. I doubt
if there will be any trouble in the future.

Miss Morgan has photographs and
blueprints of the Monastery. | 3

I gather from your telegram that you
are attempting to pass the shipments through the
Customs House in New York. I had hoped that this
would not be the case. I mean I hoped that no exam-
ination would take place until the entire Monastery
was safe on American soil. With this in view I have
purposely refrained from making out any sort of Con-
sular Invoice (which would be difficult to do according
to the shipments, in sections). Can't you store the

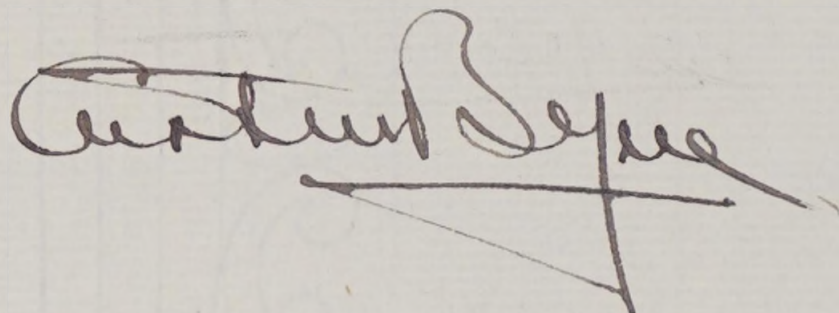
ARTHUR BYNE
PASEO DE LA CASTELLANA, 19
CABLE ADDRESS, STAPLEY
MADRID

various shipments in California and when finally everything has arrived present the consular papers for examination?

There has been some complaint about packing in straw. I am well aware that this is prohibited in America. Nevertheless in an undertaking of this magnitude it is utterly impossible for me to employ anything else. This is one of the instances where Mr. Hearst, or his agents, will have to exercise their influence. It is a little detail compared with many of the problems I have had on this end.

Hoping that the remaining shipments will arrive in good condition, I remain,

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Arthur Byne', with a large, sweeping flourish underneath.

C O P Y

C
O for Miss Morgan
P
Y

ARTHUR BYRNE
Paseo De La Castellana, 19
Cable Address, Stapley
Madrid

March 24th, 1926

Mr. C. A. McGregor, office of
William Randolph Hearst, Esq.
238 William Street,
New York City

Dear Mr. McGregor:

I am writing you in accordance
with instructions from Miss Morgan concerning a
telegram of yours sent to her on February 25th.
I will answer the questions in the order of their
asking.

The price agreed upon for the
Monastery of Sacramenia (see my letter to Miss
Morgan of Sept. 25th, 1925), was forty thousand dollars.
Thirty thousand to be paid down and ten thousand
when we finally left the premises. The thirty thou-
sand dollars was received and turned over (\$10,000
on Sept. 11th, and \$20,000 on Sept. 21st.)

In reference to the breakage of
the first installment of boxes and crates I have
commented before in a letter to Mr. Willicombe. I
have since learned that this first shipment was
caught in a heavy rain followed by freezing weather
and the boxes suffered accordingly. I don't know
that anyone could be held responsible for this mis-
fortune. It was a mistake to undertake to ship so
many cases at one time, as there was no means of
covering and protecting the mountain of boxes. All
that was avoided in subsequent shipments; likewise
the boxes are now stronger and smaller, and all stones
are boxed, regardless of their importance. I doubt
if there will be any trouble in the future.

Miss Morgan has photographs and
blueprints of the Monastery.

I gather from your telegram that you
are attempting to pass the shipments through the
Customs House in New York. I had hoped that this
would not be the case. I mean I hoped that no exam-
ination would take place until the entire Monastery
was safe on American soil. With this in view I have
purposely refrained from making out any sort of Con-
sular Invoice (which would be difficult to do according
to the shipments, in sections). Can't you store the

various shipments in California and when finally everything has arrived present the consular papers for examination?

There has been some complaint about packing in straw. I am well aware that this is prohibited in American. Nevertheless in an undertaking of this magnitude it is utterly impossible for me to employ anything else. This is one of the instances where Mr. Hearst, or his agents, will have to exercise their influence. It is a little detail compared with many of the problems I had had on this end.

