

Wilmington. Del. 405 W. 10th St. May 28-92

President Harper.

Dear Sir.

*Amel*  
*OK*

A propos the equipment for the Chicago University of Departments of Bible Lands and of Christian Missions, there is a very timely and important thought, which may escape you, unless you have had much experience in dealing with Turkish, Arabic and Egyptian officials. It is difficult, and in recent years increasingly so, to get permits and privileges from them in the interest of science, except at the expense of much tact, patience and money. They have exaggerated ideas of the value of all articles sought for by Museum collectors.

But the coming Chicago World Exhibition furnishes you a special opportunity to overcome their parsimony, shifidity and indifference. Even the benighted Port of Constantinople and the Kedival Puffets at Cairo will have heard and seen the pictures of the proposed Chicago Exhibition, and will be accessible to the suggestion that they contribute to its glories some of the still unappropriated monuments, statues, sarcophagi, inscribed stones, mummies, papyri, &c. &c. the same to become the property of







2

The Chicago University at the close of the exhibition.

Perhaps the exhibition directors might be interested enough to contribute to the transportation of such treasures, or at least to grant some special facilities along with their other importations from Eastern lands.

Possibly this hint might be still more largely acted upon, and just as Japan gives much of its exhibition ultimately to the city of Chicago, might not personal application on behalf of your University be successful to the several eastern governments, in advance of their exhibitions, and before other and perhaps most tempting financial offers are made for desirable materials for Museum collections?

As to the first above suggestion, take Egypt for example. You have probably visited the ruins of Memphis, and will <sup>me</sup>remember the neglected statue of Ramesses II, lying half buried in the sand. I think the Khedive, with no English opposition, would give that to the use of the World Exhibition, and then to the Chicago University. Yet probably no reasonable amount of money could move it directly to any American educational institution. So as to many other treasures in the Delta and along up the Nile; as also in the valleys of the Tigris and Euphrates. As to collections from Babylonia and Assyria, the time would be too short to more than get them started on their way, but then what would do if only just the Turkish flag.

Two other suggestions. Mr. Merrill, our consul at Jerusalem, has some collections worth soliciting.







And, Men, I have a friend, Mr. Wilson of Clifton Heights, suburb to Cincinnati, with whom I have taken tours in Palestine, Asia Minor and Greece, who has large and valuable collections of Bible Land antiquities and of Christian Mission materials, occupying six large rooms of an extensive mansion. He made large wealth in school books, and has been a traveller and collector for the past twelve years all over the world, and especially in Bible Lands. He has no children, and no special leanings, I think, toward any educational institution. The probability is that he will leave his collections to the city of Cincinnati, unless you enlist him for the Chicago University, as I think is quite possible with tactfulness and a sufficient amount of prompt enterprise.

Additionally, in one or both of these directions, a department of Christian Missions and one of Bible Lands, I think it wise to introduce to your notice my friend John Pirie of Brooklyn. He gave me a beautiful house lot in that city, worth \$3,000. He is of the well known Chicago firm of Carson, Pirie, Scott & Co.; is a Baptist but with strong Plymouth Brethrenhood leanings, and somewhat cranky, though a Scotchman. Mr. Carson is dead, and Mr. Pirie is head of the firm. He has business houses in New York, Manchester, Germany, &c. He has told me that for several years his sales have been \$15,000,000 annually, and also that he is feeling, that as his wealth is







4

being made mostly in Chicago, that in Chicago  
it ought to be mostly used, as far as his duty  
in giving is concerned. But you would have to be  
very cautious and deliberate in approach, and I  
believe you could succeed particularly in the di-  
rections of these communications. He would not  
give for building, nor for anything largely with-  
out a distinctively religious phase to it. He believes  
in very humble Christian work, therefore Chris-  
tian Missions; and rides the hobby also of simply  
studying the Bible, and hence anything is specially  
valuable to him from Bible lands, which right  
out of God's creative and preserving hand in-  
terprets the pure word of God. That is the  
man: go for him!

