

16 Gray Gardens E.

Cambridge, Mass.

Ap. 12 '61.

Dear Father Merton:—

Please forgive me for not answering your p.c.s before this.

I think very well of your plan to publish a book of aphorisms + short extracts by Coon'y. And it would be beautiful to have it printed by Victor H. Obviously the quotes used have to be v. carefully chosen, + Dona L. would have to get Bollinger's permission. I think the bit in the current Good Work in which he defines and as "the principle of order governing the production of utilities" should go in. For my money that is the best definition ever. The word "utilities" has a real punch to it, which is necessary to remind us of final causes.

And thank you again for the

use of the Watts photos, and particularly for making me aware of him. Since the issue appeared I have read his excellent piece in Todd's THE ARTS, ARTISTS + THINKERS (which has some wonderful things in it, along with quite a bit of conventional drivel). John Julian Ryan tells me that Watts was in this country a few years ago. I did not know that.

To help me with my editorship of Good Work I have been advised to ask a few people to act as "Contributing editors". A "co-ed" would agree to read me once a year a piece of writing, by himself or another, which he thought suitable for G.W. This would not be an absolute promise but a statement of serious intention. I think the publication of the list of names would give the magazine an appearance of solidity

and range which it now lacks. Any of these pieces that we accepted would of course be paid for at our usual rate of three cents a word. I like this plan very much as I think it will enable me to make the quarterly something much more like what it ought to be than it is now. Christopher Dawson has just agreed to assume this burden, and I am much pleased with this. I am hoping very much that you will be able to do the same. We have a most important cause, but as things are now, we don't seem to be publicizing it as it should be.

I hope you'll be able to say yes.

Yours in F

Gaubert.