

October 23, 1928.

My dear Mrs. Carnegie,

I have been for quite a long while intending to write you, but in the first place you were away from home, and during the last week or ten days I have been somewhat under the weather and not doing anything except what it was absolutely compulsory for me to do.

Last spring I reorganized the force, which in old days used to make replicas of the Diplodocus at Mr. Carnegie's request, and I am happy to inform you that three of these replicas have been cast from the molds and that the parts which they lack at the United States National Museum in Washington, and for which they have asked have also been cast from our molds, so that one of these days we will be able to send them the material which they request in order to set their specimen upon its feet. I am perfectly sure, however, from what I have seen of the specimen in Washington that it is not to be compared for perfection with the one which we have in Pittsburgh.

One of the three casts, which I have made, we have mounted in a preliminary way on the steel supports for gift to our Mexican friends. It has now been dismounted from the supports and my men are engaged in packing the specimen for shipment to Mexico.

I undertook the task of preparing this specimen for Mexico at the solicitation of the Mexican Ambassador, Señor Manuel Tellez, and, after you and our associates in the Corporation had so kindly agreed to supply the funds which were necessary, I wrote to Tellez and asked him to put me in communication with the proper parties in in [sic] the city of Mexico from whom I might ascertain how to ship and where the thing is to be installed. I got no reply from him, he paid no attention to me, and then in desperation I wrote to Dr. A. L. Herrera, the Director of the Mexican National Museum in Mexico. The result was an immediate deluge of communications expressing unalloyed satisfaction and joy unbounded at the prospect of receiving the facsimile of the Diplodocus. It seems that Tellez, while failing to answer me had already written to Mexico and said that the gift would be made and for six months past the Mexican newspapers have had items in reference to the gift of the Diplodocus. Herrera in one of his letters to me says, "The munificent gift of Mrs. Carnegie of the world-famous replica can only be likened in its significance to the flight of Lindbergh bearing the good-will of the great republic of the north to her sister republic in the south." A further evidence of gratitude is revealed by the diploma, which I have the honor of sending you under separate cover and which has just been received, by which the Society of Biological Studies in the City of Mexico has named you an associate benefactress. This diploma it pleases me greatly to send you and also a gift of the Mexican newspaper published under date of October 15th last, in which on the front page you will see that you are hailed as 'a kind benefactress of science in Mexico.' I think our little plan to send a copy of the Diplodocus to Mexico is creating as much enthusiasm as was the case in London, Paris, Berlin, and elsewhere. Your dear husband once said to me: "I never got as much pleasure or as much publicity from so small a sum of money as I have through your happy thought of making replicas of the animal, which bears my name.["] Of course that naturally pleased me coming from him, but the ball is still rolling.

There is only one drawback in the whole matter and that arises from the crowded condition of the Mexican National Museum. Dr. Herrera writes me that he does not know for the life of him where he is going to be able to find place to set the thing up. The President of Mexico has recently by presidential decree set aside a large piece of land for a new building or annex to the present Museum, and they are making an attempt now through the Mexican congress to erect a building. They write me that they are very hopeful that this will be done and that the first section of the building is to be a hall large enough to accommodate "El diplodoco." Herrera, in the event that their plans succeed, says 'Mrs. Carnegie will have the pleasure of knowing not only that she has made a

notable gift to Mexican science, but brought about through that gift a forward movement in the development of the Mexican National Museum.['] So you become doubly a benefactress.

Now I hope I have not wearied you by what I have written. How would you like, when everything is ready, to be set up and installed and dedicated, to make a little excursion to Mexico and hand the thing over to the President as Mr. Carnegie did at South Kensington on a certain occasion when I remember you were with us. I think that would be real jolly.

With the kindest and sincerest regards both from myself and Mrs. Holland, I am as ever,

Your sincere friend,
[W. J. Holland]