



Smithsonian Institution

Archives of American Art

Jacques Seligmann & Co. records, General Correspondence: Erbe, Gustav, Jr., 1934-1937

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(C O P Y)
The George Washington Memorial Association, Inc.
386 Fourth Ave. New York City

April 27, 1934.

B141
Gustav Erbe, Jr., Esq.
Messrs. Yawman and Erbe,
1099 Jay Street,
Rochester, New York.

My dear Mr. Erbe:-

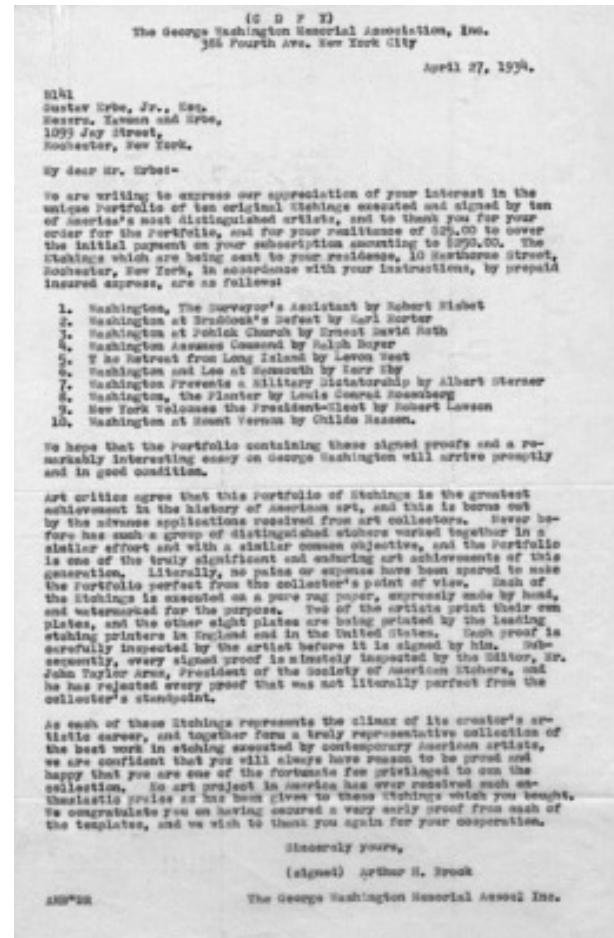
We are writing to express our appreciation of your interest in the unique Portfolio of ten original Etchings executed and signed by ten of America's most distinguished artists, and to thank you for your order for the Portfolio, and for your remittance of \$25.00 to cover the initial payment on your subscription amounting to \$250.00. The Etchings which are being sent to your residence, 10 Hawthorne Street, Rochester, New York, in accordance with your instructions, by prepaid insured express, are as follows:

1. Washington, The Surveyor's Assistant by Robert Nisbet
2. Washington at Braddock's Defeat by Earl Horte
3. Washington at Pohick Church by Ernest David Roth
4. Washington Assumes Command by Ralph Boyer
5. The Retreat from Long Island by Lovon West
6. Washington and Lee at Monmouth by Kerr Eby
7. Washington Prevents a Military Dictatorship by Albert Sterner
8. Washington, the Planter by Louis Conrad Rosenberg
9. New York Welcomes the President-Elect by Robert Lawson
10. Washington at Mount Vernon by Childs Hassen

We hope that the Portfolio containing these signed proofs and a remarkably interesting essay on George Washington will arrive promptly and in good condition.

Art critics agree that this Portfolio of Etchings is the greatest achievement in the history of American art, and this is borne out by the advance applications received from art collectors. Never before has such a group of distinguished etchers worked together in a similar effort and with a similar common objective, and the Portfolio is one of the truly significant and enduring art achievements of this generation. Literally, no pains or expense have been spared to make the Portfolio perfect from the collector's point of view. Each of the Etchings is executed on a pure rag paper, expressly made by hand, and watermarked for the purpose. Two of the artists print their own plates, and the other eight plates are being printed by the leading etching printers in England and in the United States. Each proof is carefully inspected by the artist before it is signed by him. Subsequently, every signed proof is minutely inspected by the Editor, Mr. John Taylor Arms, President of the Society of American Etchers, and he has rejected every proof that was not literally perfect from the collector's standpoint.

As each of these Etchings represents the climax of its creator's artistic career, and together form a truly representative collection of the best



work in etching executed by contemporary American artists, we are confident that you will always have reason to be proud and happy that you are one of the fortunate few privileged to own the collection. No art project in America has ever received such enthusiastic praise as has been given to these Etchings which you bought. We congratulate you on having secured a very early proof from each of the tenplates, and we wish to thank you again for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,
(signed) Arthur H. Brook
AHB*DR The George Washington Memorial Assoc. ~~[[strikethrough]]~~ I
~~[[strikethrough]]~~ Inc.

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The mission of the Smithsonian is the increase and diffusion of knowledge - shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research facilities. Become an active part of our mission through the Transcription Center. Together, we are discovering secrets hidden deep inside our collections that illuminate our history and our world.

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