

Readers' Letters 13 (Notable Persons)

Editor's Note: The Readers' Letters files consist of correspondence between PB and his students, followers, fellow philosophers, spiritual leaders, friends and family. Most of these letters were sent to PB by readers of his books. They are in no particular order, and there may be letters by the same person in other files as well. Most of the letters in this file were written between 1932 and 1967.

PB had a tendency to make edits, write notes regarding his replies, or insert address information and meeting times on the letters themselves after receipt. We have noted PB's insertions and marginalia, but have not noted edits made by the original author, assuming that they were corrections made at the same time as the rest of the letter. To preserve both readability and the voice of the author, we have corrected spelling errors but have generally left grammar as is.

Less interesting letters have been summarized instead of fully transcribed. Please refer to the scanned PDFs for the full content, or to view all stationary headers, postmarks, unidentified markings, marginalia, etc. Proper names and dates have been written exactly as found in the original for each letter in this file; where we discovered multiple versions of a person's name, we have noted the full name either in the body of the text in {curly brackets} or in a footnote.

In many letters, there are words that are illegible or missing; in such cases we have included either our best guess or the word "illegible" inside {curly brackets}. In rare circumstances, we have added a word or phrase to a letter for readability, which are also noted with {curly brackets}; a footnote was added where we deemed it helpful. – Timothy Smith (TJS), 2020

L13.001

1 - 2

Annotated news clipping¹

Printed in The Leader,² dated Saturday August 1, 1936 and titled: A New Madras Party.

Extract: "Its leader is the Maharaja of Pitha-puram, who is perhaps the second biggest landlord in the southern presidency."³

L13.003

3 - 4

Letter from Assistant Private Secretary to the Viceroy

¹ "P" and a small triangle are handwritten at the top of the clip.

² Name of paper.

³ Underlined by hand.

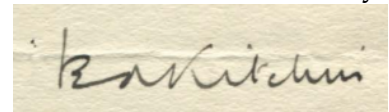
Viceregal Lodge, Simla.⁴
4th Oct. 1939

Dr Paul Brunton,
Staff Quarters,
Mysore.

Dear Sir,

His Excellency asks me to thank you most warmly for your loyal offer of services in the present emergency.

Yours faithfully,



Assistant Private Secretary to the Viceroy.

L13.005

5 - 6

Letter from R.V.K.M. Surya Rau, Maharajah of Pithapuram
No. 213, Taj Mahal, Bombay.
29-1-1944

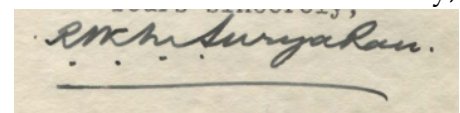
My Dear Doctor Brunton,

Many thanks for your letter teeming with kindness. I am very grateful to you for your sympathy and kindness - which I very much appreciate. It is very gratifying to find that you approve of my statement.

I am passing through very trying times. I pray to God to guide me aright! The sincere and good wishes of genuine friends like you are of invaluable help to me at this unfortunate and critical juncture.

With renewed thanks.

Yours sincerely,



L13.007

7 - 8

Letter from R.V.K.M. Surya Rau, Maharajah of Pithapuram
Gulaby, Teynampet, (Adyar) Madras
1-3-1944

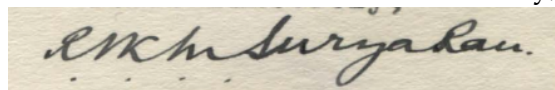
⁴ Address appears in the letterhead.

My Dear Dr Brunton,

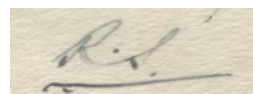
I shall be very glad if you can come and stay with me at 'Rosery' in Coonoor as my guest during my stay there this summer. I am looking forward to the pleasure of your company there. I am likely to go to Coonoor about the end of April.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely,



I intend leaving Madras on 4.3.44 for Pithapuram.



L13.009

9 - 10

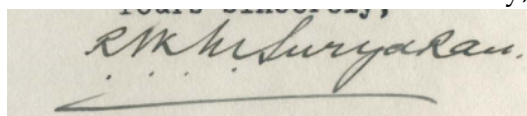
Letter from R.V.K.M. Surya Rau, Maharajah of Pithapuram⁵
Gulaby, P.O. Teynampet, (Adyar) Madras
20-2-1946

Dear Dr Brunton,

I shall be very happy if you can kindly come and stay with me as my guest at "Rosery", Coonoor, during the ensuing Summer as usual. I hope you will not deny me this pleasure and privilege. I would let you know late on when I would be going to Coonoor. I hope you have been going to Coonoor. I hope you have been keeping good health.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,



L13.011

11 - 12

Incomplete letter from Maharajah of Pithapuram⁶
Rosery, Coonoor, Nilgiris
21-5-1942

My dear Mr Brunton,

⁵ "P" is handwritten in the top left corner of the page.

⁶ Name appears in the letterhead. "P" and a checkmark are handwritten in the top left corner of the page.

I was very glad to get your letter dated 3-4-1942 and thank you for it.

Can you not come to the Hills for at least a fortnight to escape the heat of the plains during the worst part of this summer?

I have finished reading your book "The Hidden Teaching Beyond Yoga." When will your next volume be ready? Will it {illegible}⁷ present one? {...}⁸

L13.013

13 - 14

Obituary for Lord Brabourne

Lord Brabourne was the governor of Bengal and died in Calcutta.

Extract: "Lord Brabourne was one of that group of young Conservatives who's capabilities Lord Baldwin, then the Conservative Party's leader, recognized and fostered."

L13.015

15 - 16

Letter from Doreen Brabourne⁹

7 Upper Belgrave Street S.W.1.

May 4th¹⁰

Dear Mr Brunton

It was so nice of you to write to me on the subject of my husband's death.

He and I have always read every word that you have written.

India to us was always, and always will be, and Enchanted and Enchanting land, and we always loved our proximity to the Himalayas, - when in Darjeeling.

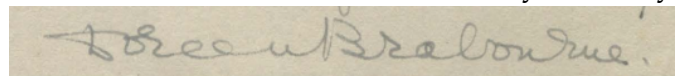
Your "Hermit in the Himalayas" Expressed to so vividly so many of our own feelings and the peace that we found there.

If you are ever in England I should so like it, if you would come and see me.

It would be such a real joy to me to discuss India¹¹ with someone who has found the real India - like you have.

With so many grateful thanks for your sympathy in my overwhelming sorrow and separation.

Yours very sincerely



⁷ One or more words are missing because the page is torn.

⁸ The rest of this letter is missing because the page is torn.

⁹ "from LADY BRABOURNE" is typed at the top of the page and "B" is handwritten in the top left corner.

¹⁰ PB wrote "Left {for} months in Ireland July '39" and "unanswered" by hand at the top of the page.

¹¹ Page 18

L13.019

19 - 20

Letter from Francis Younghusband¹²

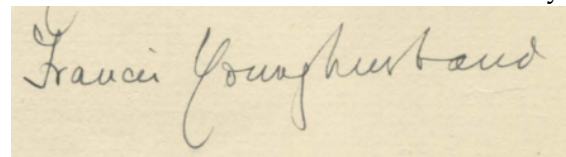
1. Vicarage Gate W.8.

March 10. 32.

Dear Mr Hurst,

I have found you both extraordinarily interesting for I am particularly interested in that kind of thing. But I almost wish you had indicated what was fact and what was fiction.

Yours sincerely

A photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script on aged, yellowish paper. The signature reads "Francis Younghusband".

L13.021

21 - 22

Letter from Francis Younghusband¹³

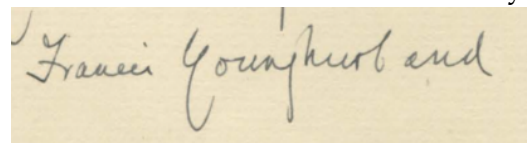
1, Vicarage Gate, Kensington, W.8.¹⁴

April 11. 32.

Dear Mr Hurst,

I am so sorry for having kept you {illegible} so long - I {certain} think it would tell me without that {prefatory} note which gives to it an {element} of distrust. I hope it will achieve the success it deserves. That inner life of India is extraordinarily {interesting}.

Yours sincerely

A photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script on aged, yellowish paper. The signature reads "Francis Younghusband".

L13.023

23 - 24

Letter from Yeats Brown¹⁵

¹² "Y" and a small triangle are handwritten in the top right corner.

¹³ "Y" and a small triangle are handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

¹⁴ Address appears in the letterhead.

¹⁵ "Y" is handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

Heathfield Hotel, Sevenoaks.
2nd April, 1937.

Dear Brunton,

I was so glad to hear from you. I wish I was in Mysore. If you go to Mysore City please look up my friend V. Subrahmanya Iyer. He is to be found at the Ramakrishna Math there, and is an adorable old gentleman as well as a very distinguished philosopher. He read the proofs of Radakrishnan's Indian Philosophy.

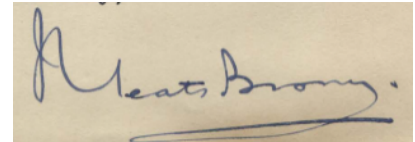
Swami Krishnananda's address is: -

Krishna Ashram,
Jogeshery Caves,
Bombay.¹⁶

Please give him my very kind regards if you see him.

My book went fairly well over here, and very well in America, where it is still on the best-seller lists. I am longing to come to India again, but do not see my way to doing so yet. Please write to me at the Bath Club when you are on your way home, so that we may meet.

Yours sincerely,



L13.025

25 - 28

Letter from Yeats Brown¹⁷

c/o Col H.S. Stewart, Trivandrum, Travancore
Feb

Dear Brunton,

I don't know if this will reach you, but if it does, might I come to your ashram to pay my respects to the Maharishi, arriving at Tiruvannamalai at 6:22 p.m. and leaving next day by I'm¹⁸ going North, to Mysore {the} same train? I would like to arrive on the evening of the 23rd if {these} were {convenient}.

Of course I sleep anywhere, and greatly prefer Indian to English food.

I am going round India far too fast, writing some articles for the Spectator. When they are finished, I shall go where I please and certainly return to these coasts.¹⁹

May I offer you my belated congratulations of your marriage. Send me a line if you think the moment {impropitious} for a visit. One can't expect to rush round India

¹⁶ PB inserted "(This is 1/2 hr bus from Lonavala)" by hand in the right margin.

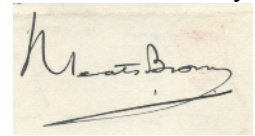
¹⁷ "Y" is handwritten in the top right corner.

¹⁸ Page 26

¹⁹ Page 27

like a {scalded} cat interviewing²⁰ {illegible} with any success; yet this is, in fact, what I'm doing.

Yours sincerely



I {would} greatly enjoy seeing you again.

L13.029

29 - 30

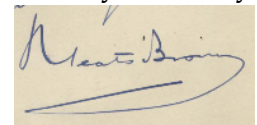
Letter from Yeats Brown²¹
Heathfield Hotel, Sevenoaks.²²
April 16

My dear Brunton,

I am so very sorry to hear of the lung trouble: I fear the dust of India didn't do it any good.

I want to see you very much and will try to come out to Hampstead: but if by chance I fail to find you or to get there you will know I often²³ think of you, and {that} I am looking forward very much to meeting you again.

Yours very sincerely



The Easter news is good: The world looks to {me} as if it is settling down to the 1000 years of peace predicted by the pyramids.

L13.031

31 - 32

Letter from AE²⁴
c/o Mrs {Dickinson} 1 Brunswick Sq. London W.1.
2/11/34

Dear Brunton,

²⁰ Page 28

²¹ "B" is handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

²² Address appears in the letterhead.

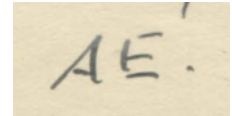
²³ Page 30

²⁴ "R" and a small triangle are handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

I {know} {Ed} Nathan has {illegible} {illegible}. My {illegible} {illegible} {illegible} has given me a Paris address from which letters will be forwarded to him whenever he is in Egypt or elsewhere. I have written to him at his Paris {bankers} today and when I hear from him if he will be in Egypt in the winter and his address I will give you the letter. I told him what you were doing and I am sure it will interest him. I hope he is in Egypt and will be able to give you pointers to Arab mystics.

