

The University of Chicago
The Francis & Taylor Building
Chicago, Ill.

3/5/00.
MR. CARROLL, JR.

President W. R. Harper,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Dr. Harper:-

Dr. Metcalf says that he thinks that I ought to consult the best surgeon in Chicago at once concerning my trouble. My intention is to go to Chicago on Friday of this week. What better can I do than to see Dr. Bunn? I wish you would write me freely concerning the matter or telephone or telegraph at my expense.

I am feeling pretty well but the last attack was pretty severe.

Cordially yours,

*My blood is running
a little better
and I am feeling
much better.*

317

The Frances Shimer Academy

OF

The University of Chicago

WILLIAM P. MCKEE, Dean

MT. CARROLL, ILL., 3/26/00.

President W. R. Harper,

Chicago, Ill.

N

My Dear Dr. Harper:-

The deficit continues to grow. I do not think that it will be less than \$1300 and it may be \$1400. I find that I underestimated the fuel bill \$200 and made mistakes in other directions of perhaps \$300 more. I should think that you would be discouraged with such a report. It will not be long until we will be likely to be pressed for money by some of our creditors. I do not know whether Mr. Rinewalt will advance enough on the security of next fall's school receipts to keep us going or not.

The one encouraging feature in the whole business is this that the

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going or not.

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My Dear Dr. Harper:-

Chicago, Ill.

President W. R. Harper,

3/28/00.

The University of Chicago
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The Frances Shimer Academy

OF

The University of Chicago

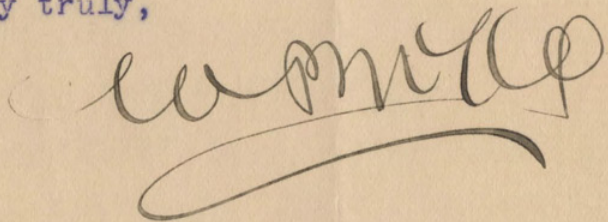
WILLIAM P. MCKEE, Dean

MT. CARROLL, ILL., 3/26/00.

receipts for the school bills are \$800 greater than they were last year and they are \$1800 greater than they were year before last. If the increase should continue for two years we would be able to have a surplus provided we could live that long.

I will be in the City over Sunday and Monday and will want five minutes some time to ask some counsel.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'W. McKee', with a long, sweeping horizontal flourish underneath.

The Frances B. Smith Academy

The University of Chicago

William H. Miller, Dean

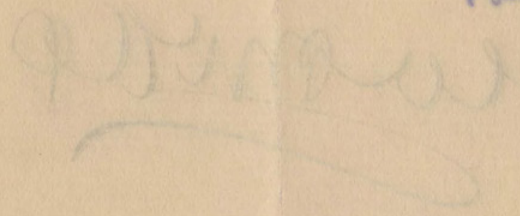
3/26/00. W. H. Miller, Jr.

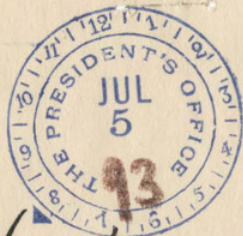
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crease should continue for two years we would be able to have a surplus
provided we could live that long.

I will be in the City over Sunday and Monday and will want five

minutes some time to ask some counsel.

Yours very truly,





MT. CARROLL, ILL., JUL 2 1900

Dear Dr. Harper = At the best the net
debt of the Academy is today \$7878⁷⁹
I do not know of anybody who
will loan any more money
on the property.

The ~~net~~ average gross
deficit for 4 yrs has been \$2375⁰²
approx. and for the last three years
\$1500 - We figure a net
deficit this year of less than
\$700 - to be sure, but who can
be certain about another
year? And if we should



MT. CARROLL, ILL., JUL 8, 1900

Dear Mr. Thompson - All the best the art

club of the academy is today \$2878 75
 I do not know of anybody who

has been any more money
 on the property.

The ~~rest~~ average gross

deficit for it has been \$2372 00
 deficit, and for the last three years

\$1500 -

The figure a net
 deficit this year of less than
 \$700 - to be sure, but who can

be certain about another
 year? And if we should

MT. CARROLL, ILL.,

have another year such
as last (deficit net \$2089⁰⁰)
what would come of us?
you

I think that ~~we~~
ought at once to approach
Mrs Shimer with these facts
with the inquiry whether we
ought not to ^move forward
in Endowment.

I favor an effort to
get \$60000⁰⁰, taking notes

MT. CARROLL, ILL.

I have another year such
 as last (collected \$2089.00)
 what would come of us?
 I think that the
 ought at once to approach
 Mrs. Thinner with these facts
 with the inquiry whether we
 ought not to ⁱⁿ move forward.
 in subscription.
 I favor an effort to
 get \$10000.00, taking notes.

MT. CARROLL, ILL.,

payable during five
years carrying ^{3%}~~5%~~
interest only.

I don't believe Mrs.
Shimer will take kindly
to any such suggestion
but I am sure that we
can do nothing further if
consequence until she
does. I expect to be in
Chicago Saturday ^{or Monday} & will see you
if you wish. In
mckee

The Quadrangle Club

CHICAGO

July 20/1900

Full
under
Dear Mrs. Spinner =

At the last meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Academy the Dean reported that the debts of the Academy were approximately \$9641.00; and that the its borrowing capacity of the Academy had been almost if not entirely reached. It was suggested that a committee be appointed to consider the matter of an effort to raise an endowment, to consult with you, and to report to the Board with recommendations, at the earliest practicable time.

Feb 22/1900
Concord

Feb 22/1900
Dear Mrs. [Name]
[Signature]

At the last meeting of the
Board of Trustees of the Academy the sum
reported that the debt of the Academy was
approximately \$9241.00; and that the
borrowing capacity of the Academy had
been almost if not entirely reached.
It was suggested that a committee
be appointed to consider the matter
of an effort to raise an endowment
to be carried out with you, and to report
to the Board with recommendations
at the earliest practicable time.

The Quadrangle Club

CHICAGO

The committee as appointed consists of Mrs W R Hosteller Mr McKee and myself. I write after having consulted with the other members of the committee, and through them with the ^{older} Mt Carroll members of the Board in Mt Carroll.

