Morgan Park, Ill., ~~Bronson~~ Morgan Park
March 22, 1895.

Affiliation

President Harper,
Dear Sir:

We have read the statement of the Dean in answer to that presented you by us. It is understood that you do not desire a detailed reply. We therefore ~~call~~ invite your attention to certain selected points.

1. It may not be amiss to remark on the tone of the two statements. The Dean is somewhat free in his use of the terms "misleading", "false", "misrepresentation", as applied to the deliberate assertions of six teachers, whose reputations for truthfulness are on a par with his own. We concede one or two errors in details, and some infelicities of expression. For our part, we are content to designate some of the Dean's statements simply as erroneous, and to attribute them to haste or defective memory. Further, the Dean insinuates that one teacher has acted as a spy upon him, and that another desires to conduct the school for his selfish advantage; whereas we have stated our views in milder terms than the facts ~~required~~ might justify, and in going out of our way to enumerate Mr. Carman's merits, we have preferred overstatement to injustice.

2. The Dean suggests that several members of the faculty have not given him that cooperation which he had a right to expect. We are at a loss to know what he means, unless it is reprehensible to hold different views. We have listened with all courtesy to his opinions; have taken pleasure in commending his suggestions when we could, and have waived our own opinions not seldom, that his plans might have a fair trial; we have never criticised him before members of the school, or outside persons; when parents have expressed disapproval (a not rare occurrence) we have defended him to the best of our ability. In the feather-throwing episode, three of the teachers were instrumental in

extricating him from the embarrassing situation in which he had placed himself; we accepted cheerfully his assignment of an extra hour a day in connection with the Blake Hall study-room; and accepted the charge of the "Houses", although it was felt that his aim was (in part) to shift upon the teachers responsibility which belonged to the Dean.

It would be far more reasonable for us to charge the Dean with persistent failure to cooperate with us in our endeavor to raise the standard of the school.

3. We protest against his caricature (of course unintentional) of our views as to discipline. In his answer to our statement, and always in his discussions with us, he assumes that we favor "the assignment of marks and removal from school", as the sole or chief instruments of government. Such a mechanical system of discipline we utterly repudiate. We believe in personal conference with students; in taking into account all the circumstances of ~~the~~ each case; in appeals to the student's self-respect. We believe that the machinery of government should be as inconspicuous as possible. But we also believe that some regulations are necessary for the proper conduct of the business of a school, and that any infringement of them should be

promptly dealt with; that it is one function of a school to teach respect for law; that an executive may be so ~~amicable~~ indulgent toward offenders as to be extremely unjust and unmerciful toward his assistants and the student body. As matters of course, which it would be absurd to mention were it not for the Dean's persistent misunderstanding, we have visited pupils at their rooms, helped them with their lessons and other literary work, attended their public exercises, subscribed to various student interests, sought to develop their artistic taste, invited them to our homes. And these things have been done to the largest extent by that member of the faculty to whom the Dean seems to attribute the most mechanical views.

4. The Dean appears to regard our statement in the light of a comparison between his administration and that of his predecessor. This is a total misconception. With one exception we have confined ourselves to the two years of Mr. Carman's administration. The first year would necessarily be an exceptional year; ~~that~~ certainly the administration of that year was not ideal; but the question which we submitted to you was not whether Mr. Burgess was a better Dean than Mr. Carman, but whether the school, near the end of its third year, is in a satisfactory condition.

With these preliminary remarks, we now take up certain details of Mr. Carman's answer.

Attendance.

The reasons assigned by the Dean for the poor attendance at church, chapel, and exercise had been taken into account by us, but do not meet the whole case. There have been very frequent absences on the part of students who did not live at a distance, had not been excused, and were not ill. The plea of illness has been much overworked. It has been a common remark in faculty meeting, when a student has been reported excused on account of illness, that he had been seen before and after the exercise missed in (apparently) good health. The number of permanent excuses granted seems too large. To grant one such excuse is to invite two more applications for the same favor.

We will not debate the question whether too much importance is likely to be attached to "a matter of this kind", as the Dean vaguely terms the matter of punctual and steady attendance. We hold that a school exercise is an "appointment between gentlemen"; that the teacher can do little for an absent student, and that no recitations are more important than the first and the last of a course.

Quality of Work.

The Dean attributes the inferiority of the German class which has just completed its third major to three causes. (1) Owing to change in the curriculum "there is in 1894 a beginner's Greek class of 25, made up naturally of our best pupils, who in '93 would have been required to take German." This argument had been already considered by us, and allowed considerable weight. It is less weighty than he assumes. For out of 33 pupils who have taken beginning Greek during the fall

and Winter quarters, 14 took German last year or are taking it now; while of the remainder, only 5 ever received a term-mark of B (in this subject), and 7 have never received higher than D. It is evidently too strong to say that the class is made up of the best pupils, who would otherwise be taking German.