Very Truly Yours,

W. F. Bainbridge.







Oriental  
Museum

Jackson

Columbia University, New York City  
May 26 1896

President William R. Harper,  
The University of Chicago.

Dear President Harper:

I beg leave to ask you  
for one or two points with regard to  
the address I am invited to de-  
liver at the opening of the Oriental  
Museum. May I have a few words from you  
about the prospective program for  
the occasion? Are there other ad-  
dressers or is mine the only one?  
And how much time is it ex-  
pected to occupy? This informat-  
ion is somewhat necessary for me  
in preparation of the address and in  
the choice of several subjects which  
might be possible. I should like  
also to know if the address is to  
be delivered in the evening or during  
the day.



I regret having to take your time  
in such matters; but it will be helpful  
for me to know a little more pre-  
cisely. I look forward with  
great pleasure to coming to the Univers-  
ity and I thank you again for the  
information.

Respectfully,

A. V. Williams Jackson



*Jackson*  
University  
Columbia College (3)

New York, May 22<sup>nd</sup> 1896

President William R. Harper:  
The University of Chicago:

My dear Mr President:

Your very kind letter dated  
May 20<sup>th</sup>, I have just received.  
I had not written before as I had  
understood that ~~a~~ letter was to  
come from you, which I awaited before  
formally writing to you. I had  
~~pen~~ned a note last evening to  
you expressing the fear there might  
be a misunderstanding. Your  
letter now is therefore most welcome.

It gives me much pleas-  
ure, Sir, to accept the honor which  
you have bestowed upon me in in-  
viting me to give the address in  
connection with the dedication of



the Oriental Museum'. I thank you for the distinction you have conferred upon me, and I am glad to have the opportunity of speaking at the University.

I note the date - July 2d - on which the address is to be delivered. I shall write you the subject upon which I shall speak. My preference for an address upon such an occasion I think would have been for 'Sanskrit Drama with Parallels from Shakspeare', as a subject to which I have devoted much attention; but as it is to be in connection with the Comparative Religion conference, it would be better I presume to follow your suggestion as to some feature of the Persian religion. My choice must be guided somewhat by the shortness of the time; I note your request for the manuscript beforehand. I

shall write more fully in regard thereto.

I regret sincerely that the delay in my response, through thinking a letter was to come first from you, should have postponed my formal answer until now; but accepting with kindest appreciation the honor you have conferred, I am

Respectfully,

A. V. Williams Jackson



In case of any formal announcements I give you my official title as Columbia, as it appears in our own announcements.

A. V. Williams Jackson, D.H.D., Ph.D.

Professor of Indo-Iranian Languages.



Mr. E. S. Goodspeed.

Columbia College  
in the City of New York

Jacksons

Which?

former of course

gfy.

27

June 1<sup>st</sup> 1896

President William R. Harper,  
The University of Chicago

My dear Mr President,

I thank you very cordially for the  
kind information contained in your letter of May 28<sup>th</sup>,  
just received, regarding the address I am to give, the  
hour appointed, and the suggested length of the address.  
In no case should I exceed forty minutes.

The topic I have selected to speak  
upon is the Ancient Persian Doctrine of a  
Future Life if that should meet with your  
approval. As alternate I might offer The Funeral  
Rites of Ancient India and Persia. The former  
subject is perhaps the more special; the latter subject,  
the more <sup>general and</sup> popular. If your Committee have a  
decided preference in the matter I should be glad  
to know at early convenience, so as to have Mrs.  
ready in time for your printer.

Thanking you again for all your  
kind care in the matter, I am  
Yours very truly  
A. V. Williams Jacksons



Columbia College

in the City of New York

Wm. L. Chapin  
June 15, 1891

June 15, 1891

Dear Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst.

in relation to the matter of the

admission of students to the

College of the City of New York.