It seems to me, Mrs Shimer, that the combination of circumstances is such as to urge if not compel us to take action in the direction indicated.

The financial condition of the Academy is, of itself, too sufficient to decide the matter. What could we do if we should from sickness for example, repeat the experience of the school year 1888-9, with a net deficit of \$2089 + ?

It seems to me a very important consideration also that for the first time the members of the Board are united in the opinion that the time has come to move forward. ~~for~~ The Trustees in Mt Carroll, in ~~pub~~ the meetings of the Board, and in private

The financial condition of the
 country is of itself sufficient
 to back the matter. That could
 we do if we should from action
 for example, report the expenses of
 the school year 1886-7, with a
 deficit of \$2079 + ?

It seems to me a very important
 consideration also that for the
 first time the members of the Board
 are a unit in the opinion that
 the time has come to move
 forward. For the first time in
 the history of the meeting

CHICAGO

Conversation exhibit a unanim-
ity of opinion and a willingness
to help which no doubt
represent quite largely the
prevailing opinion in the town
and community. Should we
not try to take advantage of this
situation? before the financial
condition of the Academy
becomes sufficiently serious to
be a matter of public
notoriety?

The Quadrangle Club

CHICAGO

We ought to have \$1,000,000⁰⁰ as
an endowment. We feel however
that to attempt so much, ^{at this time,} would
be to accomplish nothing.

I have therefore to propose
that we undertake to raise
\$600,000⁰⁰ to be paid at intervals
extending over five years, with
interest at five per cent from
July 1, 1901. With debts paid,
this would leave us a
working capital of \$500,000⁰⁰
approximately.

We have reason to think

The Quadrangle Club

CHICAGO

that if you could see your
way clear to give our
^{third} half of this we might be
able, although not easily, to raise
the remainder, as ~~is~~ suggested.
This would assure the future of the
Academy and would enable us to
begin to improve our facilities
so that we ~~may~~ ^{might} hope to win and
hold a fair share of the patronage
which comes from the large & rich
region we serve. Hoping that you
may be able to give our plans
favorable consideration and awaiting your
reply with very great interest
I am &c

The Quadrangle Club

CHICAGO

that if you could see your

way clear to give our

half of this we might be

able to do so.

The movement is, as to the future of the

movement and would enable us to

begin to improve our position

so that we may hope to move and

hold a fair share of the property

which comes from the large area

region in error. We hope that you

may be able to find our plans

for the future of the movement and

with very great interest

(1) The debt of the Academy July 1, 1900

Mortgage	\$ 7000-
Floating (net)	1500-
Mrs Shum. (Pianos)	521-
Educational and Association	300.
Mrs. Shum. (scholarship)	180.
Miss Joy. (Scholarship)	30.
C. W. Allison "	110.
	<u>\$ 9641.</u>

(2) Average gross deficit for 4 yrs. ~~\$~~ \$2410+

(3) " " " " last 3 yrs. \$1500+

(2) The "times" are good

(3) The local trustees favor the effort and
seem ready to go forward.

(4) An endowment is essential to permanence

(5) And to progress, We want to improve the school.

The Frances Shimer Academy

OF

The University of Chicago

WILLIAM P. MCKEE, Dean

MT. CARROLL, ILL.,

The Academy has mortgaged its property
to the limit.

~~The deficit for~~

Ranches Shimer Academy

OF

the University of Chicago

WILLIAM P. MCKEE, Dean

43

MT. CARROLL, ILL.,

AUG 27 1900

Dr. Harper = Does the receiving of
my B.D. degree make me an
alumnus of the U of C?

Yrs

WPMcKee

James Smith Academy

University of Chicago

William B. Ewald, Dean

(43)

MT. CARROLL, ILL.

of 33' 3" water of

the 1st of

the 1st of

make me an

my B. B. Ewald

of 1st of

the 1st of

the 1st of

the 1st of

the 1st of

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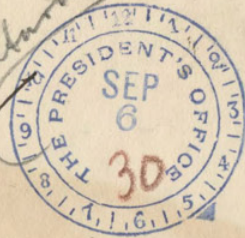
the 1st of

The Frances Shimer Academy

OF

The University of Chicago

WILLIAM P. MCKEE, Dean



MT. CARROLL, ILL., SEP 5 1900

Dr. Harper =

It seems to me the Biblical
world does well if it holds its own, and
the strenuous competition of the Times. It
seems to me that it is much superior
to what it used to be. I doubt the
policy of introducing so much
Sunday School matter. I don't see
how you can compete with the
Sunday School Times. The depart-
ment of Current Literature is always
interesting to me, as are the Book Reviews.
Occasionally the articles seem to me
too long, as in August number. I don't
see the gain in throwing the editorials into
letter form. Made awake Pastors ought to
have the Biblical World, like not a Pastor
but I am a constant & not thorough reader.
NB The mechanical work is beyond criticism!

Sincerely
McKee



MT. CARROLL, ILL. SEP 10 1900

[Handwritten notes and signatures in the top right corner, including a signature that appears to be "H. A. Spitzer"]

[The main body of the letter is written in cursive and is extremely faint and mirrored, likely due to bleed-through from the reverse side. The text is largely illegible but appears to be a formal letter.]

The Frances Shimer Academy

OF

The University of Chicago

WILLIAM P. MCKEE, Dean

MT. CARROLL, ILL., Sept. 25, 1900.

Pres. W. R. Harper,

University of Chicago.

My Dear Dr. Harper:-

The dismissal of Miss Camp was the most painful duty I have had to perform while connected with the Academy. You will remember that the facts were all put into a letter and it was mailed to you, but the letter was mislaid, and the only consultation we had with you was over the telephone in which you stated for us to go on and take action, which Dr. Metcalf and I did. I sympathized deeply with Miss Camp in the matter, because I fully thought she was doing the best she could. Any discourtesy in the matter was impossible, feeling as I did at the time, and there was no threat that her salary would not be paid if she did not resign. Moreover, the matter had been under consideration between us for more than one, and probably more than two weeks, and she knew days before what the result was to be. I do not see how the Academy could be held liable under the circumstances for she was certainly unable to fulfil the first requirements of a teacher; namely, to interest her pupils in their work and give them encouragement and stimulus. I discovered afterwards that her health had been poor for sometime and it was not good at any time during her stay here. So far as we could see, it meant that she must leave or that the work must be broken up. Our most advanced pupil was on the point of leaving at the time, and dissatisfaction of a most serious kind was expressed by other advanced pupils and by pupils in the elementary grade. We did what seemed to be our duty to do in the interests of the Academy, and we did it as gently as such a thing can be done.

