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Dr. Goodspeed to Dr. Harper, January 11, 1889.

"Your letter is at hand and greatly afflicts me.

I am so anxious that you should be President of the New University, so confident that Mr. R. wishes and expects you to be and that if you would accept the place you could make your own terms with him that I am disconcerted and demoralized by your letter.

I think Mr. R. ought to know the exact state of the case. But how to let him know without leading him to think that we are trying to hurry him, I am uncertain. It seems to me, however, that your relations are such that you are not at liberty to take this step without informing him of all the facts. I think it is due to him that you state the case to him before acting. State the facts to him on the ground that you think it is due to him after he has given you so much of his confidence. I think the best way would be to go down and see him. You have reason to believe that he has you in mind for this position. If now without consulting him at all you bind yourself irrevocably to Yale he will have reason to feel that you have not been as open with him as he has been with you and it is not impossible that your failure to consult with him might lead him to throw the whole thing up. Say to him, 'You have given me much of your confidence regarding the proposed institution at Chicago. My friends have thought it probable that you wished me to become identified with it and have insisted

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"that I was not at liberty to bind myself to Yale without first informing you of my purpose. My advice to you to establish the Chicago Institution has had no personal element in it. I have not desired any connection with it. I could not connect myself with it without a great sacrifice. I am now asked to make new and permanent engagements with Yale, that are so advantageous that if I consult my own interests I shall accept them, and I should like your free consent that I should do so without detriment to the Chicago movement. They propose such and such things to me and you can see that if I consult my own interests I should accept these overtures. I do not say all this to lead you to ask me to go to Chicago, but solely because I feel it is due to you to know the facts before I commit myself.' Go and see him and say this to him, for fear, if you do not, you may do us a fatal injury. In great haste, most truly yours,"

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"We think you must tell Mr. R. the facts. Will
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"We think you must tell Mr. H. the facts. Will

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Dr. Goodspeed to Dr. Harper, January 11, 1889.

"I have consulted with Dr. Smith and Dr. Northrup and in accordance with their advice have telegraphed you that we think you should lay the facts you write me before Mr. R. It is due to him that you should do so. He has taken a most friendly interest in you. He has counseled with you on the most important affairs. He is now considering a great gift for a cause in regard to which you have had his entire confidence. It is possible, probable, if not certain that you and the new institution are connected together in his thoughts and plans. It may be, that, if you, without conference with him bind yourself irrevocably to Yale, he will be wholly unable to understand how you could do so and may resent it as an ungracious and unfriendly act. You are therefore bound to state your circumstances to him before you commit yourself. You should do this in a personal interview. This seems to me very plain.

We cannot reconcile ourselves to your mortgaging yourself to Yale for six years. Who knows what may occur in six years? Who can tell what opportunities may come to you in six years? We have cherished the hope that God had great things for you to do for our own denomination and it is hard for us to give it up.

After writing you this afternoon I wrote to Mr. R. in regard to the matter, but have not sent the letter. You alone have a standing invitation from him to come to him at all times. He wrote to Dr. N. and to me a ~~single~~ line thanking us for our letters in regard to you, but he does not invite our views, and I hesitate to thrust mine upon him. But he expects your entire confidence and you are bound to give it to him. I fear disaster if you withhold it from him. He will perhaps say, 'Here is a man in whom I have confided as I have in no other and in the very crisis of great plans of benevolences to which he was intimately related, without giving me any hint of what was in his mind, he separates himself from me and binds himself to others for years to come. I will throw the whole matter over.'

Now you can't afford the chance of this taking place. And we cannot afford it. You owe a duty to him and to us in this matter and must go and see him. He is a man of such great good sense that he will not misunderstand you and giving him your entire confidence will only give you a new place in his regard. I suppose I am likely to hear from Gates tomorrow and trust you will soon meet him."

Dr. Goodspeed to Dr. Harper, January 11, 1889.

"I have consulted with Dr. Smith and Mr. Hartman and in accordance with their advice have telegraphed you that we think you should lay the facts you write me before Mr. R. It is due to him that you should do so. He has taken a most friendly interest in you. He has counseled with you on the most important affairs. He is now considering a great gift for a cause in regard to which you have had his entire confidence. It is possible, probable, if not certain that you and the new institution are connected together in this thought and plan. It may be, that, if you, without conference with him kind yourself irrevocably to Yale, he will be wholly unable to understand how you could do so and may resent it as an ungracious and unkindly act. You are therefore bound to state your circumstances to him before you commit yourself. You should do this in a personal interview. This seems to me very plain.

