'Douat, M'

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DOUAT. M., CURÉ OF BASCONS

1914

Trans. of letter from M. Douat, Cure of Bascons. 24 7, 14.

Yesterday, 22 inst. I received the picture which you were good enough to send me.
It arrived without accident and has not been in any way damaged by the journey.
I think it very good and am very satisfied. The feast of the patron saint will take place in my parish on the 15th of next month. That day we will bless it and it will be put in its place.
My parishoners will be glad to have such a nice picture.
If ever you have occasion to return to our part of the world, we shall be very happy to receive you, also Dr Sambon.
In the meantime, I beg to offer you my sincere thanks etc.

Bascons le 24 Juillet 1914 –

Monsieur Thompson,

Hier, 22 courant, j'ai reçu le tableau que vous avez eu la bonté de m'envoyer –
Il est arrivé sans accident – et n'a nullement été avarié par le voyage – Je le trouve très bien et suis très satisfait
La fête patronale aura lieu dans ma paroisse le 15 du mois prochain. Ce jour là nous le bénirons et le mettrons en place –
Mes paroissiens seront heureux d'avoir un aussi joli Tableau.
Si jamais vous aviez occasion de revenir dans notre contrée

Nous serons heureux de vous
recevoir ainsi qu'à Mr. le Docteur
Sambon.

En attendant, je vous prie, Mr Thompson,
de recevoir avec mes sincères remerciements
mes meilleurs sentiments -

Doual curé de Bassens
Canton - de Grenade Sur-Adour
Landes

DOUAT, M. CURÉ OF BASCONS.

Trans. of letter to the Curé of Bascons. 13 July 1914.

Dear Sir,

I have pleasure in informing you that the picture is now finished, and I am sending it very carefully packed in a special case directed to you, by Messrs. Stockwell& Co., forwarding agents, carriage paid.

I trust you will be pleased with the picture which will last for centuries to come and be worthy of your interesting old church. I hope to hear from you soon that it has arrived safely and uninjured, and that you are pleased with the result.

Thanking you for your kind attention and apologising to you for the long time the work has taken to perform,

C.J.S.T.

Trans. of letter to the Curé, Bascons. 4. June 1914.

Monsieur le Curé,

I desire to thank you for your letter of the 2nd inst. respecting the old picture. The delay has been unavoidable. During the journey in bringing it to Bordeaux it practically fell to pieces, and we had to take it to an art expert there who said it had too far perished for anything to be done to it and he could only paste the pieces that remained on a flat board so that it might be brought to England. Expert artists here who saw it said it was impossible to restore it as so much was missing, and what remained had decayed beyond repair. It was therefore only possible to re-construct the picture as it originally was painted from the fragments which has entailed a considerable cost and has taken a long time to carry out. It is now in the process of being done by an expert artist who hopes to complete it in three or four weeks' time. When it is finished I will at once forward it to you as promised, and you will have the satisfaction of having the picture as it originally was when painted. I much regret the long delay but you will see from what I said that it was unavoidable. I had not forgotten the matter, and you may rest assured that I will forward it to you directly it is ready.

Thanking you for the courtesy you extended to Dr. Sambon and myself when we visited Bascons,

C.J.S.T.

(Curie du) Bascone.

Bascons le 2 juin 1914 -

Monsieur,

Vous seriez bien bon de me faire parvenir le plus tôt possible le Tableau qui vous a été livré pour le réparer lors de votre passage à Bascons.

Vous m'aviez promis de me le renvoyer dans un délai de 15 ou 20 jours et voilà des mois d'écoulés et je n'ai encore rien reçu -

Je compte que vous me le renverez dans un court délai réparé ou non.

Les autorités civiles m'ont blamé de vous l'avoir livré sans leur autorisation

Je compte sur vous pour pouvoir sans tarder leur donner satisfaction -

En attendant regrets Mr. avec mes meilleurs sentiments mes remerciements anticipés

Douat curé de Bascons -

Canton de Grenade - Sur-Adour

Landes

Kindly send me as soon as possible the picture delivered to you to be repaired at the time when you passed through Bascons.

You promised to return it to me in a fortnight or three weeks; that was some months ago and I have received nothing.

I rely upon you to send it back to me immediately whether repaired or not.

The civil authorities blamed me for having handed it over to you without their authority.

I trust you will give them satisfaction without delay.