I am sorry to hear that you are unable to attend the

meeting of the Board of Education on the 17th inst.

as you are unable to attend.

I am sure that you will be able to attend the

meeting of the Board of Education on the 24th inst.

as you will be able to attend.

I am sure that you will be able to attend the

meeting of the Board of Education on the 24th inst.

as you will be able to attend.

I am sure that you will be able to attend the

meeting of the Board of Education on the 24th inst.

as you will be able to attend.

I am sure that you will be able to attend the

meeting of the Board of Education on the 24th inst.

as you will be able to attend.

Very respectfully,  
Wm. L. Chapin



September 29th, 1902

*Oriental Museum*  
Mr. H. W. Seton-Karr,

17 Lingfield Road, Wimbledon,

London, S. W., England.

My dear Sir:

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of recent date, with the enclosure of new labels for the stone implements which you kindly sent to the University. These were received in due course of time and were acknowledged by the Director of the Museum. I regret that you never received his acknowledgment.

Again thanking you for your kindness to the University, I remain

Very truly yours,

**W. R. Harper**



September 29th, 1902

Mr. H. W. Seton-Karr,  
14 Langfield Road, Wimbledon,  
London, S. W., England.

My dear Sir:

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of  
your letter of recent date, with the enclosure of  
new labels for the stone implements which you kindly  
sent to the University. These were received in due  
course of time and were acknowledged by the Director  
of the Museum. I regret that you never received  
his acknowledgment.  
Again thanking you for your kindness to  
the University, I remain  
Very truly yours,

W. R. Harper



17, LINGFIELD ROAD,

WIMBLEDON,

LONDON, S.W.

Answered SEP 29 1902

Francis W. Shepardson,

Secretary to the President.

Sept. 15, 1902.

(1)

Dear Sir,

With regard to the Collection of Stone Implements from Africa which I had the honour of presenting to your Museum I find that the printing on the labels which I placed upon some has faded and disappeared, and in other cases the labels may have come off. I should, therefore, be extremely obliged if you would kindly have the enclosed labels gummed upon them in place of the others.

If you have no objection to this I would ask you to be so kind as to let me know when it has been done, and

I beg to remain, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

H. W. Seton-Karr.

I have heard whether you received the implements at all.



I have your letter of the 15th and am  
H. W. Scher-Kear

Your most obedient servant

I beg to remain, Sir,

know when it has been done, and

would ask you to be so kind as to let me

if you have no objection to this

labels placed upon them in place of the

it would kindly have the enclosed

should, therefore, be extremely obliged

even the labels you have come with

labels and disappeared, and in other

labels which I placed upon some has

Museum I find that the printing on the

had the honour of presenting to your

Stone implements from Africa which I

With regard to the Collection of

Dear Sir,

Francis W. Stephenson  
Assistant to the President

Sept. 15, 1902

LONDON, S.W.

WIMBORNE

17, LINGFIELD ROAD,



April, 15, 1901.

Mr. H. W. Seton-Karr,

31 Lingfield Road, Wimbledon S. W. London.

My Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of March twenty-eighth. Professor Breasted has been absent from the University over a year working in Continental Museums, and his correspondence has therefore, fallen into my hands.

As President of the University and as one greatly interested in Oriental Antiquities, I wish to thank you sincerely for this gift. It is one which we shall heartily appreciate. The material has not yet come to hand, but upon receipt I will write you again.

It gives me pleasure to send you a copy of the University Register, and also copy of the latest monthly Record.

Very sincerely yours,



April, 15, 1901.

Mr. W. W. Seton-Karr,

31 Langfield Road, Wimbledon S. W. London.

My Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of March  
twenty-eighth. Professor Braisted has been absent from  
the University over a year working in Continental Museums,  
and his correspondence has therefore, fallen into my  
hands.