We cannot reasonably surmise to your mortgaging yourself to Yale for six years. Who knows what may occur in six years? Who can tell what opportunities may come to you in six years? We have cherished the hope that God had great things for you to do for our own denomination and it is hard for us to give it up.

After writing you this afternoon I wrote to Mr. R. in regard to the matter, but have not sent the letter. You alone have a standing invitation from him to come to him at all times. He wrote to Dr. R. and to me a long time thinking us for our letters in regard to you, but he does not invite our views, and I hesitate to thrust mine upon him. But he expects your entire confidence and you are bound to give it to him. I fear disaster if you withhold it from him. He will perhaps say, 'Here is a man in whom I have confided as I have in no other and in the very critical of great plans of benevolence to which he was intimately related, without giving me any hint of what was in his mind, he separates himself from me and binds himself to others for years to come. I will throw the whole matter over.'

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January 11, 1889. ✓

Mr. Rockefeller to Dr. Harper:-

"Yours 10th is at hand. I regret cannot make the engagement you suggest. Cannot Mr. Gates write? Have been very busy and am tired and just this morning under the Doctor's care. Must throw off everything possible for a few days. It is always pleasant to meet you and would be, I am sure, to meet Mr. Gates, but I must deny myself that pleasure now, as am under unusual pressure.

It would break my heart if I did not believe you would stay in the fold all right. For all the reasons I believe you will. Be sure you do. I know you will understand and not take any offence at my suggestion about writing. Believe me, very truly yours."

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Jany. 12-89

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~~Red~~ T. Gates to Dr. Goodspeed:

"I venture now to write you as vivid and detailed an account of matters here as I can, beginning with my arrival in New Haven. Prof. Harper received the suggestions I brought with great warmth. He proposed that I have an interview at once with Mr. Rockefeller and promised to accompany me and give me his hearty support throughout proffering his services from Yale to assist Dr. Goodspeed at every point and to the fullest extent and enlarging on the service that he might render from Yale as a point of vantage. He saw clearly that we lose nothing by starting with a college and leaving the question of associated schools for the time in abeyance. He felt relieved by the suggestions was sorry he had not thought of them himself etc. etc.

"I declined to assume the initiative in asking an interview, insisting that if one was sought, Prof. Harper must himself invite it and in the letter of request should assume the sole responsibility. To this he assented inviting me to draft a letter that would be satisfactory to myself. I did so and the following is the letter.

(NOTE:- For copy of this letter see Dr. Harper's to Mr. Rockefeller, Jan. 10, 1889.)

"The above letter proved satisfactory to Prof. Harper and he copied and sent it.

"I learned with a good deal of concern from Prof. Harper the extraordinary inducements the Yale people are offering him to bind him permanently to that institution. You are acquainted with them. Another was last night added in remitting the interest on the \$9,000.

"Dr. Strong's reply to Dr. Harper's letter came while I was in New Haven. He will doubtless send you a copy of it.

"I arrived in New York on Friday afternoon to find Dr. Morehouse fully endorsing the suggestions of the letter I had sent him after reading it to you and glad I had come on.- A relief to me. Prof. Harper and myself met by appointment today at 3:30 P.M. at Grand Union Hotel. He brought the following reply from Mr. Rockefeller. I quote in full.

(NOTE:- For a copy of this letter see Mr. Rockefeller's letter to Dr. Harper, Jan. 11, 1889.)

"Now I prefer writing Mr. Rockefeller to seeing him and was glad the letter denied the interview. I can now write with very great care choosing all my words and making the proper qualifications and reservations where needed and fortifying my points as tactfully

#2:

Jany.12-89

as possible and all without the embarrassment of a first personal meeting with a personage so important. It was agreed between Prof. Harper and me that I should write the letter tonight and tomorrow morning and that tomorrow at 12:30 he Dr. Morehouse and myself should meet at the Grand Union and carefully review it sentence by sentence spending the afternoon on it.

"Several points in the conversation of Prof. Harper this afternoon are worth recording as introductory. I must go back a little. Mr. Buttrick came down from New Haven by ~~Steamer~~ ^{Harper} last night in hot haste (I write the words approvingly) about those Yale propositions. It seems that last night your nephew and himself talked the matter over and concluded that Mr. Rockefeller ought to know about them. So he came down to consult Dr. Morehouse and me. The result of our consultation was that we three concocted the following letter to Mr. Rockefeller:

'The managers of Yale have recently made several propositions to Prof. Harper designed to bind him permanently to that institution. The more important of these propositions are that on the retirement of Dr. Day from the Seminary in one year Prof. Harper shall take his place while retaining his present position in the University, that he may spend a year in Europe at his pleasure on full salary, and that \$9,000. be advanced from his salary for five years to relieve the embarrassment arising out of his connection with the Publishing Company of Hebrew the money being now tendered and awaiting his disposal.

