

Monk's House,
Rodmell, near
Lewes, Sussex.

17 July, 1936

Dear Dr Meng,

I regret that your letter of 24 June has remained so long unanswered, but it is due to illness. I must say that it surprised me and I do not think that a matter of the kind should be arranged in this way. I was asked by Dr Stefan Zweig in the first instance simply whether I would allow my name to be added to those of four or five others asking various people to sign an address to Dr Freud. I agreed. Nothing was said then or at any other time about a Committee or about my being responsible for finding money to defray expenses. Now I am informed by you that I am responsible for a sum of £8 and that about £60 has been spent on the address. Apparently this is because I am supposed to be a member of a committee, but I have never been informed of any meeting of the committee or of any decision of it as a committee. If I had originally been informed that it was proposed to spend so large a sum as £60 on a simple address, I should not have approved of it.

I do not think that this is a fair or reasonable way of managing a matter of this kind and I therefore am not willing to make myself responsible for informing Mr Wells of what you propose. As regards myself, as the matter has now been settled over my head and you place me in a position in which I can hardly refuse I enclose a cheque for £7 which together with the cheque previously sent to you makes up the sum which you are calling upon me to pay.

Yours faithfully

Virginia Woolf

Virginia Woolf to Dr Heinrich Meng, 17 July 1936, offered for sale by Dreweatts, London, 1 December 2016, lot 189, unsold

Catalogue Description

Typed letter signed ('Virginia Wolf') addressed to Swiss psychologist Heinrich Meng, reading in part "I was asked by Dr Stefan Zweig in the first instance simply whether I

would allow my name to be added to those of four or five others asking various people to sign an address to Dr. Freud. I agreed.", one page, typed in blue ink, some foxing on the borders and yellowing, expected mailing folds, one deep diagonally fold on the lower side, 16.5 x 20.4 cm, Monk House, 17 July 1936.