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July 26th 1935

Kulu, Punjab, British India.

My dear Mrs Sutro,

In his recent letter Prof. de Roerich asked me to transmit to you his greetings. Right now they are in the heart of the Gobi Desert, but we soon hope they will return. They have been very successful working there under most difficult conditions. We were very interested to hear of your new book as well as of your recent trip to Europe. We expect to receive soon a copy of your book from New-York.

Our Institute here continues its work on medicinal plants under the direction of my son Svetoslav, and also on materia medica which has been greatly increased of late. Also has our plantation work of medical herbs been developed and we hope to increase it still further in the near future. We have been very successful and we see that this may be a very important branch. Svetoslav was also able to identify the large number of Tibetan Medical substances, mentioned in the works of Prof. Pozdneyeff and others, which were hitherto unidentified.

Under separate cover we are sending you a small album of reproductions from Prof. de Roerich's paintings etc, which had been published here lately and ask you to accept it as a small remembrance.

I wonder whether you liked the finger-bowls which I had sent you through Miss E.J. Lichtmann last March? We shall soon send you another album of photographs taken locally by Mr. Shibayev - they will give you an approximate idea of the scenery around here. Should there be something that may be of interest to you over here, please write to us direct and we shall be glad to do what we can for you over here. Airmail now takes only fifteen days from New-York instead of the whole month by boat.

We often think of you and send you our best wishes and greetings

Yours very sincerely,

Mrs Lionel Sutro
115 Central Park West
New-York City, USA.

"Urusvati"
NAGGAR, Kulu, Punjab, Br. India

Sept. 20, 1935.

My dear Mrs Sutro,

Your two letters dated Aug. 14th and 24th have been received by me and gave me ^A real pleasure. I was glad to learn that your book "The Story of My Life", of which Frances wrote to me, will appear soon. I will read it with great interest, knowing of your cultural and noble activities. It will no doubt be full of vital and constructive experiences. I recall a few talks with you at New-York and one especially stands out in my memory. You shared with me your ideas of several projects of which one was already taking shape, - precisely the creation of a special home for widowed mothers with children, who were forced to earn their living. This home according to your project, supplied them with cheap living quarters, and what was most essential, that this home was to have a Committee composed of members-contributors, as well as of the mothers themselves; this committee appointed one of the mothers in turn to take upon herself the care of all the children in the absence of the others. This idea was especially close to my heart. The service to the General Good, according to one's abilities and means, is the noblest duty and the most beautiful task of man. I hope that in your book this activity of yours will be fully recorded.

You probably know from Frances and Sina, that the American Expedition headed by Prof. Roerich is directed into our regions, the Himalayas, where the vegetation is so rich and varied. We expect to see them very soon. President Roosevelt has inaugurated a most beneficial movement in trying to arrest the spreading of the destructive desert, by introducing drought resisting plants and herbs and by reforestation. This alone should immortalize his name for posterity, though perhaps not all understand at present the imperative need of carrying out this project for the welfare of the country.

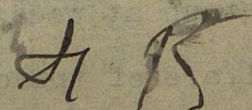
Yes, you are right, that we have to fight seemingly unsurmountable obstacles. But we never feel downhearted, on the contrary, since only obstacles sharpen and

strain our abilities. How many new experiences man gains from every battle for the sake of Light. All of us come to Earth in order to fulfill better our task and learn a new lesson for the future. Yes, it is difficult to carry a great name, many enemies rise from all corners. It is inevitable. The brighter the Light, the darker and deeper the shadows, yet of course friends are still more numerous. Often we do not even know them personally. But they contribute their noble share. Of course the greatest danger begins when the enemy under disguise creeps into the very heart of the structure. But the most loyal friends manifest vigilance and unite still closer with us. Thus inspite of opposition we have faith in our task, ~~and happy signs~~, and know that the preordained victory will be fulfilled. That is why we so greatly appreciate your friendship. You and your husband were our first friends in America and we always remember your care and help to the work connected with our name. My heart tells me that precisely this friendship of yours with us lies at the base of your help, and therefore, once more, I wish to express to you my appreciation of your constant care and remembrance.

Our first and most loyal co-workers, Sina, Frances and Maurice, are living through most difficult times, but with the Great Help and undaunted spirit, with the help of friends, I know, they shall overcome all difficulties. My thoughts are with them.

Professor Roerich after the expedition will return to the States and will tell you much. He will also bring to you my best greetings, and in the meantime I am sending you my best thoughts and my heartiest appreciation of your untiring activity. Svetoslav joins me in my cordial greetings.

Yours very sincerely,

A handwritten signature consisting of the letters 'A' and 'R' in a stylized, cursive script.