'Prof. Harper is now considering this question and in our opinion the pressure brought to bear upon him will induce him to accept within a very few days. His acceptance of these propositions designed as they are to bind him permanently to Yale will preclude any direct educational work for our denomination. We should regard such a result as scarcely less than a denominational disaster.

'These facts having come to our knowledge we have not felt ourselves at liberty to withhold them from you while at the same time we are unable to offer any counsel or suggestion.

'For obvious reasons we think Prof. Harper would feel a delicacy in mentioning the matter to you at all, and we write wholly without his knowledge nor shall we mention the matter to him.'

"We sent this to Mr. R. about noon. Mr. Buttrick had stolen away from New Haven "unknownst". But soon after my ^{meeting} with Harper this p.m. he inquired "Had Buttrick been down here today"? Q. "Yes". "Is he here"? "No." "What did he want (anxiously)?"

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#3:

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Pause. "He is troubled about those Yale propositions". Quickly- "I had a telegram from Goodspeed this morning saying they must be laid before Mr. R. but I cant have it". "I do not think you need to trouble yourself about that matter at all" said I "If they are laid before Mr. R. it will be wholly without your knowledge and it can be so stated and further that you will never be informed of it. I then made further argument showing that under the circumstances it was Mr. Rockefeller's due. Due also to the denomination and to the University scheme which might really depend on himself although that was not probable. That knowing nothing of it he Harper could be in no way compromised specially if Mr. R. was assured of that fact. Finally I outlined (from memory of course) a possible letter that might be sent Mr. R. I urged that if indeed it should prove true that so vast a scheme hung on his acceptance of the presidency no power could resist such a pressure. Duty would be clear. The result was that prof. Harper very contentedly it would seem and cheerfully let the matter of disclosing to Mr. R. the Yale scheme drop and it was not again referred to. I am satisfied that if Harper becomes assured that his presidency is absolutely required he will not make further objection to going to Chicago.

"Other things were talked. This for instance would require double caps to emphasize as Harper did "Gates I have laid out to say two things to you and I must not let this opportunity slip. 1st: I shall not leave the Baptist denomination. If I know myself I shall not leave the Baptist denomination. I shall not go out. I cannot be driven out. I am a member of a church with liberal views in the good sense and nothing could drive me out of that church even if the attempt were made". He then detailed at length some reasons drawn from principle and not less significantly (in a good sense) from policy also showing that apart from principle even he had much to lose and nothing to gain by ~~giving~~ ^{going} out.

"2nd: I have studied carefully and come to ~~some~~ ^{many} conclusions that many of my brethern not having like opportunities ~~were~~ ^{have} not yet arrived at, I shall give them my sympathy. I shall not startle and frighten them. I shall be far more careful than I ever have been in the past. I shall be e - x - t - r - a careful not to do anything whatever that can in the least shake their confidence and faith".

"Now wasn't that gentle and Christly ?

"He is troubled about these false propositions." "Quickly-
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before Mr. R. but I can't have it." "I do not think you need to
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"One more fact and I close.

"Prof. Harper said that Mr. Rockefeller says he will use the Education Society in this and other matters, has three times said he was going to send Morehouse money to help run it and should refer applicants for aid to it, etc. etc.

"You may expect in a day or two a copy of the letter we jointly prepare. If I write too minutely let me know."

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January 12, 1889.

H. L. Morehouse, F. T. Gates and Wallace H. Butrick to John D. Rockefeller, Esq

"The managers of Yale University have recently made Professor Harper a series of propositions designed to bind him permanently to that institution. The more important of these propositions are, that Professor Harper on the retirement of Professor Day, in one year, shall take his place in the Seminary, retaining at the same time his own chair in the University; that he shall have an absence of one year in Europe on full pay whenever he desires; - and that his present financial embarrassment on account of his connection with The Publication Society of Hebrew shall be relieved by the advance of \$9,000. on salary for the next five years, the funds being now with the Treasurer of the University subject to Professor Harper's order.

"Professor Harper is now considering this question, and in our opinion will be pressed to an acceptance within a few days. His acceptance will permanently bind him to Yale, as it is designed to do, and will preclude any direct educational work in our denomination. Such a result we can regard as scarcely less than a denominational disaster.

