Nov. 3, 1888.

Mr. Rockefeller to Dr. Harper:

"Your letter of the 2nd received. Fear cannot arrange to see you tomorrow though possibly may decide to go to Vassar!"

Nov. 2, 1888.

Mr. Rockefeller to Dr. Harper:

"Your letter of the 2nd received. Fear cannot arrange to

see you tomorrow though possibly may decide to go to Vassar"

Mr. Gates to Dr. Morehouse:

"I received your letter of the 26th Oct. at Lincoln. Your judgment in the matter of approaching Mr. Rockefeller on the question of location is, I think, the right one. As intimated in my previous letter I shall not tie up to Morgan Park. The Education Society through its board will perhaps think it wise at the meeting in December to question the wisdom of that location."

Mr. Gates to Dr. Morehouse:

"I received your letter of the 26th Oct. at Lincoln. Your judgment in the matter of approaching Mr. Rockefeller on the question of location is, I think, the right one. As intimated in my previous letter I shall not the up to Morgan Park. The Education Society through its board will perhaps think it wise at the meeting in December to question the wisdom of that location."

## Dr. Harper to Dr. Goodspeed:

"I spent ten hours yesterday with Mr. Rockefeller; he came to Poughkeepsie. The result of our interview was the telegram which I sent you last night. He is practically committed to the thing. The great plan which now lies open for us is: (1) a college and university at Chicago; (2) a theological seminary of high grade in New York City; (3) the organization of colleges in the West. This is the way the thing presents itself to him and the order in which the things are to be done. He is very much in earnest or, surely, he would not have come up to Poughkeepsie. He had not read Gates' paper but I gave him the substance and it fired him up. Pres. Taylor was with me in the greatest part of the interview and backed up everything I said. He is a strong ally.

Mr. Rockefeller wants to go at once to Cornell and get hold of the three Baptist professors there who are of national reputation, viz. Andrews, Schurman and ----- He wants to know how the thing strikes them and whether such men can be obtained. He has also agreed to go with me to the meeting of the National Education Society at Richmond, December 6th. It was at his request that I telegraphed you to come on to meet us in order that we might find out exactly how things stand, and in order that it may be more firmly clinched. He is anxious, of course, that nothing be said about it for it will not do to allow rumors to get into print; besides, Dr. Strong's attitude will be, of course, hostile for the present. Communicate, therefore, with no one except Dr. Northrup and Dr. Smith. We must keep it quiet. Please send me at once Gates' address; perhaps it will be soon enough if you bring it.

We are to meet at Mr. Rockefeller's house Friday evening at half past 7; I will join you at 6 o'clock at the Grand Union Hotel. which is right by the 42nd St. Depot. Will you be kind enough to arrange to get there so that we may dine together and have an hour's conversation before meeting with Mr. Rockefeller, for there are many details which I wish to communicate to you. I believe this is the most important step that has been taken in the matter of the Chicago University. It is absolutely certain that the thing is to be done; it is now only a question as to what scale. I have every time claimed that nothing less than four millions would be satisfactory to begin with, and have expressed my desire for five. Just what he wants to do and what his definite ideas are I cannot yet tell. I have never known him to be so interested in anything, and this promises much. He has great confidence in you and Dr. Northrup and were it not for Dr. Northrup's work I should have liked to have him come on with you.

Hoping that these details will be sufficient, and expecting to see you Friday night in New York,"

Dr. Harper to Dr. Goodspeed:

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Dr. Strong to Dr. Harper, November 6, 1888.

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Two weeks ago however I gave utterance in Cleveland before the Ohio Baptist Education Society to my views about a University - of course not revealing details of plan, and not alluding in any way to Mr. Rockefeller. The audience seemed impressed, if not stunned. Mr. Rockefeller heard it, and said warmly that I had given him some new points. I suppose he alluded to my idea that the new American Baptist Education Society might be the auxiliary to the new Institution, and might embrace the University in the system which it promoted. I also urged that the higher institutions, always in points of time preceded the lower, as Harvard and Yale preceded Exeter and Andover.

I hear that you met Mr. R. and had some talk with him at Vassar last Sunday. I should be glad to know how you found his mind tending, or whether he spoke about the matter at all. I do not myself give up one jot of heart or hope, but rather regard the new University as one of the certainties of the future. It is however by faith that I perceive all this, and not by sight."

Br. Strong to Dr. Harper, Movember 6, 1888.

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Nov. 7, 1888.

Mr. Rockefeller to Professor Harper:

"I am very glad that you can make an engagement for some other night than Friday night on account of another important meeting."

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Nov. 7, 1888.

Dr. Harper to Mr. Rockefeller (Telegram)

"Unless I hear from you to the contrary will come on Saturday evening instead".

Nov. 7, 1888.

Dr. Harper to Mr. Rockefeller (Telegram)

"Unless I hear from you to the contrary will come on Saturday evening instead".

Nov. 8, 1888

Dr. Harper to Mr. Rockefeller:

"Goodspeed already left Chicago and will be here tomorrow.

Am sorry did not get word sooner. I await your instructions."

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Dr. Goodspeed to his sons, November 11, 1888.

"You have heard that I had been called to New York.

The result of the correspondence between Dr. H. and me, and his conference with Mr. R. Was a telegram to me Monday morning to prepare to come to New York Friday. A letter came on Wednesday explaining that they had had a conference on Sunday and Mr. R. requested Dr. H. to ask me to come on. I reached New York Friday evening and found Dr. H. awaiting me. Mr. R. had found it necessary to arrange to go to Richmond Saturday and our meeting was arranged therefore for Saturday morning. It lasted two hours. Dr. H. thought that very decided progress was made, and so it also seemed to me.

