

Boston Oct. 8., 1858

My Dear Sir

Yours of the 4th. inst. is received, the sketches contained &c. You remark that you are disappointed to learn that the plan does not forbid wooden stairs. Had I ever imagined that Powers would have been so rash as to use anything but iron I would have (if need be) paid for with at a dollar per deep to write "These stairs to be made entirely of iron," He knew as well as any man living, that the commission from the first, meant anything but wood. He talked with me over and over again, in regard to iron for the whole of them and I am at a loss to know what influence has been brought to bear upon him. So sure was I and well convinced that he would do right that in no instance did I attempt to denote in the plans the material of even the 1st flights. Of course this was not attempted any more than it was to write on the partitions "Brick," and on other parts what they were to be of