

Morgan, Julia and Arthur Byne, Sep 1925

5-A-44-14



Arthur Byne  
Paseo de la Castellana, 19  
Madrid

September 14th, 1925

Miss Julia Morgan,  
Merchants Exchange,  
San Francisco

My dear Miss Morgan;-

Last night at midnight I returned in motor from "our Monastery" - the third visit. As it lies about 85 miles north of Madrid, the last third in wild mountainous country with wretched roads, it is no little excursion. This time the owner, or rather the eldest of a family of seven who have inherited the monastery, accompanied me, along with a lawyer and my own foreman. It was a long and arduous day; doing business with Spaniards is at best difficult and in a matter as complicated as purchasing a monastery there were no end of knotty questions, legal, professional, and moral.

As a result of this last conference I sent you this morning the following cable:

CHECK RECEIVED YOUR REQUIREMENT OF VAULTING  
ETCETERA NECESSITATES PURCHASE OF WHOLE EDIFICE  
OWNER INSISTS THREEQUARTERS DOWN IMMEDIATE ACTION  
URGENT CABLE TWENTY THOUSAND MORE BYNE

The suddenness of this demand for additional money undoubtedly shocked you, but though Spaniards are terribly slow in making up their minds once the question of money is reached they are in a great hurry, (we have been wrangling over the price for a fortnight).

I shall have to ask your patience in following the details leading up to the ultimatum of yesterday; to begin with me you will note that, in my letter of July 4th, I quoted as a likely price for the cloister (without the vaulting) and the Chapter House complete, the sum of \$35,000. In answer to this letter you wired as follows;

BUY CLOISTER AND CHAPTER HOUSE COMPLETE DO  
YOU ADVISE GETTING REST BUILDING (FIND US ANOTHER\*)  
and  
INCLUDE VAULTINGS

With these new requirements I approached the owner a second time and in presenting them encountered



no end of obstacles. If I unroofed the cloister I would have to build up a structure to the owners satisfaction that would serve as a proper stable (as though the present cloister did). In fact we might buy the cloister and what we wished of the Monastery and then set to and build him a model farm-building according to his specifications. I soon was convinced that this scheme was not at all feasible and that if pursued we would never get free of the place.

So then I changed tactics completely and insisted that the owners would have to sell me the entire Monastery (it is really not big) but not the ground on which it stood, and that I was to be left free to carry off what I saw fit and remained under no obligation to reerect anything or in anyway put the place in order. I subsequently told him that I would leave him plenty of stone, that I had no intention of carrying off tons of stone walls but these were the only circumstances that I could work under.

Naturally this new demand of mine caused the owner to increase this price considerably. Then followed the fortnight of wrangling referred to. Beating down fancy prices is an every day occurrence with me and I have profited by long experience. In this instance I think I have done very well. The Monastery, under the conditions described above, with my commission included can be had for 280,000 pesetas or approximately \$40,000. I deliberately state the matter in this form (instead of declaring a definite commission on my part) for the simple reason that I have had and shall continue to have innumerable sums to pay out of my pocket, such as, motor and hotel expenses, subsidiary commissions of a legal and illegal nature, gaining the good-will of the several adjacent villages, where I must secure labor for the demolition. In fact, Miss Morgan, a municipal election in America isn't a patch on the blanket of red-tape and intrigue involved in the purchase of a thing of this sort in Spain! Furthermore, I have to beat the Spaniards at their own game, for, whether at Mr. Hearst's instigation or not, several Spanish dealers are ransacking the country for an old cloister; and you may rest assured that had they found it first the final price in America would be very much more than mine.

Still another detail remains to be considered. The demolition and careful marking of this cloister and adjacent chambers, likewise the boxing of the carved stonework, is a serious matter. I must superintend this and pay the men employed as the work progresses. I calculate this will sum up to \$7000 or \$8000. This sum too must be accesible in Madrid eventually in addition to the \$40,000 mentioned.



Julia Morgan (3)

As to the transportation I have discussed that with the foremost house in Madrid. I don't wish to bore you with the problems of the case but when I say that the nearest railroad station is 40 miles away and that within five miles of the Monastery there is no road that a motor truck could work on you will realize some of my difficulties; however that's all in the day's run. I should like to get the carved stone work boxed and out of the Monastery before the winter sets in (another reason why I cabled for money immediately); between the first of December and the first of March no operations can be carried on - at least no carting can be done; the roads, such as they are, in winter are knee-deep in mud or frozen in gigantic ruts. Once we have the stone at a port the question will arise whether a small steamer might not be advantageously hired to go straight to San Francisco; but that must be decided later. Naturally the cost of transportation is all extra and as usual can be paid on the American end.