I saw you {found} Mrs Hutchinson yesterday. Her {illegible} is an old friend of mine since boyhood. I am glad to have met her.

Yours sincerely



L13.033

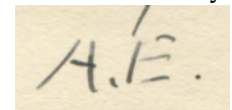
33 - 34

Incomplete letter from AE

Undated

{...}²⁵ difficult to meet you on either {illegible}.²⁶ But I am free on Tuesday, and if you came here at half past ten or eleven in the {forenoon} I would be glad to see you. {Though} I have never been in India I have {illegible} so much on its mystical or sacred literature that I feel more at home in that atmosphere than in European literature. I am {getting} rather old in any other mystical adventure than death. When one is sixty eight there is not the electric strength of will to shake the {vision} {walls}, and {one} {has} {many} thoughts. But {came} {illegible} {illegible}.

Yours sincerely



L13.035

35 - 36

Letter from AE²⁷

1 Brunswick Sq., London W.1.

16/11/34

Dear Brunton,

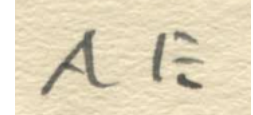
²⁵ Previous lines are missing because the page is torn.

²⁶ A few words are missing because the page is torn.

²⁷ "R" and a small triangle are handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

I have heard at last from Edward Nathan who is travelling in France. He {writes} that if he could be of any assistance to you it would be a pleasure. But he does not know at the moment when he would be in Egypt but would write me as soon as he knew and his address, that is all so far. I wish he could have been {more} {illegible} but {soon} {may}, I do not think he {could} be, as he has a temperamental wife, and her {illegible} I imagine {interfere} with {his} own inclinations which are towards the {solitude} of the {sands} in {illegible} and the solitude of the desert in Egypt: I will write you the moment I hear from him.

Yours {illegible}.



{illegible} this {illegible} I am {most} {willing} and of the {illegible} of a {bad} {cold}.

L13.037

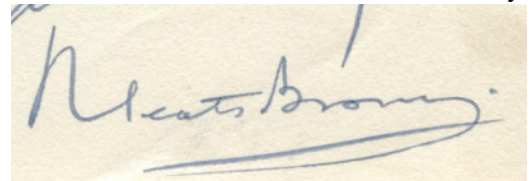
37 - 38

Letter from Yeats Brown²⁸ to Mrs Beach
104A Gower Street, W.C.1.²⁹
14 January '35

Dear Mrs Beach.

Thank you so much, I shall be delighted to come to tea {at} The Empress Club on Thursday the 24th at 4:30. It is so kind of you to {illegible} me, and I am much looking forward to meeting you and Mr Paul Brunton, whose {book} I much admire. He went to India in the right spirit!

Yours sincerely



L13.039

39 - 40

Letter from Yeats Brown³⁰
104A Gower Street, W.C.1.³¹

²⁸ "Y+" is handwritten in the top right corner.

²⁹ Address appears in the letterhead.

³⁰ "Y" and a small triangle are handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

24 Jan 35

Dear Mr Brunton,

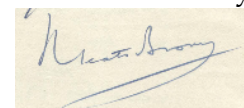
It was a great pleasure meeting you.

Let's lunch here on Wednesday the 30th at 1:30 if you are free.

Here are 3 names. I can't find {Chandra} {Base}, but I'm sure you're right: that's the name. His home is {near} {Dacca}. Paul Dukes might remember his address.

It is very pleasant to find someone in the world who³² has similar ideas to oneself, and in {you} I feel I have found such a one!

Yours sincerely



L13.041

41 - 42

Letter from Francis Younghusband³³

Travellers' Club, Pall Mall S.W.³⁴

March 5. 36

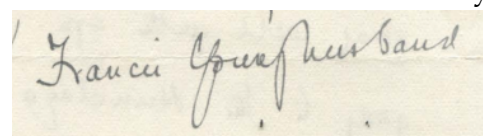
Dear Mr Brunton,

I was delighted to hear {from} {illegible} to know that things won going well with you. I envy you going to the Himalaya. You will find it a great experience and I only hope you will be carrying out {your} try {under} conditions that will enable you to make the most of your time among the mountains.

You will be doing an excellent work in³⁵ collecting the writing and sayings of the Maharishi and I hope you will include some kind of "life" of him.

With all good wishes

Yours sincerely



L13.043

43 - 44

Letter from Yeats Brown³⁶ to Mrs Beach

³¹ Address appears in the letterhead.

³² Page 40

³³ "Y" and a small triangle are handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

³⁴ Address appears in the letterhead.

³⁵ Page 42

104A Gower Street, W.C.1.
25 Jan '35

Dear Mrs Beach,

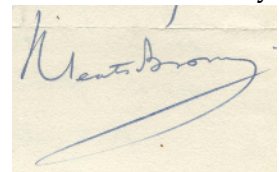
Just a line to thank you for giving me tea yesterday and the opportunity of meeting Mr Brunton. He is, I am convinced, a very serious follower of the ancient path.

With regard to your meditation centres, you might get in touch with Madame Frobe-Kapteyn

14 Culford Gardens
(Ken 6919) Sloan Square

I think you would find you had something³⁷ in common with her.

With all good wishes, and {many} thanks again
Yours sincerely



L13.045

45 - 46

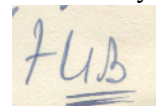
Letter from FYB³⁸
104A Gower Street, W.C.1.
7 Feb

Dear Mr Brunton

I have rung {up} his brother (Paul Duke's) and he doesn't know where he is at the moment or what address will find him. He hasn't seen him for 6 months either. So I'm afraid he's vanished!

I wish I could join you in Paris, but alas I am tied by the leg. All good {illegible}! My thoughts for your {prosperity} go out to you.

Yours sincerely



L13.047

47 - 48

Letter from Yeats Brown³⁹

³⁶ "Y" and a small triangle are handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

³⁷ Page 44

³⁸ "Y" is handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

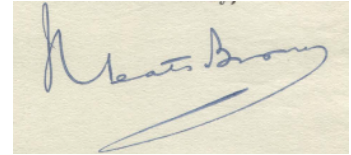
104a, Gower Street, W.C.1.
15th July, 1935

Dear Mr Brunton,

Many thanks for your postcard, which I fear I have been a long time answering. I shall be very interested to read your Egyptian book.

To-morrow I am going away to the country, far from all distractions, to work and meditate for at least a month. After that I may wander. Please let me know your movements. We may meet in India this winter.

With many good wishes,
Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Yeats Brown', with a long, sweeping underline.

L13.049

49 - 52

Letter from Yeats Brown⁴⁰

Datia⁴¹

3 March '36

Dear Brunton,

Very many thanks for your letter, and for having the photo and books sent to me. (I wrote yesterday and sent an M.O. for them.) Self Realisation impressed me profoundly: it is a really remarkable book {illegible} in parts, but⁴² instinct {with} a deep sincerity, and a wonderful revelation of the Indian mind in one of its fascinating aspects. Please {forgive} {erratic} writing: I am sitting walled in the broiling sun, writing this on a doorstep.

When and where do you go to the Himalayas? I am thinking of visiting the Boshi Sens in⁴³ Almora at the time of March 12 for a fortnight. Or else going to Rishi-Kesh. I must {have} somewhere quiet to write and meditate. At present I have seen too much, interviewed too many people. My mind is a jumble. Even on a purely material plane there is such a thing as a surfeit of⁴⁴ sights. But how enchanting India is after 15 years away! I never realised how much I missed it. {The} gentle people, the freedom (not political, but spiritual) the true culture... I don't feel drawn to London, but must go

³⁹ "Y" and a small triangle are handwritten in the top right corner of the page. "B" and a checkmark are handwritten in the top left corner of the page.

⁴⁰ "Y" is handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

⁴¹ " c/o Thos Cook & Son, Delhi" is handwritten under "Datia."

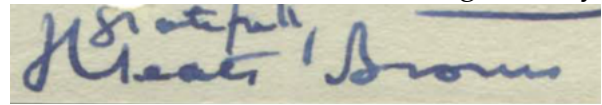
⁴² Page 50

⁴³ Page 51

⁴⁴ Page 52

back, once more anyway, to settle my affairs. Do tell me about Pondi if you have time. And please give my respectful greetings to the Maharshi: I feel as if I knew him after reading Self Realisation. I'll certainly be at the ashram in '37.

Yours gratefully



L13.053

53 - 54

Letter from Yeats Brown⁴⁵

Hotel Cecil, Delhi⁴⁶

8th April, 36

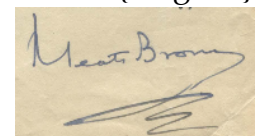
Dear Brunton,

Very many thanks for your letter. I had a very hectic two days in Rishi Kesh. It is, of course, absurd to be in a hurry when going to a place like that and I envy you going to Gangotri and Tibet. I do not know if you will get this letter, but if you do, do not fail to get into touch with Dr W. Y. Evans-Wentz. He is a most remarkable man and is, or was, staying with Swami Satyananda, Bir Bhadrar, Rishi Kesh, who is a dear old man who ploughs and milks cows; rather like {your} Maharishi. Satyananda is a clever physiologist and you should certainly visit him.

You will discover the interesting people better than I did in my brief visit but you should not miss Swami Shivanand Saraswati, the singing Mahatma, and Shri Raghvacharayaji Shastri of the Vidyalaya Ashram at Munikireti, Rishi Kesh. He is a Hatha Yoga Doctor and runs an Ashram in which he teaches orphans and other children the asanas. He is 66 and looks 40!

All good luck to you and may we meet in 1937.

Yours {illegible}



L13.055

55 - 56

Letter from Francis Younghusband

Westerham, Kent⁴⁸

⁴⁵ "B" and "Y" are handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

⁴⁶ PB inserted "at Dehradun must buy 1- tea 2 - map" by hand at the top of the page.

⁴⁷ Address appears in the letterhead.

⁴⁸ Address appears in the letterhead.

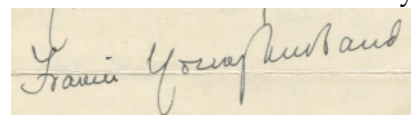
July 2. 34

Dear Mr Hurst,

I returned from America on Saturday and found you both here. I have read a good deal already and find it greatly improved by not having any attempt at fiction. It is a really valuable book and I hope will be properly appreciated.

I have an annual meeting at 2.30 on Thursday near the Geographical Society and I hope to be able to get away by 4.45. Could⁴⁹ you have tea with me at {the} Geographical at 4.45 on Thursday and tell me of your plans.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Francis Younghusband", written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper.

L13.057

57 - 58

Letter from Francis Younghusband⁵⁰

Westerham, Kent⁵¹

July 7. 34

Dear Mr Hurst,

It was bad luck {our} {missing}. I {think our last} chance of meeting is if you would come to the Travellers' Club. {Pall} {illegible} (reset door to the {illegible}) at 4.30 on Tuesday next - the 10th. I have to be at a wedding that afternoon and will come on {to} {illegible} {that} afterwards.

I have read carefully through your book now and think it a very valuable contribution both to a knowledge of {India} and, better still, is a knowledge of the human race and its relation to the universe. Man is an integral part of the universe and in feeling about to find what his⁵² exact relationship is. Some men endowed with specially sensitive nature and who have specially trained themselves have to a peculiar degree become aware of that relationship and of the essential nature of the universe. They represent the top most attainment of the evolutionary process. And one or two of them you discovered.

The interesting thing now is to relate their experiences with the results obtained by Western philosophy and science. They fit int to each other extremely well as a matter fact, and that is what gives the great hope for the future. You have a great part to play in this and I am deeply interested in your future activities.

