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Correspondence, Post-Columbia, 1903-1904, 1906.

Milton. Nov. 6. 1903.

Dear Hamlin.

I will see whether Warren a Chandler would not like to review.

As to Butler, he simply forgot both what he had read and what I had said. But there was, at the time no chance for a misunderstanding, and my not having done what he told me to is a mystery. — that is to say "a work of the imagination calculated to account for a fact."

Perry sent me the Perspective problem. I am still one of the Examiners, I believe, of the University of the State of New York, and before resigning shall be glad to call the Regents' attention to the way these things are done in their name. Sherman has sent me the facts, but it is proper that I should have the documents, especially if they were

want to give in my stead.

Slater's address was 45 West 29th St. But I wrote to him there a month ago, and have got no answer.

As to Bannerman, two years against of mismates is as nothing compared with this revelation of moral insensibility. There was no excuse for any right-minded person voting that way. The issue was perfectly clear cut, the reasons given cannot have had any weight. They are mere pretences of justification for action otherwise determined. Some ride superstitions would a government they could bribe; some poor hopes would a government that would bribe them. The two together make up more than half the Democratic Latin. It is frightful.

Yours, always,

Lew Wallace

I will send you the cheque when I get it.

March 10, 1904

Professor W. R. Ware,

Milton, Mass.

My dear Mr. Ware:

I have delayed answering your recent letters partly because I have been very busy, partly because I could perhaps save time by taking them both together. I think I acknowledged that of February 13 with the quotation from Clifford's article in the Technology Review. With regard to that of February 13 I wish first of all to thank you formally, if I have not done so already, as I certainly meant to do, for your generosity in sending Architecture and R.I.B.A. journals. We appreciate the gift and shall make use of them. The photographs of Franklin Street which you refer to I have picked out from the Boston portfolio and I think Kress has been looking up certain other things which you wish to get, and with regard to which you wrote to him personally. If there are any other Boston photographs belonging to you which you would like to have sent let me know what they are. I find a number of photographs among them of certain works of yourself, — the Episcopal Seminary, the First Church in Boston and I think one or two other churches in Cambridge as well as one or two views of Memorial Hall — which we should very much like to keep unless you also wish them all. I do not know whether they are among your public or private photographs, or a part of those which the department purchased of you years ago.

With reference to the Cairo windows of which you wrote in a later letter, not just now at hand, I beg to say

that I have looked over the seven frames and find that four are in practically perfect condition. These I will send to you, if you will indicate in what order they should be packed and shipped. The other three are more or less fractured. One is a complete wreck and worthless; the other two are pretty badly damaged, but there is enough of the design still intact to make them of value as examples of the technique of those Arabian windows. I think these two will serve us very well, therefore, for illustrative purposes, if you care to leave them with us, while the four complete windows will be sent on to you as soon as you desire.

You speak of the Jarmulowsky benefaction as a resource out of which to pay for the Salviati mosaic panel. I have an indistinct recollection of a Jarnulowsky gift years ago, but supposed it had been spent for books. It does not appear, so far as Kress can discover, on our department accounts and I do not know whether the money is or how it is to be got hold of if it has not been thus spent. I should be glad of any information with regard to it, as I should be only too happy to secure the panel and have you reimbursed for it, without burdening our scanty and heavily taxed equipment fund for the purpose.

Frohne's letter which you enclosed I read with a good deal of interest and some surprise. Delano was not here yesterday, and Aldrich came in his place. I laid the representations in that letter before him, discussed the matter with him, and asked him to talk it over with Delano. It would seem that the programme and

