

New York American

January 5, 1922.

Dear Miss Morgan :

I do not believe from what I hear from Rome in relation to the two fountains that they would be any cheaper made in Rome than they would be made in California, when you consider the packing, the shipping, the duty, insurance, and everything.

At any rate, the difference in favor of the Rome fountains would be not enough to warrant the additional risk and the possible delay through breakage.

I suggest, therefore, that you go ahead and have these fountains made in California and that we begin on them immediately so that they may be ready and erected as soon as possible.

2-- I telegraphed you about the design for the wall and seat below B which you sent me. The one with the steps might be the best one but you merely indicated steps without giving me an idea of where they were going to. I assumed that they were going down to the road and that the wall supporting the seat would also go down as far as the road, making some sort of a feature there similar to the one on the other side of B.

Perhaps this was not your intention. Perhaps these steps only came down from the higher level. Will you kindly let me know a little more definitely what it is proposed to do with the steps. Then I can give you a better opinion on the matter.

3-- I was delighted to learn that no great damage was done by the storm. Of course it is too bad that the oak is down, and I suppose we must eventually transplant a pretty good size one some place near where the old oak stood.

But I think it might be well to wait until we have the big central house up and then plant the oak in the place where it will do the most good.

If those tree surgeons would not spend quite so much time on each tree, they might get the oaks in condition to resist another big storm, which may come along any year.

I think, too, in view of these storms that the idea of putting the cement in the main trunks and the tamped cork and asphaltum in the upper limbs of the trees will be shown to be a good one. I believe the outstanding limbs would be broken down

*Fountains
authentic
to go ahead
with*

Miss Julia Morgan--2.

1-5-22

by the mere weight of the cement added to the force of the wind.

I expect to be in California the latter part of this month. I hope the planting is progressing.

Sincerely yours,

W R Aker

JW

BOND
HAMMILL