

280 PHILIP JOURDAN

Born in the Hex River Valley in 1870, of Huguenot descent, he worked at the House of Assembly as junior clerk in 1890. Appointed Chief Clerk in the Prime Minister's Department in 1894, he proved to be efficient, conscientious and thoroughly reliable. Ill with typhoid in 1895. With Rhodes in Rhodesia after the Jameson Raid, later appointed as his private secretary, in which capacity he served until Rhodes' death. In 1910 published *Cecil Rhodes, his private life by his private secretary*.

Jourdan lived to be 91. After Rhodes' death he went back to the Civil Service, and in 1905 was appointed senior public prosecutor in Boksburg. Married a Kimberley girl in 1906 when he was 36, they had three children. The son Julian, was born in 1908. [Daughters named Suzanne and Jeanne.] He ended his career as Magistrate of Volksrust, Transvaal and died 12.5.1961.

(From *Cecil Rhodes and the Princess*, by Brian Roberts. London: Hamilton, 1969)

280/1**CORRESPONDENCE**

50 items

280/1/1**LETTERS TO P.J. JOURDAN**

±40 items

30.1.1893

Noble, John (Cape Town)/

H.s.

2p.

Writes on the instruction of "Mr. Speaker" to acknowledge Jourdan's resignation from Parliament for reasons of health; his services "have given every satisfaction"; expresses his personal appreciation of J and wishes him the best.

(1)

22.7.1895

Rhodes, C.J./

H.s.

2 leaves

Wishes him well after his illness; sends him a cheque.

Note: Jourdan had typhoid in 1895.

(2)

-.8.1897

H.s.

2 leaves

Jourdan's poor health; will find him work "in the colony" if the climate "here does not suit you" [Rhodesia?]; comments on Le Sueur.

+ Envelope with note about loan of letters.

(3)

25.5.1902

[](London)/

H.s. (illegible)

1p.

Covering letter with "two photographs".

Note: Photo's not found.

(4)

UNIV. STELLENBOSCH



3005024850

- 22.6.1902** Michell,Lewis(Rondebosch)/
H.s.
3p. (5)
His retirement from the bank; "De Beers and the charter and the will"; Grimmer's death; wants to know "what the Dutch loyalists want"; sends photo.
Note: Photo not found.
- 12.5.1904** Garrett,F.E.(Cornwall)/
H.s.
4p. (6)
Jourdan's ill health; his proposed German cure; his own poor health; has seen Sir Percy Fitzpatrick and Herbert Baker; would like to see him too; Jameson and the Progressives; leads a quiet life.
- 14.8.1907** Michell,Lewis(St.Alban's)/
T.s. with H. note
2 leaves (7)
With consent of colleagues, the Trustees of the Rhodes Estate, plans "to write a Life of Cecil John Rhodes"; asks for Jourdan's assistance.
- 8.10.1907**
H.s.
3p. (8)
Thanks J for his reminiscences; will be collecting material for book "some time longer"; cannot offer J an engagement to assist him; advises him to see dr. Jameson or mr. Hawkesley.
+ Envelope with background information about Michell's book.
- 6.6.1908** Secr.,Rand Club(Jhb.)/
T.s.(illegible)
1 leaf (9)
Concerning Jourdan's application to be reinstated as member of Club.
Note: With explanatory note by Blanche Jourdan.
- 27.11.1909** [](Rondebosch)/
H.s.(illegible)
2p. (10)
Re Jourdan's application for the post of Secretary of the Board of Executors; thinks he is well suited for the post; gives permission to use his letter as recommendation.
- 27.11.1909** Res.Mag.(Christiana)
H.s. E.H. Hozge[?]
1 leaf (11)
Testimonial.
- 1.12.1909** Res.Mag.(Boksburg)
H.s. J.M. Britten
1 leaf (12)
Testimonial.