system which I supposed had been clearly laid down and was fully understood by Delano and made clearly known to the students, was not understood by him and had not been explained to the class. I am much disconcerted at this failure to carry out essential features of which I thought was a very promising experiment. I went over the whole matter with the class yesterday, promised them detailed criticisms upon the last problem and the next one, explained to them that there had been a misunderstanding about the details of the administration of the scheme and had a very interesting and frank talk with two of the men afterwards. I think the infelicities to which reference was made in Frohne's letter are all due to these misunderstandings and not to the system as I conceived it; indeed, as I explained it, it seemed to be received with favor by the men, and I believe in this shape it provides a solution for two things — the incubus of back work to be made up, and the insistence upon graduation in four years in the popular mind. Some time I may have the opportunity to explain to you how this is effected and how we plan to avoid the exaggeration of the competitive notion. Meanwhile I must say that the fourth class has turned out a larger amount anda more serious quality of work, and has worked more steadily and conscientiously than any class we have had for some years. This, I believe, is all I have to say at the present moment. I may write you again soon with regard to some other matters including the fellowship competition of which the preliminary circular is being sent you today.

Hamlin 2

1904

Milton. March 15. 1904.

Dear Hamlin.

Let me take up the points in your letter seriatim.

1°. Pray keep any photographs you care to.

2°. You had better, also, keep the good Cairo window, if you care to. The rest may be packed & sent to me here.

3°. I have paid for the Mosaic with Jarvis-Hewitt's money, which he gave me some time ago, to buy some thing with. Pray have a proper label put upon it: "Specimen of Venetian Mosaic, made by the Salviati Company for ~~Salviati~~ the Paris Exposition of 1867. Presented by Mr. Jarvis-Hewitt, Class of 1890."

4°. I am sending you the Record Book of the Fellowship Competitions, which I have brought up to date so far as the data in my possession now permit. I cannot consult the reports to ~~those first~~ four, in 1890, 1891, & 1892. Also I am not sure

The Scholarship award for 1902 I think I never had. That was the year I was away in May & April.

Yours, always,

Cecil R. Lane.

School of Architecture

June 21, 1904

Professor William R. Ware,

Milton, Mass.

My dear Mr. Ware:

You have perhaps been wondering at my long silence in view of all that has been going on — the competition for the Fellowships, Commencement, etc. The truth is that my time has been filled so full with the details of administration, examinations, reports on competition, Commencement, etc., that I have had no time until now in which I could write and I must even now content myself with a somewhat summary report. The competition passed off successfully with fifteen competitors of whom seven were in Paris, seven in the United States and one traveling in Europe. The programme I think I sent you and the results were very interesting. The jury awarded the Fellowship to Van Wagenen of '99 whose work was exceddingly creditable although the jury seemed to think that the performance as a whole was not as good as it ought to have been. From other sources, however, I hear that the terms of the competition gave great satisfaction and that the variety of the tests it required, both sketch design and rendered work, was an admirable feature and much enjoyed. The exhibition of these designs, which more than filled our corrider, was much appreciated by those who saw it.

You have already, I believe, had some correspondence with Sherman about the transfer of the mathematics to the Department of Mathematics. I can easily understand how

you feel about it and how it seems to you like repudiation of your ideas, but the fact simply is that we must carry on the work in such a manner as to meet the demands made upon us rather than in a way which, from an abstract point of view, would seem the most desirable. I find that the sentiment of the graduates of the profession, of the faculties here, and of our own staff is practically unanimous and in favor of the change. I withstood it in discussion in the staff as long as I felt justified in doing so because I have so strong an admiration for Sherman's efficiency as a tutor of mathematics, but I had to confess myself in the end convinced, even though against my will, that Sherman was right and that the path of wisdom lay in that direction. I think the separation of our instruction in mathematics for the past ten years or more has been a good thing because it has so trongly emphasized what so needed emphasis — the separatenessof our architectural training from that of the schools of science; but now that this separation has been formally achieved and we are soon, as we believe, to take our place in a school of art, this separation of the mathematics is no longer needed as a sign and seems undesirable from the point of view of expediency and efficiency. We have thrashed the thing out in great detail, viewing it in all its aspects, and much as we regret to reach a conclusion different from what you would have approved, we have found the path of our duty to lie that way.

