

Telegrams: Etchings, Dundee.



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*90, Commercial Street.*

*Dundee* 20th October, 1932.

Philip A. de Laszlo Esq., M.V.O.,  
3, Fitzjohn's Avenue, N.W.3.

Dear Mr. de Laszlo,

Very many thanks for your two letters which I duly received, and for your autographed photograph, which Mrs. Robertson and I value very highly indeed. The beautiful manner in which you so kindly framed it suits it to perfection. I can assure you it will be treasured by all of us at Lammerton Terrace. Already it has been admired by some friends visiting us. I again thank you for your kindly thought.

Mrs. Robertson and I also thank Mrs. de Laszlo and yourself for so kindly inviting us to stay with you when in town.

I have enclosed a Press photograph taken at Dundee station, which may interest you.

I was very glad indeed to know that you had such an interesting time in Oxford, and that you had time to visit our mutual friends, Mr. and Mrs. Muirhead Bone. They are very nice people indeed, and, as you say, truly live in the spirit of Art.

With reference to your request that a report of the Exhibition be sent to the Central News Office, I telephoned Mr. Smart, the gentleman who/

Phillip A. de Laszlo Esq., M.V.O.20/10/32.

who wrote the forward for the catalogue, and who is Art correspondent for the leading paper here, and explained what I wished, and he is to write an article, which I shall give to Mr. Webster, to whom I have already explained what is wanted. He said he would be delighted to send it to the Central News Office, and stated he thought Smart was the most suitable man to write the article. The moment I get it, I shall send you a typed copy of what has been sent.

We have sent catalogues, as requested to the Duchess of York, Princess Alice, and the Archbishop of Canterbury. We have not sent catalogues to any of those whose portraits were received from your studio, but we can send you another dozen catalogues if you so desire. Perhaps you will kindly let me know when you write. We have sent catalogues to all the others who so kindly lent their portraits. I took the liberty of sending along with the Duchess of York's catalogue a photograph of the wall on which her portrait hung, beside the Duke of York's, her Father and Mother's, sister's, and the Countess of Dalkeith's. You will notice the photograph among the ones I gave you. I was glad to know the Duke of Gramont received the catalogue I sent him.

You would have received my letter in connection with the idea of the Dowager Countess of Airlie's portrait. I expect to have a letter from her before she goes South to London, and it would be very nice if I could "kill the two birds with the one stone", but I shall do nothing until I hear from you regarding same. I took Bailie Buist and Bailie Fraser and Mr. Webster into confidence regarding your suggestion, and mentioned whom I thought should be painted, and without a moment's hesitation, they all said that no other person would be more suitable, or more pleasing to Dundee./

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*Continuation Sheet No. 3.*

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Dundee. The matter is absolutely private, and nothing will be said about it until I have your permission to announce it to the Press.

I suppose you would have received the papers I sent in connection with the Exhibition. I shall send any further Press notices.

I hope Mrs. de Laszlo and you are enjoying a nice rest after your long journey from Germany to Dundee and back to town.

I will now close.

Again thanking you for your kindness,

With kind regards to Mrs. de Laszlo and yourself in which Mrs. Robertson joins me,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

*John Robertson*

P.S. I also sent a photograph of the wall to Mr. and Mrs. Buchanan of Touch, Stirling.

*JR*