

4-30-40.

My dear Dr. Cousins,

I have finally reached the Himavat and indeed I am happy to be home. As much as I liked Travancore and Hyderabad the Himalayas have quite a special attraction for me. Here I have already begun on my interrupted work, hoping to finish it before this fall.

The portrait has been completed and in a final rush taken to Trivandrum; it makes a rather effective painting - some rearrangement of the other paintings at the Durbar Hall will have to be made.

In view of the fact that there was some confusion as to the size of the portrait expected, I left it to the State to set the price, and it has been set at Rs. 9,000 all included as you know. I of course never questioned the amount since I always believe in business the conditions must be established quite clearly beforehand, but if this is not done then I just let circumstances determine the outcome and take it as it comes.

As a matter of fact I liked Their Highnesses and Sir Ramaswami too much to discuss the matter of price.

Of course these large paintings entail an enormous outlay of energy and present many difficulties. Of this Rs. 9,000 well over 2,000 was spent coming to Travancore and paying the cost of colours, canvasses etc, not counting my return journey. But as I said before I greatly enjoyed my trip South and the financial end is of very little consequence to me. Please let me know to what name the remittance should be sent.

I was greatly distressed to see the terrible damage done to the paintings which were on Exhibition. Many are beyond repair and shall have to be

105

written off as total loss. The surface having been scraped off by the moving of loose objects / Monographs etc./ in the crates. Yes, indeed this is a very sad end to this tour, quite unexpected moreover.

As to the future plans - is it not strange about Mysore? But I never expected anything of them. As to Hydrabad I think it is too soon to have a large exhibition there again.

I was sorry I could not stop at Kotagiri but it was getting very late and I was afraid it may become too hot.

The Himalayas are lovely. The spring was late and everything is in full bloom. There is no place in India to compare to our Himalayas.

I am sorry to say Mother is not well of late, but of course the world conflagration must react on her.

We are always glad to hear from you. Everyone is sending to Mrs. Cousins and yourself their best greetings.

Cyff J. H. May 29
1880

2

Dear Dr. Cairns,

Many thanks for your letter. I send you last
very early have since place and God only knows
what we may read tomorrow the day after. You
happy to be back again with my family amidst our
Himalayas. Naturally all plans and cultural work
must be adjusted to conditions, As yet I am uncertain
as to when I may go to America, but there is so much
work to do, I really don't waste much time thinking
about my future plans. - According to your request
the sum of Rs 700. I have to transfer to you
to Mrs Cairns Rs 700. I hope to reach her safely
As the subscription has - the sum certainly & not
proposals and shall simply have to wait for
better days. I am sorry to say Mother is not quite
well as yet but of course in these days of
Annoyance one can hardly expect to be well. -
Our cultural work has become sadly dislocated,
but we are glad to hear your Biography is progressing
so well. We hope Mr Cairns and Mr D Cairns
are well and we send you both our best greetings
and wishes. especially Swedenborgian.
P.S. I think the Chitralayans photos
are really quite good for records, B values
are much better than those of the
some scratch.

3 15th Nov.
1740

My dear D^r Cousins,

We were all very sorry indeed to hear of
Mrs Cousins' accident. But it was certainly
fortunate there was no fracture. I can well
sympathize, as I had once lived through myself
and I know how painful and distressing it
can be.

We all rejoice at the news that you as
well as Mrs Cousins' health now is well
on the road to complete recovery. This is
good news indeed.

Our two books have just arrived and
it was such a pleasure to see them.

May 15th
1857

Dear Mr. Cairns

I have the pleasure of enclosing
check for \$5700⁰⁰ as my
remittance made out to your name
as per Dr. Cairns's request.

I was very sorry not to visit
Rob Agins, but there were so many
things to attend to and it was
getting warm.

With my best greetings

Cordelia
S. C. Cairns, Research.