As President of the University and as one  
greatly interested in Oriental Antiquities, I wish to  
thank you sincerely for this gift. It is one which we  
shall heartily appreciate. The material has not yet  
come to hand, but upon receipt I will write you again.  
It gives me pleasure to send you a copy of  
the University Register, and also copy of the latest  
Monthly Record.

Very sincerely yours,



The University of Chicago  
Office of the President

April, 15, 1901.

My Dear Mr. Shepardson:

Please keep track of this shipment and  
let me know when it is received.

Very truly yours,

William R. Harper.  
T.



The University of Chicago

Office of the Librarian

April 15, 1901

My dear Mr. Proctor:

Please keep track of this shipment and

let me know when it is received.

Very truly yours,

William R. Harper.

T.



31 Luggfield Road.  
Wimbledon. SW.  
London.

28 - 3 - 07

Prof. Brewster  
Univ. of Chicago



Sir I have lately despatched boxes through Messrs  
T. Cook & Son, Cairo, and with the seal &  
permission of Prof. Maspero, Director General of antiquities  
in Egypt, a can of Ancient Stone Implements from  
the Prehistoric Flint Mines which I discovered with the  
help of H. E. Johnson Pasha & the Arabs, in the  
Eastern Desert, 97 miles South of Cairo & 15  
m. E. of the river Nile; & from which I have  
lately returned.

I hope you will allow me to have the honour  
of presenting them to your University -  
which I have of course heard <sup>from Mr. Higginbotham & others</sup> so much of  
that you will have them placed in the  
position you consider best.

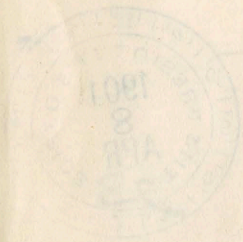
I shall be glad to hear whenever you  
have safely received them.

I am Sir your obedient servant

H. W. Seton-Karr

The Univ. of Chicago.





312 Fifth Ave.  
New York, N.Y.  
Boston

1891 - 3 - 27

Prof. Brewster  
(The Rev. of Mass.)

I have lately the pleasure to  
and with the aid of  
your kind interest in  
in light, a copy of the  
the history. I think  
the help of a few  
Eastern Society, 11  
the 1st of the year  
which I have

I hope you will allow me to  
of present. I have  
which I have of your  
that we will then  
position for which  
I shall be glad to hear  
from you. I am  
Yours very truly

Wm. Brewster

Wm. Brewster

The Rev. of Mass.



01  
XX

The University of Chicago

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Office of the President

*Extracts from a letter, Prof. J. H. Breasted, to  
the President of the University, dated  
Cairo, Dec. 7, 1919.*

*University  
Museum*

With reference to the interests of our museum the situation has been unexpected. Up to last spring when I first desired to come out the situation was as I described it to you and Mr. Ryerson, viz: there was opportunity to buy much material which had accumulated during the war owing to the inaccessibility of Egypt for a number of years. Since the insurrection of last spring however the situation has greatly changed. The spirit of defiance among the natives and the possession of a good deal of money has led them to buy antiquities very extensively as they have never done before. It is evident that all Egypt now knows that the survivals of its past are of great value to civilized peoples and that Egypt will in the future demand the high prices which have unfortunately been paid by such men as Pierpont Morgan and the Earl of Carnarvon, whose magnificent collection I saw while I was in England. We are nearing the end of the vast treasures once preserved in this ancient land, and for those which remain a very high price will have to be paid.

There remains a purely temporary exception and that is to be found in the stocks of some of the more intelligent and reasonable dealers. When these are gone the fast diminishing remainder will be paid for at preposterous prices. I have therefore on behalf of Haskell and the Art Institute gone carefully over such stocks of some dealers, or indeed of all of them. I have secured some very beautiful things in the way of sculpture for the Art Institute and their appropriation is all spent. I hope very much that they will make another. From among the dealers stocks I have also secured a collection of great value for Haskell Museum, such as would cost very much more ever to make again. Then I was unexpectedly confronted after the money for Egypt was practically gone by a very unusual number of opportunities, like that of buying the unrivaled collection of prehistoric implements made by Captain C. S. Timmins; or a wonderful hieroglyphic papyrus (our new Paris papyrus is hieratic) of the Book of the Dead, the finest that has gone out of Egypt for years, an absolutely perfect and intact roll about forty feet long; besides the still unpurchased remainder of fine things I had set aside among the dealers stocks but could not actually agree to buy.

