

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Reef Point  
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Bar Harbor, Maine

May 20, 1941

Mr. James Bryce  
3303 S Street  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Bryce:

Evidently I did not make myself clear in explaining to Mr. Thacher why Mrs. Bliss was so eager to have the three old men continue under your nominal supervision for the coming summer. She very much wants the widening of the walk along the branch to be done according to the way we think correct, and she also would like the path across the hillside constructed as we think right in design. A good deal of the old men's time will be occupied in just this walk construction so that as Mr. Root seems very favorably inclined to the appointment of the Committee it would seem to me quite wise for you to stake out the walk widening for me to see when I am back at Dumfries in early June. I wish you would study this out pretty carefully and stake out the two sides of the path because as I remember it a good deal of the material that borders the path is spring-flowering and can be moved in early summer. The path certainly should be five feet wide at a minimum, and it would seem to me perhaps wiser to plan for five foot six inches, or six feet, as both you and I know that the tendency of a path edging is to "crawl" in over the path rather than the path to widen.

Other things which I hope we can decide when I am in Washington are the odds and ends of work with Mr. Coles and as he evidently needs to be prodded I am sending him a note, a carbon copy of which is enclosed.

Let me know what further information you need from me before I leave here, as I expect to, a week from Sunday—June 1st. Please do not delay in sending me word of any information or preparation you need as I find I have to go rather slowly and ration myself as to hours.

I hope also it will be possible to come to some conclusion with regard to Miss Sweeney and her future, and that possibly you and I can work out something by which our garden end of the budget can help toward her salary, as a garden guide and school children teacher. Think this over but of course do not say anything to her about it.



Mr. Bryce May 20, 1941. page 2

Have the various over-sized tubbed plants been cleared out, as if not we must again attack the question and get rid of the ones we definitely don't need.

Has the Jasminum nudiflorum been planted on the east side of the east loggia at the east end of the new Museum room?

Can you have a small piece of wall such as you think I mean to use at the south parking space, ready and laid up for me somewhere so that I can get an idea of its appearance, and you can give me an idea of its cost? Remember also that there was to be a curbing about eight inches high at the edge of the parking space.

Have you found the two little lanterns which Mrs. Bliss seemed to think could be placed at the north door of the Museum loggia?

Doubtless the flagged stone has been laid between the men's dressing room and the pool.

Looking forward to seeing you before long, I am,

Yours very truly,