"These facts having come to our knowledge, we are unwilling to take the responsibility of keeping them from you, while at the same time unable to make suggestion or recommendation regarding the situation. It is our opinion that for obvious delicate reasons Professor Harper would feel unwilling to tell you himself. Of our action in writing to you Professor Harper has no intimation, and we shall not inform him."

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Dr. Goodspeed to his sons, January 13, 1889.

"We have had cheering and again anxious news this week. Dr. Harper sent me a letter which Dr. Morehouse wrote him saying that a pastor had lunched with Mr. R. the week before, and Mr. R. told him he had substantially decided to give several hundred thousand or \$1,000,000. to establish a University here.

This was very cheering and led me to feel that the matter was practically decided in our favor, and I began to rest in patience. This was Thursday, Friday a letter came from Dr. H. telling me the Yale authorities were making the most extraordinary efforts to bind him to stay with them, and that he must decide at once. In addition to his present position in the Philosophical Faculty and his present salary, they offer him Dr. Day's chair in the Theological Seminary with an assistant and an addition of \$1600. to his salary. They offer to pay this salary for five or six years in advance at once, \$9,000. to enable him to pay off the debt on the Hebrew Society of Publication. They offer to let him spend as much time in Europe on full salary as he desires, etc. etc. Probably such proffers were never before made to a professor in this country, but they are pressing him for an immediate decision.

I felt that this was a serious matter and that Mr. R. ought to know just how the case stood before Dr. H. made a decision. I telegraphed him that he must see Mr. R. and tell"

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"Your very kind note was received. I was sorry to learn that you were feeling so tired. I trust that the Sunday has rested you. At your request, I asked Mr. Gates to write out the more important of the points. This idea of a college now, perhaps a university later is, it strikes me, most excellent. After all, too, Dr. Goodspeed, in whom you have great confidence, is the man to carry forward the enterprise. Now may I not inquire: Are not the difficulties clearing away? The feeling is certainly unanimous (including even Dr. Strong) as to the desirability and the necessity of a great college? I ~~would~~ ^{would}, if it will be possible for you to say something definite to the brethren soon. I ask this, not because I am personally interested (for, as perhaps Dr. Goodspeed has written you, I have refused absolutely to consider the question of going myself to Chicago), but because, as a Baptist, I feel the great necessity of immediate action and the entire hopelessness of any effort which does not emanate from you. Pardon these words and do not take the trouble to reply to them.

"I very much hope that the letter of Mr. Gates will strike you favorably. I wish you could see him and talk with him. He is a magnificent fellow. He has gone to Washington but returns on Wednesday. If you feel well enough, perhaps you might send for him.

"It is late, for I have just returned from Vassar. Please pardon this paper, which is all that I can get at."

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F. T. G. to Dr. Goodspeed.

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"This is the original draft with here and there a correction in ink which I submitted to Dr. Harper and Morehouse was accepted by them without change. I aimed at brevity and conciseness and as you see left out much that might have been said. prof. Harper has agreed to put the most important of the things unsaid into a letter to reach him by the same mail. He will endorse the letter with enthusiasm. Proffer unlimited services, put in his own good word for the chancellorship and urge the necessity of immediate action if we are to reap longest outside results, striking while the iron is hot. Chicago and the public are on the qui vive ". All these things I thought Dr. Harper could urge more effectively than myself. I said of course for very obvious reasons nothing about compensating the ~~sum~~^{sum} for your loss. That will come up later. Dr. Harper thinks this phase of the matter will put it through. I go to Washington tonight to return Tuesday night for answer or developments. Richmond got nothing."

F. T. G. to Dr. Goodspeed.

Jan. 13-1883.

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Included to Dr. Goodspeed in letter of Jan. 13

Mr. Gates

Copy of ~~letter~~ to Mr. Rockefeller:

"Your reasons for declining the interview with me invited by Dr. Harper I heartily appreciate, and welcome the courteous suggestion of a letter instead as affording in some respects a better method of saying what Prof. Harper has thought you might wish to consider:

"(1) May not the question whether the institution contemplated in Chicago shall be a college or a university be held in abeyance for a few days without imperiling any valuable interest.

"Even if a university were now designed the college would naturally be the first work, and to thoroughly equip a college in the wisest way will almost of necessity be the exclusive work of the earlier years and would probably require all the funds we can reasonably anticipate in that time.

"A few years may possibly justify the doubt as to the wisdom of planting the associated schools or make it evident that the funds required now for such schools could be more profitably employed in straightening Western country colleges in preparation for the future university.