Hoping that the remaining shipments will arrive in good condition, I remain,

Very truly yours,

(Signed) ARTHUR BYRNE

Paseo de la Castellana, 19

Madrid

March 2nd, 1926

Miss Julia Morgan,
Merchants Exchange,
San Francisco

My dear Miss Morgan;

I am enclosing herewith a wretched little photograph of a very fine wooden ceiling. It is late 15th century in period, Mudejar in character, coloring in the panels, and in excellent condition. Furthermore it is of a form thoroughly practical. Ceilings smacking of Gothic detail are rare indeed these days.

It is 21 feet square, divided into four panels by five beams.

I am still negotiating for the ceiling; as the price stands now I would have to secure \$3000 for it. If I can better the buying price I could turn it over to you for somewhat less.

The fact that it is not yet mine makes an answer by cable imperative; simply say, MUDEJAR YES, or MUDEJAR NO. If you can't employ kindly return the photograph.

Your roofing tiles are now all packed and will shortly be shipped.

With kindest wishes,

Sincerely,

(Signed) Arthur Byne

*all letters
Apr 13-1926*

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
Full Rate	
Half Rate Deferred	X
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

March 3, 1926.

Stapley,
Madrid Spain

CABLE NEWYORK CEILING PARTICULARS

JULMORGAN

CHG JULIA MORGAN
MERCHANTS EXCHANGE

ALL MESSAGES TAKEN BY THIS COMPANY ARE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS:

To guard against mistakes or delays the sender of a cable message should order it repeated, that is, telegraphed back to the originating office for comparison. For this, one-quarter the unrepeat cable message rate is charged in addition. Unless otherwise indicated on its face this is an unrepeat cable message and paid for as such, in consideration whereof it is agreed between the sender of the message and this Company as follows:

1. The Company shall not be liable for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the unrepeat-message rate beyond the sum of five hundred dollars; nor for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the repeat-message rate beyond the sum of five thousand dollars, *unless specially valued*; nor in any case for delays arising from unavoidable interruption in the working of its lines; nor for errors in cipher or obscure messages.

2. In any event the Company shall not be liable for damages for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for the non-delivery, of any message, whether caused by the negligence of its servants or otherwise, beyond the sum of five thousand dollars, at which amount each message is deemed to be valued, unless a greater value is stated in writing by the sender thereof at the time the message is tendered for transmission, and unless the repeat-message rate is paid or agreed to be paid, and an additional charge equal to one-tenth of one per cent of the amount by which such valuation shall exceed five thousand dollars.

3. The Company is hereby made the agent of the sender, without liability, to forward this message over the lines of any other company when necessary to reach its destination.

4. No responsibility attaches to this Company concerning messages until the same are accepted at one of its transmitting offices; and if a message is sent to such office by one of the Company's messengers, he acts for that purpose as the agent of the sender.

5. The Company will not be liable for damages or statutory penalties in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within sixty days after the message is filed with the Company for transmission.

6. It is agreed that in any action by the Company to recover the tolls for any message or messages the prompt and correct transmission and delivery thereof shall be presumed, subject to rebuttal by competent evidence.

7. Special terms governing the transmission of messages under the classes of messages enumerated below shall apply to messages in each of such respective classes in addition to all the foregoing terms.

8. No employee of the Company is authorized to vary the foregoing.

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY
INCORPORATED
NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

CLASSES OF SERVICE

FULL RATE

An expedited service throughout. Code language permitted.

DEFERRED HALF RATE

Half rate messages are subject to being deferred in favor of full rate messages for not exceeding 24 hours. Must be in language of country of origin or of destination, or in French. This class of service is in effect with most European countries and with various other countries throughout the world. Full particulars supplied on application at any Western Union Office.

CABLE LETTERS

For plain-language communications. The language of the country of destination may be employed, if the cable letter

service is in operation to that country. Subject to delivery at the convenience of the Company within 24 hours if telegraphic delivery is selected. Delivery by mail beyond London will be made if a full mailing address is given and the words "Post London" are written after the destination. Rate is approximately one-third of the full rate; minimum 20 words.

WEEK-END LETTERS

Similar to Cable Letters except that they are accepted up to midnight Saturday for delivery Monday morning, if telegraphic delivery is selected. Rate is approximately one-quarter of the full rate; minimum 20 words.

Mr. Byne, #2
March 5, 1926.

better cable him directly to New York as he will be there during March and possibly some time in April, but I would like copies sent to me as that is my only way of keeping straight.

This is not a letter-just a set of notes.

Yours very truly,

JM-dem

Cable address
JULMORGAN

22/1

March 5, 1926.