I have not time to give you an account of the intervies and indeed Mr. R. has made no final and decisive statement. At his request I suggested the form and dimensions of a proposition which he should make. He asked me to give him my inmost thought and I did so. The suggestion seemed to commend itself to him, and he said he would consider it. It was that he should propose to give \$1,500,000. outright and when \$500,000. had been raised from others that he would then join in a further effort to build the institution up into still greater strength, the idea being to get at least \$4,000,000. within two years. This is the proposition he is now considering. I am not authorized to report anything from him, and of course you are not to say a word. Mr. R. has been self-moved in this new interest in the question. He is profoundly in earnest."

Dr. Goodspeed to his sons, November 11, 1888.

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The result of the correspondence between Dr. E. and me, and his conference with Mr. R. was a telegram to me Monday morning to prepare to come to New York Friday. A letter came on Wednesday explaining that they had had a conference on Sunday and Mr. E. requested Dr. H. to ask me to come on. I reached New York Friday evening and found Dr. H. awaiting me. Mr. E. had found it necessary to arrange to go to Richmond Saturday and our meeting was arranged therefore for Saturday morning. It lasted two hours. Dr. H. thought that very decided progress was made, and so it also seemed to me.

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Dr. Goodspeed.to Dr. Harper, November 8, 1888.

"Letter and telegrams received - will reach New York Saturday morning." Dr. Goodspeed to Dr. Harper, Nevember 8, 1888.

"Letter and telegrams received - will reach

Nov. 13, 1888.

Dr. Harper to Mr. Gates:

"I telegraphed you last night to ascertain as to the date of the proposed meeting in Richmond to which I had heard incidental references. Judge Wayland and myself desire to attend but we find that we need some time ahead to make arrangements and it was on his account that I telegraphed. You will be interested in knowing that quite a movement has been made toward the university in Chicago by Mr. Rockefeller. What I tell He is coming to see you must be regarded as strictly confidential. the necessity of the thing and will be ready within a short time to make a definite proposition to the denomination as a whole. I am aiming to have him make this proposition to the denomination through the National Education Society and think I shall succeed. I have spent several days with him during the last four weeks and there is constant progress. am going with him Friday night to Cornell College to visit certain men there with him, in which time the matter is to be discussed. I should be glad to hear from you in reference to your work. "I remain.

Yours truly,

W. R. Harper.

Dr. Harper to Mr. Gates:

To etab ent of as mistrecas of thighs feel may bedgergelet I" meanwater Estrebiant breed bad I dolde of broadail at galteem beaugurg edt emon been ow fail buil ow fud brests of crisch licays bus basing egbul -designed I tedy immoos and no sew it bus atnewegnaris edam of basds emit ed. You will be interested in knowing that quite a movement has been made toward the university in Chicage by Mr. Rockefeller. fiet I JadW ees of gnimes at eH . laitmeblines vijoirts as bebrager ed faum wov edem of emit from a minitiw ybeer ed fliw bna gmint end to yticaepen end of galmis ms I .efodw a sa noitenimoneb edf of noitisequaq efiniteb a fancital edt dawordt noitenimoneb edt of noitisogorg slit edem mid eved Education Society and think I shall succeed. I have spent several days I .esergorq instance at ered; bus alsew ruch dash edt gutrub mid ditw nem mistres tisky of egellol Lienzol of fright years and film gring mas ed bluons I .becauselb ed of al reffem ent emit highward, min intiw erent . Arow rucy of ecnerater at moy mort read of balg "I remain,

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W. R. Harper.

Mr. Rockefeller to Dr. Strong:

Invites him to meet him at Cornell.

Mr. Rockefeller to Dr. Strong:

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Dr. Goodspeed to Dr. Harper, November 13, 1888.

Dr. Goodspeed to Dr. Harper, November 15, 1888.

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Dr. Goodspeed to Dr. Harper, November 13, 1888 Dr. Goodspeed is still in New York

"I have seen Bright and he will do his utmost to further our plans. He has been wanting to see Mr. R. to urge this very thing on him. He feels as strongly as we do that this is the one thing of all others to do.

I hope you can arrange a meeting for Morehouse and Gates with you and Mr. R. before Washington Board meeting.

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November 14, 1888.

Dr. J.G. Schurman to Mr. Rockefeller:-

"We shall be very glad to see you, Mrs. and Miss Rockefeller on Saturday morning. You come, I presume, by the Lehigh Road, whose evening sleeper from New York is the only car of any kind that carries passengers to Ithaca without change. It often happens that there are no cabs at the station to meet that train, which arrives about 6 o'clock. I am afraid, therefore, your plan of driving to a hotel would be defeated. Nor, unless you much desire it, should I wish to see you do so. We shall have an early breakfast ready for you here, and I take the liberty, since there is no time to consult you, of having a cab meet you at the station with orders to drive direct to my house.

Hoping this arrangement will be congenial to you, I remain, "

November 14, 1888.

Dr. J.G. Schurwan to Mr. Rockefeller:-

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Nov. 13, 1888.

## Dr. Goodspeed to Mr. Rockefeller:

"In reflecting further on the subject of our interview, I am led to make another suggestion. The problem is how to find \$4,000,000 during the next ten years. That is the way it presents itself to my mind. It ought to be understood from the first that the aim and expectation and absolute determination is to have \$4,000,000 put into the Institution within ten years.