(2) The advantage of the two sections last year was at least offset by the disadvantage of six weeks' gap in the course just before examination. Of 30 members of that class, 27 passed the university examination [not 30 out of 33, as incorrectly stated in our communication. The Dean failed to notice that 5 of the beginning in '93 class took double work, and were to be found in the advanced class the last quarter.], while this year only 22 remain in the class just finishing its third major [March 21], of whom only 16 can be recommended [instead of 18 out of 24, as before stated].

(3) As to previous knowledge of German, there is no ground for supposing that last year's class was better off than this. It should be added that last year's class covered much more ground, both in reading and in the grammar.

The statement that Mr. Burgess as a rule requires all pupils who have studied Latin elsewhere to begin it here is entirely erroneous. Since July 1, 1894, 75 new pupils have entered Lower and Higher Academy. Of these, 5 have not taken Latin at all. Of the remaining 70, 22 were admitted to advanced standing at once, and 5 more were admitted to advanced standing after 3 to 6 weeks in the beginning class. In our comparison between classes beginning Oct. 1, 1893 and Oct. 1, 1894, the 17 pupils of last year who had taken Latin before, and were promoted from the beginning class to the Caesar class after 6 weeks, were

deducted from the whole number in order to make the comparison perfectly fair. The fact that a young teacher did some of the teaching in this class does not account for all the decline. The class which began Jan. 1 has done even less than the class of last Fall, though it has received $\frac{3}{4}$ of its 2 majors from Mr. Burgess.

The Dean intimates that Mr. Burgess desires an unfair advantage in the make-up of his beginning Latin class, in order to reflect credit upon himself as a teacher. We reply (1) that it is not just to retard the progress of excellent students, such as some in the class referred to, by the presence of many incompetent or indolent pupils; nor is it kind to incompetent or indolent students to keep them in the class after a fair trial. (2) The Academy is best known to teachers as a place where a method which has given new life to the study of Hebrew is being tested, with younger pupils, in Greek and Latin. Is it for the interest of the school and of secondary education in general that this experiment be vitiated by the simultaneous trial of another experiment which has a thousand times failed — that of attempting to get high grade work without frequent removal from classes of the dull and lazy?

The Dormitories.

We reiterate our statement that the Dean originated the Dormitory Association and organized it without consulting any member of the faculty until the matter had been practically decided upon. Whether the first suggestion of the scheme came from a student, or otherwise, the Dean is responsible for its application to the Academy. At the time when he was discussing the scheme with students it would appear that three members at least of the regular teaching force were in Morgan Park, yet

none of them were spoken with about the matter. Two of them were present at the meeting which adopted the constitution; but here it was evidently assumed by the Dean and by all the speakers that the Dormitory Association was to be formed, and the only questions discussed related to unessential details, not to the merits of the whole scheme. At the subsequent faculty meeting the teachers refrained (perhaps unwisely) from raising the general question, because they felt that in this, as in other matters, the Dean had committed them to approval of the plan. It is obvious, moreover, that had the Dean sincerely desired the opinions of the faculty, he would have consulted the four members of the teaching force who were absent at the time when the Association adopted its constitution. We do not wish to imply that the opinions of the teachers would have been adverse to the scheme; our contention is that in a matter of most serious import the Dean made no serious effort to ascertain their opinions.

Mr. Wightman's recollection of the facts of his relation to the Dormitory differs widely from that of the Dean. Near the end of January Mr. Wightman expressed to the Dean his uneasiness in view of the fact that he was receiving board and lodging for services which he was not in fact rendering. The Dean replied: "This is an opportune time for you to step in and take charge of the Dormitory." [Opportune, because there had been three failures to get a quorum for election of officers.] This seems to show plainly that up to that time Mr. Wightman had not been in charge, except as head of the Association, whose functions, as the

Dean Sayre, were limited.

As to Park Hall, we expressly said that our information was somewhat meagre. We gave specimens of such evidence as we had, leaving the value of it to your judgment. To us it appears not without weight. The Dean's assertion that all is as it should be in Park Hall impresses us less than it would, had we reason to believe that in "matters of this kind" the Dean's standard is high.

In the case discussed by the Dean of permission granted students of different sex to visit Chicago at night without chaperone, it appears to us that the Dean acted judiciously. It is not the case to which we referred.

Individual Cases.

The Dean makes the surprising statement that no names of delinquent pupils were given him for assignment to the day study-room. At a faculty meeting held this quarter, comment was made on the fact that no assignments had been made. The Dean explained that he had been waiting for us to present names. Immediately five names were given him by three teachers. But the matter has been ignored by him or forgotten.