The dismissal of Miss Gamp was the most painful duty
 I have had to perform while connected with the Academy. You will remem-
 ber that the facts were all put into a letter and it was mailed to you,
 but the letter was mislaid, and the only communication we had with you was
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 serious kind was expressed by other advanced pupils and by pupils in the
 elementary grade. We did what seemed to be our duty to do in the inter-
 ests of the Academy, and we did it as gently as such a thing can be done.

My Dear Dr. Harper:-
 University of Chicago.
 W. R. Harper.

Mt. Carroll, Ill., Sept. 22, 1900.

I have no doubt
 have been no kind

er Academy

City of Chicago

P. MCKEE, Dean

-2-

MT. CARROLL, ILL.,

I have no doubt that it was a serious shock to Miss Camp, but it would have been no kindness to her to allow the matter to drag on as it was.

Yours truly,

Wm P. McKee

Mr. Carroll, Ill.

-2-

I have no doubt that it was a serious shock to Miss Camp, but it would have been no kindness to her to allow the matter to drag on as it was.

Yours truly,

Handwritten signature

The Frances Shimer Academy

OF

The University of Chicago

WILLIAM P. MCKEE, Dean

MT. CARROLL, ILL., 10/8/00.

President W. R. Harper,
Univ. of Chicago,
Chicago, Ill.

(2)

My Dear Dr. Harper:-

Inasmuch as you didn't tell me not to, I have made a further contract with The Chicago Tribune for \$24 more of advertising. We have in the house, at the present time, people who are paying us at the rate of \$700 a year, who had never heard of the Academy until they saw the advertisement in The Tribune, and we have likewise one pupil, certainly, who is paying into the Academy at the rate of more than \$300 a year who had never heard of the Academy until ^{she} ~~they~~ saw the advertisement in The Times-Herald. No Mt. Carroll Seminary influence or University of Chicago influence had come into contact with any of these people, so far as I can discover, so we are just so far ahead. I will depend upon you to back me up when the trustees discover I have overrun the appropriation for advertising.

I supposed that you would give me fits for what I said about Mrs. Shimer, but I am comforted to see that you are of the same opinion.

Yours very truly,

Wm McKee

MB

we are gaining
steadily. & pupils in
all from chgs. Two who wd have gone to Morgan Park
MP

to Morgan Park
(\$600-)

MT. CARROLL, ILL., 10/8/00.

President W. R. Harper,

Univ. of Chicago,

Chicago, Ill.

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I supposed that you would give me tips for what I said about Mrs. Chimer, but I am comforted to see that you are of the same opinion.

Yours very truly,

W. F. Wood

all from Chicago, and we are getting steadily better.

10/8/00

The Frances Shimer Academy

OF

The University of Chicago

WILLIAM P. MCKEE, Dean

MT. CARROLL, ILL., 11/1/00.

President W. R. Harper,
Univ. of Chicago,
Chicago, Ill.

(15)

Dear Dr. Harper:-

I have an application for the position of Lady Principal from Miss Jennett E. Gibbons, 4748 Calumet Ave., Chicago. She is about 36 years of age; spent seven years at Pillsbury Academy, graduating there in 1896. She has been in the Columbia School of Oratory in Chicago since. She spent two years in Houghton Seminary, Clinton, N. Y. I suppose she is a Baptist. She is a woman of independent fortune, has never taught, wishes to be useful and is willing to take the position of Lady Principal, doing no teaching, and receive her home as pay. A friend of mine, who knows her well, says that she is a woman of unusual strength of character and of active sympathy.

Could we consider such an application?

She has had no experience as Lady Principal but has lived in boarding schools with girls for eight years under four different principals.

The expense would be about the same to give her her home and then hire somebody else to do the teaching for \$500 as it would be to hire one woman at \$700 to do both. Can we consider such an application?

Yours very truly,

W. P. McKee

MT. CARROLL ILL. 11/1/00.

President W. R. Harper,
Univ. of Chicago,

Chicago, Ill.

Dear Dr. Harper:-

I have an application for the position of Lady Principal from Miss Jennett H. Gibbons, 4748 Calumet Ave., Chicago. She is about 38 years of age; spent seven years at Pillsbury Academy, graduating there in 1896. She has been in the Columbia School of Oratory in Chicago since. She spent two years in Houghton Seminary, Clinton, N. Y. I suppose she is a Baptist. She is a woman of independent fortune, has never taught, wishes to be useful and is willing to take the position of Lady Principal, doing no teaching, and receive her home as pay. A friend of mine, who knows her well, says that she is a woman of unusual strength of character and of active sympathy.

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Yours very truly,

Wm. A. Rouse

December 11th, 1900.

Mr. W. P. McKee,

Mt. Carroll, Illinois.

My dear Mr. McKee:

I return to you the letter from Dr. Morehouse. He states the case very succinctly. The people down east do not feel inclined to help the Academy so long as Mrs. Shimer does not do more. I think they feel better than they did before I had the talk with them.

Can you not come up and enjoy convocation with us? We are going to have a great time. I am hoping to see Miss Joy. I should like to have a talk with her.

Very truly yours,

December 11th, 1900.

Mr. W. P. McKee,

St. Charles, Illinois.

My dear Mr. McKee:

I return to you the letter from Dr. Morehouse. He states the case very succinctly. The people down east do not feel inclined to help the Academy so long as Mrs. Shimer does not do more. I think they feel better than they did before I had the talk with them. Can you not come up and enjoy conversation with us? We are going to have a great time. I am hoping to see Miss Joy. I should like to have a talk with her. Very truly yours,

The Frances Shimer Academy

OF

The University of Chicago

WILLIAM P. MCKEE, Dean

MT. CARROLL, ILL., 12/11/00.