- 11.12.1909 Milton, W.H. (Salisbury)
H.s.
2 leaves (13)
Testimonial.
Note: Sir William Milton was Administrator of Rhodesia.
- 11.2.191[0?] Grey, Earl (Hawick)/
H.g. Grey (14)
10p.
Glowing praise for the book Jourdan wrote about Rhodes; enquiry about number of copies sold; suggests "bringing out a cheap edition".
- 14.3.1910 Greville, Sidney (London)/
H.s. (15)
3p.
Refers to letter by Jourdan which he submitted to the Queen; photograph of Rhodes is at Windsor and thus difficult to get; pleased that he will be writing a book about Rhodes.
+ Envelope.
- 24.9.1910 Miller, Ed. H. (London)/
H.s. (16)
1 leaf
Hawkesley has withdrawn his opposition [to the publication of Jourdan's book]; will try to get "further and better offers", hopeful all problems will be resolved.
- 1.12.1910 Tyson, [] (Kimberley)/
H.s. (17)
4p.
Congratulates J on his book; refers to Michell's request for help; plans to distribute copies of book inter alia to company's [De Beers] reading rooms; "DFA article"; other Kimberley news.
Note: "This letter is from Captain Tyson who [was] a director of De Beers and an intimate friend of C.J. Rhodes. PJ".
- 23.12.1910 Boyd, Charles (London)/
H.s. (18)
4p.
Hawkesley and other trustees and Sir Lewis Michell's "performance"; background information about Michell's own writing about Rhodes; discusses reviews of J's book; will send any more he comes across; compliments him on the book.
- 25.1.1911 Lane, John (London)/
T.s. (19)
1p.
Explains why he has omitted Kipling poem from J's book; remarks about the sale of the book.
Note by BJ on back of letter: "John Lane published Dad's book of C.R."

- 11.1.1919** Carel[?], Charles W. (Barkly West)/
H.s.
2p. (20)
Enquires about the cheque he asked Jourdan to cash; encloses another; requests that he also lets specific people know about his circumstances; "this business has been excessively disagreeable for me althro'".
+ Envelope.
- 7.6.1930** [], Geo. (London)/
H.s.
2p. (21)
Covering letter with letter from Lord Lothian; remarks about the letter.
- 8.7.1930** Secr., Rhodes Trust (London)/
T.s. Lothian
1p. (22)
Report of Rhodes Scholarships sent out each year to Press Agencies and secretaries of Selection Committees in SA; will see to it that all the principal newspapers will get the Report; help the Trustees have given towards education of J's daughter.
- 14.7.1930** Hasslacher, A.J. (C.T.)/
H.s.
2p. (23)
Introduces himself; explains where he got J's address; suggests a meeting in Cape Town before he returns to England.
- 3.6.1931** Williams, Robert (London)/
T.s.
2p. (24)
Reacts to J's appeal for help to find work; why he advised him to get in touch with Owen Letcher, "the special correspondent of the London "Times" at the inauguration of the Benguela Railway route"; is arranging for an official invitation to the functions at the Angola-Congo Border; will repay all expenses.
- 5.5.1932** Secr., Rhodes Trust
T.s. [Millar?]
1p. (25)
Grants J an additional £150 a year to enable him to get over his difficulties.
- 31.7.1932** Baker, Herbert (Kent)/
H.s.
2p. (26)
Reading everything written about Rhodes, enjoyed J's memoirs; considering writing something himself, "submerged with pictures"; Smuts and Mrs. Millin; hopes to see J when he comes to SA again.
+ Envelope.

- 15.8.1932** Jourdan, Blanche (Jhb.)/
T.s. (copy) Marais, Pieter, Mrs.
3 leaves (27)
Refers to discussion with Charles and Colin about book; comments point by point on what was said; feels positive about her book.
- 16.8.1932** Jourdan, Philip (Jhb.)/
T.s. (copy)
5 leaves (28)
Refers to the discussion with Charles and Colin about her proposed book; discusses comments point by point; will ask Green what he thinks.
- 24.2.1937** Dir., Africana Museum (Jhb.)/
H.s. W.R. Morrison Jourdan, Philip
1 leaf (29)
Feels the Rhodes letters are too personal for exhibition; other items in Jourdan's possession will however "add immensely to the interest of our Rhodes section".
- 2.4.1937** Sec., Rhodes Trust (London)
T.s. (illegible)
1 leaf (30)
Appreciates his kindness and help; refers to a C.J. Sibbett who claims to have been "assistant political secretary of Mr. Rhodes".
Note: Jourdan had never met Sibbett and had never heard of him.
- 15.1.1947** Wright, Howell (Newtown, Conn.)/
H.s.
6p. (31)
Received a letter from J; met him and his wife at the Rhodes Memorial; Wright's great admiration for Rhodes; Rhodes collection at Yale; has copy of J's book, asks him to autograph a book plate for it; will write more about "Howell Wright collection of Rhodesiana and South Africana at Yale".
+ Envelope.
- 24.8.1952** Boehmke, M. (Oudtshoorn)/
H.s.
4 leaves (32)
Returns J's book on Rhodes loaned to him "with deep appreciation of both subject and author"; writes about Rhodes, whom he now appreciates with modified "qualifications"; tells of Rhodes' ideal in 1880's that the Victoria College at Stellenbosch should unite with the South African College of Cape Town; tragedy that whites are divided on "racial bases".
+ Envelope.
+ Notes by J, possibly in reply to Boehmke's letter. H. 1 leaf.
- 280/1/2**
LETTERS TO B.E. JOURDAN
10 items