"Now, with this in view, the suggestion I wish to make is that

your proposition take this form.

"1. That you will give \$1,500,000 for the founding of the

Institution.

"2. That as often as \$100,000 shall be secured from others in money or productive investments you will add to your gift \$200,000 until a total of \$4,000,000 have been put into the enterprise.

"3. That your proportion of these subscriptions shall be paid in ten annual instalments and this offer shall continue in force ten years.

"The things I have immind are two, first, to make sure of \$4,-000,000 in ten years, & second, to secure from others the largest sum possible. This suggestion calls for about \$840,000 from the denomination.

"Do not, I beg of you, suppose that in this I am devising a method to increase your part of the burden. I am rather seeking to discover a direct and certain path to success. You know as well as I do, that to find \$840,000 in ten years will be an almost impossible task. It can only be done under the inspiration of your offer (the greatest opportunity ever presented to Baptists since the world began), and under the pressure of the inperative necessity of meeting the conditions of your proffer, should you make it. Under this inspiration and this pressure of necessity, I believe it could be done. Certainly something approaching it can be.

"This will secure the objects you have in view, which I understand to be. -

"1. The establishment of an Institution of the first order, and 2, the enlistment of the denomination in the enterprise on a large scale.

"This would be a greater thing, several times over, than the denomination has ever done. But I believe they will do this, if you can take the other part of the burden. If the proposition seems to you to call for too great a sum from you, change the second point in the proposition suggested thus - 2. That as often as \$100,000 should be secured from others you will give \$100,000."

Dr. Goodspeed to Mr. Rockefeller:

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"I am very anxious about two things, the first is that you should give the proposition such a form that the denomination shall at once pronounce it to be as feasible and practicable for them as it is wise I am just as anxious that you should not and generous on your part. be discouraged because we ask you to do more than your share. I entreat you, allow anything to turn you from this great work, but in I only venture your own way and on your own terms go forward with it. to make this suggestion because you have invited me to do so. give them only such consideration as they deserve. I think they have one great merit - that is this, if they do not require too much from you they will/certainly carry the enterprise to quick and splendid success and give to our denomination as greata university as any in the land. And while you are about it, why not open the way to the largest and best success and begin in such a way that the whole country will say, "Here is a university for the West, projected on the largest scale and evidently to be of the highest order."

"I remain,

Yours most truly,

T. W. Goodspeed."

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Yours most truly,

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Dr. Morehouse to Mr. Gates:

"Yours of the 5th from Highland was duly received. telegram also came yesterday. I have also had two or three interviews with Dr. Goodspeed who came on at Mr. Rockefeller's request to talk with him about Chicago University matters. He has given me full particulars. A grand thing is in store for us in Chicago, I am satisfied. feller is fully committed to doing a large and a generous thing for the establishment of a university. The great scheme of Dr. Strong is not likely to carry, although there is to be a conference on Friday at Cornell, with several persons whose opinion Mr. Rockefeller desires to obtain. Mr. Rockefeller will also go to Washington to make known his proposition formally to the Education Society. He is fully converted to it. am greatly rejoiced at the prospect. Did I not say to you that though Mr. Rockefeller had declined to do anything for Chicago he was open to conviction, and that I believed he would give due consideration to any facts that might be submitted, and would act in accordance with new light that might be thrown upon the subject? I understand that his perusal of your address has made a decided impression upon him.

Prof. Harper to whom I telegraphed yesterday after receiving your telegram. I informed him that it had not yet been called, and that the date would be made to suit the convenience of those most interested. After hearing from him, probably on Saturday when I think he will be here, I will proceed to call a meeting as the duty seems to devolve upon me. I think we better have it at Washington although there are some weighty considerations in favor of holding it here. In any event we do not want to go to Richmond with it. I am determined to have the strong men of the north who are on the Board present at the meeting even though I have to pay their expenses; for it will be a most important meeting. Judge Wayland writes that he wishes very much to be present but fears he cannot attend on the 6th because of another engagement.

"It seems quite clear that the new institution should be located in the city of Chicago. Stranger things have happened than that the institution should be reestablished on its old site.

"I have all things in train for securing a meeting of yourself and myself with Mr. Rockefeller before the meeting at Washington. It seems quite important that we should understand the whole question before it is sprung upon the meeting of the Board."

Dr. Morehouse to Mr. Cates:

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Nov. 14, 1888

Mr. Gates to Dr. Morehouse:

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My address, somewhat enlarged and improved - the Chicago
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and by him read or given to Mr. Rockefeller. They at once invited Dr.
Goodspeed east. I learn that Mr. Rockefeller has definitely abandoned
all present thought of Dr. Strong's scheme, and has made up his mind to
endow a college in Chicago and other western colleges at strategic points
in the future and that he is to be at Richmond to attend our meeting.

I received a telegram from Professor Harper yesterday inquiring if the
meeting was certain for Richmond December 6th. I replied to him that
you were to fix the date and he would hear from you by wire at once. At
the same time I telegraphed to you to consult him. I hope the meeting
will be so arranged as to secure Mr. Rockefeller's presence. I desire
to know at once in order to cancel an engagement to present the question
of a new university to Dr. Lorimer's people on the first Sunday in December.

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Mr. Rockefeller to Dr. Strong:

(Telegram) Acknowledges his letter of the 14th. "We will not go to Cornell at present".

Mr. Rockefeller to Dr. Strong:

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Nov. 15, 1888.

