Brattleboro January 4, 1858

Mr. Geo. F. Martin,

Dear Sir,

Since I saw you at Montpelier, I have given the subject of the statue a careful examination and I think that it looks quite glorious. Mr. P. seems to think that the least expense the better. I suppose the proper way for me to do will be to say that I will make the statue for the sum appropriated (Gilded) and in the most durable manner.

I have inquired in relation to the cost of gilding and find it will be a considerable expense. I should like to do the statue but think if I took it upon myself for an insufficient sum it would trouble and discourage me more than to have given it up to the ship Cairo, and a cheap method most should check rather than advance my reputation as a beginner. These little sketches will perhaps show which would have the best effect, an elaborate grouping or a simple figure. If you think it for my interest to take any further steps in the matter I