161 DEVONSHIRE STREET,

BOSTON, MASS. May 9, 1916

N—N 9.15

Dear McClennen:-

I have received your letter of May 7th, and have wired you that the letter will not appear in the Bulletin. I send Frankfurter's letter and the letter that Howe wrote to Frankfurter, but retain Stevens's letter, so that if you advise its publication elsewhere we may try to get it in. My own feeling, however, is very strongly against this method of attack. It seems to me that the ground to pursue with Lowell, Choate, and various other persons who are esteemed as a rule in the community, is to say that they are deceived and are really the victims of the long publicity campaign conducted by Barron. Their attitude on this single question will not overcome their estimation in the popular mind, and to attack them on this one ground I think is not only ineffective but is actually prejudicial. Take for example this letter to Lowell. No one supposes that Lowell is actively doing anything at the present time, and to drag him out because of what Fox is doing is merely in order to make a personal attack on him. That kind of an attack always reacts, and I am strongly of the opinion that this kind of letter ought not to be published. It will not gain any votes, and it will simply aggravate feeling. I am glad to learn what you say about McAdoo. I disagree entirely with the statement that the President's letter is worth missing confirmation to get. Such a view is perhaps comforting, but hardly more. I am afraid that the President's letter may react, but I hope that I may be wrong in that.

Very truly yours,

Enclosures