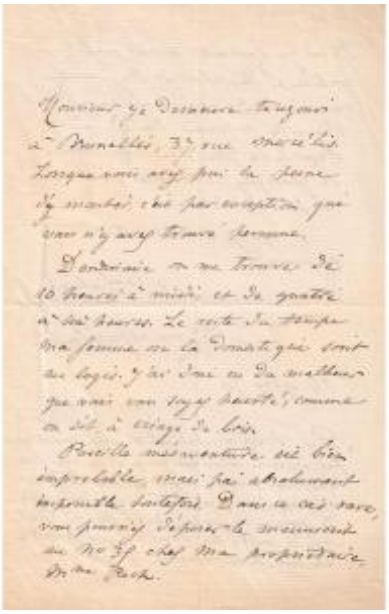
PROANTIC
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

[baudelaire] Autograph Letter Signed By Auguste Poulet-malassis--siege Of Paris--brussels



790 EUR

Signature : [Baudelaire] Auguste Poulet-Malassis

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Width : 13,5 cm

Height : 21 cm

Description

A rare letter from Auguste Poulet-Malassis, the publisher of *Les Fleurs du mal*, mentioning Albert Glatigny and Théodore de Banville. In the midst of the siege of Paris, Baudelaire's longtime publisher was preparing to clandestinely publish *Le Fer rouge* by Albert Glatigny from Brussels. Autograph signed letter from Auguste Poulet-Malassis (1825-1878) to an agent tasked with delivering to him the manuscript of *Le Fer rouge* by Albert Glatigny (1839-1873).November 14, 1870. Brussels. Two pages, in-8 format. Dimensions: 21 × 13.5 cm.Driven to the brink by a series of bankruptcies and seeking to avoid debtors' prison, Poulet-Malassis went into exile in Brussels beginning in September 1863. (Baudelaire would join him there a few months later.) From this

Dealer

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address at 37 Rue Mercelis, he skillfully rebuilt a publishing house that released works varied in style, including satirical, erotic, or those censored in France. He maintained constant contact with Parisian and Parnassian literary circles.In this letter written in the midst of the Franco-Prussian War, during the siege of Paris, Poulet-Malassis mentions Théodore de Banville, the steadfast mutual friend he shared with Baudelaire, and above all Albert Glatigny, the Parnassian poet, traveling actor, and major romantic figure of the literary bohemian scene. The "book" and "manuscript" referred to here are Glatigny's satirical and vengeful collection, Le Fer rouge: Nouveaux Châtiments, inspired by the defeat at Sedan and the fall of the Empire. Poulet-Malassis would arrange for its clandestine printing and publication in Brussels at the end of 1870. The text lashed out with fierce hatred at Napoleon III ("that handsome cigarette smoker" who capitulated at Sedan), the cowardice of the imperial elites, and clerical conservatism. It enjoyed some success and appealed to a segment of the rebellious youth. Rimbaud would even quote the title a few months later in a letter dated April 17, 1871, to Paul Demeny: "I read over there *Le Fer rouge*, *Nouveaux Châtiments*, by Glatigny [...] let us turn our foreheads toward the spears of the downpours, our souls toward ancient wisdom. And may Belgian literature carry us away under its wing. " "Sir, I still reside in Brussels, at 37 Rue Mercélis.When you took the trouble to come up there, it was by exception that you found no one there.Usually I can be found from 10 a.m. to noon, and from 4 to 6 p.m. The rest of the time, my wife or the maid is at home. I therefore regret that you encountered, as they say, a closed door.Such a mishap is highly unlikely, though not entirely impossible. In that rare event, you could leave the manuscript at No. 37 with my landlady, Mrs. Roch.But I hope, on the contrary, to have the pleasure of welcoming you and thanking you.Banville had given me news of Glatigny in Paris on September 12. That was the

most recent news I had received.Please accept my warmest regards.A. Malassis37 Mercélis StreetSeptember 14, 1870.P.S. If your schedule does not allow you to come easily to Rue Mercélis, you could entrust the manuscript--properly wrapped and tied--to a messengerI will pay for the delivery, of course. Glatigny is very eager to see his book published--which is understandable." A profoundly free-spirited, curious, and courageous man, Poulet-Malassis led a subversive life with a pronounced taste for marginal authors and "licentious" texts. His mischievous nature and refusal to conform led him to publish works that defied morality, accepting--through bankruptcy, prison, or exile--to pay a heavy price for his tastes and convictions. His letters, rarely preserved, are scarce and highly sought after.