But to sum it all up once Mr. Hearst has this 12th century group in America it will be unique, and unique for all time. One may prefer the sumptuousness of Gothic but the charm and importance of a Cistercian cloister nearly 800 years old carries everlasting weight.

I have just read your latest letter concerning a palace for California; for the moment I can only say I have two men investigating several desirable places, I mean desirable from the architectural point of view. When I have news I will let you know. There is no question about the willingness of Spanish Lords, Dukes, and Marquesses, to sell their properties, nor is even the question of getting State permission so serious; it is that the villages or towns in which the edifices are situated rise up and through the press carry on a campaign against you. That is the great advantage of our Monastery, it lies miles away from anything but three little hovels where a few illiterate unfortunates live.

With kindest wishes from us both, believe me,

Sincerely,

(Signed) Arthur Byne



*Printed by W. W. W. Co.*

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

September 25th, 1925

Miss Julia Morgan,  
Merchants Exchange,  
San Francisco

My dear Miss Morgan;-

The old Monastery of Sacramenia is ours. After untold trips and conferences, writing and rewriting of contracts and agreements, the sale was consummated yesterday. Up to the present everything accomplished has been to my entire satisfaction.

All this was made possible by Mr. Hearst's quick response to my last telegram for an additional \$20,000. Had there been any appreciable delay in the sending of this money I really believe the whole transaction would have fallen through.

To-morrow I am off to the site with a competent foreman to commence the demolition - ordinary workmen I shall secure from the nearby villages. As said in my last letter I am anxious to make progress now before the winter sets in and get off several shipments of stone. I have investigated the question of sending separate shipments on whatever steamers are at hand or hiring a steamer with an idea of carrying the entire cargo at once. Everything points to the first-mentioned method. It is cheaper to begin with and secondly if we were to hire a boat we would have to pile up a mountain of stone somewhere until all was ready for the final shipment.

I shall commence making more careful drawings to-morrow which will serve for the reconstruction of the work. Furthermore I shall make abundant photographs which will also greatly assist. Once I have a drawing of the entire layout I will send it to you and will indicate as quickly as possible just what you are interested in. As the cost of demolition and transportation is considerable there is no use carrying anything which would later serve no purpose. The cloister of course you will take with its vaulted walks; also the Chapter House; do you wish the Refectory and kitchen also? Everything is of course to be disposed of except the Church which belongs to the State.

As you will understand the question of demolition and packing is in this case quite different from anything we have hitherto tackled. Ordinarily the cost of demolition and boxing has been carried over with the transportation to be paid on the American end. In this instance



Julia Morgan (2)

the item is of too much importance and I shall have to personally hire men and purchase material. As stated in my last letter I calculate the cost of demolition and packing of the carved stone at \$7000 or \$8000; if it turns out to be less so much the better but the work must be carefully done and by competent hands.

As this demolition starts immediately I shall have to ask you to forward a cheque to cover the estimated cost as at present I am paying for this work out of my own pocket. A cheque by return mail will be time enough.

the There will then be a final payment of \$10,000 to settle with owner and out of which I shall reimburse myself, for until the whole affair is successfully concluded I ask nothing in the way of payment for my services.

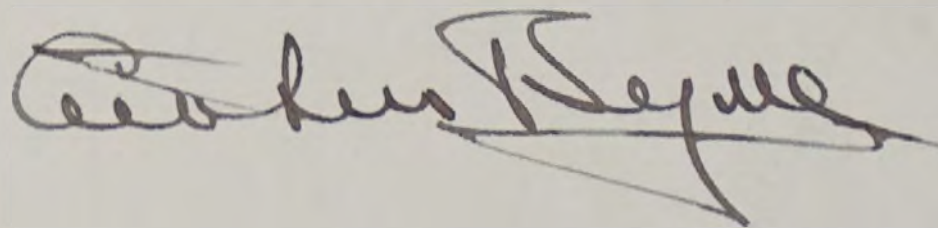
May I refer to a recent letter of yours - that of August 25th to be exact. In the last paragraph of the first page you quote from Mr. Hearst saying: "You know we sent Mr. Byne a perfectly good list of pictures of possible-looking patios and cloisters, and surely some of these señors and Dukes are hard enough up to part with one of them".

To begin with I never received any such list; it would help me very much to have a list of what strikes Mr. Hearst's fancy. Would it be asking too much to ask you to send another.

