

THE COLLEGES

Head Dean

HARRY PRATT JUDSON

Deans

THOMAS CHROWDER CHAMBERLIN

ALICE FREEMAN PALMER

WILLIAM D. McCLINTOCK

MARION TALBOT

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.

Founded by JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER

WILLIAM R. HARPER, President

CHICAGO

Sept 13, 94

My Dear President Harper,

I have read the note of Dr. De Poyen with great interest. I believe he is right both concerning the condition of the scientific study of Old French Language and Literature, and as to its importance for training in English.

I had several talks with Prof. Knapp of last year about it. And we sent two students to him for study. I also talked with Dr. de Poyen, - a matter which he seems to have forgotten.

The question of a subject or subjects for the secondary training of English Doctors of Philosophy is a most difficult one. Dr. de Poyen's reference to John Hopkins might be a little misleading because at Baltimore they have adopted what is, after all, only one of several lines of procedure.

The following subjects are candidates here and elsewhere for the place of secondary matter in our English training:

Romance Language and Literature,
German Language and Literature,
The Classical Languages and Literatures,
Philosophy, especially Psychology and the History of English thought.
History,

There is no easy policy about it, and there will not be.

I may add, however, that when a student specializes in the English

Se 413,94

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the place of secondary matter in our English training:

- Romanic Language and Literature,
- German Language and Literature,
- The Classical Languages and Literatures,
- Philosophy, especially Psychology and the History of English thought.
- History,

There is no easy policy about it, and there will not be.

I may add, however, that when a student specializes in the English

Language, we have no difficulty with him. He must have Classical Philology, Romance Philology, and Germanic Philology. But when he specializes in Literature, the matter is altogether different.

Now, we should like to have the Department of Romance offer excellent courses and offer them all of the time, in Old French Language and Literature. No English student of our Literature, between the twelfth and sixteenth centuries, can afford to neglect this subject. Moreover we shall not only advise, we shall urge any student who has the slightest inclination for it, to take this line of study. As soon as we can afford it, we will appoint an instructor in English whose specialty is just in this Middle English Literature. Such an instructor could undoubtedly induce many students to go into the subject of Old French, of Italian, and of Spanish Literature, in short all the literatures and languages which affected English Literature during the Middle Ages.

But that all students of English should be required or expected to specialise largely here, would seem to me to be a mistake.

Tell Dr. de Poyen that I shall be happy for a full conference with him at any time, that I should like to have always at hand his program on the subject; and that we shall call atten-

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But that all students of English should be required or expected to specialize largely here, would seem to me to be a mistake.

Tell Dr. de Poyen that I shall be happy for a full conference with him at any time, that I should like to have always at hand his program on the subject; and that we shall call atten-

tion both in conference with the students and in our official publication, to the course offered in the Romance Department.

Let me add, finally, that I have studied much this last year on the subject of a course of study for our candidates for the Doctor's degree. I believe that at Harvard and here, there is entirely too much liberty given to the student. - That we ought to adopt an outline of a discipline. If such a one were adopted then the amount of Old French Literature and Language, which should be required, would come up for consideration, but in making literature such a course of study, we should have many conflicts with students, and many dangers of theory. You will probably hear from us such a course of study soon.

Yours truly,

S.

W.D. Melvin

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Yours truly,

DEPARTMENT OF ROMANCE LANGUAGES

Brunner
The University of Chicago

FOUNDED BY JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER

File

CHICAGO, May ²¹~~18~~, 1897.

Rom
My dear Dr. Harper:-

I cannot withdraw my declination to serve as Acting
Head of the Romance department after July first, 1897.

Yours truly,

James D. Bruner.

The University of Chicago

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

CHICAGO, ILL. 60607

My dear Mr. Nathan:-

I cannot withdraw my nomination to serve as Acting

Head of the Romance department after July 1st, 1934.

Yours truly,

James H. Brown

CHICAGO

JH
Aug. 1, 1896.

Romance

My dear Dr. Harper:-

At last I find myself compelled to file a complaint and protest against the conduct of Mr. Howland. He is wilfully misrepresenting me and the policy of the Romance department, and he is trying to prejudice some of the graduate students against me and my work. He is also systematically trying to create dissension among the graduate students, who are coming to me to complain of his conduct. Some of the other instructors, too, are thoroughly disgusted with Mr. Howland. In the first place, Mr. Howland has - ~~as~~ the accompanying letter will show - misrepresented Mr. Benton and myself in regard to the alleged statements

CHICAGO

May 1, 1902

My dear Mr. Harper:

At last I find myself compelled to file a counter-claim and protest against the conduct of Mr. Johnston. He is wilfully misrepresenting me and the policy of the Department. He is trying to perpetuate a series of the most atrocious and unjust work, and very much to my regret, also systematically trying to create a false impression as to the character of the work done in connection with the first place. Mr. Johnston is thoroughly dishonest and is trying to create a false impression as to the character of the work done in connection with the first place. Mr. Johnston is thoroughly dishonest and is trying to create a false impression as to the character of the work done in connection with the first place.

