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ARCHITECTS

N. E. COR. OF 15TH AND WALNUT STREETS

PHILADELPHIA

February 16th, 1915

Rev. W. Herbert Burk,

Port Kennedy, Pa.

Dear Mr. Burk:-

Pursuant to the decision reached at the meeting of the Committee on Windows for Valley Forge held yesterday, I am sending under another cover blue prints showing the number and size of windows and the probable number of medallions in each window. These should be definitely determined in consultation with the maker of the glass.

With reference to the proposed theme for the windows, my recollection is, that each member of the Committee should send such ideas as might suggest themselves, to you and Mr. Medary for consideration and that they should submit their conclusions to the other members of the Committee for consideration before the next meeting.

My suggestion for the theme is that inasmuch as Valley Forge was not a battlefield and that the great lesson which it stands for is self-sacrificing devotion to a cause, the series of windows in the Chapel should tell that story and keep alive that inspiration for future generations. With this thought as a basis, I should like to see the great East window over the altar, represent primarily the great sacrifice of Christ himself for all mankind, surrounded by the great martyrs of the church who gave their lives that Christ's gospel of the brotherhood of man might live. This group should extend to the single window in the North side of the Sanctuary. The windows of the Nave should depict the various historical sacrifices in the long struggle of the race for human liberties and religious freedom, which culminated for us in the Declaration of Independence. These subjects might include the abandonment of home and country by many groups and sects migrating to our shores to establish and enjoy political and religious freedom. These subjects would logically lead up to the West window which would represent the foundation of this Republic upon the sacrifices of our forefathers and the establishment of a constitutional government guaranteeing the liberties for which many of these men had given their lives and many more had suffered privation and want. In such a window it would be quite

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possible to show the hand of Washington throughout the struggle, notably during the dark days of the Valley Forge period, and again as President of the young Republic launched under his guiding hand and set upon a firm foundation before his retirement to private life.

The above is simply a skeleton for a theme which I believe could be developed in such a way as to bring out the true spirit and meaning of the winter at Valley Forge.

Faithfully yours,

MIC

*M. B. Medary*

Copy to Mrs. Chas. C. Harrison, Chairman,

Rev. H. M. Medary