

4519 Fifteenth Ave. West
Vancouver, British Columbia
Canada

April 25, 1950

Dear Mrs Brack :

A good deal has been happening since I received your letter of March 14th. For one thing, I have at last found a competent typist and with her assistance have got the first half of the manuscript into more or less final shape. This makes it possible to have some idea of what it is going to look like if and when the cold light of print is shed upon it -- a salutary if painful experience.

I should be most grateful if you could let me know by return mail the exact date when the annual meeting is to take place so that the typist and I can go on working until the last moment and thus send you as large a "swatch" as I possibly can. If all goes well, this should cover the Hampton regime but I do not think that the Nutting era can be completely finished in time for "holding on high," although it would be in your hands not long afterwards.

I know you will understand my reluctance to submit half-finished material for scrutiny by the History Committee and will grant me sufficient time to do justice to Miss Nutting's character and achievements. I have done most of the spade work but the deeper I go the more keenly I realize how difficult and subtle the task is going to be. The handling of the Hampton regime is relatively simple in comparison with it.

Your reference to Miss Dock's version of the famous controversy regarding who first thought of an educational memorial to Nightingale interested me very much. My money is still on the redoubtable Mrs Bedford Fenwick but perhaps that is because of my stubborn English pride. I wonder how far Miss Pfefferkorn will want to carry Adelaide Nutting's extra-curricular activities. There were enough of them prior to 1907 to complicate my task severely but I imagine that Blanche will find them an even more baffling problem. What a woman -- what a woman.

In anticipation of an early reply and with complete confidence in your customary patience and understanding,

Cordially yours

(Ethel Johns)