The terms applied to Evans were perhaps not happily chosen; and it was not meant to deny that he has good traits. The point of reference to him was that no

student who had his bad traits, should have been assigned the places of responsibility ~~honor~~ given him.

As to the case of F. S. Johnson, the faculty were not a little surprised to hear him named as an instance of the success of the Dean's ~~his~~ policy. The faculty never voted for or wished for his removal. For malicious mischief and damage to property he was deprived by the faculty of his scholarship. Later, he was strongly suspected by Mr. Burgess of cheating at a test-exercise. By a formal vote the faculty decided that the evidence was insufficient. His scholarship has since been restored by the faculty. The improvement in his case, so far from proving the wisdom of the Dean's policy of leniency and delay, illustrates rather the value of prompt and stringent discipline.

As to Lavers, we remark only that he did remain in the Dormitory some time after you had expressed surprise at his residence there.

The Dean denies that the evidence submitted proves the assertion that he habitually disregards the wishes of the faculty. In five cases named by us he says "No action taken by the faculty." In four of these cases, it is true, no formal vote was taken, but our sentiment was clearly enough indicated — much important action has been of this informal kind; but in the case of the disturbance made by the

Philolexians, it was voted[10] that the Dean reprimand the leaders. The reprimand, we have reason to believe, was never administered.

In other cases, he says, the "wishes of the faculty prevailed." Prevailed in what sense? Only in this sense: the pupils were finally removed, but only after prolonged resistance on his part, and after fresh misconduct on the part of the offenders.

Respectfully Submitted,

Frank M. Bronson.

R. H. Cornish,
Luanna Robertson,
Isaac B. Burgess,
Mayland J. Chase,
A. R. Wightman.

Affiliation Morgan Park

March 15, 1905.

Mr. E. L. Caldwell,

Morgan Park, Ill.

My dear Mr. Caldwell:-

I am writing to propose that you send to me your resignation as an Instructor in the Academy, to take effect at the end of the present year. I think it is better for you that the matter be put in the form of a resignation presented by yourself.

It has been decided by the Trustees to make very considerable changes in the situation at Morgan Park and to reduce the amount of money hitherto expended. The appropriation for mathematics next year will not be $1,100. Furthermore, it is necessary to arrange for the residence of the teacher of mathematics in one of the halls as master. In view of these two facts, I am sure that it will be impossible for you to continue your work with us.

I wish to say that I will do all that I can--and I think I can do a good deal-- to help you secure a better position. You may at all events count upon my coöperation.

Regretting that we are thus compelled to readjust matters at the Academy, and hoping that you will see that it is to your personal advantage to treat the contents of this statement outside of the first paragraph as confidential, I remain,

Yours very truly,

March 15, 1905.

Mr. E. L. Caldwell,

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Yours very truly,

Executive Officers.

President, F. O. Bergquist.
Vice Pres., J. E. Wrigley.
Secretary, T. S. Miller.
Treasurer, E. L. Caldwell.

Morgan Park Academy Athletic ...Association...

...nagers.

...otball.

April 13th, 1905.

Morgan Park, Ill., Mar. 31, 1905

Pres. S. R. Harper

Mr. E. L. Caldwell,

Morgan Park, Ill.

Dear Dr. Harper,

My dear Mr. Caldwell:-

I received your letter of March 31st and also your telegram. In proposing to you to find another place for next year I was endeavoring to do you a real service. It is infinitely better that you should resign than to wait until the end of your appointment and fail reappointment. I was having your interest directly in mind. To be sure there is involved also the point that the University must have someone who will live in the dormitory. This you cannot do. Under these circumstances do you not think it best to make a more vigorous effort and secure a new piece of work for next year? I shall be glad to assist you in every way.

Yours very truly,

Vice Pres., J. E. Wrigley.
Secretary, T. S. Miller.
Treasurer, E. L. Caldwell.

...Association...

J. C. Bergquist, Football.
B. H. Krog, Baseball.
J. J. Carter, Track.
P. V. Harper, Basketball.
R. L. Stevens, Tennis.

Morgan Park, Ill., Mar. 31, 1905.

Pres. W. R. Harper
Rosewood N.J.

(49)

Dear Dr. Harper,

I would have answered your letter at once had not Dr. Goodspeed asked me to wait until I heard from him. I cannot tell you how much I regret your illness, and how much I want to see you and thank you personally for your kind and inspiring friendship, which began in New Haven and has continued, in spite of my enemies, up to date, and will not diminish I am sure.