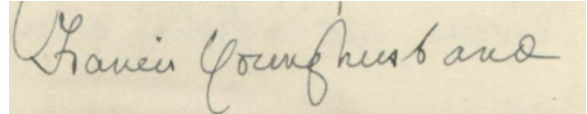
Yours sincerely

⁴⁹ Page 56

⁵⁰ "Y" and a small triangle are handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

⁵¹ Address appears in the letterhead.

⁵² Page 58



L13.059

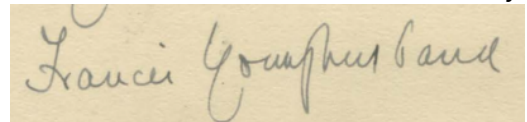
59 - 60

Letter from Francis Younghusband⁵³
Current Hill Westerham Kent
Nov. 7. 34

Dear Mr Hurst,

I have got together a few people in sympathy with the idea to consider the {enclosed} scheme for a Congress of Faith in 1936 and I would be very glad if you could join us - at 3p.m. - on Monday Nov. 12th at 9 Arlington Street (to All Peoples Association)

Yours sincerely



L13.061

61 - 62

Letter from Francis Younghusband⁵⁴
Current Hill Westerham Kent
June 15. 35

Dear Mr Brunton,

I have {treated} you shamefully. The fact is I had to go to America over their Fellowship of Faith Congress and {that} meant that before going and after returning work became a bit {illegible} - especially as I have undertaken to {write} out the {illegible} book.

Thank you so much for the interest you are taking in the Congress. I am at the moment collecting all the names of suitable persons to invite to address us or to attend. These names will be considered immediately after our Council meeting on July 1st. {uh.} The Gaekwad of Baroda has agreed to preside over. Your {good} offices with the Rector of Al. Azhar Mosque University will then prove of great value.

It⁵⁵ is very good of you to have used them - I shall be glad to hear when you have got under way for {illegible} again. I believe it is then that your chief work lies. Your

⁵³ "Y" and a small triangle are handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

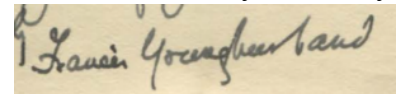
⁵⁴ "Y" and a small triangle are handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

⁵⁵ Page 62

first book aroused {great} interest in Indian mystics and people would like you to follow that up and be, as it were, an interpreter of them to the West. Your second book I did not think came up to you first. It seemed too hastily put together to carry the weight a book from you should carry: and I should imagine you could better convey the message you had to convey through the book you will be writing as the result of your second visit to India. And that book ought to be a work of the greatest value, for you are fortunate in having the knack {for} getting in touch with the work spiritual and most inaccessible Indians and your advantages in that way you should press to their utmost. Do, therefore, get on to that work as soon as ever you can. You have trained yourself for it, and we want the {result}.

All good wishes to you. If you should come to England do come see me.

Yours very sincerely



L13.063

63 - 64

Letter from Francis Younghusband⁵⁶
c/o {illegible} Thos. Cook & Son Calcutta, Indian Ocean
Feb. 23. 37

Dear Mr Brunton,

I am on way to Calcutta to attend the Conference of Religions they are having there in connection with the Ramakrishna Centenary Celebrations. I wonder if you will be there by any chance or if I shall be able to meet you while I am in India. I shall be out there only a month as I leave again for England on March 25th and⁵⁷ I shall probably concentrate on Calcutta and then return direct to Bombay. If you should be at either of these place do let me know.

I would much have liked to have been able to visit the Maharishi. But I fear that will be impossible. Do please tell him how greatly I revere him and how much I would have liked to see him.

Some months ago I received your book and you may imagine the joy with which I read it and how I loved being taken back to the Himalayas. What a wonderful region it is and how greatly it has affected the Hindu mind. I would have written and thanked you sooner but I really was very hard worked all this winter. I had to get out a book about our Congress of Faith of last July and also arrange for another to be held in Oxford the {next} July.

With all good wishes and much hoping we may meet in India.

Believe {us}
Yours very sincerely

⁵⁶ "Y" is handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

⁵⁷ Page 64



L13.065

65 - 66

Letter from Krishnaraja Wadiyar⁵⁸
The Palace, Bangalore
25th November 1937

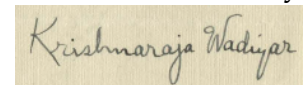
My dear Mr Brunton

Thank you so much for sending me a copy of you book "The Quest of the Overself." I have just begun to read it and find it very interesting.

The tribute of admiration paid to Kemmangandi which with its wealth of natural beauty inspired you with sublime thoughts for writing the book will make that little known Hill Station famous.

I don't think I deserve half the good things that you have said of me in the dedication. You have, I must say, been⁵⁹ too generous and I feel I cannot sufficiently convey to you my warmest appreciation.

With kind remembrances,
Yours sincerely



L13.067

67 - 68

Letter from {Secretary to the Maharaj of Mysore}⁶⁰
The Palace, Bangalore
30th July 1940⁶¹

Dear Dr Paul Brunton,

Please see the enclosed letter. For His Highness' information, I shall be glad to know who the writer is. Would you advise a reply to be sent and if he is to come, would you suggest his being put up as guest! I am glad to say His Highness is maintaining a steady progress and all going well, he may be able to move about after a month's rest.

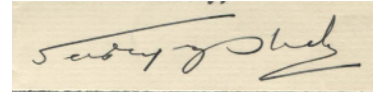
With kind regards,
Yours sincerely.

⁵⁸ "M" and a small triangle are handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

⁵⁹ Page 66

⁶⁰ Author determined from content.

⁶¹ PB inserted "return letter" by hand in the top right corner.



L13.069

69 - 70

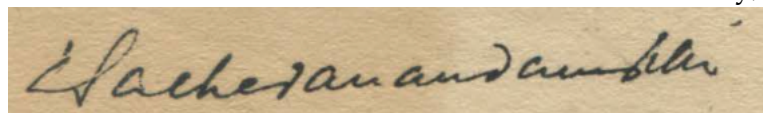
Letter from {Sachedanandambilin}
The Palace, Mysore
2nd May 1944

Dr Paul Brunton
Church Road, Mysore.

Dear Dr Paul Brunton,

I write to say that instructions have been issued to the Subedar, Farashkhana, Department to place the Palace building Jasmine Villa in Hyderali Road, Nazarbad, at your disposal and you may occupy it on the Subedar Communicating with you.

Yours sincerely,



For Hurzin Secretary

L13.071

71 - 72

Letter from The Yuvarani of Mysore⁶²
Chamundi Vihar, Mysore India
9th February 1947

Dear Mr Brunton,

Ever so grateful for your kind and thoughtful xmas wishes. Yes, I remember your stay in Mysore with remembrances. New York, the city of skyscrapers must be a wonderful place. Do you intend staying some⁶³ time there?

H.H. also thanks you for your thought of him. I guess you have heard, he has now a darling baby daughter of three months old.

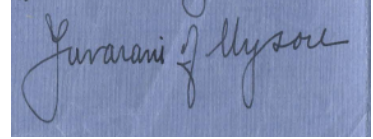
I hope you are well the weather over there must be at present, pretty cold. We have had lovely weather; now, it is beginning to warm up a bit.

H.H. and myself send you our best wishes for 1947.

Yours Sincerely

⁶² "M" is handwritten in the top right corner.

⁶³ Page 72



L13.073

73 - 74

Invitation from Sir Mirza M. Ismail
{1939}⁶⁴

Sir Mirza M. Ismail requests the pleasure of Dr Paul Brunton's Company at Dinner at Lake View on Friday the 30th October 1939 at 8.15 p.m. o'clock.
R.S.V.P. to the Private Secretary.

L13.075

75 - 76

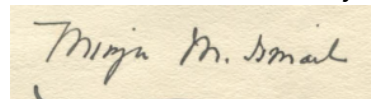
Letter from Mirza M. Ismail⁶⁵
2, Ali Asker Road, High Ground, Bangalore⁶⁶
9th July 1941

My dear Dr Paul Brunton,

Ever so many thanks for your charming letter. I am so glad to know that you are back in Mysore again. If you happen to visit Bangalore you must not fail to give me the pleasure of meeting you again after a long time!

I felt I could no longer pursue my old methods and policies as I did in His late Highness's time and I decided to give up office and sit at home for some-time - it may not be a long time.

Yours sincerely,



L13.077

77 - 78

Letter from {K.R. Purna}, {Personal Assistant to Dewan of Mysore}⁶⁷
Lake View, Mysore⁶⁸

⁶⁴ Date determined from context.

⁶⁵ "I" is handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

⁶⁶ Address appears in the letterhead.

⁶⁷ Title appears in the letterhead.

⁶⁸ Address appears in the letterhead.

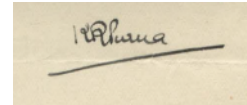
2nd June 1939

Dr Paul Brunton,
Vasanth Mahal,
Mysore.

Dear Sir,

The Dewan will be delighted if you will dine with him at Lake View tomorrow (3rd June) at 8.30 p.m.

Yours sincerely,



L13.079

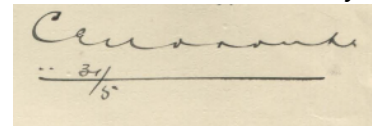
79 - 80

Letter from Mr C.E. Noronha, {Private Secretary to the Dewan of Mysore}⁶⁹
Lake View, Mysore⁷⁰
31st May 1939

Dear Mr Brunton,

The Dewan will be glad if you will kindly dine with him at 8.30 p.m. today.

Yours sincerely.



L13.081

81 - 82

Letter from Mizra M. Ismael⁷¹
Lake View, Mysore⁷²
20th June 1937

Dear Mr Paul Brunton,

I thank you most warmly for your letter of yesterday and for the kindly sentiments that you have expressed towards me.

⁶⁹ "I" is handwritten in the top left corner of the page. "Mr C. E. NORONHA, M.A., Private Secretary." appears in the letterhead.

⁷⁰ Address appears in the letterhead.

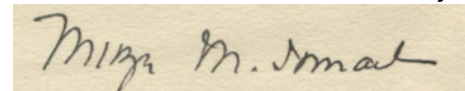
⁷¹ "I" and a small triangle are written in the top right corner of the page.

⁷² Address appears in the letterhead.

It is very good of your, indeed, to write in terms of such cordiality and spontaneous good feeling. It is a source of no small gratification to me to get your letter and to feel that I shall always have the good wishes of friends like you who mean well.

With kind regards and all good wishes to you for the future, and hoping {illegible} {we} may {meet} again soon.

Yours sincerely,



L13.083

83 - 84

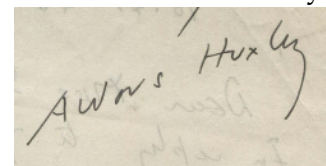
Letter from Aldous Huxley to Miss Skempy
Llano Calif
16.xi.46

Dear Miss Skempy

In reply to your letter I would suggest that you contact the Vedanta Society at 17 East 94th St. New York City, at the head of which is a very able Indian monk, Swami Nikhilananda.

At the Holy Cross {monastery} at Poughkeepsie N.Y. there is a community of Episcopalian who lay great stress on the contemplative life and from whom you {could} probably get information regarding specifically Christian and Protestant guidance in New York⁷³ City.

Yours sincerely



L13.085

85 - 88

News clipping of short news from various European cities
News bits refer to wartime news for Amsterdam, Stockholm and London.

Extract: "Military hospitals are being feverishly erected."

L13.089

89 - 90

News clipping
Titled "Friend of the Common People Tribute to the Late Yuvaraja of Mysore
dated March 12.

Extract: "At⁷⁴ a meeting of the citizens of Kolar Gold Field a resolution was passed expressing deep sorrow at the death of H.H. Sir Sri Kantirava Narasiharaja Wadiyar G.C.I.E. Yuvaraja of Mysore, and offering respectful condolences to the Mysore Royal Family."

L13.091

91 - 94
News clipping regarding the death of Yuvaraja of Mysore
dated Monday, March 11, 1940.

