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Correspondence, n.d.

WARE MC14

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As to the School, first of all I should like to make the explanations which I promised about our system of points. These have a resemblance to the Paris system but differ from it in pretty nearly everything in which that system is objectionable. All designs are credited by the jury by the award of "passes", "mentions", and "special mention". These honors, however, do not appear in any publication but confer upon the recipients a certain number of points, e.g. one point for a pass, two for a mention, three for a special mention. The test of the whole matter is that the failure to win the number of points required for the year's work in design is not made up by redesigning the defective problem or by making up any back work at all; it can only be retrieved by doing an extra problem during the summer, or by winning a mention or special mention that is, extra points, in a later problem, or by winning the necessary points in the sketch problems in which there is some lee way, but in which points are extremely difficult to obtain. The system has worked out so far most admirably as far as I can see, although there were some misunderstandings as to the work during the first part of the year which have been satisfactorily cleared up. The result has been to force every member of the class to work, not for a passing mark or six, but for the highest possible achievement in design; and certainly we have not in many years had a class so uniformly satisfactory in its attendance both early and late as the present class. I think the results in the

design itself have been proportionately improved and the incubus of back work has been entirely gotten rid of. I cannot see that the personalities and jealousies which inhere in a formal system of prizes where the object is extraneous to the work itself have existed in the present class and the effect upon the morale and spirit of the class has been so conspicuous as to justify our extending the principle to other branches of the work in drawing and design. Francis ^{James} Green speaks with great enthusiasm of the work of this same fourth year class which they have done in their drawing from life at the Academy.

I do not know how much has come to your ears about the general progress and prospects of the school and I suppose I omit sometimes to mention things, on the supposition that you have heard of them when you have not had the means of hearing. Please let me know if there are any special points on which I can enlighten you if I have failed to do so.

With regard to the Alumni Association I can report that the meeting for final organization took place on Tuesday evening and was well attended. The elaborate constitution prepared by the Committee was adopted and the meeting finally adjourned to re-convene at the annual dinner which they have taken under their charge as one of their special functions. You were elected the first honorary member of the "Society of

Columbia University Architects" with great acclamation and applause. We think the organization of the society is excellent; the dues are moderate, being \$3.; and the program of activities outlined is not too ambitious. The spirit of loyalty to the school was very marked and I think we shall find the society a strong ally and not likely in any way to hamper but rather to help and support our own movements.

The undergraduates have of their own accord organized a society to publish a year book, the President has authorized it and the Committees have gone to work with great zeal, efficiency and judgment in both the business and artistic branches of their work. They hope to have it ready by or be soon after Commencement and I hope that a supplementary edition without advertisements may finally be ordered by the authorities for advertising purposes. I think this item will please you.

The fellowship competition closes May 7th. Did I send you the programs for this? If not, please let me know and I will send you a full set though I have not many copies left. I am much obliged for the papers you sent me and particularly delighted that the canvas covered book finally turned up.

With very best wishes to yourself and Miss Ware, please believe me,

Ever faithfully yours,

Hamilton

believe me,

Ever, Dear Madam,

With very best wishes for yourself and Miss Vera, please
believe that the officers covered just slightly during the

I am much obliged for the papers you sent me and believe me
will send you a full set of books for you and Miss Vera.

For the programme for the first of the series you know and I
the following is a compilation of the same, and I hope

that for your private purposes. I think this will please
without objection as it is finally as ordered by the authority

When other documents are sent I hope to be a supplementary edition
of the first part. I hope you will find them

interesting and valuable. I am, Madam, your obedient
servant.

I am, Madam, your obedient servant,
The President of the Society

The undersigned is the only person authorized to
represent the Society and support our own movement.

Kind the society a strong ally and not finally in any way
involved in the affairs of the world.

of revolution outlined in our publications. The world of
civilization has been advanced, being not only the program

and we think the organization of the society is not
Columbia University, with great admiration and

31 East Fiftieth Street.

Dear Professor Ware:

I have twice read
your paper with great
interest.