President W. R. Harper,

University of Chicago,

Chicago, Ill.

Dear Dr. Harper:-

I enclose herewith a letter from Dr. Metcalf which I wish you would take time to read with care. You understand well enough the financial difficulty which confronts us here. That is not the only difficulty; the other difficulty is clearly expressed in this letter of Dr. Metcalf. I mean that a certain number of these people, of whom Dr. Metcalf is chief, have this feeling toward the University and the difficulty is to keep the two united.

I am going into Convocation next week and will hope to see you.

One more matter with regard to finance. Mr. Rinewalt told me yesterday that he would not stay in connection with the Academy another year hour (on account of the financial situation) if it were not for the connection of the University people with the Academy. He insists that things are not done here in a business way, and he is a man that will have to be handled with a good deal of care. I am to see Miss Joy this afternoon and will do my best to get her to go to see you.

Yours very truly,

Wm McKee

The University of Chicago

Chicago, Ill.

March 1, 1900

Mr. Carroll, Ill., 12/11/00.

Chicago, Ill.

President W. B. Harper,

University of Chicago,

Dear Dr. Harper:-

I enclose herewith a letter from Dr. Metcalf which I wish you would take time to read with care. You understand well enough the financial difficulty which confronts us here. That is not the only difficulty; the other difficulty is clearly expressed in this letter of Dr. Metcalf. I mean that a certain number of these people, of whom Dr. Metcalf is chief, have this feeling toward the University and the difficulty is to keep the two united.

I am getting into conversation next week and will hope to see you.

One more matter with regard to finance. Mr. Finckel told me yesterday that he would not stay in connection with the Academy another year.

On account of the financial situation it is very hard for the connection of the University people with the Academy. He insists that things are not done here in a business way, and he is a man that will have to be handled with a good deal of care. I am to see him to-day this afternoon and will do my best to get him to go to see you.

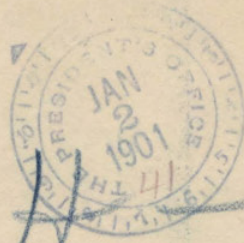
Yours very truly,

John D. Rockefeller

The Frances Shimer Academy

The University of Chicago

WILLIAM P. MCKEE, Dean



MT. CARROLL, ILL.,

DEC 31 1900

Dr Harper =

January 4th, 1901.

I have a payment of on a
land deal of \$5000 - to meet on
March 1st, 1901, at Mt. Carroll, Illinois.

My dear Mr. McKee:

I shall not wish to pay the thous-
and-dollar note, nor the seven-hundred-dollar note,
nor any other note, as long as my family is in Paris.

I should like to pay the thousand-dollar note March
first, 1902, if this is convenient.

Always your servant, I remain
If you
wish to pay it then I wish you
would let me know. Also I
would like to know whether you
are likely to wish to pay it by March
1902.

Yrs McKee

January 4th, 1901.

H

Dear W. P. McKee,
Mt. Carroll, Illinois.
My dear Mr. McKee:

I shall not wish to pay the thousand-dollar note, nor the seven-hundred-dollar note, nor any other note, as long as my family is in Paris. I should like to pay the thousand-dollar note March first, 1902, if this is convenient.
Always your servant, I remain

James P. McKee, Dean
University of Chicago

or Harp

mer Academy
University of Chicago
JAM P. MCKEE, Dean



MT. CARROLL, ILL.,

DEC 31 1900

Dr Harper =

I have a payment ~~at~~ on a
land deal of \$5000 - to meet on
March 1. 1901. If you wish to pay
the \$1000 - or the \$700 - or both - ~~it~~
I can use it at that time. If you
do not wish to pay it I can
get the money elsewhere. If you
wish to pay it then I wish you
would let me know. Also I
would like to know whether you
are likely to wish to pay it by Mch 1
1902.

Lrs McKee

MT. CARROLL, ILL.



Mr. Harper

I have a payment of \$5000 - to meet or
March 1st. of your work to pay
the \$1000 - or the \$5000 - or both -
I can wait at that time, if you
do not want to pay it by then
get the money elsewhere - if you
want to pay it then - I want you
would let me know. Also I
would like to know whether you
are likely to wait to pay it by the 1st

Yrs. affly
J. H. Miller

The Frances Shimer Academy

OF

The University of Chicago

WILLIAM P. MCKEE, Dean

MT. CARROLL, ILL., Jan. 5, 1901.

President W. R. Harper,

University of Chicago,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Dr. Harper:-

Dr Metcalf still insists that I should say nothing to Miss Blaine until the University has found a position for her. He says, however, that if the majority of the Board think otherwise that he will yield his opinion. At his suggestion I am interviewing all the members of the local Board and my opinion is that they will sustain our contention that Miss Blaine should be urged at once to seek for a place for herself.

The two pupils with whom Miss Blaine had the trouble did not return and we are the losers by the sum of \$320 on this year alone on their account.

- The financial situation is very sensitive and I do not see how it ^{will} ~~would~~ be possible for us to pay the January salaries before February 1st. I am not sure whether I will be able to keep everybody contented among the teachers in thus holding them off for a month beyond the usual time. It seems to me that we will have to arrange for a meeting of the Board to occur immediately after your return from New York. Something will have to be done.

Yours very truly,

W P McKee

MT. CARROLL, ILL., JAN. 5, 1901.

President W. A. Marras,

University of Chicago,

Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mr. Marras:-

Mr. Marras still insists that I should say nothing to Miss Blaine until the University has found a position for her. He says, however, that if the majority of the board think otherwise that he will yield his opinion. At his suggestion I am interviewing all the members of the local board and my opinion is that they will sustain our contention that Miss Blaine should be urged at once to seek for a place for herself. The two pupils with whom Miss Blaine had the trouble did not return and we are the losers by the sum of \$320 on this year's account.

The financial situation is very sensitive and I do not see how it would be possible for us to pay the January salaries before February 1st. I am not sure whether I will be able to keep everybody contented among the teachers in their holding them off for a month beyond the usual time. It seems to me that we will have to arrange for a meeting of the Board to occur immediately after your return from New York. Something will have to be done.

