January 23, 1937

Mr. David H. Scott  
Harper and Brothers  
49 East Thirty-Third Street  
New York City, New York

Dear Mr. Scott:

I promised to write you relative to Professor William Ward Watkin's book "The Church of Tomorrow," which I have read with great interest. It certainly is the first adequate treatment of a subject that has long merited our attention. The emphasis that Mr. Watkin puts upon the spirit of the fine old work that was so definitely the expression of the religious zeal of its time is correctly placed. While I fail to see how, in a day like ours which treats religion as superficially as it does most of the concerns of life, anything like the real religious fervor of olden days is to be produced, I do believe that art may have some ministry in the production of a worshipful or meditative atmosphere. But to the architect, however accomplished, cannot be left the whole task of producing good ecclesiastical art. The great churches of bygone days were as much social, civic and psychological expressions as they were artistic achievements. I rather doubt whether a like combination with similar results can ever again be produced. The world has somehow changed.

But however I may question some premises upon which Mr. Watkin has proceeded, I find the book definitely stimulating and a splendid statement of the problem. I hope it may be widely read.

Yours very faithfully,

[Signature]

Dean