CHICAGO

2
that "only philological work could be counted toward a higher degree", whereas I have never made such a statement to anybody. Again, Mr. Howland took Mr. Benton aside recently and tried to prejudice him against me by abusing me and by criticising my work. Mr. Benton is willing to tell you the details of the conversation.

To a woman student (whose name can be given if necessary) Mr. Howland stated that he had two charges to make against me, and concluded by saying "well, now I am going to raise another row." As to these two charges, which he really made to you, the first is on the whole, false, and the second is absolutely false. In advising with graduate students about their courses it is sometimes necessary to

CHICAGO

that "only philological work
could be counted towards a higher
degree", whereas I have never
made much a statement to
anybody. Again Mr. Howard took Mr.
Dexter outside recently and
tried to convince him a
great deal by showing me
evidently convincing my work.
Mr. Dexter is unwilling to
tell you the details of the con-
versation.

To a woman student (whose name
can be given if necessary) Mr.
Howard stated that he had
two charges to make against
me, and concluded by saying
"well, even I was going to
have another row" to the
effect two charges which he never
made to you. The first is
on the whole false and the
second is absolutely false. In
connection with the second
charge about this course at
its beginning we were to

CHICAGO

advise ~~them~~ not to take certain courses, even my own. Now, I must be allowed freedom to act in such matters as it seems best for the student. As to the second charge the two Romance graduate students who are in Mr. Howland's Dante class, have known all along that the work counted as graduate work for them.

You may remember the misrepresentation made to you in regard to my conference with him last Autumn, and in connection with Miss Jones' application for a fellowship, as well as in regard to my selling books to the library.

Another woman student (whose name I can give) complains that Mr. Howland talks too much to his classes about not getting salary enough and about having too much

CHICAGO

I must be allowed freedom
 to act in such matters as
 it seems best for the student
 to do to the record. Chicago the
 two courses given by the student
 who are in the student's hands
 those have been carried as
 that the work for them
 graduate work for the year
 you may remember the work to
 representative in my career
 you in regard to my situation
 ever with him best with him
 and in conversation for a
 former situation for a
 fellowship, as well as books
 good to my willing books
 to the library.
 Another woman student (Mrs.
 Jones) has just completed
 that the student takes too
 must to this class about
 not getting a copy and
 and about having the money

CHICAGO

work to do.

Can we afford to ignore the complaints of these students? Now, whatever personal grievances Mr. Howland may imagine he has, is it right that he should thus plot and scheme among the students? Do not these students deserve more consideration on the part of our instructors? Some of our graduate students are very much discouraged and say that, if these troubles are not settled soon, they will leave the University.

Things cannot go on any longer ~~as they are~~. Something vigorous must be done with Mr. Howland or the department will soon be utterly demoralized. I decline to be held responsible for his actions and, unless he can very materially change his principles and tactics, I shall have to refuse to have any further dealings with him.

Yours truly, James B. Bruner,

CHICAGO

work to do
Can we afford to ignore the
complaints of these students?
How, without lessening the
Mr. [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
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should [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
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the University.
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for [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
vigorous [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
The [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
next will [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
[unclear] [unclear] [unclear]. I believe to be
held responsible for this action
and, unless he can [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
by [unclear] [unclear] [unclear] and the
[unclear] [unclear] [unclear] to [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
[unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
[unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]

The University of Chicago

FOUNDED BY JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER

Brumer
264

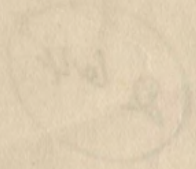
CHICAGO, 15, 1897.

My dear Dr. Harper:-

A very serious mistake has been made either by you or myself, or by both of us. Never for one moment would I have consented to take charge of the Romance department here, if it had been hinted to me that I was only an experiment. Never would I have given up a full professorship and a permanent headship, where I was successful and contented, to accept a position which might prove only temporary. My understanding was that I was to have the title Acting Head until I should be appointed Head Professor, that I should have full charge of the department as if I had already been appointed Head, that I was to build up the department on broad lines, and that I was to have your support and co-operation. I never thought for one moment that the question was not settled, and that you would treat me coldly and indifferently because you had to act as judge in the matter. Had I known these things I would not have accepted an appointment here. Supposing I had accepted an appointment, with the understanding that it was only an experiment, I would not have done several things that I have done: I would not have taken any action in regard to Mr. Howland; I would not have brought up the question of the Romance Journal as a departmental affair, knowing that any day I might have to give up the editorship of it; I would not have worked so hard to build up the library, for my successor might have desired to carry out a different policy; I would not have spent so much time in organizing the department on a broad basis and in determining the policy to be pursued in regard to many important and vital questions; I should not have felt so keenly my responsibility towards the department and towards the University; I should not have made so many personal sacrifices for the department.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

FOUNDED BY JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER



CHICAGO, ILL., 1907.

