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NEW YORK

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109TH STREET AND AMSTERDAM AVENUE

December 8, 1917

Dr. Harry Pratt Judson, Pres.,
University of Chicago,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir:

I am authorized and requested by the Council of the National Academy of Design to communicate with the members of the American Committee on the celebration of One Hundred Years of Peace regarding the reported preference of that Committee for the statue of Lincoln by Barnard over that by St. Gaudens.

Sir Alfred Mond, first Commissioner of Works, has stated in the House of Commons that the site in the Canning enclosure (vicinity of the Parliament Buildings) was originally "offered for a replica of the St. Gaudens statue" but, he continued "I now understand that the American Committee for the celebration of One Hundred Years of Peace is anxious to send a replica of the statue - by Mr. George Gray Barnard - which they consider to be a superior monument." (London Times, October 23, 1917.)

As one of that committee you may or may not have considered the Barnard statue to be "a superior monument" to the St. Gaudens. We do not know how the sentiment of the Committee was obtained, whether by vote or by letter.

We would esteem it a favor if you would enlighten us in regard to your stand on this important public question. We feel justified in making this request believing that every one of the members would be glad to give his reasons. Nor do we wish to attribute to the wrong members the action of substituting the Barnard for the St. Gaudens statue.

The courtesy of an early reply is requested.

Yours very truly,

Howard Russell Butler
Vice President

Chicago, December 17, 1917

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 8th inst. is received. I have never had any communication from anybody on the subject of the statue of Lincoln. I should be very much gratified to have a replica of the St. Gaudens statue in London. I should very much regret to have the Barnard statue sent to England under any conditions.

Very truly yours,

H.P.J. - L.

Mr. Howard Russell Butler
National Academy of Design
109th St. and Amsterdam Avenue
New York City

Chicago, December 17, 1917

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