The Fine Arts announcement for this coming year I suppose you have long ere this received. What is to take place

in the following year it is not vouchsafed to us to know. Our staff, at the request of the President, made in April a long and detailed report to the Trustees in answer to the letters which they had invited from a dozen practicing architects in town. In this we recommended certain somewhat thoroughgoing changes of detail in the methods of the School made necessary in our judgment by new conditions, or at least newly discovered conditions, and circumstances. Among these changes were included, besides the transfer of the mathematics, the following others: the dropping of the German in the second year substituting for it exercises in research based on French and German text books; the final abolition of the division of the curriculum into years and the emphasis upon the quality and amount of work without regard to time; the registration of the work in design points to be awarded by juries in the "intermediate" and "advanced" design — that is, each correspond to our present third and fourth year work; a permission to the student to choose his own studio and manner for working out this advanced design, the School maintaining, of course, its own draughting room and instructor, preparing the programmes and awarding by its own juries the points on these designs. It is hoped that by this means it will be possible to capture for the School a large part of the young men who now resort to the Beaux-Arts competitions — a rapidly increasing number which will be lost to the School unless we do something to draw them in. Allowing them thus to register their work done in conformity with the requirements of the School,

they will be permitted to make up their lecture subjects and mathematics at their convenience, getting the degree whenever these requirements are met. All this, of course, is somewhat radical and experimental but I do not see that it changes one particle the policy of the School with regard to the design while it does make available resources for instruction otherwise closed and puts the School in a position of command over all these outside ateliers instead of standing, as it now does, in a sort of qualified rivalry, if not hostility, to them.

I believe that something is going to happen very soon with regard to the organization of a Fine Arts Faculty but I am not at liberty to give more than this hint, nor is this to be taken as meaning anything more than a possibility. So soon, however, as this shall take place I believe there will be a steady and I hope a speedy growth in resources and reputation for the School of Architecture as well as for the Fine Arts activities of the whole University.

The School graduated ten men on Wednesday (June 8) and four more will get their degrees by September. The School registration reached this year the high water mark of ninety-six names which it touched in '96-'97. This, I think, is very gratifying.

This is a hurried and summary letter; I wish I had time to develop and comment upon these things but I must leave that to another day. I am not yet sure where I shall be this summer nut probably on Buzzard's Bay. You will hear from me again before very long. Please believe me, with salutations to your sister, as ever

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The School graduated ten men on Wednesday (June 23) and four more will get their degrees by September. The School registration reached this year the high water mark of ninety-six names which it touched in '96-'97. This, I think, is very gratifying.

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Hamlin
1904

November 19, 1904

Professor W. R. Ware,

Milton,

Mass.

My dear Mr. Ware:-

You will perhaps think that I have forgotten you or at least been very recreant to my duty in keeping you informed of what is going on here, but I cannot plead guilty to the charge for the simple reason that since I returned I have been so over crowded with work demanding my attention that everything that could on any plea whatever be put off has been put off, sometimes again and again. Moreover I have not cared to undertake a letter on the affairs of the School until I really knew just where we stood and that could not be determined until the Trustees had held their November meeting. That, as you have doubtless learned from the papers and from other sources, took place on the 7th of November and since then pretty much of my time has been take up with attending to the details of the new situation which this action has created.

I hope you have not been alarmed by the reports circulated in the papers to the effect that we are adopting the French atelier system as though we were swallowing the whole French method from beginning to end; for this is not true. We are simply about to carry out the plan which I outlined to you last summer; the planning and direction of all the work in design remaining absolutely

in our hands at the School and the judgments being made by constantly changing jurors so that there is no possibility of establishing jury-traditions such as have so often been criticized in the French system. How far, if at all the atliers so called (I wish we had an English word that exactly expressed the same thing) will be able to develop a system of supervision and help by anciens one cannot say; it all depends upon the question of how far we shall be able to carry our campaign for postgraduate students.

