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Wilkinson, W. C.

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CROSS REFERENCE SHEET

File No.

Wilkinson, W. C.

Name or Subject

Date

Regarding

SEE

File No.

English Name or Subject



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Call No. 30-5802

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J. W. Allen

Dear Dr. Harper,

I avail myself of this opportunity to send you a few names, as you suggested that I should do, of students taking my course in Poetics:

Miss Bentley
 Mr. Friedman
 Mr. Squires
 Miss Wetherlow
 Miss Ranney
 Miss Beardsley
 Miss Anderson.

If you still think well of the idea, it would, I think, be suitable to suggest my making a poem of my own the subject of class-room study and criticism to any one, or more, of the above-named. The poem of which we talked was "Webster: an Ode," which I read before the Phi Beta Kappa Society of the University of Vermont at Burlington, and part of which I afterwards read at the Webster Centennial Celebration, held at Marshfield, his old home. I should not think it best to adopt the course suggested unless asked so to do by the class themselves.

Yours W. C. Wilkinson

McClure

My dear Mr. McClure

Dear Mr. McClure

I am very sorry to hear that I should be of assistance to you in your studies. I am sure that I shall be of assistance to you in your studies.

- Miss Gentry
- Mr. Gentry
- Mr. Gentry
- Miss Gentry
- Miss Gentry
- Miss Gentry

If you will think well of the idea of writing a book, I think it desirable to suggest my assistance in the form of my own the subject of classical study and criticism to any one or more of the above named. The form of which is talked over with Mr. Gentry, which I have before the Mr. Gentry. I have been of the study of literature at Washington, and part of which I spent at the Hotel de Ville. I think, that at Washington, the same suggested study, but I think it but to suggest the same suggested study as of the class themselves.

Yours truly, W. C. McClure

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.

Wilkinson

5520 Madison Ave., Chicago.

April 29, 1893.

Dear Dr. Harper,

There are considerations which put it quite out of the question for me to continue my work here on terms more favorable to the University than those indicated in my note of last Tuesday, receipt of which you acknowledged. I certainly do not wish to "press" the University, and I think the concession I propose, to enable the trustees to meet a demand on my part which you in conversation frankly recognized as entirely reasonable, will amply show this.

I do not suppose that the present communication will affect at all the final action of the administration in the premises; but a sense of justice to myself, as well as to you, compelled me to make it.

If it will at all contribute to the speedier consummation of arrangements for the future, I am

thorize you to regard and use this note as a resignation of my chair in the University.

Faithfully yours,

William C. Wickens

[1893]

~~Wilkinson~~

no date

~~Sp~~

~~Sp~~

Tuesday Evening, April 25.

Dear Dr. Harper,

~~Sp~~

I went to you to-night with the purpose fully formed not to accede to any proposal that should involve my receiving less than \$1500. for the quantum's work to be undertaken. I was more than willing, however, to show my appreciation of the peculiar temporary state of things to be confronted during the next University year. It now occurs to me that it would be a sufficient proof of such disposition on my part if I had made to you in conversation, as I now make to you in writing, the condition that

even for next year my quarter's salary should be fixed at \$1500., I agreeing to let \$500. of the amount remain an obligation of the University to be discharged at its convenience, probably some time in the year following.

Please therefore regard this modified form of agreement on my part as that which I am willing to have presented to the Committee and to the Board.

Unless this condition be met, I may fairly assume, may I not? that my service is not so highly valued that I should greatly grieve the University in relinquishing my relation to it as professor.

Very sincerely,

W. E. Willson

105
Coul

Thursday Morning
Dec. 5, 1892.

Wilkinson
Wilkinson

Dear Mr. Harper,

I have prepared two additional courses for the winter quarter. These I will speak of to my classes, post on the bulletin boards, exhibit in the "University News," and otherwise make public, as may be suggested. I shall thus I hope make good, in a degree at least, the defect

of the Calendar.

It seems so impossible to talk things out, (your time being engrossed to such an extent) that I will now briefly write in blunt fashion the points most necessary of what I should wish to say:

I should not think it wise for me to continue teaching in the University unless the conditions were made more favorable for the highest success. The thing indispensable is that I should have a chance externally equal to the best. There would have to be a quite unmis-

table real publicity put by the University itself upon my work which should rank it in estimation not inferior to that of any other department of work. I do not myself see how this could be done except in terms of title and of salary. If there is some other way than this, I shall not object for this. Your Enrolment weighs so little with me that I should be quite willing to receive no more than now, if there were no disadvantageous discrimination against me. The fact that other professors are discriminated against equally with myself makes no difference, as long as there is even one professor given precedence.

Many things occur to me to say which seem to me of importance to the full consideration of the case, but only an ample conversation could be satisfactory.

With the most cordial personal
feeling,

Faithfully yours,

W. C. Wilkinson

I should not for a moment
have entertained the idea of re-
turn to teaching work anywhere
else than in the University of
Chicago. I finally came to
hope that if you, as president,
were disposed to give me such
support as was necessary, it might
be my duty to make so import-
ant a change in my activity. If
this condition fails, I shall con-
tentedly and hopefully return to
work with my pen.

