

The Richelieu Correspondence Project

*A finding aid and digital archive
of the unpublished letters of
Armand-Jean du Plessis, Cardinal Richelieu*

About

The Finding Aid

The Archive

Syd: “About,” “The Finding Aid,” and “The Archive” are clickable links to the following pages. Approval to use image to come.

The Richelieu Correspondence Project

About

The project

Information here about the scope and purpose of the project: That Richelieu was an influential figure in 17th century France and contributed to the development of the nation-state in Europe; that his vast correspondence was scattered at the Revolution, now exists in archives and private collections across Europe and North America; many letters compiled and published M. Avenel 1853-77, but that is incomplete; historians have stated a need for a complete correspondence collection.

“Completeness” not really possible in print but this collection could grow as more letters are found and include letters written to Richelieu as well as his own letters; metadata are provided for each letter and will also be uploaded to correspSearch for potential linking with others in Richelieu’s circle of correspondents. Transkribus OCR used for early modern print letters, letters in manuscript manually transcribed. All letters provided here in facsimile, transcriptions of letters legible to me will be added as they are completed; users are invited to correct my transcriptions and submit their own.

Editorial policy statement

What changes were made silently to manuscript and print letters (line breaks ignored, abbreviations expanded, end-of-line hyphens removed). User will be able to choose from two transcription views, a diplomatic and regularized, with letter **u** changed to **v** and **i** changed to **j** as appropriate.

General notes—Members of the royal family called cardinals, as princes of the church, “mon cousin” as a courtesy. French names include titles and land-grant names, complete names, birth and death dates, and some biographical information available in “People.” Seventeenth-century geographic names are often different from modern names; equivalents and lat-long coordinates available in “Places.”

Rights information

All letters are in the public domain, but the photographs may be under copyright. See rights information in the caption to each letter. Transcriptions carry a Creative Commons Share-Alike 4.0 International license (CC BY-SA 4.0).

Contact

How to contact me through Reclaim Hosting. Also link to wordpress site, richelieu-correspondence.com

Syd: Text to come for these categories. It will be a lot longer than this, continuous scroll ok.

The Finding Aid

The following archives hold letters to and from Richelieu that were not included in the M. Avenel compilation, *Lettres, Instructions Diplomatiques et Papiers d'État du Cardinal de Richelieu*. Collection de Documents Inédits sur l'Histoire de France. 8 vols. Paris: Imprimerie Impériale, 1853-1877.

Archives Municipales de Toulouse

Bibliothèque national de France, Paris

British Library, London

Lambeth Palace Library, London

Morgan Library and Museum, New York

National Archives UK, Richmond

Newberry Library, Chicago

Society of Antiquaries of London

Syd: Each of the archives above would link to a page with a list of letters held there, see slide #4.

The Finding Aid

Morgan Library and Museum, New York

Timoléon d'Épinay, Marquis de Saint Luc, to Cardinal Richelieu, 4 August [1631]

Record ID: 126906

Accession Number: MA 23051

Language: French

Summary: Épinay warns that troops may disperse if July payments do not arrive within the week.

Henri II, Duke de Montmorency, to Cardinal Richelieu, 20 September 1629

Record ID: 132070

Accession Number: MA 23054

Language: French

Summary: Montmorency insists the protestants of Toulouse are loyal to the king.

Henrietta Maria, Queen Consort of Charles I of England, to Cardinal Richelieu, n.d.

Record ID: 190649

Accession Number: MA 4801

Language: French

Summary: The queen thanks Richelieu for his warm reception of Buckingham.

Sir James Hepburn to Cardinal Richelieu, 16 August 1629

Record ID: 103601

Syd: Fields filled by <title>, <idno>, <language> and <note>. Titles would link to facsimiles and transcriptions (if available).

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*Syd: Facsimiles on continuous scroll. “**Sort-by**” options are date, alpha sender, alpha recipient. **Filters** would display check-boxes of people, places, or dates to refine the selection of letters displayed. Clicking on a thumbnail enlarges the view, displays transcription—see slide 6.*