The most unexpected things turn up as I make my prolonged excursions among the miscellaneous array in the hands of the dealers. For example a series of ten long known contracts which I first read in my student days many years ago engraved on the walls of a noble's tomb at Assiut in Upper Egypt, provide







The University of Chicago

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Office of the President

COPY

-2-

for furnishing him and three statues of his with food and luxuries and especially tapers on the great feast days of the Egyptian calendar after his death. Now these contracts and the statues they mention were all made some 4000 years ago, - that is about the time of Abraham; and a few days ago I found under the counter of a native rug dealer here, two statues bearing the Assiut noble's name, carved in hieroglyphics, and they are of course two of the three statues mentioned in the noble's contracts. The dealer asks a perfectly outrageous price for them, but no one else knows what they are and I hope to get him down within reasonable limits.

After a long session with a particularly hard-headed Greek with an Italian name of whom I have bought a number of ~~th~~ things for the Art Institute and some for Haskell he suddenly brought out a box containing 258 clay tablet letters and contracts written in cuneiform, which had been brought into Egypt from Aleppo by a Syrian merchant. Sayce had advised the University of Dublin to buy them for fifty pounds and I saw Sayce's letter about them; but Dublin had failed to send the money and the Greek said I could have them if I wanted them at that price. As this was at the rate of a good deal less than a dollar apiece for the lot, I took them. I expect many a fact of early Western Asiatic history will come out of them when they reach Haskell and Luckenbill has a chance at them.

One of the dealers is a very wealthy Syrian named Nahman who is cashier of the Credit Foncier and lives in an oriental palace where he has his things. He has an enormous collection of things, and I have spent days and days among them. Some days ago when it was time to go home to dinner and I was dusty and tired, he brought out a mass of papyri, mostly only fragments, but among them was a roll containing sixteen columns of Greek text in a book hand, among which I could see many numerals and such phrases as "from the Lion to the Virgin" (ΑΠΟ ΛΕΟΝΤΟΣ ΕΩΣ ΠΑΡΘΕΝΟΥ) or "the Archer" (ΤΟΞΟΤΟΥ) made it evident that I had in my hand an old Greek treatise on Astronomy, which the character of the writing showed might be as old as the third century before Christ, and might have belonged to the lost Alexandrian library, or have been written by one of the great group of Greek scientists of that wonderful century, to which Euclid and Archimedes and Eratosthenes belonged. It made one's fingers tingle. Wouldn't George Hale be delighted to get his hands on the work of predecessors as old as these?







+138

The University of Chicago

Haskell Oriental Museum

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

January 15, 1917

*Oriental  
Museum*

President Harry Pratt Judson,

The University.

Dear President Judson:

I am enclosing you herewith a check for \$150.00 received from Mr. T. W. Robinson, Vice President of the Illinois Steel Company, 1620 Continental and Commercial Bank Building, Chicago. This gift is for the purchase of a small collection of Babylonian antiquities, especially a tablet containing part of an ancient Babylonian dictionary.

I am of course acknowledging the receipt of the check to Mr. Robinson, but I take it that formal acknowledgment of the gift will go from your office as usual.