Mr. Arthur Byne,
Paseo de la Castellana, 19
Madrid, Spain:

Dear Mr. Byne:

The enclosed telegram was received from Mr. McGregor. Will you kindly look into the packing at the Spanish end so the responsibility can be fixed either upon bad handling en route or to original packing?

The ceilings coming directly here were well packed except that the spikes were driven right through the carvings regardless.

Perhaps the nature of many stones would not repay fine packing.

We are informed by the local agent of the American Express Company that Sala of Paris has not yet shipped the three stones forwarded us through him. We guaranteed charges upon arrival.

Mr. Hearst was not interested particularly in any of the buildings you have offered to date. If I catch his idea correctly he would not be interested in anything more of the Cistercian period because he does not consider it residential enough. The offered buildings have not enough usable material. His eye is on something more richly ornamented rather than something of value from the purity of its architecture. He is planning, when San Simeon is completed, building a winter residence near Los Angeles and it is for this that he wants the material. I do not know yet where he intends using your cloister. If you need money on this please write - or

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

C
O for Miss Morgan
P
Y

March 24th, 1926

Mr. J. Willicombe, Secretary to
William Randolph Hearst, Esq.
238 William Street,
New York

My dear Mr. Willicombe;

I am in acceptance of
the following cable from you:

ARTHUR BYNE PLEASE DRAW ON ME IMMEDIATELY FOR
TENTHOUSAND DOLLARS - WILLICOMBE

Through my bank here,
the International Banking Corporation, I im-
mediately drew on you personally for the sum
mentioned, asking you to cable the amount. May
I request that the money be sent to the Inter-
national Banking Corporation, Madrid (subsidi-
ary corporation of the National City Bank).

The delay in sending this
money has inconvenienced me not a little and I
have been forced to advanced nearly five thousand
dollars from my own pocket. It would have been
fatal to stop the work at this minute for the
laborers would have gone off to the fields for
the spring planting and I could not have started up
again until late summer.

Now that milder weather
is near I intend to speed up the work as much
as possible for which reason another installment
of \$10,000 will be necessary by June. I will
wire you concerning this later.

Also If Mr. Hearst approves
of the ceiling photograph which I shall send
shortly (price for ceiling agreed \$10,000) I will
have to ask him to advance some money as I must
pay half down before starting demolition.

Very truly yours,

C O P Y

ARTHUR BYNE
Paseo de la Castellana, 19
Cable Address, Stapley
Madrid

C
O for Miss Morgan
P
Y

March 24th, 1926

Mr. J. Willicombe, Secretary to
William Randolph Hearst, Esq.,
238 William St.,
New York

My dear Mr. Willicombe:

I am in acceptance of
the following cable from you:

ARTHUR BYNE PLEASE DRAW ON ME IMMEDIATELY FOR
TENTHUSAND DOLLARS - WILLICOMBE

Through my bank here,
the International Banking Corporation, I im-
mediately drew on you personally for the sum
mentioned, asking you to cable the amount. May
I request that the money be sent to the Inter-
national Banking Corporation, Madrid (subsidi-
ary corporation of the National City Bank).

The delay in sending this
money has inconvenienced me not a little and I
have been forced to advance nearly five thousand
dollars from my own pocket. It would have been
fatal to stop the work at this minute for the
laborers would have gone off to the fields for
the spring planting and I could not have started up
again until late summer.

Now that milder weather
is near I intend to speed up the work as much as possible
for which reason another installment of \$10,000 will
be necessary by June. I will wire you concerning
this later.

Very truly yours,

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

11-1-28

March 25th, 1926

Miss Julia Morgan,
Merchants Exchange,
San Francisco

My dear Miss Morgan;

In response to your letter of March 5th, and acting on your instructions I immediately wrote to Mr. McGregor, answering the questions asked by him in his telegram to you. I am enclosing herewith a copy of the letter. Also I enclose a letter written to Mr. Willicombe, touching on the same subject.

To-day, curiously enough, I had a visit from the president of the Hudson Forwarding and Shipping Co. who is handling the stone on the New York end and he says that the breakage so far as the actual stone is concerned is not serious, which is very reassuring to me. Also he says that the subsequent shipments have been arriving in good condition..

The packing in straw instead of excelsior is the most annoying feature to them. But I proved to his satisfaction the utter impossibility of my securing a sufficient quantity of excelsior to pack a monastery. It could only be accomplished by sending the bales direct from America.