Extract: "By the death in Bombay at 2-30 o'clock this morning, at the age of 52, of H.H. the Yuvaraja of Mysore, India has lost one of its most enlightened and popular Princes..."

L13.095

95 - 96
Letter from Krishnaraja Wadiyar⁷⁵
The Palace, Mysore
8th October 1937

Dear Mr Brunton

I was glad to get your letter. It was most considerate and kind of you to have accompanied Mr Subramanya Iyer and taken such good care of him. When at Kemmangandi he expressed a wish to attend the Paris Philosophical Congress, I felt somewhat diffident to encourage the idea on account of his age. To you he owes heaps of gratitude for adjusting your own programme to suit his, perhaps at considerable personal discomfort to yourself and for looking after him. I have had letters from Mr Subramanya Iyer giving an account of the⁷⁶ conference and am gratified to learn that his lectures and discussions were appreciated.

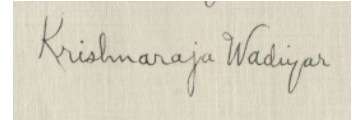
When you next come to India do not hesitate to ask me for accommodation if you wish to spend a quiet time either at Kemmangandi or at Ooty. I was recently at Kemmangandi and found it cooler than in summer and more enjoyable.

With every good wish,
Yours sincerely

⁷⁴ Page 90

⁷⁵ "M" and a small triangle are handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

⁷⁶ Page 96



L13.097

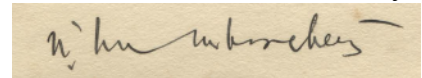
97 - 98

Letter from {Huzur Secretary}⁷⁷
The Palace, Mysore
21st August 1940

Dear Dr Paul Brunton,

His Highness will be glad to see you at 8-45a.m. on Saturday the 24th instant in Lokaranjan Mahal.

Yours sincerely,



L13.099

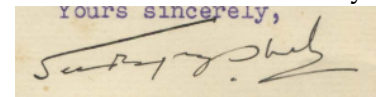
99 - 100

Letter from {Government of Mysore}⁷⁸
The Palace, Mysore
15th December 1939

Dear Dr Paul Brunton,

Thanks for your note which has been submitted to His Highness. I was hoping to come over and see you, but owing to his rush of the Industries Conference and about 40 delegates arriving today as guests, I can't get away. Hence I am to convey to you in writing His Highness's pleasure that tomorrow there will be an 'At Home' at the Chamundy Gymkhana at 5-0 p.m. and His Highness will be glad to meet you there, so as to wish you au revoir. His Highness does not like to wish you good-bye as he hopes that you will not hesitate to return to Mysore any time you find it convenient.

Yours sincerely,



L13.101

101 - 102

⁷⁷ Title appears in the letterhead.

⁷⁸ Name appears in the letterhead.

Letter from Dorothea Princess of Windisch-Graetz⁷⁹
Ca Lupa Alserio (Como)⁸⁰
23.XII.67

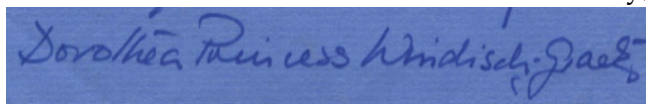
Dear Mr Brunton,

I was given your address by my brother Karl of Hesse who met you in⁸¹ Greece.

Deeply impressed I have read and re-read your beautiful books and am now studying them as best as I can.

Would it be possible to talk to you personally? I could come to Zurich whenever it would suit you.

Yours Sincerely,



L13.103

103 - 104
Letter from The Maharaja of Mysore⁸²
1937

The pleasure of the company of Mr Paul Brunton is requested at Dinner at Government House at 8-15 p.m. on Friday, the 8th June 1937.

R.S.V.P. to the A.D.C. to H.H. the Maharaja, Government House, Mysore.

Long Boat without Decorations.

L13.105

105 - 106
Letter from {H. Muddarajnes}⁸³
The Palace, Mysore⁸⁴
2nd May 1944

Dear Mr Paul Brunton,

I am directed by Her Highness the Yuvarani to inform you that a Palace Cottage will be kept at your disposal.

Sorry your letter to Her Highness the Yuvarani could not be replied earlier.

You will hear from the Palace Office in due course.

⁷⁹ "G" and "Keep Archive" are handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

⁸⁰ Address appears in the letterhead.

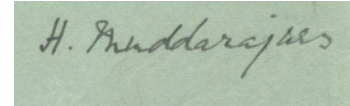
⁸¹ "in" added for readability.

⁸² "M" and a small triangle are handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

⁸³ "M" is handwritten in the top left corner of the page.

⁸⁴ Address appears in the letterhead.

Yours sincerely.



L13.107

107 - 108
Card from the Yuvarani of Mysore
Chamundi Vihar, Mysore
1945-46⁸⁵

With the season's greetings and every good wish for the New Year from Her Highness the Yuvarani of Mysore

L13.109

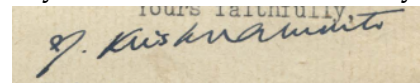
109 - 110
Letter from {N.} Krishnamurti, Private Secretary to H.H. the Maharaja of Travancore Palace, Trivandrum
26th December, 1939

Paul Brunton, Esq.,
The Mascot Hotel, Trivandrum.

My dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 25th December 1939, I write to say that Their Highnesses the Maharaja and the Maharani will be pleased to see you at 4 p.m. (Trivandrum time) on Thursday the 28th December 1939, at the Kaudiar Palace.

I am, My dear Sir, Yours faithfully



Private Secretary to H.H. the Maharaja of Travancore

L13.111

111 - 112
Letter from Mizra M. Ismael⁸⁶
2, Ali Asker Road, Bangalore
11th June 1942

⁸⁵ Date and address are printed at the bottom of the page.

⁸⁶ "I" is handwritten in the top left corner of the page.

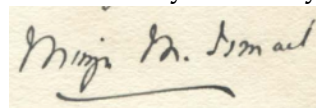
My dear Dr Paul Brunton,

I am {greatly} {illegible} {for} your congratulations and good wishes upon my new appointment. It was very kind of you indeed to write.

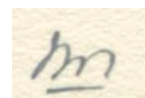
You must pay me a visit in {illegible} at {the} earliest possible opportunity. I shall look {after} you! I only hope your travels will begin soon!

{illegible} {illegible} {again},

Yours very sincerely



P.S. What {artistic} {note paper} yours is!



L13.113

113 - 114

Letter from M.S. Irani⁸⁷
21, Sassoon Road, Poona
12th February 1940

Dear Dr Brunton,

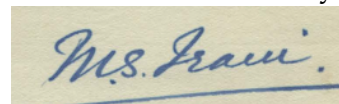
After leaving Mysore I drove to Mercara and from there to Jog Falls, Karwar, Belgaum, Vengurla and Kolhapur and arrived here three days back.

I take this opportunity to thank you very much for your kind courtesy during my short stay in Mysore. I wished to talk to you on many subjects of common interest but unfortunately the time was too short at my disposal. However a few short hours spent in your company were very profitable to me.

I shall be delighted to hear from you of any special spiritual experience you meet with in India.

Trust this finds you in excellent health.

Yours sincerely,



L13.115

115 - 116

⁸⁷ "from Lieut-Col. Irani, late Surgeon-General to the Government of Bombay" is typed at the top of the page. "I", "from Colonel Irani" and "unanswered" are handwritten in the top left corner of the page.

The A.D.C. - in - waiting is commanded by His Highness The Maharaja Bahadur to invite Mr Paul Brunton to an evening reception at Gulab Bhavan on Friday the 13th of June 1941 in honour of the occasion of The Shree Yuvaraj Bahadur's auspicious betrothal.

Dress:⁸⁹ Evening Dress, Achkans - Coloured Safas. Military and Police Officers - Uniforms with Belts and Ribbons.

9:15 p.m. All persons with Tazim will arrive by the Private Entrance.

9:00 p.m. All other Guests will arrive by the Main Entrance.

This Card is to be shown at the Entrance.

L13.117

117 - 118
Letter from {illegible}⁹⁰
Fairlawn, Jharipani-Mussoorie
27th June 36

{Doctor} Paul,

{My laziness} is {no idea} {of} my feelings for you. However you needn't have stood in ceremonies if there was a {illegible} to write to me! Perhaps your forthcoming book; if not your {genial} companion is claiming all your time and attention. You must have heard that I did the journey in one day in spite of the horse. The friend I was talking to you about has got {very} {chummy} {with} me and we have often passed hours together in each other's company. She is very nice and has a tendency towards mysticism and all that is different from the general {illegible} that one comes across.

Well Paul I have been missing you even in a place like this when ones time is fully occupied, so if you miss my company - which perhaps you may at times, it does not mean much in that lone {solitary} isolated elevation. I must say the {illegible} I spent {there} was really marvellous, one was wafted away from all the awful realities of this humdrum life to a world⁹¹ of dreams peace and quietude. The monsoon must have {made} {visitors} of the Himalayas an impossibility - {illegible} and it was as well that we took those steps then. {Have} you received your {illegible} yet? Do you know what you taught me? Well I practised it the very night I came here - and the {next} day too. It is not much of {a} success yet, but even in my dream I found I was practising it the other night and it was successful to a certain extent! Keep practising what I showed

⁸⁸ "K" is handwritten in the top left corner of the page.

⁸⁹ Page 116

⁹⁰ "M" and a small triangle are handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

⁹¹ Page 117

you as I tell you, it is going to come of use to you one day and you shall thank me for it. {illegible} was developing "{illegible}" yesterday, but I made him sit in a dark room, with dark spectacles on and {though} 10 to 15 minutes of {illegible} {(TRATAKA)} got it down {ajar} {an} {illegible} {illegible} {nor} when do you come here? You must do so soon; {have} you finished your book! By the way don't {let} {Jinn} business I have thought of a {horse} {illegible}, {put} it as thought I cannot {illegible} it all and yet I cannot dismiss it as a trick of the imagination but "Talking of Jinns I have often wished to ask someone who knew something about it, if the incidents I am about to {illegible} as a typical jinn case" This I ask you because I have read your "Secrets of Egypt" and I am {eager} to have it examined by a Jinnolifist!! This will explain how the {illegible} that would otherwise die with the strong silent men!! gets into print. About the Hatha Yoga business you will have to introduce it through my {son} as that will manage to keep my writing intact and it wont be blowing my trumpet - if it can even be called that. The monogram that you see on this paper is what I was telling to you one day about the "ring" in which you gave blessings. Well what have you received about your '{illegible}' Is she coming when you want her to? It is raining here all the time. But for the rains I'd rather have {gone} to Mussorie to try and find {illegible} {illegible} this letter one day later. I am sorry my writing is not {very} clear, but make the best of it. I cannot change it for anyone - not even you!

Reply soon



L13.119

119 - 120

Letter from K. N. Haksar⁹²

Srinagar, Kashmir⁹³

30th May, 1941

My dear Mr Brunton,

I am delighted to see from your card that you are in Srinagar.

We must meet. Unfortunately I am so tied down that I cannot determine when and where - but meet we must. I wonder if you have the use of a car and whether you are on the telephone. If so, I could give you a ring and name a day for you to come and see me.

It is the fact that I have a real desire (I don't call it longing - we must not have 'longings') for the physical sight of you, but I do long to discuss with you the so-called "New Order". I am not concerned with how this War is going to end, but I am

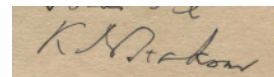
⁹² "H" is handwritten in the top left corner. "from Col. Sir Kailas N. Haksar, formerly Political Minister Gwalior State, Prime Minister Bikaner State, now Guardian and Tutor to the Heir-Apparent, Kashmir State." is typed at the top of the page.

⁹³ Address appears in the letterhead.

concerned with - and I cannot help it - how the ideals - morals and ethics, justice and honour - are going to fare after the present holocaust is over.

I hope you are in a good health. Is Mrs Brunton with you?

With kindest regards,
Yours



L13.121

121 - 122

Letter from K.N. Haksar⁹⁴

Guest House No: 2 Srinagar (Kashmir)

12th August, 1939

Dear Mr Brunton,

I forget whether your last letter to me was written from California or from London but my reply to that letter went to your London address. I wonder if it has reached your hands?

