

ROBERT STRONG WOODWARD
SHELBURNE FALLS, MASSACHUSETTS

Jan. 25th 1949

My Dear Mr. ~~Woodward~~ - ever since you & your family were here at the studio just after Christmas - an evening I really much enjoyed, I have been thinking a great deal of you, & of your problem of getting just the right over-mantel-picture - for your rather low oblong space. I have had the same problem to meet, a number of times - & in the past, as I believe I told you, I have twice made such a flat oblong panel. Both of them were rather promptly sold. Frequently having a call for such a shape, soon after you were here, I sketched two new canvases, 20 x 40, & in the past few weeks have been working on two new canvases of that proportion. One of them is practically finished - the other one will be in a few days. Of course you may have decided something about filling your space by now - but if not, it would please me to have you wait a week or ten days longer, before you & your wife come to any decision, for I would very much like to have you see these two paintings I have just been making. I would like to show them to you anyway, whether you thought best to own one of them or not - for it gave me much satisfaction to learn that you both cared for the rural type of New England life, which I especially like to paint. In some way, I will manage to come into your

ROBERT STURGEON WOODWARD
STATIONER & PRINTER

living room (even if I have to bring my small folding wheel chair which is narrow) and will bring the paintings down - so you can see them over your mantle. There would be absolutely no obligation on your part in the matter - you might not personally care for them - The color might not be just right for your room - you might not think best to pay the price, or there might be others reasons personal to you, why you might think best not to own one. I am not at all trying to force the matter. It would be to my advantage to have two paintings in the studio - of this long panel proportion, any way. But surely I would like the pleasure of showing them to you, when they are finished - if you & your wife would like to have me.

I will let you know when they are fully completed & ready to leave the studio. of course I would at anytime be glad to have you come to the studio - but I imagine it would please you to have them brought to your room itself - to see the effect of a proper size painting over your mantle - whether you finally kept one of mine, or not.

Earnestly

Robert Sturgeon Woodward

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Feb. 16th 1944

Dear Mr. ~~Wright~~ - following
my letter to you of three
weeks ago, you may have thought it strange
that you have heard nothing more from
me - in the fact of the statements I wrote you
about the new paintings I am making. It
is because I have been very ill in bed for
the past two weeks, having gotten back to the
studio rather weakly, only yesterday. The
one 20 x 40, which I think is the one you
- and your family will care for the more, is
finished - and I am greatly pleased with
it - but I was working on the second one,
two weeks ago, when I collapsed at my
 easel with gastric hemorrhages - and nearly
passed over the border. It is a few
days yet, before the doctor thinks I had
better begin painting. Two or three days
will finish this second canvas - so I hope
some time next week I'll be able to let
you see them over your mantle - for the
pleasure of it - even if you do not think
best to purchase one. I can call you
up to make arrangements by telephone,
later. This note need not necessarily
be answered - I just thought I had
better report my absence!

Robert Strong Woodward