My dear Mr. Harper:-

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or myself, or by both of us. Never for one moment would I have con-
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The University of Chicago

FOUNDED BY JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER

CHICAGO

Now I am told that you are not prepared to take any action in regard to the headship of the Romance department which might seem to be final.

With the prospective addition of Miss Wallace the department is in good shape and well equipped, except in Italian. In one year the number of students increased fifty-five per cent, and the department is now one of the largest and most important in the University. At last such good men as De Poyen, Pietsch, and Neff are well fixed in their positions and ready for their best work. Next year's programme will offer, in nearly every respect and for the first time, as many and as desirable courses as are really needed.

Now that the hardest work is done, and against many disadvantages and with hardly a word of encouragement and sympathy from the one who ought to have been my strongest supporter, I reluctantly turn over the work to my successor, who will receive the credit.

Mrs. Bruner and I are agreed that the decision I gave you last Friday must be final. I do not desire to be considered as a candidate for the permanent headship of the department, if you still think my appointment was not a permanent one.

What assurances may I have as to my professorship? If I am not to be retained, I should like to know soon. If I remain here, may I be permitted to edit the Romance Journal, or shall I take it elsewhere, or allow some other man to take it out of my hands and publish it in another institution? The publication of the Journal has been definitely decided upon. Just now it is largely under my control.

Yours truly,

James S. Bruner.

The University of Chicago

FOUNDED BY JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER

CHICAGO

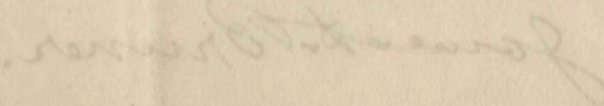
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Yours truly,



McClintock

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

September 12th 1894

Dear Sir,
W. R. Harper,
President of the University of Chicago.

~~Mr McClintock~~
~~Please read~~
~~return with~~
~~opinion~~
~~MCS~~

my dear Sir

The circumstances under which Romance Studies have made their beginning at the University of Chicago are such as to make me fear that, for some time at least, Students may be deterred from coming here to take up that particular branch of learning.

It is therefore the bounden duty of every one interested in the prosperity of this great Institution, jealous of its good name, to make earnest efforts in order to remedy the situation.

One remedy is right at hand, namely

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
 September 12th 1894
 Dear Mr. W. R. Thompson
 My friend of the University of Chicago
 My dear Sir
 I have been thinking of you very much lately
 and wondering how you are getting on
 I hope you are well and happy
 I am very truly
 Yours
 J. H. Thompson

My dear Sir
 The circumstances under which I have been
 have made their leaving of the University of
 Chicago are such as to make me fear that, for
 some time at least, I shall not be able to
 from coming here to take up that particular
 branch of business.
 It is therefore the business duty of
 every one interested in the progress of this
 great institution, of the good name of
 with earnest efforts in order to reach the
 nation.
 The remedy is right at hand, namely,

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.

the cooperation of the English Department.

Anyone who wishes to make a scientific study of the English language falls short of his purpose if he fails to study also Old French and Historical French Grammar. At the Johns Hopkins, nearly all students pursuing graduate studies in English chose these for their first minor and their example is followed by many from the Germanic Department.

This condition of things is bound to come here. Will it be to day Will it be to morrow ? ... I do not know. Will it come when I am here or when I am gone ?

The future only can answer; but, this I do say: it is bound to come and it shall come.

Why then not try the thing now ?

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

the cooperation of the English Department.

And one who wishes to make a specialty

study of the English language falls short of his

purpose if he fails to study also the French

and the German. At the Johns

Hopkins, nearly all students pursuing graduate

studies in English chose these for their first

minor and their example is followed by many

from the German Department.

This condition of things is bound to come

here. Will it be to day? ... Will it be to

tomorrow? ... I do not know. Will it come

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The future only can answer; but, this I

do say: it is bound to come and it shall

come.

Why then not try the thing now?

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.

The practical step to take would be that the gentleman in charge of the Philological work in the English Department should call the attention of his students to the courses we offer this year and point out to them their importance in connection with their own special studies.

I am not familiar enough with the government of the University to suggest how this desired result might be obtained; but, it seems to me that a Conference between the gentleman or gentlemen of the English Department ^{and myself} in your presence or the presence of some one designated by you would be the best way.

Human actions are generally inspired by personal motives. In this case I am proud to say that I am moved by the desire of

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.

making productive the field I am destined
to till because I know that it is capable
of yielding abundant harvests for the
future.

Very respectfully yours

Wm. D. Boylston

The University of Chicago.

January 30th 1899

Payson Beecher

D= W. R. Harper.

(18)

My dear Sir.