Yours very truly,

W. A. Marras

Feb. 16, 1901.

My Dear Mrs. Shimer:

On Friday evening of last week we held a Board meeting of the Academy at Mt. Carroll. A large number of the Trustees were present, four of us going from Chicago. The interests of the Academy were considered from half-past seven to half past one. I need not assure you that many kind and strong references to you were made in the course of the evening's work. The one question which confronted us was the continued deficit, in spite of hard work and good management. It was resolved, among other things, to raise the amount of the tuition fees, but it was conceded by all that the crowning need is an endowment. This subject received our most careful consideration. We had before us your letter of Sept. 17th. and my report after talking with members of the board of Trustees of The American Baptist Education Society of N.Y. I found myself compelled to report to the Trustees ~~xx~~ that the Education Society would not take up the proposition suggested to them. I expressed the hope that we might be able to secure their assent to the proposition in accordance with which they would contribute ten thousand dollars towards a total of forty thousand. The question then arose as to what proportion of this forty thousand could be raised in Carroll county. It was the unanimous opinion of the trustees that no effort to raise money in Carroll Co. for the Academy could succeed during your lifetime unless the citizens were assured that you were contributing the largest possible amount. After a long study of the situation it was resolved to undertake to raise twenty thousand dollars in Carroll Co. and Chicago, provided, first, that you would be willing to increase your proposed contribution from five to ten thousand dollars; and provided secondly, that we might be able to secure a similar amount from the Baptist Education Society. It was the unanimous opinion that success could be obtained only on these conditions, and that even under these circumstances it would require a supreme and continuous effort. A committee of three, consisting of Dr. Metcalf, Mr. McKee and myself, were appointed to communicate with you. At the request of the other members of the committee, I am writing this letter to you.

Now, My Dear Mrs. Shimer, I beg, from the bottom of my heart that you should give this proposition your most careful study. It seems to me that if you are not able to "start the ball rolling" with this sum, we are in a desperate situation. You will allow me to explain frankly that a good deal of the difficulty lies in the fact that the Carroll County people believe you to be in possession of a large amount of money. Whether this is true or not is nobody's business but your own. I wish to emphasize this point very strongly. At the same time, we are dealing with a situation, and a large element in the situation is the attitude of the people in Carroll Co. from whom we are asking money for a school which bears your name.

I hope most sincerely that if it is possible for you to do this, even with the greatest difficulty, you will do it. You will, in one stroke, answer every question which will be asked us and strengthen our arms in a way which will make success, at all events possible. With an endowment of this size, the future of the school is absolutely safe. This goes without saying. I cannot tell you how earnestly we feel. In my conversation with Miss Joy, I think I gained some appreciation of the matter from your point of view, and I cordially acknowledge the fact that you have placed upon

Feb. 16, 1901.

My Dear Mrs. Shimer:

On Friday evening of last week we held a Board meeting of the Academy at Mt. Carroll. A large number of the Trustees were present, four or five from Chicago. The interests of the Academy were considered from half-past seven to half past one. I need not assure you that many kind and strong references to you were made in the course of the evening's work. The one question which confronted us was the continued deficit, in spite of hard work and good management. It was resolved, among other things, to raise the amount of the tuition fees, but it was conceded by all that the growing need is an endowment. This subject received our most careful consideration. We had before us your letter of Sept. 17th, and my report after talking with members of the Board of Trustees of the American Baptist Education Society of N.Y. I found myself compelled to report to the Trustees that the Education Society would not take up the proposition suggested to them. I expressed the hope that we might be able to secure their assent to the proposition in accordance with which they would contribute ten thousand dollars towards a total of forty thousand. The question then arose as to what proportion of this forty thousand could be raised in Carroll county. It was the unanimous opinion of the Trustees that no effort to raise money in Carroll Co. for the Academy could succeed during your lifetime unless the citizens were assured that you were contributing the largest possible amount. After a long study of the situation it was resolved to undertake to raise twenty thousand dollars in Carroll Co. and Chicago, provided, first, that you would be willing to increase your proposed contribution from five to ten thousand dollars; and provided secondly, that we might be able to secure a similar amount from the Baptist Education Society. It was the unanimous opinion that success could be obtained only on these conditions, and that even under these circumstances it would require a supreme and continuous effort. A committee of three, consisting of Dr. Metcalf, Mr. McKee and myself, were appointed to communicate with you. At the request of the other members of the committee, I am writing this letter to you.

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I hope most sincerely that it is possible for you to do this, even with the greatest difficulty, you will do it. You will in one stroke, answer every question which will be asked now and strengthen our arms in a way which will make success, at all events possible. With an endowment of this size, the future of the school is absolutely safe. This goes without saying. I cannot tell you how earnestly we feel. In my conversation with Miss Joy, I think I gained some appreciation of the matter from your point of view, and I cordially acknowledge the fact that you have placed upon

Mrs Shimer.

-2-

your shoulders more responsibilities of this kind than one person ought to bear. At the same time, we must remember that there are certain great moments, when a supreme effort is required, and that if we fail to grasp these we may lose an opportunity which will never return. It would be a great calamity if the Academy were to lose Mr. McKee; yet that seems to be probable unless we push forward.

Begging you, therefore, to consider this request of the Trustees, expresses by myself for the committee in this familiar way, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

To Mrs Frances A. W. Shimer

De Land, Florida.

Your shoulders more responsibilities of this kind than one person ought to bear. At the same time, we must remember that there are certain great moments, when a supreme effort is required, and that if we fail to grasp these we may lose an opportunity which will never return. It would be a great calamity if the Academy were to lose Mr. McKee; yet that seems to be probable unless we push forward.

Beginning you, therefore, to consider this request of the Trustees, expressed by myself for the committee in this familiar way, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

To Mrs Frances A. W. Shimer

De Land, Florida.

The Frances Shimer Academy

OF
The University of Chicago
WILLIAM P. MCKEE, Dean

MT. CARROLL, ILL., Feb. 26, 1901.

