

Amice Rappard,

Is your health still improving? I am eager for news from you. The other day I bought twenty-one volumes of the Graphic, namely 1870-1880. What do you think of that? I hope to receive them this week. I got them very cheap, you understand, or else I couldn't have afforded it. But I heard that they were for sale, and I strongly recommended them to someone who is also interested in them.

I have been working hard since your illness on black-and-white drawings, and I hope to learn a few more things about the forces of black and white from these Graphics. I wish we could have a talk again, for, my dear fellow, there is such a lot to do!

What I have been working at especially of late is heads – heads of the people¹ – fishermen's heads with sou'westers, among other things.

As soon as I have looked through the Graphics, I shall write you again, and then in more detail. Of course I shall get a lot of duplicates in this way.

Now you will oblige me greatly by giving me more particulars about the lot you bought – I mean not only by telling me whether there are duplicates, but also what interesting prints you have found in general.

I have found a “Head of a Little Girl” by Percy Macquoid which is splendid; it is a wood engraving after a picture of his. Other beautiful sheets that I have found are, to mention only some of them:

B. Constant	“Sick Fellahs on the Bank of the Nile”
Julien Dupré	“Female Cowherd”
Smith	“A Street in South Lambeth”
Ridley	“Boat Race”
Robinson	“ “
Green	“Street in Whitechapel”
Régamey	“Prison in New York”
Thulstrup	“Workroom in Sailors' Hospital or Home”
Abbey	“Winter Girl”
“	“Peter Stuyvesand”
Reinhardt	“Fishermen”
Barnard	Six sheets
Ed. Frère	“Woodgatherers”
Buckmann	“Renkeys on Hampstead Heath”
“	“Gathering Poppies”
Waller	“Tip Girls” (Miners)

I did not get these Graphics without trouble. For instance, the Jew I bought them from forced me to do two portraits of his father and mother (i.e. two of each!)

But isn't it a lucky find!

But it's so funny that they're already my property and that I haven't even seen them. The fact is that they are stored in an auction room together with a big lot of books, but the Jew will get them out this week.

Among the books there is Gavarni's La Mascarade Humaine, which I have, but what about you? And the Jew has a lot of other things besides, some of them probably good.

Well, more soon; I hope your recovery is progressing steadily – in haste!

Ever yours, Vincent

1. Vincent wrote this in English.