In answer to your question: whether I would accept the same position for the year beginning Oct. 1899. it is impossible for me to say: "Yes."

I am now forty two years of age and I find myself enjoying less comfort than I did ten years ago. I am conscious of having done my work faithfully and, with charity towards all and malice towards none I cannot drive away the conviction that my treatment at the hands of the University has ^{not} been

The University of Chicago

January 30, 1893

(16)

Dr. W. A. Harper

My dear Sir:

I am in your position, and
would accept the same position for the
year beginning Oct. 1893. It is
impossible for me to say "yes."
I have been forty-two years of age
and I find myself enjoying the
work I do. I am not
of course, but I am not
with the University of Chicago
I am not, but I am not
I am not, but I am not

The University of Chicago.

altogether just. Understand me I do not lay the blame at anybody's door, I take it only as the result of a policy from which I suffer. — I may add, even, that to you, personally, I am grateful; for you certainly have dealt charitably with me in a great trial. —

All I have to say is this: I cannot stay here if a change does not occur in my situation, a change that is made necessary by the duties that I have to face, not only as far as the obligations of life are concerned, but also in order to give satisfaction to my personal dignity.

Yours very truly.

Wm. D. Kelley

The University of Chicago

February 5th 1900

My dear Dr. Harper.

There are responsibilities from which no one can escape. It is my duty to state in clear and unmistakable terms my attitude in presence of the situation created for me by your letter of January 31st.

I began my training for a University career when I was past thirty five. I spent while fitting myself for it all I had saved; and my salary since I have begun to receive one has only been sufficient to provide for my immediate needs.

Consequently today at the age of forty three I am without any other resources but those that I can derive from my work.

Now, I do not come to ask: "Why?" Although you must not forget, that I stand ready

The University of Chicago

February 28, 1900

22/28

Dear Mr. [illegible]

There are no important letters from which we can
can escape. It is my duty to state in clear and
unmistakable terms my attitude in regard
of the situation created for me by your letter
of January 21st.

I upon my leaving for a temporary
career when I was first hired for. I had
with little regard for it all I had said;
and my salary since I have been to work
on the only one sufficient to permit for
my immediate needs.

Consequently today at the top of my head
there is not one other concern but this that
I can derive from my work.

Now, I do not come to ask. What do
I hope for myself and what I should really

The University of Chicago

and eager to face my accusers and defend myself if I am given a chance to do so.

What I wish to say is simply this.

My career as a teacher is at an end; for the very thought, of a man of my age, applying for a position, when my "alma mater" after seven years of faithful work, declares me unfit or unworthy, is simply preposterous.

I am hopelessly ruined I am face to face with dishonor.

Friend! ... I shall never pass through that gate into a life of wretchedness and degradation There is only one alternative left under the circumstances for a man who has a heart in the right place and I shall not flinch, if driven to it.

You cannot talk seriously of helping me, when you first put me beyond the reach of help.

Is there any position that you can give me? ... are there any honorable means of

The University of Chicago

and eager to face my accusers and defend myself if I am given a chance to do so. What I wish to say is simply this.

My career as a teacher is at an end; for the very thought of a man of my age, applying for a position, under my "alumni master" after ten years of faithful work, declares me unfit or unworthy, is simply preposterous. I am hopelessly retired ... I am face to face with disaster.

Friend! ... I shall never pass through that gate into a life of usefulness and degradation ... There is only one alternative left under the circumstances for a man who has a heart in the right place ... and I shall not flinch, if driven to it.

You cannot talk seriously of helping me, when your feet are beyond the reach of help. Is there any position that you can give me? ... or there any honorable means of

The University of Chicago

escape that you can provide for me?

I ask you to answer as a man, as a
Christian as a brother to his brother.

Yours very truly.

Wm. L. G. Bell

Sept 3, 1900.
September 11th, 1900.

Romance
thoroughly ashamed.

The departmental examiner has performed
President A. G. Slocum,
an important duty in calling attention to what
Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

My dear President Slocum:

Your letter of September third to Pro-
fessor Miller, with the documents concerning the
examinations in the French courses, has been pre-
sented to me, and I have gone over the matter in
great detail, examining every element in the case,
and consulting with the departmental examiner. My
conclusions are as follows:

1. It is clear that, however strongly Dr.
Beziat de Bordes was recommended by the University,
his questions in the examinations under considera-
tion were not of an ideal character. They were,
in fact, of poor quality.

2. Whatever may be true as to his ability
as a teacher, and no one can speak more strongly on
this subject than I have spoken, the work of the
particular classes represented in the examination
papers submitted was far below grade, and is a piece
of work of which Dr. Beziat de Bordes ought to be

September 11th, 1900.

President A. G. Slocum,

Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

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thoroughly

Sept 3, 1900.

2 *
thoroughly ashamed.

3. The departmental examiner has performed an important duty in calling attention to what seems to have been negligence on the part of the instructor.