With regard to the entrance requirements you have perhaps already learned that we purpose to cut the Gordian knot at which we have for some years been working in our futile attempts to untie. The Trustees have simply made up their minds to ask for superior preparation and take the consequences. The equivalent of the two years of college training or of scientific school study is to be exacted of every candidate for our degrees. In addition to this we are to require the elements of projections and of the orders and a little more drawing than we have called for in the past. As you have repeatedly said, the correspondence schools offer one means for supplying this additional preparation in drawing and the orders; in addition we believe that it will be possible to secure the necessary training in town either at the various atliers or by private instruction during the summer vacation so that we hope the quality of the regular students will be greatly raised without greatly reducing the number.

Another new step which we are going to experiment with is that of offering a certificate in Architecture which shall cover the license requirements of New Jersey and Illinois, to students

who can enter with somewhat less than the present requirements for admission in mathematics, science, language, etc., but who nevertheless are men of promise and ability; such students to pursue a course less exacting on the mathematical side than that for the degree, the architectural engineering of this course to be such as you have been pleading for them for a long time - qualitative and graphical rather than quantitative and algebraic. I think we can work up such a course in time to meet the demand. Such students will be required to do more drawing and design in exchange for the reduced requirements in mathematics. One very excellent and novel provision which the Trustees have authorized is that which permits the transfer of a special or certificate student into the regular ranks of candidates for the degree, without making up entrance deficiencies, upon the manifestation of very special and superior ability in the work of the regular course. That is to say, the reward of such candidacy is held up as the strongest possible stimulus to encourage men of superior artistic and architectural ability who have lacked the best opportunities in their earlier training. This I think will tend to raise the standard of performance and will open the door of opportunity to certain very excellent men to whom it has hitherto been closed.

You may have heard also that it is proposed to establish two ateliers near the offices respectively of Messrs. Hastings and McKim. These ateliers will be maintained by the School and have as directors the men I have mentioned, who will probably appoint de-

puties to perform the daily supervision which in Paris largely falls to the ansiens, the directors visiting the studio two or three times a week. The names of these two directors are not yet publicly announced but it is officially known within the University that both these men have accepted and have shown the warmest interest in the work. It is clearly understood that they are not to direct the policy of the University in the design but merely to carry out the instruction prescribed by the School itself. The enlistment of the warm interest and co-operation of these two men who possess great influence both in and out of the profession either to make or mar the fortunes of the School seems to me a very desirable thing.

The registration this year has been rather below the average. I think there has been a feeling in the community as to the uncertainty as to what the Trustees intended to do with the School and I know of at least one case where this feeling has sent a student elsewhere, but the announcement of these new measures has raised very wide spread interest and not a little enthusiasm and I hope that it may result in a large increase next year.

You have learned, of course, that Sherman has been made professor of Graphics and that I have been finally and formally promoted to a professorship of architectural history and appointed executive head of the School.

The fine arts situation of the work is also coming into form which means definite organization and public announcements in the near future. The first meeting of the large committee appointed by the University Council took place on Wednesday; it

was a very pleasant and enthusiastic meeting. Every representative of the fine arts interest of the University was present except McWhood who had to be at Poughkeepsie. A sub committee was appointed, of which I am chairman, to frame the organization of the new faculty and school and we held our first meeting Friday afternoon. We hope to be able to make definite announcements and issue bulletins in the spring against the coming year so you see things are moving.

I hear from various sources that all these doings are attracting wide attention and that it is not at all unlikely that generous friends will in the not distant future come to the support of these movement in a very practical way but I believe there is nothing specific or definite as to persons or amounts in these reports. Here within the school things are moving very agreeably and so far as I can see efficiently and prosperously. Some of the Paris men are beginning to return; Menzer was here yesterday, McClelland has just arrived on this side; Ware arrived some two or three months ago but on the other hand there has been a large increase in the Columbia colony at Paris. You have heard of the tragic death of Bruce Palliser and Harold Percy . Percy died in Paris a few weeks ago and Palliser some weeks earlier after a year of paralysis undoubtedly caused by overwork. Bottomly is in St. Luke's Hospital with a broken leg but we hope he will return in a week or two.

