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OLMSTED BROTHERS  
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DIRECTOR OF WORKS

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SEP 11 3 52 PM '11

*Sept. 5-11.*

ACK'D BY \_\_\_\_\_

ANS'D BY \_\_\_\_\_

READ BY *Jan D*

*W. S. Dawson*

*Mr. John C. Olmsted,  
Brookline, Mass.*

*Dear Mr. Olmsted:-*

*Last Sunday I heard from Mr. Wangerheim that you intended to resign your connection with the Park and Exposition work. I was very much surprised and also hurt personally as I feel that this situation ~~was~~ would not have arisen except thro my suggesting and urging the central site. I have done this solely because I feel that it is my duty to the Exposition.*

*In all other matters I have tried to forward your wishes to*

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the best of my ability and shall  
continue to do so as long as  
I am here.

Although to you the Park is  
of greater importance than the  
Exposition yet I think the Exposition  
needs you much more than the  
Park does. The only way by which  
this Exposition can achieve success  
is by having grounds and buildings  
of unusual and very exceptional  
artistic merit and I do not think  
that this can be done without  
your assistance.

The A-Y-P at Seattle was  
generally considered to have been  
a very successful Exposition.  
Everyone admitted that the

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exhibits were meagre and  
commonplace - the amusements  
were poor and tawdry - the  
special events ill-conceived and  
abominably managed but the  
fair was a success because the  
grounds were more beautiful  
than <sup>anything</sup> the people of the Northwest  
had ever seen or dreamed of.

Thousands of people went time  
after time - merely to walk thro  
the grounds, and these people  
felt it a personal loss when  
the Exposition was over and the  
work destroyed. If it did nothing  
else that Exposition firmly fixed  
for the Northwest the standards by

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which landscape architecture will be inspired and judged for many years. This can be proved in any part of the residency sections of Seattle - even in the poorest localities are front yards that are planned and planted in imitation of some part of the Exposition. This was your work.

Mr. Olsted, this Exposition needs you and your work and with your cooperation ~~is~~ is assured of artistic success. If you can reconsider your decision and continue your work here I know that both the Park and the Exposition will gain and believe

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That the results will be gratifying to you. This is not only an expression of my own feelings but of the Park Board, the Exposition management and all others interested in the work.

Yours sincerely,

Frank P. Allen, Jr.