President W. R. Harper,
University of Chicago,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Dr. Harper:-

I am told that you are constantly accepting from other schools one year's work in Plane and Solid Geometry, one year for both, and giving credit of 1 1/2 units for three quarters work. I am also told that you are allowing other schools to do the work in Algebra including Quadratics in three quarters and are giving to them 1 1/2 units credit in Algebra for the three quarters work. If this is true why should this Academy be required to spread the work over four quarters and a half in each case or else to leave out the Geometry or Advanced Algebra?

Why should Kenwood Institute be allowed to graduate people taking any fifteen units of the thirty offered, while we are required to give at least two years of Latin and one of Science and one of Mathematics? A careful inspection of their curriculum makes it clear that a pupil can get a diploma at Kenwood Institute without any Language whatever or without any History or without any Science.

Yours very truly,

W. P. McKee

*MB Thanks for copy of letter to Mrs Shimer,
Now for her reply! MB*

Mr. J. Miller
Please answer
Ans'd. Mar. 12, 1901
returned to President
Mar. 4



The Francis and Mary
University of Chicago
Chicago, Ill.

MT. CARROLL, ILL., Feb. 26, 1901.

President W. R. Harper,
University of Chicago,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Dr. Harper:-

I am told that you are constantly accepting from other schools one year's work in Plane and Solid Geometry, one year for both, and giving credit of $1\frac{1}{2}$ units for three quarters work. I am also told that you are allowing other schools to do the work in Algebra, including Quadratics in three quarters and are giving to them $1\frac{1}{2}$ units credit in Algebra for the three quarters work. If this is true why should this Academy be required to spread the work over four quarters and a half in each case or else to leave out the Geometry or Advanced Algebra? Why should Kenwood Institute be allowed to graduate people taking any fifteen units of the thirty offered, while we are required to give at least two years of Latin and one of Science and one of Mathematics? A careful inspection of their curriculum makes it clear that a pupil can get a diploma at Kenwood Institute without any language whatever or without any History or without any Science.

Yours very truly,

W. R. Harper

W. R. Harper
No thanks for copy of letter to Mrs. Brewster.
Yours for her reply, W. R.

The Frances Shimer Academy

OF

The University of Chicago

WILLIAM P. MCKEE, Dean

MT. CARROLL, ILL., MAR 25 1901



Dr. Harper =

John

Miss James prefers to go to Chicago rather than here. Dr. Metcalf morrow is not willing to act without your seeing Miss James. Metcalf reaches Chgo at 1⁴⁵ p.m. Saturday & must return at 5¹⁵, owing to very ill patients. If you could meet us at Brevoort Hotel ^{2³⁰ p.m.} — where Miss James is expected, — we could all see one another. I await your decision

Yrs McKee

Mr. William McKee,

Mt Carroll, Ill.

My Dear Mr. McKee:

I return the letter to Dr. Morehouse.

I am not quite sure whether from this letter Dr.

Morehouse will get the idea that you wish to contribute
ten thousand dollars to the Education Society or to
secure ten thousand dollars.

Why don't you write a good, long, strong
letter? This sort of a letter will never get any-
thing. It is too cold, too short, too lean, too non-
committal, too afraid. It is always important to have
a man of whom you ask money really believe that you
want it.

Very truly yours,

March 26, 1901.

Mr. William McKee,

Mr. Garroly, III.

My Dear Mr. McKee:

I return the letter to Dr. Morehouse.

I am not quite sure whether from this letter Dr. Morehouse will get the idea that you wish to contribute ten thousand dollars to the Education Society or to secure ten thousand dollars.

Why don't you write a good, long, strong letter? This sort of a letter will never get anything. It is too cold, too short, too lean, too non-committal, too afraid. It is always important to have a man of whom you ask money really believe that you want it.

Very truly yours,

March, 26, 1901.

Mr. William P. McKee,
Mt. Carroll, Illinois.

Dear Mr. McKee:

My note for one thousand dollars for
the Institute of Sacred Literature falls due April
first. Will you renew it for six months ? I think
we can meet it in October .

Very truly,

March, 26, 1901.

Mr. William P. McKee,

St. Charles, Illinois.

Dear Mr. McKee:

My note for one thousand dollars for
the Institute of Sacred Literature falls due April
first. Will you renew it for six months? I think
we can meet it in October.

Very truly,

The Frances Shimer Academy

OF
The University of Chicago

WILLIAM B. MCKEE, Dean

Dr Harper =



MT. CARROLL, ILL.,

MAR 27 1901

Dr Metcalf has been compelled
to change his plans and he &
I are to meet Miss James
at Brevoort at ten (10)
o'clock Saturday morning.

(Miss J. and I)
We [^] may have to call on ^{a.m.}
you at the office Saturday [^]
~~PM~~ — but if ~~not~~ you
hear nothing further
Miss James & I will meet
you at Brevoort at 2³⁰ p.m.
as agreed. I go to Chrisman
via Chicago Thursday. Address
Club — back Friday eve
McKee



MT. CARROLL, ILL.

Dr. ...

Dr. ... has been compelled
to change his plans and he
is now to meet Mrs. ...
at ... at ... (10)

at ... Saturday morning.

We may have to call on
you at the office Saturday

but if not you

there is nothing further

When ... I will meet

you at ... at 2:30 p.m.

as agreed. I go to ...

via Chicago ...

Club - back today ...

W. H. ...

Mount Carroll Seminary

April 2nd, 1901.

Conservatory of Music

DeLand, Fla. March 4, 1901

Mrs. Frances A. W. Shimer,
De Land, Florida.

My dear Mrs. Shimer:
difficulties.

Immediately upon returning
from New Orleans our convocation exercises took
place, in which we were honored by the presence of
Mr. Wu Ting-Fang. Since then we have been closing
up the affairs of one quarter and beginning the af-
fairs of the new quarter.

I wish at this time to express my very
great personal appreciation of your proposition of
March fourth. We have forwarded an official let-
ter to the Education Society, and we hope that it
will be considered favorably.

I think I understand what you mean by
saying that you are deeply hurt by "the unanimous
opinion of the Trustees, that no effort to raise
money in Carroll County could succeed", etc. The
Trustees are also hurt, because of this fact. We
agree with you, that the citizens of Carroll County
have no right to feel this way. It is, however,

April 2nd, 1901.

