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September 2, 1914

Dear Dr. Garrel:

As Dr. Flexner has already informed you, the Rockefeller Foundation would be very glad if it could help to increase the scope and effectiveness of the noble work in which you are now engaged. We realize that the surgical procedures which you have perfected, have large possibilities of practical application in the surgery of war, and it would therefore be especially fitting that the Rockefeller Foundation should place a sum of money at your command for surgical equipment and supplies. I therefore have the pleasure of authorizing you to incur for our account an expenditure of \$5,000, and I should be glad if you will let me know in case you could make good use of an additional sum.

You will understand, of course, that this is a gift intended to make possible the best utilization of your peculiar abilities, and is not a gift generally applicable to military hospital supplies. For the latter purpose we are making a substantial contribution through the American Red Cross.

You will also understand fully that the aid thus tendered by the Rockefeller Foundation is absolutely consistent with the attitude of complete neutrality which President Wilson has enjoined upon the American people. As a matter of fact, the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research is now represented in the armies of England, France and Germany. Dr. Zeachrias of our Hospital staff sailed for Antwerp at the out-break of the war, but

Dr. Carrel,

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his ship was diverted to Liverpool, where he found himself a prisoner. The English authorities, however, magnanimously accepting in good faith the evidence of his non-combatant position, allowed him to proceed to Hamburg. In case the Roumanian army should be involved, the Rockefeller Institute will be again represented by Dr. Medigreceanu.

Mr. James is coming from Boston tonight, and after conference with him, I shall send you a cable message in regard to the appropriation referred to above, and also in regard to a possibility of your securing the services of Miss Lilly, in case that should prove feasible.

The war is too terrible and awful to be referred to in any casual way. We are all stunned beyond the point of imagining its horrors or estimating its effects. It is the reductio ad absurdum of the militarism which has burdened Europe in the last half century, but the absurdity is taking the form of an unprecedented tragedy.

Our thoughts are constantly with you and your colleagues in all the armies, whose work constitutes the only mitigation of the terrible destruction that is now going on.

I suppose you are now separated from Madame Carrel, but when you write I hope you will give her my kindest regards and sympathy.

Sincerely yours,

Jerome D. Greene

Dr. Alexis Carrel,
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Claude, Bernard, Lyons,
Rhone, France.