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Our dear, dear Friend, Mrs Sutro,

I am writing you to express again my admiration at your indignation against the vandalism done by the apostates in the museum and also our deep gratitude for the active defense of the right cause. Your indignation against this vandalism will remain recorded not only in our hearts but also on the pages of the history of Culture, where will be inscribed the monstrous fact of the destruction by one man of a museum which had been presented to the Nation, - of a museum which contained a unique panorama of Central Asia and the results of the labour for over a quarter of a century of one of the best contemporary artists.

You know with what love Prof. Roerich gave to America his brilliant constructive ideas and his masterpieces. You know how highly Professor Roerich always spoke and wrote about America, therefore your indignation at the present looting, committed by the apostates in that country, is indeed fully justified. Sina writes that she receives many letters and telephone calls asking about the fate of the museum. Many even offer their services to help the present situation. But of course all these separated voices and single protests can help very little. An organizer is needed, who could gather and direct all these efforts to definite actions. But, hélas, we do not know of such a person. Of course if all who wish to help would gather together and would decide (even if in small groups) to visit and present their protests against the vandalism to all officials and representatives of the country, this measure would be already of considerable help, for after all it could arouse public opinion and thus perhaps influence the judges to make the right decision. We would like to see the indignation of public opinion not only for the sake of our case, but for the sake of America. We witness a most serious time, when human dignity and all moral foundations upon which is based the welfare of the people are trampled upon and there reigns but the right of usurpation supported by abyonets or gold. I am surprized at the negligence of the judges who never were interested to acquaint themselves thoroughly with the moral and public standing of the two main figures of this case. If the judges

will base themselves exclusively upon forcibly extracted under various pretences papers and home-brewed "documents", fabricated by our former feduciary, and will absolutely ignore the entire moral side of the case, then any gangster will of course be justified. It seems to me that judges should be first of all great psychologists and guardians of morals, otherwise the court will become a caricature, and the judges - hirelings of those who are temporarily in power. Is it possible that the voice of judge O'Malley will remain a voice in the wilderness?

We know that it is thanks to you that such a renown jurist as Seabury agreed not only to act as advisor in our case, but even to speak personally before the Board of Regents in Albany and for such a comparatively small remuneration. Of course I am sure that his participation means salvation. As Major Stokes rightly said, the participation of such a lawyer guarantees hundred per cent success. But unfortunately from Sina's last letters we understand that Plaut, who demanded and insisted upon the invitation of a big lawyer for this last appeal, again raises some difficulties. Since long we have written to our co-workers that we do not trust Plaut and know that he will lose the case. Every time when Plaut wished to abandon the case because he was not paid in time, or he had doubts whether he will be paid altogether, we advised our coworkers to make use of his intention and to part with him, but unfortunately usually some circumstances intervened. I think with sorrow that even now when we approach the last court from where we may expect justice, the brilliant possibility of Seabury's participation may be lost. May we avoid such misfortune!

We are so happy that you took upon yourself the chairmanship of the R. Museum Committee. Your untiring energy will greatly help matters. The new lawyer Smyth, as you no doubt know, has expressed several useful considerations and it is especially gratifying to know that he acknowledges that the declaration of 1929 signed by all Trustees about the gift of the paintings to the Nation, has a great moral significance and defines the status of the paintings, as this resolution of all the Trustees has never been cancelled. We were very happy to hear after all these years of litigation this lawyer's assertion about the significance of moral obligations. The entire case should be considered exactly from its moral aspect. I have always considered that Horch should ^{be} sued by all co-workers and donors simultaneously and jointly, - then the picture of his long ago premeditated plan of robbery and usur-

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pation would appear clearly in all its monstrosity. Indeed it is necessary that all judges would be acquainted with all his criminal offences. When taken in their totality, these offences show a congenital criminal. You know, dear Mrs Sutro, that you yourself, all our friends and coworkers donated and gave all their labour only for the benefit of public institutions and not for Horch's personal affairs. All of us worked only for the growth of these public institutions. And as we see now enormous possibilities were systematically destroyed by Horch. He became afraid of the growth of these institutions. He understood that after some years it would be impossible for him to execute his plan of usurpation. Wishing by a single stroke to get all into his hands, the fool has himself cut off his best possibilities. In a few years from now, he will be forced to see his folly, because his losses will be great. The new lawyer Smyth's opinion that the case should be protracted because Horch himself will tighten the rope around his neck, is quite true.

My dear Mrs Sutro, I do not wish to burden you with too long a letter, but I would like so much that you should know how grateful we are to you for all your help and support and how we cherish your rightful indignation. A great thinker said: "The indignation against injustice is the healing of the blind ones". Verily there are many blind ones and few healers, therefore my heart greets in you such a healer. A flaming heart is the most precious treasure - such a heart is a real life-giver. Sina writes so beautifully about the help and support which you extend and every such line resounds in our hearts.

We are all sending you our gratitude and our best thoughts and wishes,