

New York May 27th 1871

Prof John F. Weir

My Dear Sir.

Yours of the 22^d was duly received. Before replying I have taken several days for deliberate consideration.

The council of the Academy have expressed a desire to renew their engagements with me for another year and although the flattering offer which your letter contained has many decided advantages, namely; superior salary for less work, an assured position, and the honor of being on the staff of professors of so renowned a college, yet the National Academy being the centre of our Artistic world and this city