But that seems a small detail along side of my numerous problems; a sample of one I enclose herewith. It is an article that has appeared in the press (there have been various) and of which I have made a translation. Fortunately the owner of the Monastery is one of the foremost figures in the present Military Dictatorship. It is a part of the agreement that he crush all such criticism from the press (and as there is still a final payment of \$10,000 coming to him when the whole operation is over, you may be assured that he does it). But it's no easy job. Everyone along the line, from the simplest country official in the vicinity of the site, to the station masters, the highway police, the freight people, the harbor inspectors, and the steamship officials, all must be hushed with money. This money coming from me but distributed by men in my employ. It is not a pleasant thing to relate but it is the only way an undertaking of this magnitude can be managed.

PASEO DE LA CASTELLANA, 19

MADRID

Julia Morgan (2)

If I go into all this detail it is not with the idea of impressing you with the amount of work all this involves (that is a part of the day's run) but to impress Mr. Hearst with the importance of the monument ~~he~~ is buying. It has been a very singular opportunity which might not happen again in a century. Bear in mind that at present the world of art (the high-brows, I mean) is centered, not on Gothic, but the primitive periods. For better or worse we have chosen to be interested, as Prof. Porter says, in the green apple instead of the more mature fruit.

I am sorry Mr. Hearst is not interested in any of the palaces submitted; that of Leon I thought rather fine. His taste, I imagine, leans more to the extravagant. However, perhaps I shall have better luck next time, knowing better what he likes.

I was amazed to hear that you had not long ago received the stones from Paris. I can't imagine what has caused the delay but immediately wired to find out the cause.

I am sending a photograph of a ceiling that will cover the Gothic Room - no little task to find a suitable ceiling for a room of that size. Mr. Hearst has agreed to the price - \$10,000 - but asks to see a photograph before deciding definitely.

The question of payment still bothers me at times; at present an installment of \$10,000 for the Monastery is more than a month behind time and I have been obliged to dig down deep in my pocket. I have urged Mr. Willicombe to be as prompt as possible as I am obliged to make all my payments in cash from week to week.

With kindest wishes in which Mildred joins,

Sincerely,

Archibald Sayce

C O P Y

ARTHUR BYNE

Paseo De La Castellana, 19

Cable Address, Stapley

Madrid

March 25th, 1926

Miss Julia Morgan,
Merchants Exchange,
San Francisco

My dear Miss Morgan:

In response to your letter of March 5th, and acting on your instructions I immediately wrote to Mr. McGregor, answering the questions asked by him in his telegram to you. I am enclosing herewith a copy of the letter. Also I enclose a letter written to Mr. Willicombe, touching on the same subject.

To-day, curiously enough, I had a visit from the president of the Hudson Forwarding and Shipping Co. who is handling the stone on the New York end and he says that the breakage so far as the actual stone is concerned is not serious, which is very reassuring to me. Also he says that the subsequent shipments have been arriving in good condition.

The packing in straw instead of excelsior is the most annoying feature to them. But I proved to his satisfaction the utter impossibility of my securing a sufficient quantity of excelsior to pack a monastery. It could only be accomplished by sending the bales direct from America.

But that seems a small detail along side of my numerous problems; a sample of one I enclose herewith. It is an article that has appeared in the press (there have been various) and of which I have made a translation. Fortunately the owner of the Monastery is one of the foremost figures in the present Military Dictatorship. It is a part of the agreement that he crush all such criticism from the press (and as there is still a final payment of \$10,000 coming to him when the whole operation is over, you may be assured that he does it). But it's no easy job. Everyone along the line, from the simplest country official in the vicinity of the site, to the station masters, the highway police, the freight people, the harbor inspectors, and the steamship officials, all must be hushed with money. This money coming from me but distributed by men in my employ. It is not a pleasant thing to relate but it is the only way an undertaking of this magnitude can be managed.

Julia Morgan (2)

If I go into all this detail it is not with the idea of impressing you with the amount of work all this involves (that is a part of the day's run) but to impress Mr. Hearst with the importance of the monument he is buying. It has been a very singular opportunity which might not happen again in a century. Bear in mind that at present the world of art (the high-brows, I mean) is centered, not on Gothic, but the primitive periods. For better or worse we have chosen to be interested, as Prof. Porter says, in the green apple instead of the more mature fruit.

The question of payment still bothers me at times; at present an installment of \$10,000 for the Monastery is more than a month behind time and I have been obliged to dig down deep in my pocket. I have urged Mr. Willicombe to be as prompt as possible as I am obliged to make all my payments in cash from week to week.

With kindest wishes in which Mildred joins,

Sincerely,

(Signed) ARTHUR BYRNE