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Stafford Hotel,
St. James's Place,
S.W.1.

LONDON, 16th. August, 1921.

Dr. J. A. Nicholson,
Registrar,
McGill University,
Montreal.

My dear Nicholson,

The other day I wrote a fairly long letter to Mr. Glasco, telling him some of the things I had been doing. I hope that he has fully recovered from his recent illness, and also that you have had a decent holiday and are in good form. I think that all of you will like Mr. Basil Williams, the man whom I have chosen as Professor of History for McGill. Everyone to whom I have spoken concerning him, and to whom I have introduced him, like him very much. He is a man of good presence, and a ready speaker. He has an energetic and engaging manner, and looks forward to his life in Montreal with no small degree of pleasure. He is taking passage on a boat sailing from Liverpool on September 22nd., His wife and family will follow at the beginning of next year.

He has taken an interest in educational work generally, and was connected with the Education Department of the Government of South Africa when he was there after the War. He has served in the South African War, and in the late War, in the latter, he held a commission as Major in the Artillery. There is no doubt of his scholarly standing. The books that he has written on Pitt, Cecil Rhodes, Abraham Lincoln, and others, are all accepted as the best work regarding these men. He appealed to me because he is a distinct Modernist, his specialty being the History of the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century.

I have continued my search for a Classical man, but as I intimated to Glasco, I have come to the conclusion that we should go "all out" for Lang of Chicago. The best Classical men here, Harrower and others, tell me that they do not think there is a better man than Lang on this side of the water. His work is known to them, and Harrower advises strongly that we secure Lang if possible.