

TO CHARLES SANDERS PEIRCE, JUNE 20, 1902<sup>40</sup>

Chicago, Illinois.

June 20, 1902.

Dear Mr. Peirce:—

Ever since your last letter reached me, I have been the slave of circumstances,—a trip West to be made for Phi Beta Kappa and Commencement Addresses,<sup>41</sup> my examinations at Cambridge to be attended to,—still a second trip West to be prepared for (—a trip which I have now begun), and all the other confusing responsibilities of the closing weeks of our Academic year. I seize almost the first free time, during my passage through Chicago, to do what I in vain tried to do before leaving Cambridge yesterday morning, —viz., to write you the letter that I have so long owed.

First then, as to your kind proposal about the cooperative study of Logic on my part, and of Hegel on yours, this summer.<sup>42</sup> The plan, which is in any case very attractive, is rendered extremely so by my wish to make some real progress before long as to some logical questions about which you, of all men, could best enlighten me. But, on the other hand, the project is rendered simply impossible by the fact that I am under engagement to teach this summer at the Summer School of the University of Cal., and am now on the way thither. I shall not return until too late to leave any time for your plan to be carried out. It is, as you see, a peculiarly busy time with me. This, as I said, is my second trip to the West within a few weeks, and this one is to be a long one.

Secondly, as to the general topic of your former letter to me,—a letter of which you must have thought me shamefully neglectful:—As a fact, I was not only very busy, but I was unwilling to write you mere good wishes in reply to your statement of your practical situation. I wanted, and still want, to do something more effective than merely to express sympathy. Poor and uninfluential as I myself

<sup>40</sup> ALS. Peirce Papers. HL. Partly printed in James Harry Cotton, *Royce on the Human Self* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1954), pp. 301-2.

<sup>41</sup> Royce delivered the Phi Beta Kappa Address at the State University of Iowa on "Provincialism"; the essay was printed in the *Boston Evening Transcript* and later reprinted in *RQP*, pp. 57-108.

<sup>42</sup> Peirce, in a previous letter, had invited Royce to spend several months of the summer at Milford, Pa., working together as indicated.

am, I have been much perplexed to know how best to serve your interests, which, as I am sure, are the interests of advanced work in Logic in this country. So, although I did not write, in direct reply to you, at that time, I did act as I could to pave the way for further efforts in your behalf. I had a long personal interview with D. C. Gilman, during a visit at Baltimore, in the course of which I urged your case upon his attention.<sup>43</sup> In answer to a further request of his, I wrote (sometime, I think, in March), a very full semi-official letter to him, for him to use with the Carnegie trustees. In that letter I stated my view of the importance of your proposed work in Logic, as well as my appreciation of what you have already done. I said very plainly that, *if* I had money of my own to spend upon supporting your Logic work, I should unquestionably be ready to spend such money, & to make considerable sacrifices to get that done. And I said what else I could to urge upon the Carnegie Inst. trustees the importance of offering you such support as they felt to be consistent with their plans.

Gilman replied cordially, and said that he would represent the matter as strongly as possible to his trustees. But he made no other promise, and has not since notified me of the result.

You see then that despite my remissness, I am not as bad a rememberer of my obligations to you as my silence may have indicated. As a fact, I shall do what I can to further your interests as a Logician, and as an investigator. But my power to be of aid is indeed small.

I have also spoken to the Secretary of the American Academy of A. & S. as to the possibility of printing a paper for you. He seemed to think that, if the paper were ready, I could probably get the Academy to print it for you. But that is not quite certain.

If you see any way in which a word from me would be serviceable in getting you better chances for the Carnegie aid, or for some similar chance, please write me at 2401 LeConte Avenue, Berkeley, California, at any time until Aug. 1. After that I am not sure of my

<sup>43</sup> Gilman was the founding president of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, 1902-4. During 1902 Peirce planned and partly executed a book entitled, *Minute Logic*; see bibliography in *CPP*, 8: 293-94. Although Gilman envisioned that the Institution would seek to encourage "unusual talent" and "to secure the publication of very extended memoirs, for which there is at present no adequate provision" [see Fabian Franklin, *The Life of Daniel Coit Gilman* (New York: Dodd, Mead and Co., 1910)], the Institution did not offer Peirce a subvention and his book was never published.

precise address for some time. But a letter sent to 103 Irving St., Cambridge, would always be forwarded to me.

I thank you for your critical remarks about my own work.<sup>44</sup> I know that it still needs much improvement. If I ever come to a revised edition of my *World & Indiv.*, I will try to set right the matter as to your relation to Dedekind. I meant to be fair to you. But it is hard to get all details right.

Yours Very Truly  
Josiah Royce.