This morning I read your letter about Yoga - its uses, its maximum benefit and its all but universal abuse in the shape of hollow pretensions. With much that you say in your letter I agree but I do not quite see that you have made it clear that Yogabhyas is a help towards and can lead to the realisation of Shankara's "Reality". Am I right in thinking that you have now arrived at the conviction that the Sankhya Philosophy represents the highest watermark of meditation and the limit of Spiritual attainment. It is a bad phrase - the limit of attainment - having regard to the fact that attainment means self-realisation of the identity of Jiva Atman and the Concept, Sat Chit Anand.

Have you read Radhakrishnan's books particularly his addresses put together and styled "Eastern Religions and Western Thought"? I recommend you to read it, but this is a selfish recommendation. I would like to know your opinion of his thesis.

I have floundered too long: I am coming to the end of my days: whether I attain or do not, I would like to feel that I am after the attainment of "THE TRUTH".

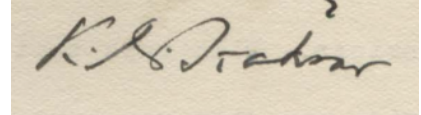
I trust you have not lost faith in the efficacy of help by blessing⁹⁵ taking the form of thought transference. When you find the time, write me a comforting letter.

I cannot go on wallowing in the Politics of the present times though I believe that they presage a change in the world order and a revolution in the thought of man. I, therefore, resigned from Bikaner and have settled down here, in the land of the Tapasvis, I trust, for the rest of my living days.

With kind regards,
Yours sincerely

⁹⁴ "H" is handwritten in the top left corner.

⁹⁵ Page 122



L13.123

123 - 126
Letter from K.N. Haksar
The Retreat, Bikaner⁹⁶
May 14, 1939

Dear Friend and Fellow Quester,

I have before me your {letter} of 16th October from California and if you have carried out your programme, as it {illegible} was, you should {have} spent {illegible} {months} {and} {more} with {the} Maharishi and from back to {England} by now. I am, {therefore}, addressing this {letter} to London in the confidence that it will be forwarded to you {wherever} you {be}.

In your letter you {respond} {to} {the} illusion {of} {my} {life}! That {illegible} {illegible} {illegible} on 23rd January 1938 and how much has happened during {the} 16 months {since gone} by? In order to draw my grief (I was {illegible} Dr {Imlac} in {illegible} {illegible}) I look up {illegible} {illegible} of {their} {illegible}. So as to {bury} myself in {mountains} of {faces}! I am no time for {illegible} - I felt {the} {physical} {separation} from his Lady {who} {has} {illegible} {illegible}, {friend}, sister, mother, {daughter} and wife all in one, {illegible} {illegible} I {has} {illegible} {illegible} and even how {illegible} {illegible} comes into my {illegible} - and⁹⁷ that happens often - though I do not {mourn} any longer. I {yet} {find} such a powerful urge to be united with her. And {yet} {this} urge has had a {illegible} to {illegible} I shall {illegible} {later}. Just now what I want to {tell} you is that having {gone} 16 months {in} constant work. I am on {on} point of {illegible} finishing it and from {the} {illegible} of {the} first week of June my address will be:-

c/o Mrs {Wattal}
Shankar Villa
{Gupkar}
Srimagar
(Kashmir)

(my daughter - {I'm} would {illegible} meeting her husband in Delhi)

I read {the} "Quest of the Overself" and I look forward to reading your next book about the search for Truth. {illegible} which I have from some {thought} of the Source of Bhuddhistic philosophy and Sankara's contribution to Vedanta. I am {illegible} {illegible} {illegible} on {from} {illegible} and I would like your opinion. Frankly. I am seeking light: -

⁹⁶ Address appears in the letterhead.

⁹⁷ Page 124

(I) I appreciate {illegible} {illegible} {illegible} {illegible} of detachment {from} {of} {illegible}. I appreciate equally {how} spiritual {illegible} {illegible} {illegible} upon the recognition of {illegible}. But does Karma {exist}?

(II)⁹⁸ If Karma exists, {illegible} some {must} be {illegible} {illegible} - re-birth? Do you believe in it?

(III) Gita recommends {illegible} {illegible} or rather parallel yoga - 'margas' - paths:-

(a) Karma Yoga (The path of right doing)

(b) {Dhyan} {marga} (the path of Enlightenment and true knowledge)

and (c) Bhakti {marga} (the path of {devotion})

It is {illegible} that {illegible} is one and each {"marga"} leads to the same destination.

Do you believe this?

(IV) If you believe this {illegible} {illegible} in "{Bhakti}" {"marga"}, what is the degree of devotion?

In other {words}: "O there a personal God, {illegible} {power} {is} {to} prayer?"

I had intended to ask where {illegible} {illegible} {illegible} {only} {true}. {illegible} {illegible} {an} {illegible} {form}.

The fourth is rather a personal one, arising out of {what} I {have}, {a} previous {illegible} - called a delusion.

{illegible} {illegible} {illegible} {illegible} {illegible} Woman and {illegible} to '{Satan}' in disguise. This {illegible} {illegible} {illegible} to {illegible} from ignorance, {illegible} {illegible} {illegible} {illegible} the Cosmological Law. {illegible} and {illegible}⁹⁹ ('Purusha and Prakriti') Negative or Positive {illegible} the creative order on Earth, {illegible}. Therefore the {illegible} of Woman and the cause of {illegible} {illegible} must be wrong.

But aside from {this}, {illegible} you {illegible} in {illegible}? - {not} {illegible} {illegible} {illegible} not {illegible} {illegible} of physical longing - which {illegible} {illegible} {or} do you {think} {illegible} the consciousness of {illegible} and {illegible} is a delusion?

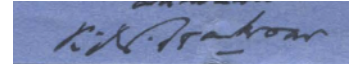
I am {going} through a {fury} {expanse} which I feel to {people} and elevate me. If you have developed any clairvoyance. Can you {illegible} me?

{illegible} {illegible} - I regard as {illegible} {illegible}: {illegible} social {illegible} is {illegible} {illegible} {illegible} - {illegible} {illegible} {just} {illegible}. {This} is not: {illegible} can not {to} any sin-so called- even in {illegible} {illegible} {vision} of {illegible} {illegible} of {the} {illegible} - but if such {vision} is not his primary consideration - the principal {illegible} - {illegible} one to suppress the {illegible} for being {illegible} {illegible} a person who "{Calls} in Silence" or {illegible} {illegible} {union} as a {illegible} means of gaining Enlightenment? I {would} {be} {very} {much} {your} debtor if you would answer {illegible} further - when you have the time and provided you {are} {inclined} {illegible} to help a seeker after Truth. {Meanwhile} - Shanti. Shanti. Shanti.

⁹⁸ Page 125

⁹⁹ Page 126

Yours in attachment



L13.127

127 - 130

Letter from J. N. Bhandari¹⁰⁰ to Doctor Sahib

Himatnagar¹⁰¹

22nd August, 1939

Dr Paul Brunton, M.A., PH.D.,
Staff Quarters, Mysore

My dear Doctor Sahib

I was very glad to receive your kind letter of the 4th Instant.

I did not send you the books as I had been expecting a reply from you so that I may be sure that you were at Mysore or at least in India so that the books may reach you in order.

I have now ordered them for you and you will get them in the course of the next few days.

The commentary of Gita by Krishna Prem of which I spoke to you on that day is names "The Yoga the Bhagavad Gita." It is an extremely interesting and learned commentary - one of the best that I have read.

Yes, I found the atmosphere calm and -- peaceful in the Hall where the Maharshi was sitting. But as an Aryasamajist and a believer in God, it was a great disappointment for me to find that the whole talk outside the Hall and among the people of the Ashram was centred entirely on the Maharshi alone and no one mentioned the name of God even once during all the time that I was there both in the morning and the evening. It struck me that the Gurudom and Idol -- worship has permeated so much in our souls that we would worship anything or everything sentient or --- insentient from a blade of grass (Tulsi) to a --- mountain¹⁰² or a hill (Arunachal) except God Almighty the¹⁰³ Creator and Lord of everything. It is shocking to a man of my ideas and more so because our --- Scriptures the Holy Vedas lay so much stress on the worship of one and the only one God.

In this respect I must confess that although I had the good fortune of touching the feet of a -- Holy man who is himself absorbed in God, the --- atmosphere round about was not like the one I had pictured to myself. Perhaps my disappointment was due to my being a follower of a different path; my inclinations being entirely towards

¹⁰⁰ "B" is handwritten in the top left corner. "Acknowledge safe receipt" is handwritten in the top right corner.

¹⁰¹ Address appears in the letterhead.

¹⁰² Page 128

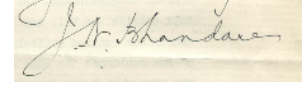
¹⁰³ Page 129

Bhakti (devotion) while they were all the followers of Inana¹⁰⁴ (Knowledge). I am afraid I have unnecessarily dilated upon this point and bothered you for nothing. Will you please excuse me for this?

I trust you enjoyed your tour with His --- Highness who is really a great and good man - a Raj Rishi of these days.

With kindest regards.

Yours Sincerely



L13.131

131 - 134

Letter from J. N. Bhandari¹⁰⁵

Tiruvannamalai

29.6.39

My dear Doctor,

I am sorry I could not meet you again at Mysore to continue the interesting talk we had {on} the afternoon to {(Sunday) 25.6.39} the previous day. I looked forward to it especially because on comparing notes I {found} that we were in agreement with each other on most points. I hope you will remember my {invitation} to you to come to Idar whenever you feel inclined to have a {illegible} {rest} or to pass some time in a absolutely quiet {surroundings} free from all {illegible} or {appointments} except those {you} {illegible} for yourself. Idar is beautiful in rainy season. July - August.

I arrived here this morning from Bangalore and¹⁰⁶ had Maharishi's Darshan at the Ashram soon after. The long cherished desire of touching his {feet} {inspired} by reading your own book ("A search in Secret India") was fulfilled. I sat in the Hall for 1/2 hour as I had {gone} there at 10.30 and they {illegible} for meals and 11 {illegible} the Mahareshi {did} {not} speak to me nor did I myself put {illegible} {any} {question} as he {began} {to} read silently {some} {small} {pamphlet}. After {illegible} {this} he looked {straight} {in} {illegible} {gaze} {illegible} to his usual habit. He {talked} to his {illegible} {disciples} from time to time, but {did} not address me to I kept quiet and {did} not like to reflect my presence on him.

I am {illegible} from here at 18.45 {to} I shall avail of the time at my {disposal} by paying a second {visit} to the Ashram just now.

I¹⁰⁷ {found} one Major {Chadweek} a {illegible} {illegible} officer also among the audience in the Hall.

¹⁰⁴ "Giana" in the original.

¹⁰⁵ "B" is handwritten in the top left corner of the page.

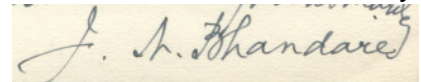
¹⁰⁶ Page 132

¹⁰⁷ Page 133

I shall {send} {you} {some} {illegible} about the Arya {illegible} when I arrive at my place (Himatragar). Please do write and inform me about your {movements} some {times} I feel {interested} very much in the work that you have {undertaken} and if I could be of any use or service to you in carrying it though I shall feel most happy.

With kind regards and best wishes

Yours Sincerely



P.S. I left my address with your clerk. It is given here too.

L13.135

135 - 136

Letter from Mary C. {Caroline}

Athens

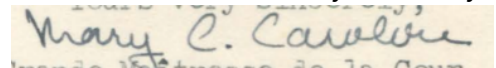
February 22nd, 1957

Dear Mr Brunton,

By Royal Command, I have the pleasure to advice you that H.M. the Queen will receive you at Tatoï to-morrow, February 23rd, at 12 o'clock, for an audience and in continuation you will lunch with Their Majesties.

A Palace car will call for you at the University street entrance of the hotel Grande Bretagne, to-morrow at 11.15 o'clock.