Your hope that the
present constituted depart-
-ments of Physics, Chemistry
and Electricity may constitute
special courses for students
in Architecture is exactly
in line with the suggestion
I made: why not have
the present constituted de-
-partments in Mathematics
and Engineering establish
as special courses exactly
the same curriculum you

now have in those sub-
-jects and give the instruc-
-tion with their present
forces, instead of duplicating
such forces in whole or
in part as at present?

Would not expense be
reduced, without any
detriment to your School
or to the other departments?

I entirely sympathize
with your feelings that
Architecture is a fine
Art and should not be
planted in a School of
Applied Science = and I
would not have an
architectural student

of superior artistic ability
conditioned for incapacity
in the higher mathematics =
at the same time the finances
of the College do not now
warrant duplication of
instructors, unless necessary.

Your closing reference
to the Academy of Design and
the Art Students League
suggests that if you will
bring them into the College
and unite them with your
School of Architecture into
one School of Fine Arts, you
would all be on congenial
soil and might more justly
have separate and independ-
-ent instructors in such a
Faculty. Doubtless you

have given this more thought
than I. But, for years, I
have hoped to see the day
when we should have
Music and also Fine Arts,
at Columbia. Music came
sooner than I had dared
to expect. Perhaps Fine
Arts is imminent. Why
should you not bring it
into being? uniting Architecture
Painting, Sculpture and Craftsmen in one
Faculty. Faithfully yours

Edw. Stitchell

preparation of \$1000 - used amount in stead of the
\$1600. - but have not his, the case. I by just you will

Screen by the \$1600. - which
ruley ~~but~~ ~~to~~ ~~me~~, as I was
restored.

My own for Schenck here.

For Bernardillo

he that instead of wa-
ring an appropriation
of \$1500. - for assistance
in my department next
as I requested, . . .
year, and giving for
Hauling a salaried
brides,
piece, which after
two years service I
thought he deserved,

The Committee on Fi-
nance have recommend-
ed an appropriation of
\$1000.-, all told.

This implies that
Mr. Stamen is to be
dismissed. But I can-
not carry on my
work without an
assistant instructor.

The \$1000.- is not
more than enough to
pay for the various per-
sonal services required

in the case of the col-
lectors, the making of
models and diagrams,
etc. etc. Indeed I have
this last year spent in
such work

Moreover although, as
the President ^{now} informs me,
the Trustees voted that
the balances for assist-
ance in this depart-
ment, remaining at the
end of the year, should
be carried over to the
next year, as is done in

the other departments, a bal-
ance of \$1660.- under this
account was on the first
of October covered ^{back} into the
treasury, ~~and through~~ I
called the attention of the
Committee to it, as soon
as I found what had been
done, but they sent me word
through the Treasurer that my
remedy lay with the Treas-
urer. Will you please see that
this sum is again put at my
disposal. to be.

I wrote Mr Schermerhorn
that if the Trustees voted me
\$1500.- next year under this
head, & provided expatriating
for Mr Hamilton, an extra ob-

[To Frank Dempster Sherman, n.d.]

It is all right about the wives,
A. Leo a piece is no more than I
am glad to pay, for the sake of
doing the graceful thing to my
friends over there.

I made all my connections
beautifully on Tuesday, my wait
at Rhinebeck just sufficient for
lunch. The 2.30 train at Albany
waited three minutes, and the
2.35 train I was in arrived three
minutes before its time. So it was
just run and jump from one to
the other. At Troy it was the
same thing. I got to Shelburne
Falls, eight miles from here, at

6.15 and melted over the hills, —
which are less perpendicular than
those of the evening before, — in
two hours. Yesterday was a fine
day and was spent in milk's
driving about the country
with Mr Boston & Mr Curtis. To-
day it rains, and will to-mor-
row. Saturday I go straight
to Milton & shall probably
be there all next week. So you
may send my things there.

