

22nd November, 1932.

Dear Mr. Runciman,

I have been approached to give a blank canvas to be auctioned at a midnight Matinee which the Prince of Wales will attend on December 3th, in aid of the Victoria Hospital for Children, Tite Street, Chelsea, the portrait of the successful bidder to be painted by me. I have gladly acceded to this request for a cause with which I have the greatest sympathy. The canvas is to be put up to auction by Mr. Seymour Hicks, and no doubt the presence of the Prince of Wales will greatly help to ensure the success of the matinee.

As you will remember, some time ago you expressed a wish that I should paint a portrait of Sir Walter Runciman, which I would have done with great pleasure and circumstances permitted at that time, and it has just occurred to me that if you are still contemplating having it painted, this opportunity might appeal to you to secure the canvas for your Father's portrait, and at the same time contribute to such a very worthy cause. I would of course personally be greatly pleased to have the canvas fall into the hands of someone whom I could paint with so much pleasure and interest as Sir Walter, and at the same time fulfil your desire.

If you wished to have any particulars about the Matinee the Chairman, Mr. Arthur G. Perard C.B.E. would no doubt be glad to give you them.

Believe me,

Yours sincerely,

The Rt. Hon. Walter Runciman, P.C.,
8, Babton Street,
Westminster, S.W.1.