4. In view of the fact that the University was responsible for the recommendation of Dr. Beziat de Bordes, and of the further fact that the students in question were "sinned against" rather than the sinners, I would authorize, on behalf of the University, that those students whose term grade is seventy-five or above be allowed to pass; while those students whose term grade is below this mark be considered conditioned.

A copy of this letter is given to Dean Miller. The documents which you have sent I herewith enclose. This whole matter teaches us that even the best teachers sometimes need inspection. I have myself written to Dr. Beziat de Bordes, expressing sincere disappointment in this matter.

Very truly yours,

W. R. Harper

Professor

thoroughly ashamed.
3. The departmental examiner has performed an important duty in calling attention to what seems to have been negligence on the part of the instructor.

4. In view of the fact that the University was responsible for the recommendation of Dr. Beziat de Borges, and of the further fact that the students in question were "sinned against" rather than the sinners, I would authorize, on behalf of the University, that those students whose term grade is seventy-five or above be allowed to pass; while those students whose term grade is below this mark be considered conditioned.

A copy of this letter is given to Dean Miller. The documents which you have sent I enclose. This whole matter teaches us that even the best teachers sometimes need inspection. I have myself written to Dr. Beziat de Borges, expressing sincere disappointment in this matter.

Very truly yours,

W. R. Harper

Sept. 3, 1900.

Professor Miller:-

I can not understand
the marking and comments upon the
papers in French.

Dr. Baziat de Bordes was strongly recom-
mended to me by President Harper.

He is recognized as an expert in the
knowledge of French and the ability to
teach it, and I am confident that
he did excellent work in his classes.

^{and} These students are fully up to the average
in ability, their previous work in French
has been accepted, and their work in
other subjects is approved.

I should be glad to have these papers
examined by some else before a final
decision is rendered.

It hardly seems possible that Instructor
and class/donor such universal condemnation.
Very sincerely yours, A. Gaylord Spencer

Sept. 3, 1900.

①

Dear Professor Miller:

I am not understanding
the meaning and comments upon the
papers in regard to
Dr. Joseph's books was strongly recom-
mended to me by President Taylor.
He is recognized as an expert in the
knowledge of German and the ability to
teach it, and I am confident that
he did excellent work in his classes.
These students are fully up to the average
in ability, their previous work in French
has been excellent, and their work in
other subjects is approved.
I should be glad to have these papers
examined by some one before a final
decision is reached.
The faculty seems favorable that students
and class hours and minimal contribution
very sincerely yours, W. Joseph

Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, Pa.



March, 27, 1901.

Roman

Professor J. Atkinson Jenkins:

Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Penn.

My Dear Professor Jenkins:

It gives me pleasure in replying to your recent letter to say it is the desire of the University to build up the department of Romance Languages. We feel that we have not been doing our duty in this department and it is our desire to make it as strong as any department in the University.

In reply to your question as to the relative importance I attach to the field as a University subject, I think I can answer you by saying that I have advised my own son to choose this field and he has practically settled that this will be his life work. This answer I am sure you will regard as conclusive.

I can understand the importance of this question to you and to Dr. Pietsch and I assure you you will have my hearty support in every step.

The resources in the Departmental Library are not as great as we should wish them, but this year

March, 27, 1901.

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Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Penn.

My Dear Professor Jenkins:

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THE PRESIDENT
COLLEGE
BALTIMORE, PA.

March

Sir: I received

Friday afternoon
saying that the
described in your
February 26th

College,
Pittsburgh, Pa.



March 18, 1901

Sir:

I received last Friday afternoon your telegram saying that the action described in your letter of February 26th would surely pass the Trustees, and to please consider the matter settled.

I have accordingly informed our President of my intention to resign. I may state that he had previously informed me of an advance in salary which would have given us

an income somewhat above
that of an Assistant Professor
in Chicago University!!

May I ask of you at this
time to favor me with as
definite a statement as
possible as to the attitude
of the University management
towards the Romance Lan-
guages department: in how
far do you believe it can
and will be developed in
the next five years? How near
will it approach the Latin
and Greek departments in
that time? What relative

importance do you attach
to the Romance field as a
Minority subject? Pardon
this series of inquiries; espec-
ially may they seem out of
place, if these matters have
already been made clear
to Dr. Pietsch. My only excuse
is that they are of the pro-
foundest importance in guiding
all our efforts.

Yours very truly;

J. Atkinson Jenkins

P.S. May I also inquire as to the
resources of the departmental
library?

My dear Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of your letter of the
10th inst. in relation to the
subject of the proposed
amendment to the
constitution of the State
relating to the
mode of electing
members of the
Legislature. I am
pleased to hear that
you are so deeply
interested in the
subject, and I am
glad to see that
you are so fully
informed as to the
details of the
proposed amendment.
I have no objection
to the amendment
as it is now
worded, and I am
glad to see that
you are so fully
informed as to the
details of the
proposed amendment.
I am, Sir, very
respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J. M. Smith

-2-

we shall be able to give the department twenty-five percent more for books than it received last year. This, I am sure you will regard as a move in the right direction.

