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TELEPHONE:
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June 24th; 1957.

Dear Vice-Chancellor,

You kindly granted me an interview on May 20th, regarding the abandonment by the Society of Antiquaries of Scripta Minora III, which ^{I had} ~~had~~ ^{completed the} ~~last editing~~ for publication. Since then I have had a good deal of correspondence on the subject, but have not troubled you with it until the situation should become clearer. Briefly, the official attitude of the Society has been one of evasion and procrastination. But I wrote ^{personally} ~~directly~~ to Sir Maxmilian Wheeler the President, and Mr. J. N. Myers, Bodley's Librarian, the ^{son +} executor of Sir John Myers, the former editor of the work. Fortunately, ~~but~~ I had two ^{new} pieces of evidence which completely refuted the two arguments the Society had advanced for abandoning the work: namely, a letter from an Italian scholar making clear he was not contemplating a rival publication, and an article summarising all recent work on the subject of Scripta A ~~making clear~~ ^{showing} how tentative it is, and proving that it makes a definitive ^{and} publication of the documents not less but more desirable.

Sir Maxmilian Wheeler has written me some conciliatory letters, saying that he has taken my reactions very seriously, and offering space in Archaeologia for a substantial article, which should

also be separately printed. Mr. Myers has ^{told me} made ~~it clear~~ in a letter ~~to me~~ that he has been in touch with Sir Mortimer Wheeler, who is very unhappy about the present situation and may raise it again at the next Council Meeting; though he does not think it will be possible to resurrect the full book.

My feeling now is that although I am still officially in dispute with the Society of Antiquaries, I should trust those who ^{are} clearly feel ~~the~~ uneasy about the matter and will go to some trouble to ~~make~~ help. I ~~think~~ ^{think I had} better abandon hope of seeing the full volume produced in the form ~~first~~ ^{planned}, but will prepare for press a shortened version of the ~~work~~ ^{work}, retaining all the essential documents and transcriptions, but omitting all commentary, and will then ^{show} present it to Sir Mortimer Wheeler, ^{for transmission to Archaeologia} ~~if necessary~~ if there is any difficulty ^{about} ~~with that~~ ^{there} ~~concerning~~, I will say the University Press here.

I would be grateful to know if ^{in the circumstances} you think ~~that~~ it would be wisest for us to close the dispute on these terms.

Yours sincerely,
LWB.