The weather is beautiful and these fall days must be delightful in Milton. I can imagine the long walks you are taking over the dried leaves in the woods and over the hills.

Please give my warm regards to your sister and believe me as ever,

Faithfully yours,

1904

Hamlin²,

S. S. "ARABIC"

May 25. 1906 –

Dear Will.

This is the letter I had it in mind to write you a week ago in London. But it will reach you as soon unless here:– Sat. & Sun. with 40°, more or less.

By way of answer to your letter I tried to find in Holland such photographs as you spoke of, and brought away from Amsterdam and The Hague four or five dozen among which you may perhaps find some to your purpose. But as to Farm Buildings & Country houses, I acted rather hind photographs nor buildings that at all recalled those of either New England or the Middle States. A simple Dutch Peasant, as we were brought up to call Yankees, was all that caught my eye; though stepped gables were common, especially in towns. But there was a fair choice of churches, Town Halls, etc., though we did not discover the best photographic studies until there

purchases had been made, and this I did not see myself. Malcolm stumbled upon it at the last moment. Van Stratten could give us no information. Mrs acted the Secretary of the British Archæological Society to whom I had a letter, and who I was told was a mine of knowledge. But he had some photos from a work, in Dutch & French, published by the Society, and though he said it was out of print and a complete copy not to be had, he offered to send me a list of what was obtainable. Very likely the Surry Library may like to send for it, and in that case you can see it, & use it if you want to, en route to them.

The Competition kept me busy six hours a day for near a fortnight, cutting down my second fortnight in England to a week and allowing only two days to the rest of Holland. There I spent at Amsterdam, in the rain, and Haarlem. I never undertook anything with less heart than this expedition, and only went because it seemed foolish not to go, though I had no expectation of doing anything more than sitting in a corner and nodding acquiescence, and was a little shy of six strangers, all talking foreign tongues. But things came off better than I thought. The men were all very civil and friendly and whenever, at last, I found occasion to put in my oar, listened to my remonstrances and suggestions with respect & consideration. Thus, though nothing was done as I thought it should be, I had the satisfaction of preventing what would have been calamitous. In this I had the countenance & support of the Chairman, Mr Van Kampheek, who was much disturbed at the attitude of the jury and, when it was all over, thanked me cordially for my interventions. He is an

of the nicest men I never came across, an ex-Minister of Foreign Affairs, and one of the presiding officers of the Hague Conference eight or ten years ago. As I had been in correspondence with him, in a formal way, I called at his house on my arrival to make my bow, finding him alone in his library of an evening. As he speaks English perfectly well — as also French and German, — there was no hitch in talking and he put me at once at my ease. As he soon found that I was free from the prepossessing preoccupations which somewhat preoccupied the minds of the others, and strongly biased their judgment, he was rather disposed to take me into his confidence, and, when the session was over, to talk over the situation on the way back to my hotel. Moreover at the dinner party he gave us at his own house, to meet the members of his Committee, — all Stars & Garters, — he had me sit at his right hand, with the German,

Mr Van Horne, on the other side. This quite set me up.

The Committee had been advised, in drawing up the programme, by Mr Cuyler, one of the jury, the dean of the Boston architects, a man now eighty years old. Though both Mr Horne & Mr Colcutt, wrote at once, when they received it, protesting against some of its provisions, he advised the Committee to make no changes. As it set no limit to the number, size, or style of the drings, the result was bewildered. Of the 216 sets sent in, no two stood on the same footing, and fair comparison was impossible. Altogether they covered the walls of 17 rooms, besides a dozen screens and half a dozen tables. Some covered all four walls of a room sixteen feet square. Among the whole number there were not half a dozen which in size, cost, and general character were at all

suitable, and not in single one that any body would think for a moment of letting, even as a basis for further procedure, notwithstanding such changes as would almost destroy its identity.

