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WILLIAM R. KENDRICK
1847-1933
RAYMOND R. KENDRICK
1884-1940
HUGO E. BRAUN
1894-1973

RUSSELL A. SCHAFER
OF COUNSEL

February 27, 1980

Mr. Steven J. H. van Hengel
30 Saxonrodeweg
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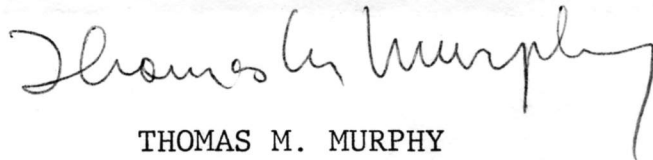
Dear Mr. van Hengel:

I was very pleased to read your article in the February 1980 issue of our Bulletin. I had obtained a framed Aliamet engraving a short time ago, but I had no information regarding its date or origin.

If you have any further information regarding this engraving, whether prints were made at the time the plate was completed, whether prints have been made at subsequent dates, and any other information you may have with respect to this engraving, I would appreciate very much hearing from you. I would also appreciate knowing if you know of any place where I may write for more information.

Thank you in advance.

Respectfully,



THOMAS M. MURPHY

tm



18th March 1980

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Dear Mr. Murphy,

Thank you very much for your letter of the 27th February. Let me congratulate you on owning the Aliamet engraving, they are very attractive. The date in the article in the Bulletin may be somewhat misleading. I mentioned that 1720 was the time when French engravers started to engrave paintings as they saw them which made them come out 'back to front' once they were printed.

Let me give you what I know about Aliamet:

Jacques Aliamet was born in Abbeville on the 30th November 1726 and died in Paris in 1788. He was taught the art of engraving by Jacques Philippe le Bas, a very famous man in his days.

I have no exact date of the engraving. Assuming that he would not have started engraving much before he was 20 and that the engraving was known by the time the plaque was made (about 1770), this would bring the date of the engraving to somewhere between 1756 and 1770. A further clue may be found in the fact that it was dedicated to the Marquess of Rambures, Louis-Antoine de la Roche who was then Camp Marshal to Louis King of France.

If you want more exact details I would suggest to write to the French National Cabinet of Prints (hoping they can read English) which is part of the National Library in Paris.

The address is:

Cabinet des Estampes
Bibliothèque Nationale
58, rue Richelieu
75084 Paris Cedex 2 France

If they eventually can give you the exact date I would be very interested to hear from you.

With kind regards I am, very sincerely yours

Steven van Hengel

Steven J.H. van Hengel