

11 Sussex Place, Regent's Park, London. N.W.1.

9 June 1957

Dear Mr. Havard-Williams

I must apologise for not having written sooner to thank you for your letter of 13 April. At present I am living between London and Oxford, with very little spare time, and your letter got mislaid.

My sisters and I are very pleased about your acceptance of our offer of the projected B.M. Catalogue. I have sent in the preliminary form, and will let you know in due course about developments.

I hope that the N.Z. Government will make a satisfactory grant for your proposed new library building. It seems to me desirable that the University should aim at a very great expansion, not only a first-rate teaching library but also a great research collection, so that scholars can do valuable original work in as many fields as possible. While finance must always be a difficulty, it should not be allowed to limit

one's aims too narrowly; especially nowadays, when microfilms and so on make it possible to work on MSS. and rare books without seeing the originals.

You may have heard that I am now engaged in editing the correspondence of John Locke. I am trying to make a collection of his works, which I propose to leave to the University Library. At present it is rudimentary, but it should grow during the next few years.

Thank you for your congratulations on my D.Litt. It is acting as a stimulus for work on Locke.

Yours sincerely

Esmond S. de Beer