Sort by ▼

Sender

Recipient

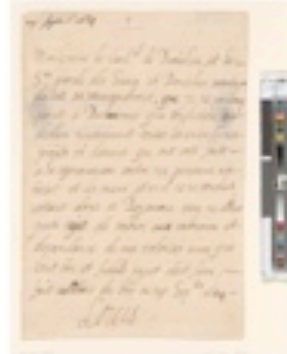
People mentioned

Places mentioned

Date sent



1. Richelieu to Valette



2. Louis XIII to Richelieu



3. Christine of France to Richelieu



4. Montmorency to Richelieu



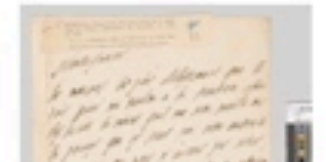
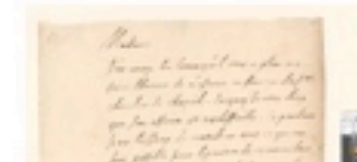
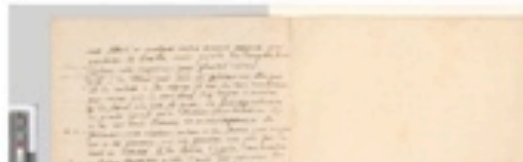
5. Richelieu to Hemery



6. Richelieu to Chavigny



7. Noyers to Richelieu



The Richelieu Correspondence Project

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Syd: Caption contains a link to reverse of the letter. Note provides link to preceding letter, taken from <correspContext>.

Sort by ▼

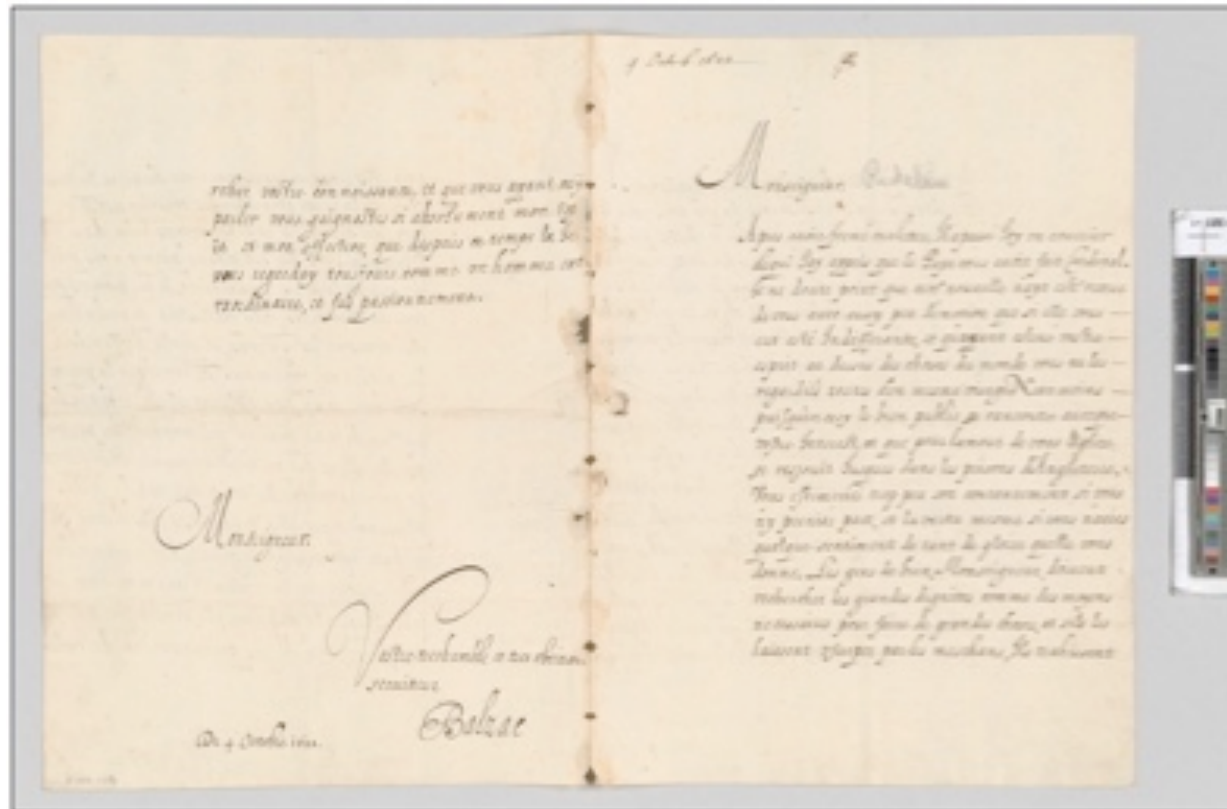
Sender

Recipient

People mentioned

Places mentioned

Date sent



58. Jean-Louis Guez de Balzac to Richelieu, 4 October 1622. Fol. 4v to 1r. [Fol. 2v to 3r](#). The Morgan Library and Museum. MA 6462.

Note: Current letter is in response to letter of [Richelieu to Balzac](#), 14 September 1622.



Transcription view: [Diplomatic](#) or [Regularized](#)