

feel justified in taking the initiative and in reaching through diplomatic channels, as recommended by the Second Conference, an agreement (with Germany, the United States, Austria-Hungary, France, Great Britain, Italy, Japan and Russia) respecting the selection of the judges and the constitution of the court.

If you would not consider it impertinent I would venture to suggest that, if the proposed method of composing the court appeals to your judgment and if you decide to sound the powers specified as to their willingness to coöperate in its establishment, you might perhaps recommend an informal conference, to be held at The Hague, at some time in the near future, of representatives of the powers which approve of its institution, particularly of the delegates of the powers which presented the joint project to the Peace Conference and which negotiated the agreements of March and July, 1910.

It is needless to say that I am at your service in any and every way in which you may think that I can be of use, for the Court of Arbitral Justice and its establishment are to me as life itself.

In the hope that you may see your way to take steps for the formation of the Court of Arbitral Justice in this, or in some better way which may occur to you, and thanking you for the opportunity you have given me of laying my views before you both orally and in writing, I am, my dear Mr. Loudon,

Very sincerely yours,

JAMES BROWN SCOTT.

To His Excellency,

JONKHEER J. LOUDON,

Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands,
The Hague, Holland.