- 5.12.1932** Smuts, J.C. (Irene)/
H.s.
1 leaf (1)
Appreciates her letter; agrees that "this looks like Wakkerstroom again".
+ Envelope.
- 11.12.1936** Sec., Rhodes Trust (London)/
T.s. [Lord] Lothian
1 leaf (2)
Glad to hear the exhibition was a success; sorry to hear the news about her husband.
- 14.8.1951** [], Stubby (Durban)/
H.s.
1 leaf (3)
Social letter.
+ Envelope.
Note: Date from envelope.
- 8.9.1952**
H.
8p.; 6p. (4-5)
+ Envelope.
Note on envelope: Last two letters I received from Dad - whilst I was away from Oudtshoorn at Knysna for a week. B.J. Sept. 1952.
- 18.2.1953** Sec., PM (London)/
T.s. Jane Portal
1 leaf (6)
Prime Minister thanks her for her letter; encloses a signed photograph for her husband with his good wishes.
Note: Photograph not found.
- 2.3.1956** [Jourdan, Blance]/Elton, Lord
H.
1 leaf (7)
Draft of a letter to express "intense gratitude" towards the Rhodes Trustees.
- 31.1.1962** Syfrets Trust Co. (C.T.)/
T.s. H.O. van Zyl
1 leaf (8)
Financial arrangements concerning her grant from the Rhodes Trust.

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PERSONALIA

Personal items relating to PJ, inter alia certificates (birth and examination), application for passport, prescriptions from chemists and opticians, autographs of Cecil John Rhodes torn from letters and other cards and papers; travel permit for Blanche Jourdan.
±25 items

280/3**PAMPHLETS**

4 items

1. *The trial of Princess Radziwill*. Cape Town: Cape Times, 1902.
2. *Benguela railway route*. Reprinted from *The Times*. London: Times Pub. Co., 1931.
3. *Delville wood day*, Sunday 19.7.1931.
4. *The light of the world*, by W. Holman Hunt.

280/4**VARIA**

6 items

1. [*Mrs Johnstone (née Ballantyne)*], by PJ. T. 7 leaves.
Note: Her reminiscences about Cecil John Rhodes.
2. Petition to Parliament regarding the payment of pension to PJ. T. 4 leaves.
Note: Contains biographical information about J.
3. Notes about items in the collection, as well as about the family of PJ. H. 4 items.

280/5**PHOTO'S**

1. Marina Magdalena Jourdan, wife of Johannes Petrus Jourdan, parents of Philip Jourdan. M. Glassberg, Paarl.
- 2.1 Johannes Petrus Jourdan sitting on right side, son of J.P. Jourdan by his first marriage.
- 2.2 Petrus Fouché, son of M.M. Jourdan by her first husband Fouché.
- 2.3 Jacobus Johannes Petrus Jourdan own brother of PJ.
- 2.4 Philip James Jourdan.
Note: 1, 2 & 4 were sons of Philip Jourdan's father.
3. Unknown man.
4. Cecil John Rhodes. W. Kijsser, Vryburg.
Note: "The one the Queen (Alexandra) liked best".
5. Philip & Nonnie Jourdan. J.E. Middlebrook, Kimberley.
Note: "This belongs to Jeane".
- 6-8. Lady de Villiers, wife of the first Lord de Villiers.
Note: "Three photographs given to me by miss Kate Beck which were presented to her mother by Lady de Villiers ... given in 1940. P. Jourdan".
Note: Lady de Villiers was Dad's aunt - own sister of PJ's Dad's father.

9-12. Four small snapshots, one of PJ on left, with Sir James McDonald, Julian's godfather.

13. PJ.

14-17. PJ at the Rhodes Memorial.

Note: With covering letter from The Cape Argus.

280/6

NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS

6 pages

Note: Some "cuttings from newspapers when Dad, Philip Jourdan, retired from public civil service 6th January 1930 at Volksrust".