Dr. Harper to Mr. Rockefeller:

"Your telegram has just come to hand. I am very sorry indeed to learn that Mrs. Rockefeller has contracted so severe a cold as to prevent our going to Cornell. I am very glad for some reasons that the visit has been postponed. It would have been difficult for me to go this week and yet I had made my arrangements to go. One or two new points have come up. I will just hint at one of them. Why should not this university erected at Chicago include as an organic part of it besides the theological seminary also various colleges throughout the West. What better name than the University of the West? And let it be a university made up of a score of colleges with a large degree of uniformity in their management; in other words, an educational trust. I should be very glad indeed to talk with you further in reference to the whole plan, and await your summons. I could stop over an hour or two Saturday night or a couple of hours Sunday night.

"Hoping that you are well, and that Mrs. Rockefeller will soon

entirely recover, I remain,"

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Dr. J. A.Smith to Dr. Harper, November 15, 1888.

"I wish to thank you for your kind note of a few days since, and also for the privilege of being made aware of the consultations with Mr. Rockefeller. It all seems to me very wonderful, and I most earnestly hope and pray that what has been so well begun may reach a full fruition.

Dr. Northrup read to me last evening your latest letter to him. The proposal of Dr. Goodspeed impresses me as an exceedingly judicious one. That part of it which proposes that \$500,000. be raised by the denomination would ensure a personal and practical interest in the enterprise on the part of a large body of Baptists in Chicago and elsewhere, linking the denomination to the university by that sort of tie which exists where people feel that they have an investment as a pledge of their own further support. things should so come about as that yourself, Mr. Rockefeller and Dr. Goodspeed should be the leaders and the active men in such an undertaking, we should be sure, with God's blessing, of such a triumph as has never yet been achieved by American Baptists in any department of effort. And the results of it in the long future would be incalculable. Think what these states, lying between the lakes and the mountains, are destined to be in the years and centuries to come, and imagine if you can what a rightly planned educational system, under Baptist auspices, with ample resources, would mean, not alone for the denomination, but for the republic itself.

As you and I are accustomed to be absolutely frank with each other, I may say, I know, and without appearing to intrude, that there is only one name, as it seems to me, to head the faculties of such a university, as is proposed, and that is your own. I hope that this is in the plan, and that there will be nothing on your own part to stand in the way.

With warmest appreciation of your service in this important matter and of Mr. Rockefeller's magnificent liberality, I am"

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Dr. Goodspeed to his sons, November 16, 1888.

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"Well, we are full of all sorts of plans and dreams and hopes and fears. Before I left New York I laid before Mr. R. the following as the proposition he should make.

- 1. That he would give \$1,500,000. to establish the University
- 2. That as often as \$100,000. could be secured from others he would give \$200,000. till a total of \$4,000,000. should be secured.
- 3. That his part of these subscriptions should be paid in ten annual instalments, and his proffer remain in force ten years.

I have not erred on the side of asking too little and hope I have not asked too much. But I entreated him to go forward in his own way and on his own terms and to let nothing turn him back.

Another important conference took place yesterday at Cornell, where Andrews formerly President of Denison University is, between Mr. R. Professors Harper and Andrews and Dr. Strong. (This conference did not take place.T.W.G.) I anxiously await news from Harper. I have high hopes but I know that all things human are uncertain. Dr. H. is perfectly confident and expects a formal decision and proposition, perhaps thro' the American Baptist Education Society early in December."

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"Mr. R's mind works fast, but I am not so certain that it will work the problem out so soon. The giving up of \$3,160,000. to one cause, and that is the share I have assigned him, is something that will stand a good deal of consideration.

Well, we will for the present keep all this close. The one positive and unequivocal thing I have, to feed my hopes on is this, he said, I will say that I am prepared to put into this enterprise several hundred thousand dollars.

Now, Dr. G. tell me what you would like to have me do. Give me your inmost thought. It was on this hint I spoke and said fifteen hundred thousand without conditions to establish and these condition your further help.

I write all this because I know you are anxious to know the real state of the case, and I have confidence in your discretion."

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Mr. Rockefeller to Dr. Harper:

(Telegram) "Could you dine with me at six o'clock Saturday evening?"

Later Mr. Rockefeller withdraws the invitation as he finds himself obliged to be elsewhere.

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Nov. 16, 1888

Mr. Rockefeller to Dr. Goodspeed: - Addressing him at Grand Union Hotel, New York.

Acknowledges his letter of the 13th instant and adds:

"I have been very busy and could not give the matter the consideration

I desired. The amount you suggest for me to contribute is very

large, and I am not prepared to name anything like such a sum, and indeed am not prepared to say anything on the question now. I will be pleased to have you run in and lunch with me at one o'clock at my office."

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Dr. Harper to Dr. Morehouse:

"Your telegram was received. Judge Wayland has replied to it. I have also received a letter from Dr. Goodspeed in which he tells me he has talked the Univ. of Chicago matter over with you. The trip to Cornell was given up on account of Mrs. Rockefeller's illness, but I shall see him tonight or tomorrow night. I am glad to know that you are in such hearty sympathy with the movement. I feel sure that your interest will be very helpful. I am rather afraid that Dr. Strong will exert his influence against it, inasmuch as he is anxious to have the university in New York City; but I am sure all Baptists will agree that the place for theuniversity is Chicago, however much New York City may need a theological seminary."

P.S. "Mr. R. comes to New Haven tonight for over Sunday."

