

Accession number: 1992-24/39e/f

Description: Large sheet of paper written on both sides, originally folded in half [part of a notebook?] to form 4 pages. First page written in pencil and then inked over. [Draft] copy of a letter to Madame de Saar August 22 1823.

Transcript:

Page 1: Copy of a Letter to Madame de Saar Aug[ust] 22 1823.

Dear Madam

(A) We were in great hopes that all the matters in dispute would have been adjusted & settled before the rising of the court of Chancery for the vacation and that we should have been able to have remitted you the entire residue ^{of Mrs Garrick's property} soon after this time. but notwithstanding there has been no delay on our parts to answer the interrogatories which have been put to us ^{under the direction of the court} and respecting the property which M^r Garrick ^{died possessed of & what came into the hands of your Aunt} the matter is not yet brought to issue and all proceedings are necessarily suspended till the court sits again in November & we must therefore remain in uncertainty ^{until that time} respecting the extent & value of the things claimed by the Garrick family, some of whom appear However disposed to act with liberality – the same uncertainty prevails with respect to the amount of what may be left after all demands upon the estate have been discharged.

[A number of lines left blank]

(C) Before the receipt of your last letter we had already anticipated your wishes with respect to the picture ^{of yourself} by Vandergucht which we have in our possession for you and we shall likewise reserve for you such Trinkets ^{rings} seals & other such articles which can be proved to belong to your aunt in the distribution of the property You shall also have information respecting such of the prints ^{as may be proved to be Mrs Garrick's property} should you wish for any of them to be sent to you. The picture of your Aunt as a Savoyard has been purchased by M^{rs} Patten for 12 guineas which has been thought a large price.

Reverse: [all in ink, not over pencil]

(B) But as we are very anxious, as speedily as possible to fulfil our duties towards the legatees and to yourself, we have requested our Bankers Mess^{rs} Hoare to transmit to their correspondents Mess^{rs} Fries and Co of Vienna the Notarial act respecting the legacy in favour of your Grand daughter Eva Maria de Saar; in order that they may take such steps as will be necessary for the investment of one thousand pounds sterling in the Austrian Government Securities, to be applied as your late aunt has directed towards the maintenance & future provision of the infant. The document will be forwarded by tomorrows post; & M. De Saar will probably think it right to have some communication with the house of Fries upon the subject, As soon as their answer shall

have been returned, the capital will be remitted by our bankers for the accomplishment of this object.

At the same time that this remittance takes place we hope it may be in our power to cause another remittance of one thousand pounds sterling, to be also made as part of the residue & invested for your benefit in the Austrian funds, according to the injunctions of your aunt's will.

Page 3: [Blank]

Page 4: [in pencil]

Show & trust that our conduct and management w[hi]ch form a striking contrast with that of the Executor's of Mr Garrick and their delays of 28 years in paying the legacies.

At the time that we ~~make the~~ remit the legacy we ^{trust we} shall ^{be} f able if nothing occurs to prevent it make an investment of

Notes:

Madame de Saar: Mrs Garrick's niece, née Elizabeth Fürst, who lived with the Garricks in London in the 1770s.

Vandegucht: Benjamin Van der Gucht (d. 1794) 'painter and picture dealer, the thirty-second child of the engraver Gerard Van der Gucht. He was well known as a painter of actors and as a restorer of pictures, and in 1776 had built a gallery in Upper Brook street [London]'. *Letters*, 1116n. In that letter, written on 29 July 1777 to Van der Gucht who was travelling in France, Garrick asked him to buy some books for him. *Letter* 1123, dated 28 [August?] 1777 invited him to visit the Garricks at Hampton and says he will pay for the books then. Benjamin Van der Gucht's portrait of Garrick as Steward of the Stratford Jubilee (a profile looking at a medallion of Shakespeare) was engraved by J. Saunders and published in 1773. *Letter* 780n. Son of Michael Vandergucht who left Antwerp for London before 1700. Benjamin was born in 1753 and died in Chiswick 21 Sept. 1794. His painting of Garrick as the Steward of the Stratford Jubilee in 1772, exhibited at the RA 1776 and now at Althorp House, Northants. He gave up painting in 1787 to become a picture cleaner and dealer www.oxfordartonline.com accessed 6 April 2010.