I hope you will have no further hesitation and that I may receive at an early date your formal acceptance. The Trustees took formal action last Monday afternoon.

Very sincerely yours,

W. R. Harper

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I hope you will have no further hesitation
and that I may receive at an early date your formal
acceptance. The trustees took formal action last
Monday afternoon.

Very sincerely yours,

W. R. Harper

April 19th, 1902.

Mr. T. A. Jenkins,

My dear Mr. Jenkins:-

Your letter to Dr. Goodspeed has been handed to me. The arrangement with you was, as you suggest, slightly out of the regular order, but the arrangement of course holds good and your letter covers the case. It was not supposed that the actual arrangements of courses was something which would hold indefinitely, at the same time, I can see no reason why they should be changed. If with this letter you are ready to accept the appointment, please do so; but if you prefer, and will send me the Secretary's letter, I will make the slight change.

Yours very truly,

W. R. Harper

April 19th, 1902.

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My dear Mr. Jenkins:-

Your letter to Dr. Goodspeed has been handed to me. The arrangement with you was, as you suggest, slightly out of the regular order, but the arrangement of course holds good and your letter covers the case. It was not supposed that the actual arrangements of courses was something which would hold indefinitely, at the same time, I can see no reason why they should be changed. If with this letter you are ready to accept the appointment, please do so; but if you prefer, and will send me the Secretary's letter, I will make the slight change.

Yours very truly,

W. R. Harper

The University of Chicago



April 21, 1902

My dear President Harper:

Let me thank you for your letter of Saturday and to assure you that any alteration in the wording of Mr. Goodspeed's letter is now unnecessary.

I may explain to you what I did not feel called upon to explain to Mr. Goodspeed, namely, that a powerful inducement for me to leave Swarthmore was the prospect of more moderate hours at Chicago, a matter whose importance only those who, like myself, have a very mediocre physique can fully appreciate. Consequently, the matter assumed to me an importance which, I can readily see, might seem excessive to others who are more fortunate in Nature's endowments.

I take much pleasure in sending the acceptance to Mr. Goodspeed, with full appreciation of the honor conferred.

Very truly yours, J. A. Thurston

The University of Chicago



June 21, 1902

[Handwritten signature]

My dear President of the University of Chicago
Let me thank you for your

letter of Saturday and to assure you that
my attention in the working of Mr. Goodspeed's
letter is now unnecessary.

I may explain to you what I did not feel
called upon to explain to Mr. Goodspeed, namely,
that a powerful instrument for me to

have been the project of more
moderate than at Chicago, a matter where
importance only those who, like myself, have
a very mediocre physique can fully
appreciate. Consequently, the water seemed
to me an importance which I can easily
see, might seem excessive to other who
are more fortunate in Nature's endowment.

I take much pleasure in securing the receipt
from Mr. Goodspeed, with full appreciation
of the loan conferred.

Very truly yours,
[Handwritten signature]

The University of Chicago

January 27th, 1904.

My dear Mr. Jenkins:-

I congratulate you upon the excellent reception which has been given to your paper on Gaston Paris in the University Record. These replies are most gratifying. I am greatly pleased that the effort was so successful.

Yours very truly,

W. R. Harper

January 27th, 1904.

My dear Mr. Jenkins:-

I congratulate you upon the excellent reception which has been given to your paper on Gaston Paris in the University Record. These replies are most gratifying. I am greatly pleased that the effort was so successful.

Yours very truly,

W. R. Harper

Mr. Mr. President:
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Record containing
I am sure
the

The University of Chicago

January 10, 1904

Mr. President: As you were good enough to authorize the distribution of one hundred extra copies of the November University Record containing my paper on Gaston Paris, you will be interested, I am sure, to know something of its reception. I select a few of the more important names :--

Mme Gaston Paris: "Remerciements bien émus."

Professor Elliott, Johns Hopkins: "I shall present your very interesting article to our Romance Club, and I am sure it will be greatly appreciated."

M. Ernest Dupuy, Inspecteur de l'Instruction publique, Paris: "Tres-obligé à M. Jenkins de lui avoir adressé sa belle étude sur Gaston Paris."

M. Antoine Thomas, successor of G. Paris in the chair of French Philology at the École des Hautes Études, Paris: "J'admire et l'exactitude de l'information^{et} (ce qui se trouve réuni rarement chez nous) le talent littéraire."

M. Jusserand, French Ambassador at Washington: "You said perfectly what was to be said, and I was in truth deeply moved in reading your essay." He adds: "With best wishes for your University and for yourself from one of your Doctors, etc."