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P.S. "Mr. R. comes to New Haven tonight for over Sunday."

Dr. Northrup to Dr. Harper, November 17, 1888.

"Your letter of November 10th received. I am, indeed. greatly rejoiced at the result that seems to have been reached in the matter of the new University. Dr. Goodspeed though very hopeful is not quite sure as to the final issue-particularly as regards the scale of the proposed institution. He wishes me to write to Mr. R., but I have no intention of doing so, not believing that my judgment would have any appreciable influence. I have no doubt whatever that I have been seriously damaged in his regard by causes which I need not specify. In saying this I am not unmindful of the fact that you have repeatedly coupled my name with that of Dr. Goodspeed when speaking of Mr.R's kind regard, but I have always believed that the mention of my name was due to your kind feeling. I am making no complaint. I accept the fact of my loss of influence as a part of the calamity which has come upon me through causes over which I have no control. It has been my fortune, good or bad as the case may be, to be connected with various enterprises whose success largely depended upon my efforts, but when success came my connection with it was speedily forgotten. To forget is probably the easiest thing done in this world. I do not wish to have and do not expect to have anything to do or say concerning the proposed University, its location, organization or policy. I will qualify this statement. On one point I must express my opinion strongly. You must not hesitate to accept the Presidency, which is as certain to come to you as the institution is to exist. To refuse the position would be the mistake of your life. Your qualifications, experience, public position, relation to Mr. R. - all make your acceptance of the Presidency an imperative duty - the unmistakable call of God. To refuse the place would seem to me not far removed from an act of criminal folly. And then, in that position, your judgment should be decisive in relation to all questions of vital moment - location. organization, policy, etc. On these two points I am free to express my opinion with confidence and positiveness."

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Dr. Strong to Dr. Harper, November 18, 1888.

"Much as I respect your judgment, I think you are wrong in advising Mr. Rockefeller to separate Theology from the other departments of the University and to put the University at Chicago. Chicago is the place for a firstclass college, and if Mr. Rockefeller will establish such an institution there at the same time that he founds a University in New York I shall rejoice with all my heart. I advocate now, as I have advocated in the past, the location of a good college in Chicago. But Chicago is not the place for a University which is to command the patronage of all the states east and west, and to send out influence throughout the world. I do not mean that a well-equipped University there would not do good, but I mean that it could not do so much good, or take the first place in American Education which a University in New York might occupy.

Remember that a true University is an institution solely for advanced and professional instruction, and that it requires for feeders a number of subordinate colleges.

Our Colleges are all a the east. We ought not to put our University far away from the base of supplies. A University in New York would draw graduates not only of Baptist colleges at the east, but, with a proper system of fellowhips and scholarships, would draw graduates of non-Baptist colleges. The graduates of neither Baptist nor non-Baptist colleges at the east would go so far away as Chicago to take University instruction. They will stop at the professional

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"schools nearer home. It would take many years to raise up feeders at the west. In the meantime, there would be the strongest tempation to add to the University an Academic and Collegiate department as a sort of preparatory school. This would at once take the so-called University out of the category of Universities proper, and subject it perpetually to all the hampering limitations which now affect Yale and Harvard. The greatest chance ever offered in American Education, as Dr. Gilman of Johns Hopkins told me, is the chance now open to establish a true University in New York. The doing of it will make the founder of it famous to all ages.

On the other hand the establishment of a University in Chicago with College attached, will doubly divide the funds, which are needed for one object, into three several channels; first, the Seminary in New York; secondly, the University proper in Chicago; thirdly, the College in Chicago or near it. You well know that no man, even though he be so rich as Mr. Rockefeller, is at all likely to do all these three things well. To unite the first two, as they ought to be united in an institution which aims to give instruction in all human knowledge -- and nothing less than this is a University -- will take all the money he, or any other single individual, is ever likely to give. The union of all departments in one institution is the only good economy, so far as finances are concerned. Moreover, Theology absolutely needs the other departments of a University to broaden it, while the other departments need Theology as a standard and"

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## "terminus ad quem .

I am exceedingly desirous that, when my friend Mr. Rockefeller makes his decision, he shall choose the absolutely best thing -- the thing that he will always look back on as a masterly and far-sighted move -- the thing that will do the most possible for the cause of truth and for the kingdom of Christ. By the best thing, I do not mean the cheapest thing. The cheap is the worthless, and the cheap is usually the most expensive in the end. While the chance is open to us to take possession of New York, and to lead the march of education on this continent, it would be the greatest pity to take up with a second-best location. That is what Baptists hitherto have always been doing-building their churches on the back streets, and their colleges in the country towns. Let us have an end of this once for all. The taking of New York, by the greatest educational enterprise on the continent, would put heart and hope into our whole Baptist body, while the establishment of a mongrel institution in Chicago, which is neither fish nor fowl, neither University, College or Academy, but all three combined, would create no more of a ripple on the surface of our educational ocean than the work of Madison University now does. Such an institution would only be one of many similar ones, doing some sort of good, yet miserably failing of the highest scholarship or usefulness. We have already enough one-horse colleges to stock the world -- so far as numbers are concerned. Let us not so divide up our funds as to add to the number of"

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Last Spring in Baltimore I had a long and confidential talk with Dr. Gilman. He knows more about the higher education in this country in my dudgment than any other man. He told me, when I got through, that he had met no one with whose whole plan and idea he so fully agreed as he did with mine. He said that the thing I proposed was the one step forward which it was left for American Education to take. He envied me the possible chance of promoting the execution of such a scheme. He wrote me a note expressing all this on paper. He wanted to see Mr. Rockefeller to add his private oral endorsement. My dear friend, I am very sure I am right, in this matter to which I have given most of my time and thought for ten years; and it makes me sad that you, to whom I have most looked for sympathy and help in so broad a scheme, have for even a moment been led to favor a plan which seems to me of secondary value.