W. C. W.

(Copy) 191
May 24, 1912

See W. C. Wilkinson
Dear Dr. Small:

Would you like to garnish your "Harper Memorial" address with the above sonnet on the strength of an identification furnished by a very distinguished gentleman who writes of it as follows (no name having been given him in connection with the sonnet submitted for his consideration):

"A striking characterization, it — Harper. Perhaps all would not recognize the portrait, but I was too intimate with the original to mistake it."

You know how sincerely I can sign myself

Cordially yours,

W. C. Wilkinson

Kindly return in the enclosed envelope, with particulars of any wish you may have concerning it. I wish I could hope to hear you.

W.C.W.

141
May 24, 1912

Dear Mr. Gail:

Would you like to furnish your "Harper Memorial" address with the above request on the strength of an identification furnished by a very distinguished gentleman who writes of it as follows (no name having been given him in connection with the request submitted for his consideration):

"A striking characteristic, it is Harper. Perhaps all would not recognize the portrait, but I was too intimate with the original to mistake it."

You know how sincerely I can sign myself

Cordially yours,

W. C. Wilkinson

Kindly return in the enclosed envelope, with particulars of any wish you may have concerning it. I wish I could hope to hear you.

W.C.W.

The Point of Honor

A Character

A man of parts, a man therewith of -- what?

Assuredly of boundless push and --'pull',

And of devices shred~~d~~ innumerable.

'Devices may be shrewd, while scrupulous not'.

Oh, yea, but his were scrupulous to a dot;

He no device would practice without full

Frank answer from it to the question, You'll

Quite satisfy the point of honor? Blot

On my escutcheon I could nowise bear.

What is my point of honor? To Succeed.

The stain of but one failure I should wear

Forever like a wound that still must bleed.

Let truth, let justice, of themselves take care,

My point of honor must have all my heed.

The Point of Honor

A Character

A man of pride, a man of worth of -- what?

Assaults of honor, a man of -- what?

And of devices which honor brings.

'Devices may be tried, while reputation not.'

But the man who is true to his word,

He no device would practice without fail.

Frank answer first to the question, 'Yes, I'

But the point of honor, that

On my conscience I could never bear.

What is my point of honor? To succeed.

The stain of but one failure I should bear.

Forever like a wound that still must bleed.

Let truth, let justice, of themselves take care.

My point of honor must have all my share.

May 27, 1912.

My dear Professor Wilkinson:-

If Dr. Harper were still with us in the
should
body, I doubtless commend your lines to him as a mirror in which he
might profitably look upon certain of his impulses as they would appear
after caricature had done its worst. Any one who knew him fairly well
and did not know that some of the temptations of his qualities lurked
in the direction you indicate would have to be mentally or morally
blind. I told him so more than once, in language less artistic than
yours, but more truthful. To insinuate, however, that your indictment
of Dr. Harper is a judicial estimate of his character is so monstrous
that to treat it as it deserves would overtax not only a subtlety of
diction equal to your own, but a refinement of cynicism which I have
also not achieved.

If I were addicted to betting I should not hesitate to risk a
considerable sum on my ability at the first attempt to name "the very
distinguished gentleman" who shares your disposition of defamation
toward Dr. Harper. The friends of this gentleman have given him the
benefit of the hope that he had outgrown the disappointment due to his
own lack of wisdom commensurate with his ambition. I could not, if
I would, say of him anything so damaging as his reaffirmation of
himself in this gratuitous complicity in slander of the dead. Fortu-
nately I am one of a goodly number whose knowledge of the relations
between the two men absolves us from seriously considering the
question whether your correspondent could be a dispassionate judge
of Dr. Harper.

Sincerely,

Albin W. Small.

May 17, 1915.

My dear Professor Wilkinson:-

If Dr. Harper were still with us in the
body, I should have no doubt as to his being
right in his judgment of the quality of the work
after criticism had been made. Any one who knew him fairly well
and did not know that some of the suggestions of his quality were
in the direction you indicate would have to be mentally or morally
blind. I told him so more than once, in language less artistic than
yours, but more truthful. In language, however, that your judgment
of Dr. Harper is a justified estimate of his character is no question
that to treat it as it deserves would involve not only a study of
diction equal to your own, but a refinement of cynicism which I have
also not achieved.

If I were obliged to bet that I should not hesitate to risk a
considerable sum on my ability at the first attempt to name "the very
distinguished gentleman" who shares your disposition of delusion
toward Dr. Harper. The extent of this disposition has given me the
benefit of the hope that he had outgrown the disappointment due to his
own lack of wisdom commensurate with his ambition. I could not, if
I would, say of him anything so damaging as his realization of
himself in this gratuitous complicity in slander of the dead. For-
tunately I am one of a kindly number whose knowledge of the relation
between the two men absolves us from seriously considering the
question whether your correspondent could be a dispassionate judge
of Dr. Harper.

Sincerely,