Prof. Kr. Nyrop, Copenhagen: "Je viens de lire votre belle biographie de notre cher maître; et j'y ai surtout remarqué ce que vous dites des relations de G. Paris avec Diez: il y avait là des choses absolument nouvelles pour moi."

Professor Pio Rajna, Florence: "I am very grateful to you for adding to the series of commemorative articles on Gaston Paris; your discourse is excellent, as befitted the subject."

Perhaps a score of other acknowledgments have been received from persons less prominent. The impression made seems to have been excellent, and cannot fail I think to make clear to the world at large some of the ideals of the Department.

Yours very truly,

J. Atkinson Jenkins

Romance

(2)

December 8, 1908.

My dear Mr. Fairweather:

The Milton meeting of Sunday afternoon was altogether significant. I hope that the other two celebrations will be equally so. Do you not think that it will be well to consider the possibility of including in the magazine, one or all of the addresses to be given Tuesday afternoon?

In the Tribune of yesterday morning there is a notice of the death of Charles Mackaye VanPatten, 1901; immediately below is that of William Knapp, at one time Head of the Department of Romance in the University.

Sincerely yours,

D. A. Robertson
Secretary to the President
Secretary to the President.

Mr. George O. Fairweather,
University of Chicago.

December 8, 1908.

(M)

Chicago

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Mr. George O. Fairweather,
University of Chicago.

REED COLLEGE
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
PORTLAND, OREGON

10 October 1911

*Romance
Williamson*

Dear Mr. Robertson:-

I thank you for your note regarding my book. About the same time, I received a letter from President Vincent recommending Mr. Williamson for a professorship of French and Spanish in Reed College. I am almost ashamed to trouble you- or anybody else in Chicago- with further inquiries. Possibly, however, the fact that I have already nominated two of your graduates for professorships with us, is sufficient evidence that I value the help you are giving me. Do you think Mr. and Mrs. Williamson have the temperament, interests, pioneering spirit, adaptability and spirit of co-operation that would make them entirely happy and efficient in helping to build Reed College?

Dr. Charles T. Burnett, Professor of Psychology in Bowdoin College, has just accepted our invitation. We are now interested in further suggestions regarding a Professor of Physical Education and a Librarian.

Sincerely,

William T. Foster

Professor David Robertson
University of Chicago

REED COLLEGE
DEPT. OF THE WORLD
PORTLAND, OREGON

TO THE BOARD

Dear Sirs: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours truly,
Wm. L. Reed

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Yours truly,
Wm. L. Reed

Wm. L. Reed

Chicago, October 17, 1911.

My dear President Foster:-

Concerning Hiram Parker Williamson as a teacher such as would fit in Reed College, I know nothing but good. Perhaps you will yourself remember the enthusiastic commendation of Mr. Williamson by his chief, Professor Nitze, when we were having luncheon at the Quadrangle Club. Mr. Nitze's whole-hearted approval was accompanied by a statement of his own desire not to lose him from the University of Chicago. That in itself is a good test of Mr. Nitze's sincerity. Parker Williamson is of all things a teacher. He has done some writing, though not of the ordinary research character. His chief interests have been, and I think always will be, in teaching the French Language and Literature. Mrs. Robertson had an elementary course with him and so I was able to know how efficiently he conducted his course. His aim is not merely to put the students in control of reading French but to assist them to use the language as a tool in speaking as well as in reading. I cannot imagine a better man in French for your purposes.

Chicago, October 17, 1911.

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I think that Williamson would not himself apply for a position in Reed College. He seems to be satisfied and interested in the University of Chicago. This too is an indication of his value to you. The basis on which you could interest him in Portland is the suitability of the climate for Mrs. Williamson and the children. Mrs. Williamson, who is a very charming, lovable, and quiet person, has not been well during the rigorous parts of the Chicago winters. I think he would be glad indeed to take her to Portland, where during so large a part of the year the climate would be a great help to her, and whence he might easily send her to the south during the few weeks of the rainy season. Do not imagine from what I say that Mrs. Williamson is an invalid. She has always lived in France a rather sheltered existence; indeed, her family (de Vines) is one of the best of France. She is of slight physique, moreover. It is, therefore, no wonder that the Februaries and Marches of Chicago made her ill.

Both of them would make charming additions to your college community. She is delightful in conversation; he not only has ability to converse well on his own and kindred subjects but has the gift of song; indeed last winter he traveled throughout the central west giving provençal songs. I commend both of them to you very heartily.

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I have no suggestions regarding the professorship of Physical Education. I am writing Mr. Stagg, however, who has recently been obliged to canvass the field in order to secure a successor to Dr. Raycroft who has gone to Princeton as head of the work in Physical Education in that institution.

