

Jap

Southampton, N.Y.
June 25, 1940

M. Gabriel Hanotaux
c/o France-Amérique
9, Avenue Victor-Emmanuel
Paris (VIII), France

My dear M. Hanotaux:

Only a few days ago I received the airmail letter dated May 30, signed by yourself and MM. Jaray and Roz.

Things have moved so rapidly in the interval that it is almost impossible to answer your letter in terms that would be understood.

The collapse of France has broken our hearts. We find it impossible to understand how one of the greatest peoples the world has ever seen should have gone down under the cruel and brutal attack of a barbarian with every modern military device at his disposal. We realize, however, that a glacier could overwhelm even an Aristotle, and that the intellectual and moral life of a people is as nothing when faced by brute force in the hands of a maniac.

I shall keep your letter before me and act in its spirit as opportunity offers.

With warmest regard and every good wish, I am

Faithfully yours,

Nicholas Murray Butler