I am very sorry that I have not met your frequently enough of late to talk this whole matter over. But it is not too late now. Your position in the matter is influential, and any one who can exert influence small or great has a great responsibility resting upon him. I trust you will advocate the absolutely best thing. Depend upon it, Chicago"

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by pulling from above and not by pushing from below. New

York is the eye of America, as Athens was the eye of Greece.

Commercially and politically, educationally and religiously,
it leads and will lead the continent. Let us not put the
eye in the centre of the body. New York is to be the
second greatest city, if not the greatest, in the world.

So long as New York is not ours, let us take no other location
for our University, I do not feel at liberty to address

Mr. Rockefeller upon the subject, until he asks my advice.
I do address myself to you with the hope that youwill see
the thing in the right light and will address him yourself."

P. 3. Since writing the foregoing, I fear that it may seem too dogmatic. Perhaps it may even seem reproachful, Believe me, I do not mean it so. I respect your views, and I only wish to get at the truth. I am ready to be convinced that my whole scheme is wrong, if only the reasons can be shown. But I have thought so long about it, that the reasons all seem to be upon the side of my plan and not against it. Please tell me what considerations have led you to change your view, and I will try to meet them.

A University, as has been said by another, needs more than money. It needs Libraries, Museums, and especially men. The students of the professions need to see men, and to hear them. They need to feel the force of the strongest currents of modern life, and to be in the midst of its most intense activities. These advantages are found in New York\*

"and the whole country will be cared for, if we do the absoluteiv best thing first. We must lift our demonination by pulling from above and not by pushing from below. Hew Yerk is the eye of America, as Athena was the eye of Greece. Commercially and politically, educationally and religiously, it leads the continent. Let us not put the eye in the sentre of the body. Hew York is to be the second greatest city, if not the greatest, in the world. So long as new York is not ours, int us take world. for our University, I do not feel us take no other location for our University, I do not feel at liberty to address my advice. I do address my selfs to you with the hope that yourself."

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A Universely, as has been said by another, need more more than money. It needs hiteraries, identica, and unpedially men.

The students of the preference need to see new, and to have them them them to feel the fords of the propert had to be in the director of the modern life, and to be in the the side of the modern life, and to be in the class of the modern life, and the best car found in modern less which we would be the country of the modern life.

Wand they are not to be found in Chicago. For this reason

New York will have a drawing power that Chicago will not have.

All roads lead to New York, as all roads led to Rome. And

New York commands the country and would enlist the support

of all the states, as Chicago could not. Distance amounts

to little now-a-days. Direction amounts to a great deal.

Men will go east when they will not go west. New York can

draw students from the extremes of the country. It would

be cheaper to pay railroad fares for all students for the

Pacific Coast to New York than to establish a University

in San Francisco. The same argument applies to Chicago.

An institution at Chicago must of necessity be provincial

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11

Mr. Gates to Dr. Harper, November 19, 1888 from Racine, Wisconsin

"Your letter with its hint that something worthy might yet be done for western education in Chicago is the most welcome intelligence that could come to me.

I hope any institution to be founded will be located within not more than two or three miles of the Post Office. For many reasons, all of which are probably quite familiar to you, I think success at Morgan Park would not be very far removed from failure. The Blue Island Land scheme, I have become convinced, offers when balanced with its disadvantages hot a dollar of real gain to us, but only financial loss in the end besides various other comparative losses. Few if any here have ever taken the scheme into serious consideration I think, except as a last resort, and on the supposition only that a location in the city is impossible.

I have been careful to have it distinctly understood that the Education Society is not committed to the Blue Island scheme. No public mention of the fact that the offer has been even presented to the consideration of the Education Society has been permitted. But I have thought that the offer might serve as a basis at least for such a quiet inquiry into the state of feeling in Chicago as my spare time would admit. The result of my inquiry is considerably to soften my judgement of Chicago Baptists. The fact is there is not much money among them. The fire swept away

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what little money there used to be, and most of the brethren have been doing business on small capital with heavy debts ever since. They are not able to do anything great. But I have found them cordial, without serious dissension, and ready to do all that they are really justified in doing for a new University. I believe that a persistent canvass beginning with January 1st would result in a hundred thousand dollars within a few months in subscriptions of from one hundred dollars to two or three thousand for the Blue Island scheme. I think however the ablest men have little confidence in the present movement. Mr. Hinkley for instance thinks the only way to succeed is to start for a million dollars. Some time ago he offered to give me a written pledge of fifty thousand dollars to be paid when a million should be raised. Since receiving your letter I have asked him to give me the letter making the pledge and he is to have it ready for me day after tomorrow. Of course he knows nothing of the contents of your letter. Hinkley thinks five hundred thousand could be raised from wealthy citizens of Chicago if we could win the confidence of a few wealthy men that something big and substantial would be achieved. Other brethren do not share his hopes."

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Dr. Harper to Dr. Morehouse:

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November 19, 1888.

