

Washington's Testimonial to Ambassador Bryce

Washington Post: A letter which was presented to Ambassador Bryce of England, on the eve of his trip to Japan, as the sentiment of 64 of the capital's most representative citizens has been made public. The letter, which was presented by former District Commissioner H. B. F. Macfarland, expressing the "appreciation and affection" of the capital's residents, and Ambassador Bryce's reply, praising Washington, have been prepared in pamphlet form for distribution.

The missive from the committee of citizens reads:

"His Excellency the Rt. Hon. James Bryce, O. M., Ambassador of Great Britain:

"We can not permit you to leave Washington without our grateful

acknowledgement of your sympathetic interest in the progress of the national capital, and its helpful expression in public and private. Ever since you came as ambassador of Great Britain you have taken time, after the execution of your important duties, to study and to serve the capital with appreciation and affection. While your great services to your government and your countrymen as their ambassador have benefited, not only them, but our country and the world as well, your unofficial labors have particularly benefited the District of Columbia, the seat of the government of the United States, dear to the heart of every intelligent American.

"Having revealed us, as a people, to ourselves in 'The American Commonwealth' as no American has ever

done, you have encouraged us in the development of our national capital as only a man of vision from beyond our borders could have done.

"You have made us understand better the beauty of the capital; and the possibilities of its future as a model for American cities, as the natural object of the solicitude of the American people, the symbol of their sovereignty, the capital of their capitals.

"We can not close without referring to the share which Mrs. Bryce has taken in all of your kindly efforts for the betterment of this capital which also we highly appreciate. We trust that both of you may do Washington the honor of frequently revisiting it, and thus add to the pleasure of a host of friends.

"With high regard and respect, very sincerely yours, Charles C. Glover, Charles J. Bell, William Corcoran Eustis, James Brown Scott, Edward J. Stellwagen, William D. Hoover, George E. Hamilton, Cuno H. Rudolph, Theodore W. Noyes, A. S. Worthington, Job Barnard, William Phelps Eno, John M. Wilson, W. J. Boardman, Corcoran Thom, William T. Russell, John Joy Edson, Herbert Putnam, Abram Simon, Henry B. F. Macfarland, Alexander Graham Bell, John W. Foster, Hennen Jennings, Thomas Nelson Page, Henry Cleveland Perkins, George Dewey, Wendell P. Stafford, R. Ross Perry, J. J. Darlington, Alfred Harding, Willard H. Brownson, Charles Wood, Charles Henry Butler, Gifford Pinchot, S. W. Woodward, John Van Schaick, jr., Henry White, John Barrett, Henry B. Brown, Leonard Wood, Glenn Brown, H. K. Bush-Brown, Robert S. Woodward, Arthur J. Parsons, Nathaniel Wilson, W. H. Wilmer, George Truesdell, Edward H. Droop, Charles D. Walcott, Henry Ganett, Earl Cranston, Charles W. Richardson, Charles H. Stockton, Archibald Hopkins, W. V. Cox, T. L. Macdonald, John B. Henderson, Thomas H. Anderson, D. J. Callahan, Charles Munroe, Simon Wolf, M. M. Parker, Gilbert H. Grosvenor, Charles Noble-Gregory."

Mr. Bryce's Reply

From San Francisco, on the eve of sailing for Japan, on May 3, 1913, Mr. Bryce sent the following response:

"Honorable Henry B. F. Macfarland, Washington, D. C.—Mr. Dear Mr. Macfarland: Will you be good enough to convey my sincere thanks to the gentlemen who have signed the letter which you have handed to me, many of them my personal friends and all of them men whose good opinion I value highly.

"I am deeply touched by the kind feeling which prompted it, and by the warm terms in which it is couched, and I am especially gratified by the reference to the interest which my wife has taken in all that contributes to the welfare of Washington. Whoever lives in your city can not but feel the charm of its umbrageous streets, and be struck by the splendid possibilities which it offers in respect of the dignity and harmony of its buildings, and of the beauty that may be given to its surroundings. What I have been able to do towards arousing interest in the adornment of the city and preservation for public enjoyment of the beautiful woods and valleys that environ it has been little enough; I wish it could have been more. But it has been willingly done, and I am glad to think that an Englishman, who loves the United States and its people, is not debarred by an official position from taking in all your projects for the artistic development of the national capital an interest as keen as any that you own citizens could take.

"The spirit of friendship which inspires your letter consoles us some-

what in our regret at leaving Washington, where you have made us feel so thoroughly at home.

"I join heartily in your wish that we may be able to visit from time to time a city where we have received such unbounded kindness and the friends of whom we shall always retain an affectionate memory.

"Believe me, with renewed thanks to you and our other friends, very sincerely yours, JAMES BRYCE."

THE NEXT HAGUE CONFERENCE

In view of the great interest aroused by Mr. Bryan's proposal for a world's peace and the drawing near of the next Hague conference, it is well to recall the fact that the last conference adopted certain recommendations for the purpose of making provision for the work of the approaching session. Unless steps are taken speedily to give effect to these recommendations, the work of the conference may be so imperilled by reason of unpreparedness that its assembly may be postponed indefinitely.

The final resolution of that conference, as set forth in the Blue Book (miscellaneous 1, 1908) was as follows:

"The conference recommends to the powers the assembly of a third peace conference, which might be held within a period corresponding to that which has elapsed since the preceding conference, at a date to be fixed by common agreement between the powers, and it calls their attention to the necessity of preparing the programme of this third conference a sufficient time in advance to insure its deliberations being conducted with the necessary authority and expedition. In order to attain this object the conference considers that it would be very desirable that, some two years before the probable date of the meeting, a preparatory committee should be charged by the governments with the task of collecting the various proposals to be submitted to the conference, of ascertaining what subjects are ripe for embodiment in an international regulation, and of preparing a programme which the governments should decide upon in sufficient time to enable it to be carefully examined by the countries interested. This committee should further be intrusted with the task of proposing a system of organization and procedure for the conference itself."

We know from the official report

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