Mrs. Frances A. W. Shimer,

De Land, Florida.

My dear Mrs. Shimer:

Immediately upon returning

from New Orleans our convocation exercises took place, in which we were honored by the presence of Mr. Wu Ting-Fang. Since then we have been closing up the affairs of one quarter and beginning the affairs of the new quarter.

I wish at this time to express very great personal appreciation of your proposition of March fourth. We have forwarded an official letter to the Education Society, and we hope that it will be considered favorably.

I think I understand what you mean by saying that you are deeply hurt by "the unanimous opinion of the Trustees, that no effort to raise money in Garroll County could succeed", etc. The Trustees are alarmed, because of this fact. We agree with you, that the citizens of Garroll County have no right to feel this way. It is, however,

Mount Carroll Seminary

KND

Conservatory of Music,

Mount Carroll, Ill.

189

DeLand, Fla. March 4, 1901

true that we must deal with facts; and this seems to be a fact. Let us hope that this effort, when carried to a successful close, will overcome all the difficulties.

My dear Dr. Harper:

In answer to yours in regard to the contribution
Very truly yours,

to the endowment fund of "The Frances Shimer Academy of the University of Chicago," I have to say "Yes" with the conditions contained in yours of Feb. 18, 1901 and providing the Board is satisfied with my conditions. The proposition named by you is that I contribute \$10000; ~~Carroll Co.~~ \$10000 be contributed by the Education Society and \$20000 by Carroll Co. and Chicago, making in all \$40000. The condition that I would name is that the Board accept from me a note of \$10000, at 4%, running ten years and secured by a mortgage on 685 acres of Florida land. This land I would not now sell at \$15000 and I hope to greatly enhance its value by the carrying out of plans that I have in mind. It will be the understanding that the work of securing this fund will be entered upon at once and completed within a year and that my note shall begin to draw interest at four per cent when this is completed and accomplished.



April 2nd, 1901.

* 2 *

time that we must deal with facts; and this seems
to be a fact. Let us hope that this effort, when
carried to a successful close, will overcome all the
difficulties.

Very truly yours,
From New Orleans our conversation with you took
place, in which we were honored by the presence of
Mr. W. T. P. Since then we have been closing
up the affairs of our quarter and beginning the af-
fairs of the new quarter.

I wish at this time to express very
great personal appreciation of your proposition of
March fourth. We have forwarded an official let-
ter to the Education Society, and we hope that it
will be considered favorably.

I think I understand what you mean by
saying that you are deeply hurt by "the unanimous
opinion of the Trustees, that no effort to raise
money in Carroll County could succeed", etc. The
Trustees are also hurt, because of this fact. We
agree with you, that the citizens of Carroll County
have no right to feel this way. It is, however,

A. WOOD SHIMER,
FROM THE FOUNDING OF THE
SCHOOL IN 1883.
MISS ADELIA C. JOY,
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL.
MRS. B. F. DEARBORN HAZEN
DIRECTOR OF CONSERVATORY.

Mount Carroll Seminary

AND

Conservatory of Music,

A. WOOD SHIMER,
FROM THE FOUNDING OF THE
SCHOOL IN 1853.

Miss ADELIA C. JOY,
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL.

Mrs. B. F. DEARBORN HAZZEN,
DIRECTOR OF CONSERVATORY.

Mount Carroll, Carroll Co., Ill., 189
DeLand, Fla. March 4, 1901

President Harper

The University of Chicago

My dear Dr. Harper:



In answer to yours in regard to the contribution to the endowment fund of "The Frances Shimer Academy of the University of Chicago," I have to say "Yes" with the conditions contained in yours of Feb. 16, 1901 and providing the Board is satisfied with my conditions. The proposition named by you is that I contribute \$10000; ~~Carroll Co.~~ \$10000 be contributed by the Education Society and \$20000 by Carroll Co. and Chicago, making in all \$40000. The condition that I would name is that the Board accept from me a note of \$10000, at 4%, running ten years and secured by a mortgage on 665 acres of Florida land. This land I would not now sell at \$15000 and I hope to greatly enhance its value by the carrying out of plans that I have in mind. It will be the understanding that the work of securing this fund will be entered upon at once and completed within a year and that my note shall begin to draw interest at four per cent when this is completed.

Journal of the Carroll & Carroll

Conservatory of Music

WOOD SHIMER,
THE FOUNDING OF THE
SCHOOL IN 1883.

Miss ADELIA C. JOY,
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL.

Mrs. B. F. DEARBORN HAZEN,
DIRECTOR OF CONSERVATORY.

Deland, Fla. March 4, 1901

President Harper

The University of Chicago

My dear Dr. Harper:

In answer to yours in regard to the contribution to the endowment fund of the Frances Shimer Academy of the University of Chicago, I have to say "Yes" with the conditions contained in yours of Feb. 16, 1901 and providing the Board is satisfied with my conditions. The proposition named by yours that I contribute \$10000; Carroll Co. \$20000 be contributed by the Education Society and \$20000 by Carroll Co. and Chicago making in all \$40000. The condition that I would name is that the Board accept from me a note of \$10000, at 4%, running ten years and secured by a mortgage on 665 acres of Florida land. This land I would not now sell at \$15000 and I hope to greatly enhance its value by the carrying out of plans that I have in mind. It will be the understanding that the work of securing this fund will be entered upon at once and completed within a year and that my note shall begin to draw interest at four per cent when this is completed.

Respectfully,

Mount Carroll Seminary

AND

Conservatory of Music,

De Land, Fla

Mount Carroll, Carroll Co., Ill., 3/4/01 189

Although I in this way accede to the proposition I can not forbear saying I am deeply hurt by—"The unanimous opinion of the trustees that no effort to raise money in Carroll Co. for the Academy could succeed during your lifetime unless the citizens were assured that you were contributing the largest possible amount."

Very Truly

Frances A. W. Shimer

*March fourth, Nineteen
hundred & one,*

WOOD SHIMER,
IN THE FOUNDING OF THE
SCHOOL IN 1853.

MISS ADELIA C. JOY,
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL.