The Jury finally reported accordingly. But as the Committee had promised to buy the six best, we were charged to name the six least objectionable, or what was really done was to select the six which best illustrated the three types of plan which the competition had evolved:— those in which (1) the Arbitration Courts & the Library were housed in what were virtually separate buildings, and those in which they were in the same building, and lighted (2.) by internal courts, or (3.) by external courts. In our Report this was emphasized, and all the Elevations condemned.

This was a pointless result, but as the Committee had reserved all rights and owned the six prize designs, as far simple, the work done is not entirely lost. Mr McKenzie's request to be added to the Report in favor of suggestions, as to the next steps to be taken by the Committee. Though I had been entirely at variance in the selection of the prize designs, only one of my own list holding a place among them, and that not my first choice, I was able to eliminate from this supplementary paper a tone of dictation which seemed to me very improper, and which I am sure would have been very offensive to the Committee. The Jury were much disposed to hold that though the Committee had expressly reserved to themselves entire freedom of action and owned but the building of the buildings into any body's hands they thought best, they were under a moral obligation to give it to one of the prize-winners, ei-

their architect, or as the result of a sa-
and competition among the six. They
urged that they were bound to consider
the prejudices & expectations of the
Profession, and to urge the Committee to
conform to them. This seemed to me
the height of disloyalty. Acting as mem-
bers of the Jury they were not at liberty
to consider any interests but those of the
enterprise itself. They had no right to take
advantage of their position to further the
supposed, or the real, interests of the
profession at large. But they were very
nice about it, and I finally had my way.

Mr Van Rensselaer said that if I had
any curiosity to know how the Committee
came to pick for me, it might please
me to learn that it was at Mr Carnegie's
request. Perhaps it was this that dis-
posed him to discuss the general situa-
tion with me so fully. It was certain-
ly this that led him to ask a confi-
dential interview, after the work was
over, and say that he would be much
delighted if I would go and see Mr Carnegie

when I get home, and report just what had been done. I could judge then whether he wanted to know all the details or not. This would relieve him from the necessity of writing at length, and from uncertainty whether to write a long letter or a short one.

So he has given me a line of introduction to Mr Carnegie, whom I do not know, accrediting me as special envoy. Mr Hill, the American Minister in Holland, whom I went to

See before coming away at Mr Van Ramsbeek's instance, and who has been in the Carnegie confidence in this whole matter, says he is sure he will want to know all the particulars.

The Drawings are all to be on Exhibition at the Hague in June, and by that time the Report, in four languages, will be ready to appear to be made public. The Committee will print some part of Catalogue for this Exhibition, and will be likely ultimately make some sort of Memorial publication. They asked me to say nothing that would get into the papers. So all this is for your personal enlightenment. I have photographs of some of the plans, which I can also show you.

Yours always and hoping to meet you in Montreal on Sunday or Monday.

Leo. H. Baekeland

Staying Malcolm always has been a great pleasure.

P.S. I have forgotten to say that four of the six juries fell to invited competitors, – two Bauhaus, from Paris & Lille, two Germans from Berlin & Vienna. The New York one, No 5, was the best of the six, the only one with any show of reasonableness. I was amazed to find my colleagues putting at the head of the list the three most pretentious and impossible designs of the whole show. Mr Colcutt & I protested in vain. All we could do was to get a statement into the Report that these awards were made by a "bare majority vote." This meant four to three, and one of these was "Art Nouveau", one was XVI Century Dutch, and one the worst kind of Beaux-Arts fireworks. But the plans had good points and the Report, as I have said, explicitly disclaimed any liking for the elevations. The New York scheme was the only one of the six with a suitable exterior. The remaining two I could find little merit in, if any. Though the plans embodied some serviceable suggestions.

Saturday evening.

Arrived at 8 p.m. at Lille