Dr. Harper to Dr. Goodspeed:-

"As I indicated in a postscript to my letter Saturday night, Mr. Rockefeller came to New Haven that evening. He was with me from 7:30 to 10 Saturday night and all day yesterday. Almost the only thing we discussed was the University of Chicago. He has made a good deal of progress since you and I visited him. He told me of the letter which he had written you and sent to the Grand Union Hotel. not tell me exactly what was in it, but I think he felt that your last proposition was a little too much out of proportion. He is clear on the point of the four million dollars, and he proposes to give one million and a half of the first two, and one million and a half of the second two. I am sure that this is the way it will come out. He is anxious now to have the thing agitated from an impersonal standpoint, and to have the denomination express themselves and commit themselves to a University. Whether he will be ready to make a bona fide proposition to the National Education Society, which will probably meet December 13th, is a question.

He is settled in reference to two or three things: First, that you must have a leading hand in the new university, in the charge of its financial matters. I think he is pretty well settled also in reference to the re-purchase of the old site. He was very much interested in this matter, and practically gave his consent to the re-organization of the Seminary Board to take hold of the matter. His chief anxiety now seems to be, first, to have those who oppose the scheme present their objections, in order that he may consider them, and secondly, to get the thing started without alienating Dr. Strong. An arrangement has been made by which he will join me at Vassar College next Sunday, with Mrs. Rockefeller, and we shall there discuss the matter with Dr. Robinson of Brown, who is to preach there. I thought that perhaps Dr. Robinson would be able to present the objections, if anybody could. This struck Mr. Rockefeller favorably, and the arrangement has been completed and will be carried out, unless something happens.

I had a long talk also with his private secretary, Mr. Rogers, who has great influence over him, and he assured me that the matter was in first-rate shape and that the only thing needed now was a little time. I did my best to push things without seeming to hurry him, and am sure that a good deal has been accomplished. I will notify you if anything happens this week."

"P.S. Let Dr. Smith and Dr. Northrup see this letter, for T have not time. I am sorry to say, to write to them."

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Dr. Goodspeed to Dr. Harper, November 21, 1888.

"Your letter came this afternoon and gave me great comfort. Mr. R's letter, tho' kindness itself, made me fear I had discouraged him by asking too much, and I am greatly reassured by your letter. I have written him or am now writing him somewhat fully modifying my suggestion, so that it would stand as follows-

1. That he give \$1,000,000. without conditions. 2. That for every \$100,000. raised by us he give

\$200,000.

3. Time ten years. 4. That his contributions shall be for endowment exclusively, we to find the funds for grounds, buildings, apparatus, etc., if this would please him.

This commends itself to me as the best of all methods, I can devise. You must suggest such modifications as you think wise and good. Assure him that we do not wish to seem to dictate anything but in our suggestion are only feeling after the best method of procedure, the wisest plan with which to go before the denomination. He must devise the final basis.

Gates tells me Dr. Strong assured him that he fully approved the project for a University at Chicago and would strongly commend it to Mr. R. So also he assured Dr. Smith. Gates had his talk with Dr. Strong only two months ago.

Your last conference seems to me the most encouraging one yet held. I hope next Sunday will mark another distinct advance. Ought you not to ask Duncan to come down and see you and enlist him?" ...... .... Now may God be with you and give you a great victory."

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Dr. Harper to Mr. Rockefeller:

"I have just received a very long letter from Dr. Strong. It is written in an admirable spirit, and yet it is strong against a university in Chicago. He does not object to the establishment of a college, yet believes the university idea to be impossible there. I do not know whether I violate confidence or not in letting you see the letter; perhaps it would be better for me to summarize it and give you the contents next Sunday. In closing he says he does not feel at liberty to write to you on the subject until you ask him. Would it not be well for you to write to him and ask his advice on the subject! You certainly intended to ask it at Cornell, if we had gone there.

"I still hope that you will arrange to come to Vassar next Sunday."

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Dr. Harper to Dr. Goodspeed:-

"I enclose a copy of a letter which I have just received from Dr. Strong. Please understand that it is entirely confidential, and no one except Dr. Smith and Dr. Northrup are to know that you have received such a letter from me, for I fear it might seem a violation of confidence. It is impossible for me, rushed as I am, to take the time necessary to answer this letter as it should be answered. I venture to propose that you, with the suggestions that Dr. Smith and Dr. Northrup might offer, be kind enough to make me an outline which I might fill out and return to him. You know the points better than I do, and I am sure will be willing to help me in this matter.

In order that there may be no danger in the matter, will you do me the favor to return this copy when you are through with it?"

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Mr. Rockefeller to Dr. Morehouse:

Fears he will not be able to attend the meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Baptist Education Society at Washington.

Nov. 21, 1888

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Fears he will not be able to attend the meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Baptist Education Society at Washington.

Nov. 22, 1888

Dr. Goodspeed to Mr. Rockefeller: (From Morgan Park)

"Your line addressed to me at the Grand Union reached me here.

I left New York Wednesday night. Your invitation to lunch with you
I will interpret as giving me permission to write. With no wish to
elicit any statement from you or to hurry you in the least, I wish to
add a few things to what I have already said. The following view commends
itself to my mind:

- "1. You give \$1,000,000 without conditions, for the founding of the Institution.
- "2. You give \$200,000 as often as \$100,000 have been secured from others until a total of \$4,000,000 is reached.
  - "3. Let the time be ten years.
- "4: Let your gifts be for endowment purposes only. Not one dollar of the principal to be spent on any pretext or for any purpose but to be preserved forever as an endowment fund, the income only to be used for the general purposes of the University. This would require the denomination to raise a million. If but half of that sum was secured, your part of the burden would be diminished a full million.