Buying these buildings is not quite as easy as Mr. Hearst imagines. Our American Ambassador to Spain (who is not conspicuous for doing the tactful thing) tried to secure the famous Casa de Miranda of Burgos recently (I fancy for Mr. Hearst). Publicity in purchases of important works of art is always most disastrous and when needless a person that the American Ambassador to Spain tries to buy a famous palace by putting the announcement in the press it forever spoilt any chances there were to ship the Miranda out of Spain.

Thanking you for your continued confidence in us and hoping that we shall be able to please both you and Mr. Hearst in the present important undertaking, I am

Sincerely,

*See letter of March 12th - sent to Egypt -*  




JAC. FRIEDENBERG  
PRES.

TELEPHONE { 10329 BOWLING GREEN  
10330

CHARLES FRIEDENBERG  
VICE PRES.

CABLE ADDRESS  
"JACBERG" NEW YORK  
A.B.C. CODE.

BOSTON, MASS.

EXPORT  
IMPORT

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

AGENTS AND  
CORRESPONDENTS  
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD



# HUDSON FORWARDING & SHIPPING CO., INC

CUSTOM HOUSE BROKERS AND FORWARDING AGENTS

HOUSEHOLD GOODS, WORKS OF ART AND AUTOMOBILES SHIPPED TO ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.

ALL INFORMATION PERTAINING TO CUSTOMS REGULATIONS FURNISHED ON APPLICATION.

17 STATE STREET, NEW YORK.

September 2nd, 1925.

In reply refer to No. **18858-JF**

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

Dear Madame:

We have the pleasure to inform you that we received on the s/s "Handicap", arrived in port August 23rd, six cases antiques marked J M San Francisco, and we are now arranging to have shipment re-forwarded in bond to your order.

Assuring you of our best attention, we remain

Very truly yours,

HUDSON FORWARDING & SHIPPING CO. INC.

Per

*J. Friedenber*  
J. Friedenber, Pres.

JF:S

REC'D SEP 14 1925



AGENTS  
AND CORRESPONDENTS  
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

TELEPHONES { 10329  
10330  
10331  
10332 } BOWLING GREEN

CABLE ADDRESS  
"JACBERG" NEWYORK  
A. B. C. CODE

**HUDSON FORWARDING & SHIPPING CO., INC.**  
**CUSTOM HOUSE BROKERS - FORWARDING AGENTS**  
**FOREIGN FREIGHT CONTRACTORS - MARINE INSURANCE**  
**17-19 STATE STREET, NEW YORK**

M<sup>rs</sup> Miss Morgan  
San Francisco,  
Cal.

Sept. 15th., 1925

In reply refer to No. 18858

We have the pleasure to inform you that on the S/S Handicap from San Francisco there has arrived in our care, for your account Six Cases Furniture

To enable us to proceed with Customs formalities, please comply as soon as possible with the requirements below marked X. Observe special notices at foot of this advice, as well.

- (1) Kindly call to our office to execute Customs entry papers.
- (2) Furnish statement of contents and value. If value exceeds \$100.00, consular invoice is required.
- (3) Please remit \$                      as a deposit account estimated duty and charges. Any balance due, if the amount is nominal, may be collected on delivery.
- (4) XXX Shipment has been forwarded in bond via Panama Pac Line with C.O.D. \$ 107.00 directly. For delivery, apply to Mattoon & Co., 516 Battery St. San Francisco, Cal.
- (5) Shipment is covered by insurance. In the event of any loss, notify us immediately.
- (6) Please furnish original bills of sale required by U. S. Customs.
- (7) Our account                      remains unpaid. Please forward remittance in order to avoid storage and other charges accruing, and which will enable us to effect delivery.
- (8) Please execute affidavit attached which is required for cancellation of bond given at the time of importation.
- (9) At the time of entry, bond was given for the production of                     . Please furnish same to cancel bond.
- (10)

Yours respectfully,

HUDSON FORWARDING & SHIPPING CO., INC.

Per

I.R.

**SPECIAL NOTICES:**

**We urge immediate attention as import merchandise under Customs rules is subject to storage if not formally entered at Custom House within 48 hours after arrival.**

Goods in Customs custody on docks or in warehouse are at risk and expense of owner or consignee.

Remittance requested is desired as preliminary to procedure with Customs entry, and is accepted as a deposit account duty and charges.

If the value of foreign invoice does not agree with the amount paid or it does not represent market value, including home consumption, luxury tax, if any, please call special attention to correct dut able value when sending remittances.

Goods (except those going forward to interior ports of entry In Bond) cannot be delivered or put in transit until released by U. S. Customs.

