

OLMSTED BROTHERS
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San Diego, June 19, 1911.

My dear Fred:-

I have just read your letter of June 14th regarding public buildings in a park, and I want to answer it immediately and tell you that it is the best thing professionally that I ever knew you to write. I am with you completely on this matter, and I am glad that Mr. Allen is the only one I ever spoke to favorably about the location in the middle of the park, which was due to his convincing way of putting the necessities of the case before me. I do wish you could come down and support Olmsted's stand in this matter. I wish you could champion it for him in the struggle with Goodhue and Allen; because I think you could present it in a way and with a charm that would win them over to your point of view; a letter such as this one you have written me win's one to your side with enthusiasm. Try to keep busy at Seattle, Portland and Spokane long enough so that you can come down here when we are under way again. If you present the matter to the committees in the way you have presented it to me, you will win the case, unless there are too many men already set on having the trolley through the center of the park now and in connection with the Fair and the fair in the middle of the park for the advantage to themselves personally one way or the other, which it would bring. I think it weakens our side very much to complain that to put the expo in the middle of the park sets it far away from any trolley, because the other side

immediately answers "We will put a trolley through the park then our side answers "A trolley through the park will be all wrong", and our opponents answer that "The people will have to have a trolley through the middle of the park sooner or later, so let's have it now when we can so place it that it will hurt the park as little as possible. If we wait until the people demand it, we will then not be in so strong a position to dictate that it shall go under the brow of the hill and be made inconspicuous even if more expensive to build that way." Don't you see what a weak way that is of presenting our side of the case? And that is the kind of fight I have heard our side put up - offering feeble objections here and there instead of offering the real strong reason that you advance. Our opponents make our position seem very trivial when we descend to these little subterfuges and side issues. That is why I earnestly hope you can come here and champion the cause. No one in authority calls on me for any opinion in the matter; so thus far I have counted naught in the controversy. If I get into it now I will count for something if I have any power of convincing people; but they are not likely to appeal to me, whereas if you were here you would have the right to speak to them about it. Allen has determined that if I was called upon to say anything in the matter he would have me on his side, because he worked over me and used all his powers of convincing argument until he felt he had me. But your letter has led me back into the fold once more. Do keep busy up there three weeks longer so that you can then come down here and help. Mr. Allen believes that within a month we will be under way again. I put up to him the question of guaranteeing my pay for another month and he went

to see Marston about it, but Marston was away. Mr. Allen asks me to make no plans to go and says he will personally guarantee that the \$300 will be paid O.B. He will settle it with the Expo people today or tomorrow. The Mayor Wadham is due here tonight and Collins is coming post haste, trying to reach here Tuesday 6:30, for there is to be a big meeting of the stockholders on Tuesday night and then important results will be reached. In Sunday's paper the park board started to back down in poor fashion and this morning's editorial in the Union roasts them. They are beginning now to make them eat their words.

The Floral Association had their annual meeting a couple of days ago and Robinson was elected as usual. He spoke not in real support about the Expo; in fact, in a rather ambiguous way, which is mean and underhanded. Miss Sessions came out splendidly in our support. From what I hear she must have made a fine little speech; sensible and reasonable and enthusiastic. She has proved a staunch friend of ours at every turn. Robinson is not. And Rodney Stokes is his tool, and the two of them are trying to damage Marston's personal character in a low-down, disgusting way. Any man who stoops to the dirty work they are doing deserves no respect of anybody.

I wrote Mr. Harper regarding Gill and gave Gill a little note of introduction to Harper to take with him. I hope something good may come of it. I will keep you posted of affairs here. Keep me closely informed of your dates.

Yours sincerely,

Signed, H. H. Blossom