You ask me to give up my contract, which holds until a year from next October, to give up my beautiful home, and to go away with my reputation under a cloud, from which my wife and boy must suffer more or less, and that too with short notice, and when I had every reason to believe that I was needed right here. Now I want to please you because you have been an unwavering and much needed friend in the past, and also because you are the father of Paul. For the purpose of gaining time to readjust my affairs properly, and

Morgan Park Academy Athletic Association

Executive Officers.

Presidents, F. O. Bangquist.
Vice Pres., J. B. Wright.
Secretary, T. S. Miller.
Treasurer, E. L. Caldwell.

Managers.

F. O. Bangquist, Football.
R. H. Knox, Baseball.
J. J. Carter, Track.
P. V. Hayes, Basketball.
R. L. Stevens, Tennis.

Morgan Park, Ill.,

file under Caldwell

We the undersigned, Students of Morgan Park, request that Mr. Caldwell be urged to come back here next year. He has always identified himself actively with our common interests and has brought many students out to Morgan Park. He is personally the friend of every student in the academy Whatever school spirit there is out here is largely due to his efforts. We sincerely hope to see him back next year.

Donald F. Palmer. J. H. Paul.
Irving T. Clark. Myron E. Trowbridge
Frank O. Bugquist F. Paul.
Walter B. Paugh R W Wallace
Dwight P. Green J Rogde
Malcolm W. Bayley F. W. Gessner
Morris A. Burtch M. K. Bouter
Raymond Van Deursen. Howard F. Shepherd.
Ernest C Roe. Roy Kindt
Hartzmann Ed. Pearce.
Henry Treese. Robt. T. Crouch.
A. T. Ching James Frost.
L. T. Falk A. S. Loop.
Earl Baker R Y Sanders

R. E. Clark.
K. R. O'Hair
E. Russell Palmer
E. F. Jennings
H. H. Feidmalin
J. L. Bowen
F. Attechtor
H. A. Jones.
B. R. Menold
H. D. Pope
G. H. Orahood
Willard G. Butler.
Edgar Needham
Frederick W. Carr
Ogden Brown
Irvin Jacobs
Albert R. King.
Sidney L. Schwarz.
Roland Wilder.
J. Thomas.
Lyle Harper
Chas. W. Reed.
M. S. Price.

W. H. Simpson
Ray A. Dixon
James G. Murchison.
J. R. Whitwood
W. F. Hummel.
Robt. V. Forger
O. Barley

H. Kime
Stevens.
W. L. Chadsey
Hugh Hoover
A. B. Toy.
G. S. Lyon.
R. W. White
G. R. Titus
A. R. Carleton.
Tom S. Miller.
T. Chase Jr.
H. L. Giesler
A. Denbrook.
Judson R. Leonard.
Colin L. Christie.
Paul B. Heflin
Herman Felsenthal.
Wm Hurlbut
R. A. Mills Jr.
R. C. Reynolds
Cecil S. Simpson
Louiston M. Fairbanks
C. J. Rowe

C. C. Cunningham
H. G. Shaw.
F. L. Eendsley
N. E. Brandecker
R. D. Jaldersma
A. M. Simpson
Chas. M. Bunn
Chas. Thomas
B. H. Krog.
Leslie L. DeVemer.
W. Van Velzer.
E. K. Atwood
A. S. Blake
R. M. Markham
Harry W. Maas
C. B. Smithson.
Raymond E. Palmer.
Raymond L. Latchenn.
Herbert L. Walton.
Paul W. Hatch.
Jackson J. Carter
Roy Peacock
Erwin W. Trenam.

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Managers.

F. O. Bergquist, Football.
B. H. Krog, Baseball.
J. J. Carter, Track.
P. V. Harper, Basketball.
R. L. Stevens, Tennis.

Morgan Park, Ill., May 22, 1905.

Pres. W. R. Harper,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Dr. Harper,

I have just come from an interview with Mr. Chase. He told me that in writing you for more definite information concerning myself I might say that he had told me of your desire to find another place for me. He told me once before that you were going to transfer me. Can you not see that this is not definite enough. Now I feel, and wish always to feel, that you are very friendly to me and will gladly grant me this request. I want you to tell me this — that the spirit of our contract shall not be broken — only in point of place. Could you not put me in the University High School? This would enable me to take care of my house until sold. In another year I have planned to have a school of my own. Kindly let me hear from you as soon as convenient.

Respectfully yours
E. L. Caldwell.

Executive Officers,
of
President, P. O. Bergquist.
Vice Pres., J. E. Wrigley.
Secretary, T. S. Miller.
Treasurer, E. L. Caldwell.

Morgan Park Academy Athletic Association

Managers,
of
P. O. Bergquist, Football.
B. H. Knox, Baseball.
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Morgan Park, Ill., May 22, 1905.

Pro. W. R. Harper,
Chicago, Ill.

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Respectfully yours
E. L. Caldwell.