**U. S. CUSTOMS DUTIES**—The amount of duty shown is estimated and payable to the Collector of Customs prior to examination of goods by the U. S. Appraiser. On entry and examination by the Appraiser, changes will possibly be made which will compel us to call for further remittance. If duty is overestimated, refund will be made in due course.

**BONDS GIVEN TO THE COLLECTOR OF CUSTOMS**—The Customs regulations provide for various bonds to be given to the Collector of Customs. Such bonds are of two general classes:

- 1 Bonds for re-delivery of unexamined goods, exportation or destruction of importations rejected on account of not conforming to the various regulations, including that pertaining to illegal importations, the Food and Drug Act, the Seed Importation Act, the Plant Quarantine Act, the Tea Act, the Insecticide Act and Bureau of Animal Industry Regulations.
- 2 Bonds for missing documents, such as Bill of Lading, Consular Invoice, Foreign Shipper's certificate, certificate of outward manifest, owner's oath, shipper's certificate of antiquity, consignee's certificate of antiquity, and all other oaths or documents required, not furnished at time of making the entry.

Bonds given to the Collector of Customs must carry suitable surety. If such bonds are executed by us to the Collector of Customs in connection with this shipment, same are executed, for your account.

RECEIVED SEP 23 1925



INTERNATIONAL NEWS SERVICE, INC.  
WORLD BUILDING  
NEW YORK, N.Y.

PARIS BUREAU  
10, PLACE DE LA BOURSE  
CENTRAL 34-33  
LOUVRE 32-12

10 Place de la Bourse, Paris,  
September 12, 1925.

C. A. McGregor, Esq.,  
New York American,  
New York City.

Dear Mr. McGregor:

In accordance with your letter of September 2, I called on Antiquarian Sala, 20 rue Bonaparte today, and requested information about the tombstone which the Paris American Express Co. is holding for shipment to Miss Julia Morgan.

Monsieur Sala was very reticent about the stone, and insisted he knows nothing about the sale. He said he received the stone in storage for Alberto Salzedo, Calle del Prado 27, Madrid. Salzedo made the sale, and instructed Sala to turn it over to the American Express Co.

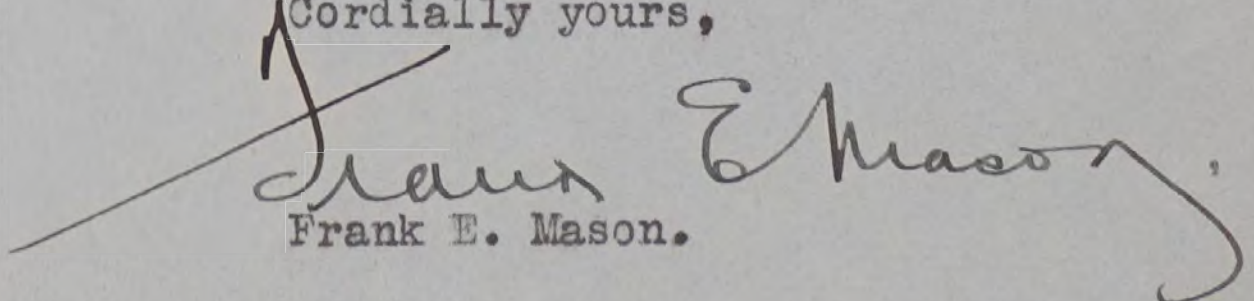
Sala is very much afraid he may be required to pay the twelve per cent. government luxury tax on such sales, and consequently he is as mysterious about the affair as if it had been a case of murder.

The American Express Co. instructed the Societe Anonyme Thiercelin Aine & Boisse to pack the tombstone. It was crated several weeks ago.

I am enclosing a copy of the letter I wrote to Senor Salzedo. I will await his reply before doing anything further. Then, if he has no photographs, I will have the tombstone removed from the crate if it is necessary to secure a photograph.

I will return the correspondence for your files as soon as the investigation has been completed.

Cordially yours,

  
Frank E. Mason.



September 12, 1925.

S. D. Alberto Salzedo,  
Calle del Prado 27, Madrid.

Muy señor mio:

El señor Sala, del número 20, rue Bonaparte, de esta capital, me refiere a usted para informarme concerniente la lapida sepulcral que usted vendió el año pasado a la señorita Julia Morgan de San Francisco.

La señorita Morgan me ruega, con el fin de completar su registro, que le pida a usted la fecha exacta en la cual por casualidad usted tiene una fotografía de ella y no tiene usted ningún inconveniente, le agradecería si tuviera la bondad de mandarmela.

Soy de usted,

S. D. D.

Q. E. S. M.

Frank E. Mason,  
10 Place de la Bourse,  
Paris; France.



CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L
If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.	

# WESTERN UNION



# TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L
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The filing time as shown in the date line on full rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

RECEIVED AT 722 MARKET STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. ALWAYS OPEN

1925 SEP 13 AM 7 52

NC122 CABLE

MADRID 30 13

LCD JULIA MORGAN 4720

MEREHAUTS EXCHANGE SANFRANCISCO CALIF

CHECK RECEIVED YOUR REQUIREMENT OF VAULTING ETCETERA  
NECESSITATES PURCHASE OF WHOLE EDIFICE OWNER INSISTS THREEQUARTERS  
DOWN IMMEDIATE ACTION CABLE URGENT TWENTY THOUSAND MORE BYNE

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
------------------	--------



C O P Y

Arthur Byne  
Paseo de la Castellana, 19  
Madrid

September 14, 1925

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Merchants Exchange  
San Francisco

My dear Miss Morgan:

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and

INCLUDE VAULTINGS

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Julia Morgan (2)

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With kindest wishes from us both, believe me,

Sincerely,

(Signed)

ARTHUR BYRNE



JAC. FRIEDENBERG  
PRES.

TELEPHONE { 10329 BOWLING GREEN  
10330

CHARLES FRIEDENBERG  
VICE PRES.

CABLE ADDRESS  
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17 STATE STREET, NEW YORK.

September 16th, 1925.

In reply refer to No. **18858-AF**

Miss Julia Morgan,  
Merchants Bank Bldg.,  
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Madame:

We have the pleasure to inform you that we are shipping via the Panama Pacific Line, in care of our agents, Messrs. Mattoon & Co., #516 Battery Street, San Francisco, six cases furniture which arrived here from Madrid, Spain.

The shipment is moving in bond all charges having been debited to the account of the Hon. Wm. R. Hearst, New York. The freight from New York to San Francisco will go forward collect.

Trusting same will reach you in good condition and in due time, we remain

Very truly yours,

HUDSON FORWARDING & SHIPPING CO., INC.

Per

J. Friedenbergh, Pres.

JF:S

RECEIVED  
SEP 23 1925

*See air receipt  
cutting*

*to Merchants  
Oct 10/1925*

*Consular Invoice  
to Mattoon & Co.  
13-1925  
Per  
Suggitt says he has all  
papers - 9/23/25*

*Dulles  
boy*



**New York American**

September 22nd, 1925.

Miss Julia Morgan,  
Merchants Exchange Building,  
San Francisco, Cal.

Dear Miss Morgan:

Please find enclosed a letter from Mr. Frank E. Mason  
of International News Service, Paris Bureau, containing all the informa-  
tion I have been able to gather to date regarding the tombstones which  
are held by the Paris American Express Company for shipment to you.

Will advise you of further details regarding the tomb-  
stones as I receive them.

Sincerely,

*Samuel Gregor*

*Think this must be  
the 3 stones bought  
by Mr. H. J. for Mr. Byrne  
as we have not  
yet received them.*



Universal Service, Inc.,  
10 Place de la Bourse,  
Paris, September 28, 1925.

Arthur Byne, Esq.,  
Paseo de la Castellana 19,  
Madrid, Spain.

Dear Mr. Byne:

In reply to your letter of September 23rd, I wrote to Don Alberto Salzedo, in compliance with instructions received from Mr. William Randolph Hearst to investigate a shipment of stones from Paris, proposed by the San Francisco office of the American Express Co.

Miss Julia Morgan of San Francisco, is Mr. Hearst's architect. My interest in the affair is simply that I represent Mr. Hearst in this part of Europe on antique matters. If you desire any reference, kindly mention my name to Ambassador Moore.

I received a file of letters, including correspondence from Miss Morgan, Mr. Hearst's secretary, and the American Express Co., regarding stones coming from Antiquarian Sala, 20 rue Bonaparte. Had your name appeared in the file, the matter would have probably been perfectly plain. But as neither Miss Morgan nor Mr. Hearst had bought stones from Monsieur Sala, they requested me to ascertain what this is all about. Even Sala apparently did not know your connection with the deal, for he referred me only to Senor Salzedo.

Miss Morgan requested information as to when and by whom the stones were purchased, and requested me, if possible, to secure photographs.

If you wish to do so, you are at perfect liberty to write directly to Miss Morgan. In this case, I would appreciate it as a favor if you will send me a copy of the letter, as I have been requested to clear up the matter, and then return the original file of correspondence to San Francisco.

Thanking you for your trouble in the matter,  
Sincerely yours,