I dare not be over sanguine. I hope \$1,000,000 can be raised, but I would not put myself on record as assuring you it could certainly be done. There are phenty of men, with large faith and no experience, who will say it can be done in twelve months. Be careful how you believe them. Look at the facts. Brown is more than a hundred years old and has less then \$1,000,000 endowment. Rochester, after forty years, has much less. Of course under the inspiration of your offer, whatever form it may take, we ought to do vastly better than has ever been done before. And we should do so. But we must not expect too much. I should very much regret to have you led to expect so much that you would be disappointed and would feel that your brethern did not appreciate your efforts and would thus be discouraged, possibly, in your benevolent plans.

"I feel very desirous that the first gift from you shall be unconditional, so that, from the outset, we may feel that we have solid ground under us and may not have to work two or three years in anxiety and in uncertainty as to whether, after all, we shall have anything or not. It seems to me it would be worth anything to have confidence awakened at the outset. To have \$1,000,000 assured to begin with and then the conditional part of the proposition so splendid and so favorable would make success certain if anything can do so.

"I call your attention to the fourth point I suggest on the first

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page. I should not be sorry to have you adopt this provision if it commends itself to you. It would assure the main thing, which is a munificent endowment. It would make any wasteful expenditure of our resources impossible. It would lay the burden of providing grounds, buildings, etc. on the denomination and compel extraordinary efforts to secure funds for the external equipment of the institution. It would help to make that work easy, because it would be seen to be imperative. It would have to be done and men would respond to the necessity all the more readily and generously because the permanent greatness of the University would be assured by its endowments.

"Beginning with an endowment of \$1,000,000 assured and much more probable, which could not be frittered away and consumed in extravagant appointments, it would at once take its place, in the public estimation, among the great Universities of the land. If the work of instruction is munificently endowed and great teachers employed, grounds, buildings, libraries, apparatus - all these will come.

"I do not wish however in any way to urge my views. I venture my suggestions only in the hope that something in them may prove helpful to you. I lay nothing on you as a duty. What you do in this matter is likely to be far more than your duty. We ask one man to do far more than all the rest of the denomination. There is no question of duty here. You see the necessity, the opportunity, the splendid promise and of your own motion come forward to suggest a university of the first rank at Chicago. The question before you is - "How large a proportion of \$4,000,000 is it likely the denomination can be led to give in ten years and am I prepared to say I will give the remainder?"

"Experience has taught me not to indulge in too large hopes. Doubtless many will be ready to encourage you that almost any sum can be raised. That was the mistake made when the first University was founded. Creat expectations ruined it. Let us act now like prudent, reasonable men, ready to accept any great good fortune that may come to us, but with plans so well conceived that no disappointment in our hopes can destroy, or even seriously injure that we attempt to build.

"If you must cut down and modify what I suggest in all directions. Only assure in some way the liberal endowment of the work of instruction and the institution will certainly take a place high up among the great Universities of the land. Three years ago the great universities reported their productive funds as follows:

Yale	\$2,000,000	Johns Hopkins	\$3,000,000
Harvard	4,803,000	Princeton	1,389,000
Columbia College	4,644,000	Cornell University	3,587,000.
Amherst College	700,000	Williams College	510,000.
Dartmouth College	600,000	Brown University	765,000
Madison University	519,000	Rochester University	442,000
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Nov. 22, 1888

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Rockefeller. Says he is not prepared to say anything with reference to asking Dr. Strong to write about the University yet.

Dr. Harper to Mr. Gates:

"Your favor of Nov. 19th has been received. I am very much obliged to you for the details which it contains. I agree with you as to the undesirability of locating any university at Morgan Park. think there is but one feasible plan, and that is, to secure the old university property and redeem the disgrace which has rested upon it for so many years. I believe this property is worth the money which would have to be paid for it, and I am sure there is no location in the city more desirable. I have found that this is quite in accordance with Mr. R's ideas, so far as he has expressed them. Last Sunday he spent with me in New Haven, and I am sure that progress was made. There is a great obstacle in the way, however, viz: the attitude of Dr. Strong of Rochester. You are familiar with his plan of a great university in New York City; he does not give this up, and this week, in a letter of twelve pages, he has written me concerning it, offering objections to our proposed university in Chicago. He is entirely willing that there should be a college in Chicago, but claims that the university which is to have millions should be in New York City. Here I cannot agree with him. I believe most thoroughly that the best place for a Baptist University, in the highest sense of the term, is in the city of Chicago, and I venture to hope that you will think the same way. I do not think he will be able to have a large amount of influence, but still every little will count. Just now the thing most needed, and the thing which Mr. R. desires most. is to have public sentiment moulded in reference to this matter. Could you not manage to have articles from leading men appear in the various religious papers in reference to a university in Chicago? We must not, however, let any impression get out that there is any name connected with it. It must be in a purely impersonal and general way. You could have this done in order to form an estimate of the feeling of different parts of the country in reference to the matter. Mr. R. has agreed to go with me to the meeting of the National Committee at Washington, when it is to be held, and I hope then to have a good long conversation with you. Be kind enough to regard everything that I have said as strictly confidential. It is known only to Drs. Goodspeed and Northrup and Smith. It would be fatal if anything were to become public.

"One other point I would not have you think for a moment that this general plan has been undertaken with anything of a personal character connected with it. At different times the brethren have spoken to me of acting as the leader of some such enterprise, and it has also been suggested to me by Mr. R. himself; but I have indicated clearly and definitely

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