

Lennox Hill Hospital 76 St and Park Ave

14 March 1948

Dear Eliot---

By now you must have Charles Duell's letter, which he read me over the phone. Delighted his response to the new text was so prompt (for a publisher, that is!) He wasn't, as I remember, very specific as to size of book or number of illustrations, but I don't think you need worry any more than one usually does about the quality of the reproductions. Reproductions are fairly lousy in general just now witness Merle's great attempt with 50 by Edward, unless you get into the super class like Dorothy's Stieglitz album, and that was a real headache for both Dorothy and Lakeside for about six months. Charles wants to do a good job on the plates always, and so does Walter <sup>O</sup>Godwin, his production manager and a nice guy, who is in direct control of engraving and printing and so forth. Special prints for the process chosen---half-tone or gravure---may have to be made, and perhaps you should work with the engraver (for half-tone, Charles usually gets Beck) long enough for him to realize clearly what you want in the matter of blacks and whites and so on. Paper was the great stumbling block with the Strand and Weston catalogs (both Beck jobs) and that situation is much better now. If you decide to have Charles do the book (or anybody else, for that matter) I suggest you come on and work out the details---size, paper, process, layout, etc---together. It's very hard to work out things like that by mail or telephone. And, also, when you get to the contract stage, have somebody who knows the field look it over. If you have nobody in Santa Fe, we can get advice on it here. Charles definitely tends towards the hardfisted type when it comes to contracts.

Do, please, decide according to your own feelings in this matter.

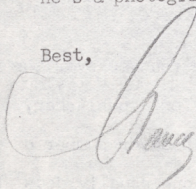
Houghton Mifflin seem very excited about the New England book; no final word yet.

A hospital is a fine place to catch up with oneself! I came in for a very minor repair, so we all thought, which has turned out to be quite diverting for my very



remarkable doctor. He rather thinks he got something unique this time; maybe that's why he brings me bottles of wine! Yesterday we sprung Paul and his Ektachromes on him, over some very fine red Chilean wine, and today I shall spring yours and mine. He's a photographer, too!

Best,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Paul', written in a cursive style.