It is also unfortunately my duty to report a loss in the Museum which is of sufficient importance to require record. A beautifully-wrought figure of a tiny falcon in gold, not much higher than one's thumb-nail, is missing. It was a very fine example of the goldsmith's work, although executed 2,000 years before Christ. We are not yet certain that the piece has been stolen, or is finally lost. In the course of installing and shifting over 10,000 numbers, it is easy for a piece as small as this to slip into the wrong place, as a library book is sometimes returned to the wrong shelf and is reported missing. The piece would have been valued, as a purchase by a modern



The University of Chicago

Seal of the University of Chicago

Office of the Director

January 15, 1917

President Harry Pratt Judson,

The University.

Dear President Judson:

I am enclosing you herewith a check for \$150.00 received from Mr. T. W. Robinson, Vice President of the Illinois Steel Company, 1650 Continental and Commercial Bank Building, Chicago. This gift is for the purchase of a small collection of Babylonian antiquities, especially a tablet containing part of an ancient Babylonian dictionary.

I am of course acknowledging the receipt of the check to Mr. Robinson, but I take it that formal acknowledgment of the gift will go from your office as usual.

It is also unfortunately my duty to report a loss in the Museum which is of sufficient importance to require record. A beautifully-etched figure of a tiny falcon in gold, not much higher than one's thumb-nail, is missing. It was a very fine example of the goldsmith's work, although executed 2,000 years before Christ. We are not certain that the piece has been stolen, or is finally lost. In the course of installation and shifting over 10,000 numbers, it is easy for a piece as small as this to slip into the wrong place, as a library book is sometimes returned to the wrong shelf and is reported missing. The piece would have been valued, as a purchase by a modern



museum, at probably \$250.00, if not more. It is needless to say that every effort has been made to trace the piece.

Very truly yours,

*James A. Brewster*

Enclosure.



Pres. Johnson

amount, at probably \$250.00, if not more. It is needless to say

that every effort has been made to trace the piece.

Very truly yours,

*James M. Smith*

Enclosure



The University of Chicago

FOUNDED BY JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER

Office of the Auditor

January 19, 1917.

My dear President Judson:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your favor of January 17th enclosing check of Mr. T. W. Robinson for \$150. as a gift to the University for the purchase of certain objects to be added to the Oriental Museum.

I am enclosing herewith the Cashier's receipt if it is desirable to send it to Mr. Robinson.

Very truly yours,

*Washington*

President Harry Pratt Judson.

Enclosure.



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

W

January 19, 1917.

My dear President Jackson:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of

your favor of January 17th enclosing check of Mr. T. W.

Robinson for \$150. as a gift to the University for the

purchase of certain objects to be added to the Oriental

Museum.

I am enclosing herewith the Cashier's receipt if it

is desirable to send it to Mr. Robinson.

Very truly yours,

*W. B. E. Jackson*

President Harry Pratt Jackson.

Enclosure.



*Oriental Museum*

01

April 8, 1924.

My dear Mr. Rosenwald:

I am sorry to pursue you to Europe with any letter referring to University matters. I am sure you are entitled to an entire respite from them, but I also wish to put on record now my appreciation of your generous response, conveyed to me at the recent meeting of the Board of Trustees, to the request made in my letter of February 15th. This gift of \$25,000, which I understood you to say you would make at your convenience within the year, will wholly correct what would otherwise have been a rather seriously embarrassing situation.

Very truly yours,

Mr. Julius Rosenwald,  
c/o A. Bien,  
25 Rue de Bergere,  
Paris, France.

EDB:CB



10

University Museum

April 8, 1924.

My dear Mr. Rosenwald:

I am sorry to pursue you to Europe with any letter referring to University matters. I am sure you are entitled to an entire respite from them, but I also wish to put on record now my appreciation of your generous response, conveyed to me at the recent meeting of the Board of Trustees, to the request made in my letter of February 15th. This gift of \$25,000, which I understood you to say you would make at your convenience within the year, will wholly correct what would otherwise have been a rather seriously embarrassing situation.

Very truly yours,

Mr. Julius Rosenwald,  
c/o A. Blum,  
25 Rue de Berge,  
Paris, France.

EDB:CB