Yours very sincerely,



Grande Maitresse de la Cour

L13.137

137 - 140

Letter from Mary C. {Caroline}¹⁰⁸

The Royal Palace, Athens

September 19th, 1958

Mr Paul Brunton
P.O. Box 339
Times Square Station
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr Brunton,

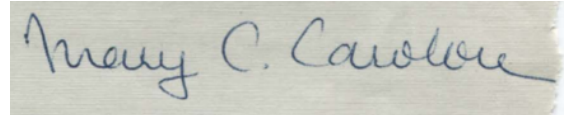
¹⁰⁸ "F" is handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

I am writing to you at Her Majesty's expressed wish to inform you that Her Majesty is arriving in New York on the 21st of October for a private visit and that Her Majesty is looking forward to seeing you soon after Her arrival.

Her Majesty will be staying in New York at the Apt 28a Waldorf-Towers and wishes to know how and where we can get in contact with you.

Awaiting your reply, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink on a light-colored rectangular piece of paper. The signature reads "Mary C. Caulbre" in a cursive script.

Grande Maitresse de la Cour

L13.141

141 - 142

Foreign language letter from Sheik Hafiz Wahba to Rashid Pasha
Letter of Introduction on letterhead from Royal Legation of Saudi Arabia,
London¹⁰⁹

Extract: "Letter of introduction and recommendation to assist Paul Brunton's researches. From Sheikh Hafiz Wahba, minister of King Ibn Saud of Arabia to Rashid Pasha, The King's agent at Damascus, Syria."

L13.143

143 - 144

Letter of Introduction to a Sufi Chief in Egypt
Written in foreign language on Royal Legation of Saudi Arabia, London¹¹⁰
letterhead

Extract: None

L13.145

145 - 146

Letter of Introduction to The King Ibn Saud's Agent in Cairo
Written in foreign language on Royal Legation of Saudi Arabia, London¹¹¹
letterhead.

Extract: None

¹⁰⁹ Address appears in the letterhead.

¹¹⁰ Undated

¹¹¹ Undated

L13.147

147 - 148

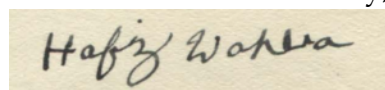
Letter from Hafiz Wahba
Royal Legation of Saudi Arabia, London¹¹²
13th October, 1934

Paul Brunton Esq.,
86, Fellows Road,
N.W.3.

Dear Mr Paul Brunton,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 10th instant for which I thank you and I am enclosing herewith a letter of introduction to Rashid Pasha.

Yours sincerely,



L13.149

149 - 150

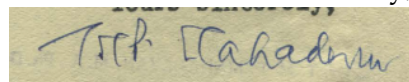
Letter from T.M.P. Mahadevan¹¹³
University of Madras, Madras¹¹⁴
6th July 1966

Dear Dr Brunton:

I write to thank you for all the courtesies shown to me during my visit to Athens. Your presence there made me feel quite at home. I cherish also the opportunities that I had of discussing with you the teachings of Sri Bhagavan Ramana and of Vedanta.

I hope you will send me your note on Sri Sankaracharya of Kamakoti Peetam as early as possible.

With kindest regards,
Yours sincerely,



(T.M.P. Mahadevan)

¹¹² Address appears in the letterhead.

¹¹³ "ARCH" and "M" are handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

¹¹⁴ Address appears in the letterhead.

L13.151

151 - 152

Letter from T.M.P. Mahadevan¹¹⁵
University of Madras, Madras¹¹⁶
22nd September 1966

Dr Paul Brunton,
c/o National Grindlays Ltd.,
13, St. James Square,
London, S.W.1.,
England.¹¹⁷

Dear Dr Brunton:

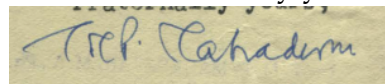
I thank you for your letter dated 13th September 1966, and for the contribution to the Volume to be published in honour of His Holiness Sri Sankaracharya.

I met His Holiness a fortnight ago and told him about the conversations we had in Athens. He was greatly pleased, and made kind enquiries about you. The Volume will be published in February 1967.

On my return to Madras I sent a few books of mine to Athens. I presume they would have reached.¹¹⁸

I shall try my very best to visit Europe again next summer. A formal letter of invitation would be required for obtaining permission from my University and the Government of India for the travel.

With kindest regards,
Fraternally yours,



(T.M.P. Mahadevan)

L13.153

153 - 154

Letter from Baron H.H. von Veltheim¹¹⁹
Undated

Greetings from my Castle Ostrau

¹¹⁵ "ARCH" and "M" are handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

¹¹⁶ Address appears in the letterhead.

¹¹⁷ "Dr Paul Brunton,
c/o Wagons-Lit Cooks
Avenida Da Liberdade, 91 Lisbon

Portugal" is handwritten on the back of the letter.

¹¹⁸ PB inserted "(not to me but to 1R) They did" by hand.

¹¹⁹ V is handwritten in the top right corner.

L13.159

159 - 160
Letter from V.S. Iyer¹²³
Vontikoppal, Mysore
7/7/1937

My dear Mr Brunton,

I am so delighted to receive your {very} kind letter. It is a great {pity} that you had to hurry off and that you could not meet all those that you had to - I fully trust that you will be able to attend satisfactorily to all that you¹²⁴ have to at Tiruvannamalai before you leave the place. I am glad you had seen {illegible} {illegible} {illegible} {illegible} Madras. Yes, Swami Siddhiswarananda has got some money from Miss {Maclead} and is, therefore, going with us to Europe. As for your programme in Europe, we shall talk about it and decide on the boat.

As I have to meet the Dewan at Bangalore on Saturday {the} {10th}, I have to leave Mysore on the 9th Friday - night. There is no use in my coming back to Mysore. As we ({yourself} and myself) have to meet Mr Sarabhai in Bombay on the 15th. I must leave Bangalore on the 12th {instant}. As Swami Siddhis warned {a} has to make some purchase of {illegible} at Bombay, we have to be there on the 14th.

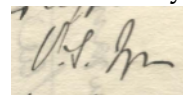
You may, if you think it necessary, arrange a different programme for yourself, and meet me {and} {the} Swami at¹²⁵ Bangalore on the 11th or at Bombay on the 15th I shall be staying at Ramakrishna Asram, at Khar, which is a Railway Station, on the 16th {of Jul} I have an engagement in Bombay. I can meet you that evening or on the 17th morning. Only please let me know where you will put up and your address.

My Bombay address: V.S. Iyer

c/o Dr S.S. Aiyar, Phd. {the} Chemical Examiner. New {illegible} {illegible}.

My Bangalore Address, Sri Ramakrishna Asram, Bull {illegible} Road, Bangalore {illegible}.

With best wishes,
Yours affectionately



Swami {Desikanandayi} is also going with us to Bombay.

L13.161

161 - 162

¹²³ "I" and a small triangle are handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

¹²⁴ Page 160

¹²⁵ Page 159

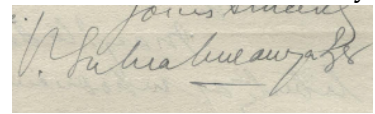
Letter from V. Subrahmanya Iyer¹²⁶
Kemmanundi {illegible}¹²⁷
2nd April 1937

Dear {Sir},

May I take the liberty of introducing myself as a friend of Mr Ganapathi Sastri ({illegible} {Rev.} office) of Tiruvannamalai. I have come here with His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore. The enclosed letter will show that though your {good} self and I have not met each other till now, yet you have not been {a stranger} to me spiritually or mentally.

I am staying in the lodge¹²⁸ adjacent to yours. I know you are generally very busy. I shall {go} to you. {Whenever} you have {leisure}. {Pray}, {excuse} {tremble.}

Yours Sincerely



P.S. I shall be engaged with H.H. the Maharaja between 4.30 to 6pm today.



L13.163

163 - 164
Letter from V. Subrahmanya Iyer¹²⁹
Bangalore
12/7/1937

My dear Mr Brunton,

Your very {kind} of July {8th} is to {hand} - I fully realize your difficulties in the way of meeting us here. Yes we shall meet at Bombay - We are leaving {this} {tomorrow} the 13th, hoping to {reach} Bombay on the 14th at about 10:30 Am.

I am very happy to hear that Sri Maharishi has formed such a high opinion of His Highness.

As for the other matter, you are certainly taking a dispassionate view. But {not} {aught} {that} to be done. We {may} {discuss} this on board {the} {illegible}. {My}{best} {regards} to Mr Ganapati Sastri.¹³⁰

{Very} profoundest respects to H.H. {the} Maharishi.

Yours very affectionately

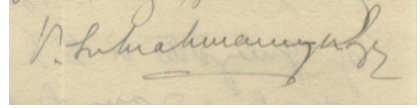
¹²⁶ "I" and a small triangle are handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

¹²⁷ "The Palace, Mysore" appears in the letterhead.

¹²⁸ Page 162

¹²⁹ "I" and a small triangle are handwritten in the top right corner.

¹³⁰ Page 164



Swami {Siddheswaranayi wara} slightly indisposed - But {illegible} {illegible} fit to travel.

L13.165

165 - 166
Letter from Bramasuganandah¹³¹
Saidapet
2.11.'41

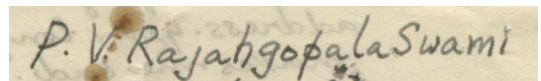
Dear Sir,¹³²

I would have written to you much earlier but for my ignorance of your address. Your long silence makes me sad. I am afraid you have forgotten me. I have been on your track for a long time. {The} kindly light has at last brought me to my goal. I sent a letter to your London address. I hope you did not miss it.

The memory of our first meeting has been a solace to me in life. I pray that it may be my solace in death. I do not want the passage of years to snap the golden link that binds us. It would be a joy indeed to hear from you again. To meet you, face to face, would be very heaven.

We are both wayfarers on the arduous path of truth. The call of the soul has lured us both. Please, do write to me, though you should have a busy time. May God {shower} His¹³³ choicest blessings on you!

P.V. Rajahgopala Swami
18 Kuthadum Pilliyar {koil} street
Saidapet
near Madras



i.e. bramasuganandah

L13.167

167 - 168
Letter from S. Radhakrishnan¹³⁴

¹³¹ "B" is handwritten in the top left corner of the page.

¹³² "i wrote to cooks to keep my address confidential THIS IS Yogi Bramasuganandah" is typed on the top of the page.

¹³³ Page 166

¹³⁴ "R" is handwritten in the top left corner. "This letter is from Sir. S. Radhakrishnan" is typed on a different piece of paper and glued to the top of the page.

Kalighat {P6}, Calcutta
14/9/

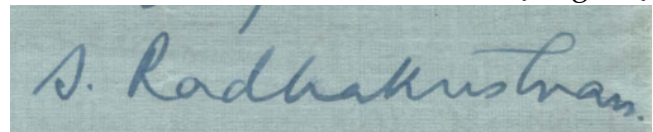
Dear Mr Brunton,

Thank you for your kind letter about my {illegible} appt and your book on Indian Philosophy and Modern Culture. Please do not bother about the references to me. I read the book when it appeared and thought it would rouse interest in Indian culture in circles which are generally indifferent to it. I may say that your books have been quite successful¹³⁵ in {spreading} a knowledge of Indian ideas in the west.

I expect to be in Mysore for a few days in the puja {buildings} if you are there, it will be a pleasure for me to meet you.

I hope that {illegible} {illegible} is {illegible} {illegible}.

With the kindest regards
{illegible}



L13.169

169 - 170

Letter¹³⁶ from {The Supreme Priest of Siam}¹³⁷

Undated

Translation from the Siamese¹³⁸

Dr Paul Brunton is known to the Supreme Priest of Siam and he is a true Buddhist. He is worthy of a holy statue of the Buddha for use in his shrine, so the Supreme Priest has given him one, as well as this certificate to accompany it. The Buddha statue is presented as a personal gift.

