

Dr. Siklossy,
Budapest.

11th July, 1934.

My dear Friend,

Forgive my writing you thus, but my time is so occupied just now I am obliged to send you a typewritten letter in English, knowing you will understand it.

I was relieved to receive your letter after such a long silence, and regret being unable to reply to it until now, but as I said, we are just at the height of the Season, and I am very much pressed with work and other duties.

First of all I wish to thank you for the interest and care you took in sending me so beautifully mounted the various reproductions of my works which appeared in your distinguished magazine. I am very glad to have them, and grateful to you.

I also received the magazine in which you alluded in such a delightfully enthusiastic way to my book on portrait painting. I assure you I appreciate it all deeply, and am pleased to know that the public are taking so much interest in it. I hear you have written to Holme, of "The Studio" about a translation, in fact he sent me a copy of your letter. I thought if it could be done in a cheaper edition it would have paid in Hungary, as it would then be within the reach of a larger circle of the public, but even if it does not prove practicable to have it translated, you have certainly done a great service in interesting the people /

people and drawing their attention to the book's existence. So far I hear it is having a great success in Britain and in America.

Meanwhile, since I received your letter, I have been in Paris for a short time to paint another portrait of General Pershing, of whom the last one I painted was placed in the Palais de la Légion d'Honneur, in the section dedicated to America. The presentation was a very interesting ceremony, under General Nollot, and it gives me great moral satisfaction to know that my picture is in such historic surroundings.

On my way home I had the honour to be invited to Chateau Laeken, where I saw the very sorrowful Queen Elisabeth, who is one of the greatest and most charming ladies I know. On the occasion of my visit the young King (who in distinction and mentality reminds me very much of his father, the late King Albert) conferred on me, in the presence of Queen Elisabeth, the decoration of Grand Officer of the Order of Leopold II. I esteem it very highly amongst my honours, coming from that milieu where art and science are so much appreciated.

Yesterday we had the pleasure to have here to luncheon Count and Countess Kuhn Héderváry, who are just here for a short visit from Paris, and who were accompanied by the Marquis Pallavicini. We were very pleased to be able to show them some hospitality, as it brings me back to the days of my youth when I enjoyed the friendship of his eminent father, the late Prime Minister. We invited a few interesting English friends to meet them.

I am very sorry you could not come to London this time, but regarding my visit to Budapest you made a mistake. It is not in Spring I intended to come, but in the second half of September, on our way to Venice for a few days for the Exhibition. We much look forward to seeing you and your family /

Dr. Siklosy.

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family, but please keep our visit quiet, as we wish to remain quite incognito.

I am sending you enclosed a photograph which may interest you for reproduction purposes, and which you need not return. The portrait was painted by me when King Feisal was here for some time in 1925, before he became King.

I will send you some more reproductions later on, and if you wish me, as you suggest, to have some coloured prints made, just let me know.

Now, dear friend, accept my renewed thanks for all the kindness you have shown me.

My wife joins me in kindest regards to you and your family.

Believe me,

Most affectionately yours,

Dr. Siklosy.

- 3 -

11.7.34.