Mrs. B. F. DEARBORN HAZZEN,
DIRECTOR OF CONSERVATORY.

INCORPORATED IN 1885

Mount Carroll Cemetery

OFFICE

Conservator of Music

Wm. Carroll

March 10/01

Wm. T. A. WOOD SHIRER
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE OF THE
BUREAU OF THE
MOUNT CARROLL CEMETERY
MOUNT CARROLL, ILL.
MRS. A. J. JOY
ASSOCIATE TRUSTEE
MRS. E. F. DEARBORN HAZEN
DIRECTOR OF CONSERVATION

Although I in this way accede to the proposition I can
not forbear saying I am deeply hurt by the unanimous opinion
of the trustees that no effort to raise money in Carroll Co. for
the Academy could succeed during your lifetime unless the citizens
were assured that you were contributing the largest possible amount

Very truly

Wm. Carroll
March 10/01
Mount Carroll, Ill.

Wm. Carroll
March 10/01
Mount Carroll, Ill.

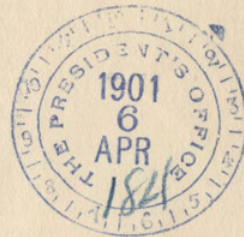
The Frances Shimer Academy

OF

The University of Chicago

WILLIAM P. MCKEE, Dean

MT. CARROLL, ILL., 4/5/01.



President W. R. Harper,
University of Chicago,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Dr. Harper:-

I am informed by Dr. Morehouse that the Board does not meet until the 18th of April. I had understood from you that it met this week. We cannot postpone indefinitely the matter of contracts for advertising. I see the Morgan Park Academy has already put a half page in the Standard for the work next Fall. What shall we do with regard to the advertising?

At your last visit here you offered to write Mr. Kohlsaas to send a man out here to make some pictures and write up an article in the Record-Herald concerning Mt. Carroll and the Academy. Ought this not to be begun pretty soon in order to get it done at all? This country will be at its prettiest about the middle of June. An article of the sort you describe would be worth a great deal to us as advertising and I hope you did not mean it as a joke.

Yours very truly,

Wm. McKee

The Francis & Taylor Academy

The University of Chicago

William F. Baker, Dean

MT. CARROLL, ILL., 4/5/01.

President W. R. Harper,

University of Chicago,

Chicago, Ill.

Dear Dr. Harper:-

I am informed by Dr. Morehouse that the Board does not meet until the 15th of April. I had understood from you that it met this week. We cannot postpone indefinitely the matter of contracts for advertising. I see the Morgan Park Academy has already put a half page in the Standard for the week next Fall. What shall we do with regard to the advertising?

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Yours very truly,

Wm. F. Baker



The Frances Shimer Academy

OF

The University of Chicago

WILLIAM P. MCKEE, Dean

MT. CARROLL, ILL., 4/11/01.



President W. R. Harper,
University of Chicago,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Dr. Harper:-

I am in receipt of a letter from Dr. Morehouse asking for the receipts and disbursements of the Academy last year and I have sent him an exact copy of the report submitted to the Trustees for the year ending July 1st, 1900. He said nothing about a statement of the condition of the Academy and I therefore did not give any report of the \$7000 mortgage. You will be present at the meeting of the Board and if that point is essential you can add it for the information of the Board.

Yours very truly,

W. P. McKee

The Frances Shimer Academy

OF

The University of Chicago

WILLIAM P. MCKEE, Dean

MT. CARROLL, ILL., 4/24/01.



President W. R. Harper,

University of Chicago,

Chicago, Ill.

Dear Dr. Harper:-

Returned
I enclose herewith a letter from Dr. Morehouse in reply to one from me asking for information. I suppose you know what the point is but the whole business is very much mixed to me.

Dr. Metcalf seems to think that Mrs. Shimer would lend us her name and he thinks it would be wise to ask her to do so. It will be difficult to get through the Summer without some permanent arrangement for a loan, as I said before.

Yours very truly,

Wm P. McKee

The Francis and Taylor Publishing

The University of Chicago

Chicago, Ill.

Mr. Carroll, Ill., 4/24/01.



President W. R. Harper,

University of Chicago,

Chicago, Ill.

Dear Dr. Harper:-

I enclose herewith a letter from Dr. Morhouse in reply to one from me asking for information. I suppose you know what the point is but the whole business is very much mixed to me. Dr. Metcalf asks to think that Mrs. Childs will send me her name and he thinks it would be wise to ask her to do so. It will be difficult to get through the summer without some permanent arrangement for a loan, as I said before.

Yours very truly,

W. R. Harper

The Frances Shimer Academy

OF
The University of Chicago

WILLIAM P. MCKEE, Dean

Mt. CARROLL, ILL., 4/22/01.

Dr. W. R. Harper,

April 25th, 1901.

Chicago, Ill.

Dear Dr. Harper:-

Mr. Rinewalt has not been able to secure a mortgage loan and he gives it up. The bank, which we are doing business with, is willing to continue to loan us money on short term paper as it has been doing, and it will increase the amount to \$2500 instead of the \$1000, which we have borrowed hitherto. I do not think we ought to write to Mrs. Shimer about using her name, until we decide. Shimer will give an accommodation rate as security, and if the Board of Trustees will do this, Mr. Rinewalt says that it is of the question to expect a member of the board to do it, but I think it would be a good thing to ask Mrs. Shimer to do it. I am doing whether we are fulfilling the letter of the Board's action is making an investment with the assurance the bank gives about temporary loans on short time as much as you have said to go along, and inasmuch as this is the only arrangement we have been able to make, we are going on and take our chances on the consequences. I wish, however, that you would consider the matter of asking Mrs. Shimer to lend us the use of her name. If she will do that we can borrow \$3000 for three years at probably 5% and that will fix us out in good shape. Please let me hear from you with regard to that as soon as you can.

I have closed the contracts for advertising and I will go ahead with the arrangements for the steam heat, and the making over of the dining room. I am writing Dr. Goodspeed what the situation is and asking him to notify the teachers at once of their election. I tried to get you by telephone but was unable to do so. I wish I could see you but I live so far away.

Yours very truly,

Wm McKee