I think I shall probably
come on on Sunday night, but
am not sure. If I must have
vacation I will run off & get
it later, for a few days, as I
did last year on the Delaware.

Erw malks and telks made me very happy and I am enjoying a great content and an eager hope. I have never, as I tried to explain to you, been in a position seen to undertake to do my work as well as it ought to be done, or even as well as I thought I could do it, and had almost abandoned the thought of ever getting upon a different footing in regard to it. At the same time the way things were going has given me, especially for the last year, a growing dissatisfaction. But how to do more or better, when already I was giving all my time, & more, to the

momentary claims of the day, find-
ing no leisure for reading, or writing,
or sleep for the necessary ciphering,
all of which were needed for se-
rious work. The hope that you
might some day come to my
relief, which had flashed across
my mind when first you spoke
of your living for an academ-
ic life, so long ago in 35th St.,
was a dream I had never
ventured to indulge. That
now my dream should come true,
and that you should come back
to the school not as to a har-
bor of refuge, in your distress,
but as to a desired haven,
is more than, up to the last

moment, I had³ dared to hope. "Intellectual sympathy" is a large word, a bigger one than I meant to employ. But I think it is true that you understand very well what I am driving at, and can take up and carry forward many things which I have always thought never could be done because nobody but myself could do them, and I had not the time to give. The possibility is that this opens multiply as I dwell upon them, and seem to offer a new and more defensible life to me, and to you to open lines of work and of study which if wisely chosen, with exercise and discipline your best powers, open before

you an suitable career, and
qualify you admirably to fill
it. The ~~world~~ place that I occupy
is, for a person who likes that sort
of thing, one of the best anywhere
to be found, and though now al-
most unique, others such will pre-
sently arise. When that tide rises
the man who is ready to take
it at the flood will be the for-
tunate one.

It has several times happened
to me that I have suggested to
young men for whom I have had
a certain regard to do this or to
do that, and behold, suddenly,
life seemed to close in around
them and they were fixed for
good upon the spot to which I

had reckoned them⁴. I do not know
that I have had occasion, or they,
to regret the result, but the in-
evitableness of these light decisions
has greatly impressed itself upon
me, and I hesitate to raise a
finger, even to point out the
ways of wisdom. I have felt,
as I said when first I ventur-
ed to make these suggestions to
you, that it was very serious
business, and have shrunk
from furthering it, the more that
I desired it so much. But now
I feel no misgivings, it seems
to me not only the best thing open
to you, but a good thing, absolutely.
And Mr White and Mr Norton, who

are your friends as well as mine,
think so too.

So you may consider, if you
will, that you are not only earn-
ing your parem quotidianum, &
furthering, as best you may, your
the furnishing of your mind, but
that you are putting yourself
in training for an independent
career bye. and. bye. For this
you have all natural advan-
tages, and experience and
study & travel will do the
rest.]

For the present, and, so
far as I can now see, for
as long a time as you choose,
one year, two years, three years, —

You shall have ⁵ your five dollars
a day, or your thirty dollars for a
week, ^{of 40 hours,} for as many days and weeks
as you care to put in. This will
make \$ 1500. - for fifty weeks,
and if this you may feel se-
cure, for you can make up
at odd times the hours you ne-
cessarily will lose. Part of this
time, as you have understood,
will go to my personal and
private service, involving the
miscellaneous drudgery of a
private secretary. Part of it,
and the larger and best part,
will be more or less directly
in the service of the school,
and these times you will have

to keep apart in your memorandum, as hitherto. But though glad to supply all this time I do not actually need it all, and any time that you can take for more lucrative work elsewhere will please me best, so spent. The \$1500.— then, is assured, and you shall receive as much more as you can.

Good night,

Yours faithfully, always,

W. R. Ware.

How pleasant it was in his
Catskills!