L13.171

171 - 172

Letter from R.V.K.M. Surya Rau, Maharajah of Pithapuram¹³⁹

Gulaby, Adyar, Madras.¹⁴⁰

25 - 1 - 1936

¹³⁵ Page 168

¹³⁶ This is an original document with wax seal and tie attached to the top of page.

¹³⁷ Determined from context.

¹³⁸ This is a translation of the letter found on same page written in Siamese.

¹³⁹ "P" and a small triangle are handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

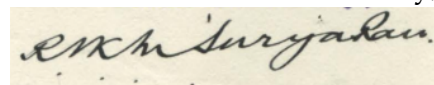
¹⁴⁰ Address appears in the letterhead.

Dear sir,

Thanks for your letter. I am glad I had the rare privilege of having you as my distinguished guest. I am sending you the four books I spoke to you about. I request you to accept them.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,



L13.173

173 - 174

Letter from R.V.K.M. Surya Rau, Maharajah of Pithapuram¹⁴¹

Gulaby, Adyar, Madras.¹⁴²

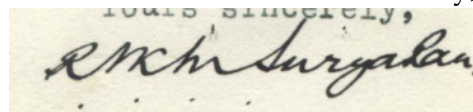
10 - 9 - 1936.

My dear Mr Brunton,

Thanks for your letter. I am glad to learn that you will be arriving at Madras on the 12th instant. It will give me very great pleasure if you can kindly stay as my guest.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,



L13.175

175 - 176

Letter from V. Subrahmanya Iyer

Vontikoppal Mysore, India¹⁴³

{14} Dec 1937

My dear Mr Paul Brunton,

It was exceedingly kind of you to have sent me your most welcome greetings for the coming New Year. I {should} have written to you earlier but for the fact that I returned to Mysore only three days ago. I was with H.H. the Maharaja all the days after I returned from Europe on the 22nd of this month. I thank you most heartily for your kindness and {wish} {every} such happy {returns} of the New year to you. I fully trust that¹⁴⁴ the new year will bring you perfect peace of mind. So that you could devote the

¹⁴¹ "P" and a small triangle are handwritten in the top right corner of the page.

¹⁴² Address appears in the letterhead.

¹⁴³ Address appears in the letterhead.

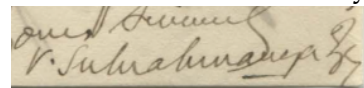
¹⁴⁴ Page 178

whole of your time to 'yoga' and the maharishis' message to the world. I found your books on sale in many parts of Europe. They are really very popular.

{The} printed pamphlet here {illegible} {suit} will give you some idea of my wanderings in Europe.

Where do you expect to come back to Paris? What do the Lawyers advise you to do? I am most anxious that your mind should have peace, as quickly as possible. Where is the {lady} now? Hoping to hear from you early and with best wishes.

I am yours,
Sincerely



L13.177

177 - 180

Letter from V. Subrahmanya Iyer
Vontikoppal, Mysore, India
15th February 1938

My dear Mr Brunton,

I am really very sorry to learn {from} {your} last letter (dated the 19th of January.) that Mrs B's affair has not been, as yet, {settled}. Some of the best years of your life are being wasted in connection with such matters. What a pity! You could have turned your hands to most valuable work - work that would have brought peace and solace to thousands of unhappy hearts.

I conveyed your kind remembrances to His Highness,¹⁴⁵ who was immensely pleased to learn that you were keeping well and that you were contemplating the production of another work.

The most fundamental point to be dealt with in the book you are about to write is this. How do you know that your thoughts, feelings, intuitions, experiences of any kind, lead you to Truth or reveal the Truth? Till this is answered all that you think or may say is mere 'opinion' but not philosophy or true knowledge, which alone is called Jnan. First you must make clear the meaning and then discuss the Tests of Truth. These must be Universal, otherwise they may be self-delusions. Any man can say that he has seen the truth, that he has intuitively perceived it. Such intuitions have absolutely no value as Truth.

One must make sure that one is not carried away by what pleases or satisfies one. If, on the high seas, you are sailing {illegible} dark night, how do you know that you are sailing East or West, North or South, unless you have something to guide you, like the Pole star or something like it. The¹⁴⁶ pole star in this enquiry is 'Truth' unless

¹⁴⁵ Page 178

¹⁴⁶ Page 177

you define it, all that you say will at best be only your 'opinion' and you will have no {bearing} on Jnan or true philosophy or true knowledge.

What is called philosophy in Europe is only 'opinion'. From the point of view of 'Truth' or Jnan. I know of only three great men that realized this situation. They are Descartes, Spinoza and Kant. But they could not proceed to the end of their enquiry. India alone has done it. If one appeals to individual experiences, one has to prove that¹⁴⁷ they are not self-delusions, hallucination, or errors of Judgment.

Merely because a number of persons of the same {temperment} agree, it is no proof of the Truth Character of such experiences. A million drunkards cannot testify to the experiences of a {illegible}.

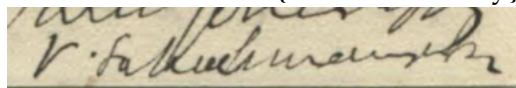
Then the question of the degrees of approach to Truth and of Universality have to be pointed out and discussed.

Please get a copy of Paul {illegible} 'Elements of Metaphysics.'¹⁴⁸ Published by {illegible} Macmillan {illegible}, London, and go through the last chapter ({illegible} on Vedanta) first and then the whole book. It is the best book yet written on the subject from the western standpoint or, read {Vivekachudamani} and Bhagavad Gita Chapter XIII thoroughly. In the latter you get the true meaning of Jnan.

I shall be {touring} in Northern India for some time. I shall be back in two months.

Kindly write once about the progress you make meanwhile. -

With best wishes
{Yours Sincerely}



L13.181

181 - 182

Letter from V. Subrahmanya Iyer
Vontikoppal Mysore, India¹⁴⁹
14th July 1938.

My dear Mr Paul Brunton,

Though it gave me immense pleasure to receive your very affectionately letter, still I felt {illegible} disappointed.

The first thing that made me and all your friends, even His Highness the Maharaja uneasy in the news that you were not in the best of health and that you were compelled to go to America for the sake of your health. We are all most anxious. Pray write to me by return mail how¹⁵⁰ you are doing now.

¹⁴⁷ Page 179

¹⁴⁸ Page 180

¹⁴⁹ Address appears in the letterhead.

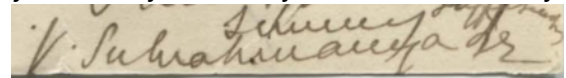
¹⁵⁰ Page 182

I shall reserve {illegible} thoughts and comments on the {illegible} for my next letter.

It is a source of great relief that Paris affairs have been settled in a way that will give you some peace of mind for the present. But till that is finally disposed you will have some thing to divert you from your main subject in life.

All your friends here are most eager to see you again in India.

With best wishes and loving regards.
I am yours very sincerely and affectionately



L13.183

183 - 184

Letter from V. Subrahmanya Iyer
Fern Hill, Nilgiris, India.
3rd November 1938¹⁵¹

My dear Mr Paul Brunton,

It has been a Source of the greatest reliefs and supreme happiness to so many of us here to receive your letter of October 9, from Los Angeles. We were most anxious about your health. His Highness the Maharaja was making frequent enquiries about your health. After you went to America, we had not heard anything about the progress made by you there. Now we are all exceedingly glad that you are perfectly free from all¹⁵² illness and that you are again at your literary {avail}, forging new thoughts.

To me your letters bring most hopeful news regarding the Paris affair. Let us wait {patiently} and see.

I need hardly tell you, that every {one of} your friends and admirers will welcome you most warmly in India. I fully trust that you will come prepared to spend some months with us in Mysore. Otherwise you will be disappointing everyone of us most keenly.

I am very anxious that you should write and publish something to soften the hearts of men in Europe. It is most painful to {see} how women and children {not} to {say} men are {undergoing} inhuman and indescribably suffering. This is not the time for thoughtful people to enter caves and hide themselves on mountains to seek their own peace or communion with the {Reality} and {confining} this bliss to their individual selfs.

I¹⁵³ trust that our American brethren will seek that aspect of the Truth of Vedanta which says that each of us is {the All}. {Vide} Viveka Chudamani Stanza {38} {or} Brih.

¹⁵¹ "reply by air in London", "add tell {illegible} and {illegible}" and " I hope you will do me honor of accepting dedication of 1939 book" are handwritten by PB at the top of the page.

¹⁵² Page 184

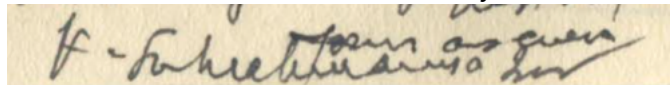
¹⁵³ Page 183

Upanishad Page 656. This is a fact that can be demonstrated as a proposition in Geometry, to those that care for Truth. But it cannot be proved to those that seek only self satisfaction or peace within themselves for this they have only to go to yoga.

Pray {write} to me early. Did you meet Swami Prabhava-{nandji} of {Vedanta} society, 1946, {illegible} Avenue Hollywood. Los Angeles.

With all affection and best regards

I am yours as ever



L13.185

185 - 186

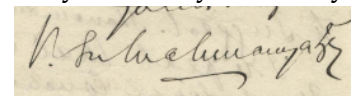
Letter from V. Subrahmanya Iyer

Undated

[...]¹⁵⁴ I am not particular about other designations. I owe so much to H.H. the Maharaja, as you know. So, I do not like to drop that item, which associates me with his name. This is all that I would like to suggest. I have indicated this: I repeat that I am most deeply touched by this exceedingly affectionate reference.

My joy knows no bounds to learn that you have been finally set free, so that now you can devote the whole of¹⁵⁵ your thought and all your energies to carrying on your divine mission, that of enlightening {humming} at large. May all success be to you!

With the warmest affection. I am yours very sincerely



L13.187

187 - 190

Letter from V. Subrahmanya Iyer

Vontikoppal Mysore, India¹⁵⁶

21st January 1939

My dear Dr Brunton,

It has made His Highness the Maharaja and every one of us, your friends, supremely happy to learn that your exceptional talents have been recognized in America and a {Doctorate} has been {conferred} {upon} you. Pray accept our warmest congratulations. We are also exceedingly glad to learn that your health has improved

¹⁵⁴ The previous pages of this letter can be found in L13.195.

¹⁵⁵ Page 186

¹⁵⁶ Address appears in the letterhead.

so far as to enable you to come to India. I am most eagerly looking forward to it. You will positively get better here.

Certainly, we shall spend some time together, when you are in India. But your programme¹⁵⁷ is not Satisfactory. Your {idea} is to spend March, April and May at Tiruvannamalai and the {three} following months at fern Hill or Kemmangundi. Both these plans will have the worst season of the year in those months. Your health is delicate and you must go to the hill only in March, April and May. No other alternative is possible in view of your present state of health. This is also the view of His Highness the Maharaja.

You may go to Tiruvannamalai in June. There it will be mild and the season will suit very well. Our suggestion is that you may spend the 1st three months with¹⁵⁸ us and the next three months at Tiruvannamalai. So, I request you to be so kind as to arrange to come straight to Mysore {illegible} Madras. We shall then go to Fernhill or Kemmangundi. Or, you may go to Tiruvannamalai, first for a couple of days and come to Mysore. And you may go again to that place after your stay on the hills.

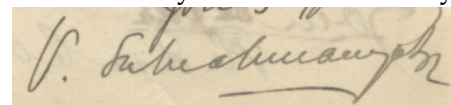
I shall be most eagerly awaiting your reply. His Highness will also be expecting your letter.

Please let me {illegible} that the¹⁵⁹ season from June to August or {September} will be positively harmful to you on these hills.

The {rest in} person.

I am really very sorry that the other matter is still indisposed of. Had it been settled that would have helped you to devote the best of your life to the noblest work you have in view in this birth.

With very best wishes and with most eager expectations of meeting you,
I am yours affectionately



L13.191

191 - 192

Letter from V. Subrahmanya Iyer
Vontikoppal Mysore, India¹⁶⁰
16th Feb. 1939

My dear Dr Paul Brunton,

I presume you have returned to India and you have received my last letter addressed to Madras. His Highness was kind enough to make enquiries about your arrival a few days ago.

