

# McGILL UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

REDPATH LIBRARY - MEDICAL LIBRARY - BIBLIOTHECA OSLERIANA - LAW LIBRARY  
ROYAL VICTORIA COLLEGE LIBRARY - BLACKADER LIBRARY OF ARCHITECTURE  
EMMA SHEARER WOOD LIBRARY OF ORNITHOLOGY - BLACKER LIBRARY OF ZOOLOGY  
BAILLIE LIBRARY OF CHEMISTRY - TRAVELING LIBRARY DEPARTMENT  
THE GEST CHINESE RESEARCH LIBRARY

MONTREAL

March 4, 1927.

GERHARD R. LOMER, M.A., PH.D.,  
LIBRARIAN

Sir Arthur Currie,  
Principal,  
McGill University.

## Museums

Dear Sir Arthur,

At the meeting of the McCord Committee yesterday, Dr. Lighthall presented certain historical manuscripts to the Museum.

This raises a question in my mind as to whether the relations between the McCord Museum and the Redpath Library have been sufficiently defined, in accordance with the general policy of the University Committee on Museums.

You will remember that one of the chief objects of that Committee was to plan and carry out a logical classification of museum material, and this has, in most cases, been satisfactorily accomplished. The question of manuscripts, however, is a complicated one because, at first sight, it might seem as if the McCord Museum had a claim upon a portion of this class of material. Autograph letters, small signed documents, proclamations, etc., have undoubtedly an interest for the public and their exhibition in cases is justified.

But with regard to historical manuscripts, especially of the bulkier sort, it has generally been the practice of institutions to regard these as library, rather than museum, material. We are at present in danger of having two groups of manuscripts and, as Librarian and Custodian of one group, I am strongly of the opinion that every effort