Mr. Burton, director of our libraries, and the associate director, Mr. Hanson, have found it necessary to observe the whole library field in view of the recruiting for our Harper Memorial Library. Both have promised me lists for conveyance to you. Mr. Burton in the meantime directs attention to the librarian of the University of Nebraska, Walter K. Jewett. Mr. Jewett prepared for his work in the New York State Library School at Albany, where he spent two years. He is a graduate of both Brown and Harvard Universities. He spent two years of study and travel in Europe, including one semester at Berlin. In his correspondence with us he referred to his former chief librarian, Mr. C. W. Andrews, of the John Crerar Library, Chicago.

Mr. Burton names also Mr. Charles E. Janvrin, who is a graduate of a normal school and of the Drexel Institute Library School of Philadelphia. After teaching eight years and acting as librarian five years, he took his Ph. B. degree at the University of Chicago, April, 1910. Those who came in contact with him during his five years as librarian at the Jefferson Medical College of

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Philadelphia speak very well of him. Mr. Burton in a personal interview was impressed. He is forty-five years old and unmarried. He is at present I think in the Library School at Albany. If not, he can be addressed at Hampton Falls, N. H.

There is in the John Crerar Library at the present time a very desirable person in Mr. *S. D. Wendell* Prudell. In addition to being a well trained librarian, he has social qualities which are giving him success at present as reference librarian in meeting people inside and outside of the library. One indication of this success is in the fact that he is now president of the Library Club in Chicago. I know him well and heartily commend him, as do Mr. Hanson and Mr. Burton. Of course, I do not know whether it is possible to secure him. Of librarians, however, I shall have more to say anon.

Sincerely yours,

D. A. Robertson
Secretary to the President

President William T. Foster,
Reed College,
Portland, Oregon.

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D. A. Robertson
Secretary to the President

President William T. Foster,
Reed College,
Portland, Oregon.

Note: Since writing the above I have received the following suggestions from Mr. Hanson, Associate Director of University Libraries:

1. J. Diesernd, graduate in Philology, University of Christiania about 1889. Librarian, Field Columbian Museum, 1891-2 to 1898 or 99. Since then, reviser of cataloging, Library of Congress. Excellent linguist. Scandinavian languages, German, Dutch, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, Latin, Greek, Old Norse, Anglo-Saxon.

2. W. H. Dudley, Assistant Librarian, University of Wisconsin, since 1893. Good reference librarian and all around man. Not so good as number one in languages, but perhaps more experienced in general college library work.

3. C. K. Jones, University of California, 1895-99 (?) Since then, Library of Congress. Good personality and fair linguist. Spanish and Latin his strongest. Experience in classification and cataloging at Library of Congress.

4. Thomas F. Currier, Chief cataloger, Harvard College Library, since 1895 or 96. Is a fine man, but rather deaf.

5. W. S. Merrill, Newberry Library, Chicago, since 1889. Is a good man of large experience. Has slight impediment in his speech.

All the above would likely be willing to accept \$2000 to \$2500. If \$3000 to \$3500 can be paid, men like W. K. Jewett, of

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1. J. Dierckx, Graduate in Philology, University of Christiania about 1889. Librarian, Field Columbian Museum, 1891-2 to 1898 or 99. Since then, reviser of cataloging, Library of Congress. Excellent linguist. Scandinavian languages, German, Dutch, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, Latin, Greek, Old Norse, Anglo-Saxon.
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Altrocchi

The University of Chicago
DEPARTMENT OF
ROMANCE LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

June 2^d 1916.

Dear Mr. Robertson,

I shall meet Mr. Grandgent on Monday at the Station and take care of him. I have not made any arrangements for him in connection with the University and Departmental Dinners, where I suppose he will be the guest of the University. If you can suggest anything for me to do for Mr. Grandgent or for the Celebration, do not hesitate to let me know.

Concerning my poem, I suppose that though you must be dreadfully busy, you are trying to place it correctly. I may say that in finishing it I had the benefit of the help of one of my colleagues, who is a poet, and he went over every word of it. If you can possibly squeeze it into the Hutchinson Court Celebration, where it might indeed be somewhat of a not unwelcome variant, perhaps, I shall certainly be personally most grateful to you. I thank you, anyhow, in advance, heartily.

Sincerely yours,
Rudolph Altrocchi

June 2 - 1916

Dear Mr. Robertson,

I shall meet Mr. Grund
gent on Monday at the station and take
care of him. I have not made any arrangements
for him in connection with the
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If you can suggest anything for me to do
for Mr. Grund, I am at your service. Do
not hesitate to let me know.

Governing my room, I suppose that
though you must be dreadfully busy,
you are trying to place it correctly. I
may say that in finishing it that the benefit
of the help of one of our colleagues, who is
a poet, and he went over every word of it.
If you can possibly spare it into the
Robertson Court Celebration, where it might
be somewhat of a not uninteresting
variant perhaps. I shall certainly be glad
to have it. I thank you
all most grateful to you,
in advance, heartily.
Sincerely yours,
Richard B. Sewall