¹⁵⁷ Page 188

¹⁵⁸ Page 189

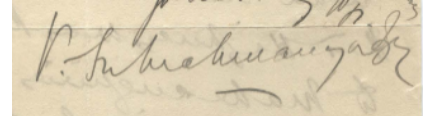
¹⁵⁹ Page 190

¹⁶⁰ Address appears in the letterhead.

It is most advisable for you to come to Mysore first and {settle} your {program} you may first pay a visit to Sri Ramana Maharishi and¹⁶¹ then come here. But you cannot go to {Ooty} or Kemmangundi, after July. There are practical difficulties.

The rest in person.

Yours very affectionately



L13.193

193 - 194

Letter from V. Subrahmanya Iyer

Vontikoppal Mysore, India¹⁶²

9th March 1939

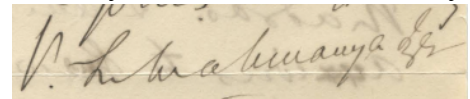
My dear Dr Paul Brunton,

This is the third letter I am writing to you, to the "c/o {illegible} Cook and Sons, Madras. I am most anxious to know whether you have reached India, and whether you have received my other two letters. His Highness the Maharaja made several enquiries about you. He will be most happy to arrange for your stay at Ooty or Kemmangundi. I have written to you always about this.

The¹⁶³ rest in subsequent letters or in person.

Expecting your letter everyday and with very best wishes,

I am yours most affectionately



L13.195

195 - 196

Letter from V. Subrahmanya Iyer

Vontikoppal, Mysore

14th March 1939¹⁶⁴

My dear Dr Paul Brunton,

Your last letter from Tiruvannamalai has brought me the greatest relief as well as satisfaction so far as your health is concerned. I am supremely happy that the time is

¹⁶¹ Page 192

¹⁶² Address appears in the letterhead.

¹⁶³ Page 194

¹⁶⁴ "but promised write again soon {re} {come} to Mysore. Said be in Ooty April 21st" and "wrote 18 March {came} to Mysore" are handwritten by PB at the top of the page.

fast approaching for us to meet once again and to spend some delightful days, (D.V.) His Highness was very glad that you are coming to Ooty soon. You will have heard from him again. I can go to Ooty in April and stay there as long as you like. But in the latter part of July I¹⁶⁵ have to examine the {M.A.} Degree Candidates of the University. We may have to come together to Mysore then. We may spend some time here, together. The season also will be very pleasant and cool then. Kindly let me know as early as you can when you will be able to leave Tiruvannamalai.

If you could come to Mysore before going to Ooty, I could show you some valuable {references} in works on philosophy, the books could be had in the libraries here.

I am exceedingly sorry to learn that matters have taken such an unpleasant and undesirable turn at Tiruvannamalai. But you must do your best for that great {soul}, the Maharishi, one of the greatest men of the world, - a true incarnation of spiritual purity. It is natural that great men should be misunderstood and even persecuted at times. But men like you that understand him should help to find him a quieter place, where he could be a spiritual guide, to thousands that seek his help.

Lastly,¹⁶⁶ you have been exceptionally kind to me in associating my name with your invaluable work, as I believe it will be one such. I do not in the least deserve what you say there about me. In the matter of dedication, I must leave everything to you. I am really most Thankful for your great kindness. But as for my designation, I may remind you of what has been started in other European publications. In '{illegible}' (London) "Contemporary Indian philosophy" I am referred to as "Reader in Philosophy to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore" and also "Formerly President of the Board of Sanskrit Studies in Mysore," besides {illegible} of the Mysore University. {...}¹⁶⁷

L13.197

197 - 198

Letter from V. Subrahmanya Iyer
Vontikoppal Mysore, India¹⁶⁸
21st March 1939

My dear Dr Paul Brunton,

I am in due receipt of your very kind letters of the 17th and the {18th} instants. I am very happy you will be coming to Mysore before proceeding to Ooty.

The news that you have been so kindly invited by H.H. the Yuvaraj is most welcome. Yes, you may be his guest, as long as it is convenient for you to do so.

The rest in person. It is a source of the greatest relief and satisfaction to {know} that the {weathers} at Ramanasram are¹⁶⁹ taking a satisfactory turn.

¹⁶⁵ Page 196

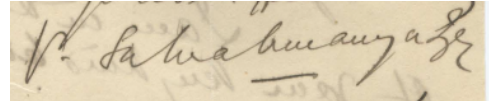
¹⁶⁶ Page 195

¹⁶⁷ The following pages of this letter can be found in L13.185.

¹⁶⁸ Address appears in the letterhead.

¹⁶⁹ Page 198

With best wishes
I am yours affectionately



P.S. The earlier you come here the better.

L13.199

199 - 200
Letter from V. Subrahmanya Iyer¹⁷⁰
Mysore
9th March 1940

My dear Dr Brunton,

Very happy to receive your kind letter from {Fern} Hill and to learn that you are keeping perfectly fit. I believe you have been making good progress in your work.

As for the opinions about your book, pray do not pay much attention to them. Sri RamaKrishna says "What does a {brinjal} (vegetable) {better} know of the price¹⁷¹ of a diamond?" Why should we ask men of religion what they think of philosophy?

The 'Statesman' of Calcutta has done no little harm in this matter, in {Bayal}, particularly. To add to it the people there are more {emotional} and religious than in other parts of India.

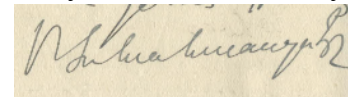
"Whosoever speaketh the truth to the unprepared is a liar in his own {despite}". Say {illegible} the well known {illegible} proverb.

It is a mistake to send every book to every journal.

Pray remember Ashtavakra always. The {Swamiji's} are busy with the {Celebration} which will be {over} on the 12th.

I shall let you know in due course when we shall be in Ooty.

With warmest good wishes,
I am yours affectionately



L13.201

201 - 202
Letter from V. Subrahmanya Iyer¹⁷²
Vani Vilas Mohalla, Mysore

¹⁷⁰ "I" is handwritten at the top of the page.

¹⁷¹ Page 200

¹⁷² "I" is handwritten at the top of the page.

16th April 1940¹⁷³

My dear Dr Brunton,

Our Ramakrishna Ashram friends who were at Ooty a few days ago have all come. They would all be most happy to stay there for some time, if they could only get suitable accommodations. The Rama Krishna Ashram there is, I am told, {already} full of men that have no interest in philosophy but only in yoga or religion. After¹⁷⁴ Swami {Desikanandi} returns, we shall have {think} of {our} {programme}.

Meanwhile, His Highness is going to Kemmangundi. He leaves tomorrow. I am to go with him. I do not know how long he stays there. All the {illegible}, there is every probability of our spending a few days at Ooty in May.

The {illegible} have come. He {(will)} {want} particularly to spend two months in Mysore. Mrs {Voreede} is not in the best of her health.

After some time he intends visiting Travancore to see Dr {Mees}.

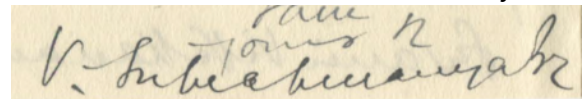
Kindly read "Sayings of Sri RamaKrishna." (The Madras {Math} Edition) Page 291. Saying 930. The Yogic Samadhi, Bhakti (religions {illegible}). But this is meant only for the few cultured men like Swami Vivekananda -

I¹⁷⁵ am enclosing some photos and a small album which will remind us of the {late} Yuvaraja. They were sent by Her Highness the Yuvarani for you. You may kindly acknowledge their receipt to H.H. Prince, who is¹⁷⁶ now Yuvaraja {the} king his {mother} for the kind present.

Your reply to me may be kindly addressed to Kemmangundi.

With all love and affection

I am yours



L13.203

203 - 204

Letter from V.S. Iyer

Kemmangundi

9th May 1940

My¹⁷⁷ dear Dr Brunton,

¹⁷³ "Say I will {pass} first two chapters to his connection {illegible} suggestion if {headers} not {illegible}" is handwritten by PB at the top of the page.

¹⁷⁴ Page 202

¹⁷⁵ Page 201

"done" and a checkmark are written in a different hand in the margin by this paragraph.

¹⁷⁶ "(to see {illegible})" is handwritten above this line in a different hand.

¹⁷⁷ Page 204

What has made me most happy in your last letter is the news that your health has had substantial improvement after going to Ooty. Certainly you ought to stay there as long as possible and finish your work. Yes, it would be most convenient if you could come over to Mysore about the Middle of June. I may be there about the beginning of the month.

You may write to your friend who has written to you about '{illegible}' that he may find the commentaries he wants, in Poona or Baroda. {Let} {me and} that Sankara has repeated a hundred times and so also the previous teachers that Vedanta can never be understood without a teacher. {He} (Sankara) himself he had to go in search of a Teacher though he had studied all the books available. Your friend must find a guru, if he {means} to understand Vedanta.

As for Hitler, I must say that he is not such thoughtless person as people imagine him to be. There must be some¹⁷⁸ other reason for his consulting the fortune teller. We shall talk about this when we meet.

As for yoga, you are again falling into your old trap. It is not useless. {There} are stays of discipline. Those that are in the yogic stage, need it certainly - that is what Vedanta teaches. Men have to pass through it. You are right when you say that it is a step. But those in that stage, if they {faithfully} satisfied with it, ought to consider it the final 'stop'. {illegible} you have done most valuable service for those that like it - like the devotees of Sri Aurobindo {illegible}. Have read Sri {illegible} address at the {philosophic} {illegible}.

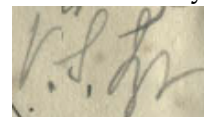
Jnan is {intended} only for one in 100000 {as} the {Gita} itself says - you must not talk of Jnan to those that have not risen to that level. You will be confounding the unprepared and they will probably think that you are talking non-sense.

What does Dr {illegible} say about the relation of science to philosophy?

You have got a splendid companion in {illegible} {illegible}.

Have¹⁷⁹ you not been meeting {the} Dewan? Have you heard {from} Janina?

Yours very affectionately



Have you read the review of your book in The Review of Philosophy and Religion - Allahabad - for April?

L13.205

205 - 206

Letter from V. Subrahmanya Iyer
H.H. The Maharajas {illegible}, Kemmangundi
24th May 1940

¹⁷⁸ Page 203

¹⁷⁹ Page 204

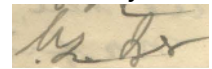
My dear Dr Brunton,

As you say, in your kind letter of May 20, the news from Europe is bad - rather very bad! The Law of Karma can never be evaded by anybody unless one realises the Truth. But truth - I mean the truth of oneness - is not in the least cared for by anybody in power in the world. We must reap what we sow. So long as the faith in duality {grips} the human mind, so long will there be this hatred and this bloodshed, - now one man or nation, and then, and the man or nation delighting in the {delights}¹⁸⁰ of human blood.

So far as we are concerned, this present situation has disillusioned men's minds about 'Religion' and 'Yoga.' Hinduism, Christianity, Mahomedanism and Buddhism, have all been {tested} in our day and they have not been able to prevent or check war {illegible}. Nor have all the yogis been able to do one iota of good to the suffering humanity anywhere. Though individuals here and there have fallen into their {trap}, of self delusion - who wants Truth?

With all affectionate regards and best wishes

I am yours



H.H. leaves {illegible} tomorrow for {Bangalore} I am going to Mysore today.

L13.207

207 - 208

Translation¹⁸¹ of Letter from Sheikh Hafiz Wahab

Undated

Peace be with you and the Bounty of Allah upon you.

He does not know the language.

He is investigating the truth of spiritual matters, clairvoyance, and the secrets of Tasawuf-mysticism in a scientific way.

¹⁸⁰ Page 206

¹⁸¹ PB wrote "Translation" and "L.A. Valuable {Docts} file in steel box" by hand at the bottom of the page.