"If on the other hand experience and study on the ground shall demonstrate the need and assure the success of advanced departments or technical schools the years will be sure to bring here and there exceptionally favorable openings. Citizens of wealth and local pride will assist in founding favorite departments. Specialists rarely gifted and available will appear. All things come to him who waits. Our best and greatest schools have developed broadly and healthily step by step in this way. Holding for a few years the possible scope of the institution in abeyance will cost nothing while time will of itself solve the question easily and certainly.

"(2) Any difficulty as to the presidency of the institution will prove I think apparent rather than real. May not that question too be held in abeyance without serious loss. If Dr. Harper cannot at present be secured I venture to suggest advisedly of leaving the presidency vacant for a time and that Dr. Goodspeed be made Chancellor in the interim. As such he could raise supplementary funds assist in selecting site erecting buildings providing the material equipment selecting professors and organizing the college for work. I think we have no man whose experience influence and sound judgment fit him to perform such a service more skillfully. Meantime Dr. Harper from his present position could co-operate with Dr. Goodspeed. From the very high vantage ground of Yale Dr. Harper could counsel Dr. Goodspeed in the organization of the institution and the selection of professors perhaps even more wisely than if he were himself in Chicago detached from the splendid model and helpful associations of Yale. It is due to Dr. Goodspeed to say that this suggestion originates wholly with me.

Received by Dr. Goodspeed on June 10

17th July

Copy of letter to Mr. Rockefeller:

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#2:

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Jan. 13, 1889

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Jan. 13, 1889

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It is due to Dr. Goodspeed to say that this suggestion originates wholly with myself. Other things connected with the initial steps of the enterprise if undertaken, I should like to say, but waive them now in deference to the pressure on your time."

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January 14, 1889.

Dr. Harper to Mr. Gates:-

"I inclose the originals of Dr. Strong's letters they are not confidential and so can be used. The last copy which I had of my letter to him in reply to his was sent to Beckley, who now has it. I have written him directing him to turn it over to you. He is the first man you want to see. Find him first. His address is 3230 Chestnut St., or perhaps you would better verify this at the Publication Society rooms when you receive this letter. I wrote Beckley last night telling him to withhold my resignation. I also wrote Mr. Rockefeller a long letter last night, - a very strong one which will either make or break things. Wishing you great success."

*Editors Note: The "make or break letter" is
Dr Harper to Mr Rockefeller Jan. 13th 1889*

January 14, 1889.

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Editor Note. The "Make or Break letter" is
to Harper to Mr. Rockefeller Jan. 15 - 1889

✓✓

January 14, 1889.

Dr. Goodspeed to Mr. Gates:-

"Your long and interesting letter is at hand. Everything you have done meets my warmest approval, except your efforts for my advancement. You must remember what I said to you, that I would not on any account have Mr. R. (or indeed any friend of our cause) suppose I had any ambitions in connection with this movement. For I have none. I want no advancement, no position, no connection with the proposed institution. I appreciate your good will & appreciation but you must drop me out of the account altogether. The use of my name in the way you suggest will not help the cause. I am very grateful to Drs. Morehouse and Harper for the cordial way they greet your suggestion, but don't make it in any other quarter, "as you love me."

If I become in any way necessary to the success of the movement I put myself entirely in your hands for any service, not for any honor. There is only one thing I want - the institution. Don't peril the effort for an Institution by naming me in connection with it. If you can get the Institution and Mr. R. says he wishes me to solicit money for it, I am ready to do it. I do not, however, wish to do it or to be in any way connected with the Institution, and especially I don't wish to be put in the fore front. If I know my own heart this is what it says.

I am very glad you and Dr. & B. took the course you did in informing Mr. R. of the Yale efforts. It was the only wise thing to do. It was due to Mr. R. that he should know the pressure brought to bear on Dr. H. to bind him to Yale. The relations between the two men have been such that I felt Dr. H. owed it to Mr. R. to see him & tell him frankly of these personal matters. But the fact that he sought an interview & that you gentlemen informed Mr. R. of the facts will set the matter right, I trust.

It seems most unfortunate that just at this time Mrs. R. should have been sick and Mr. R. so overwhelmed & himself so nearly ill. You must be patient and remain in New York until something is decided."

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January 14, 1889.

Dr. Harper to Dr. Goodspeed:-

"Your telegram and letters received. I presume I came near making a very great mistake, for I hesitated a long time before writing to you; however, the thing has turned out all right and in some way or other, I do not know now, Mr. Rockefeller has the information. Certainly something will be heard from him within a day or two. If anything important happens I will telegraph you. Gates sent you a full letter Saturday night giving you all information up to date. I cannot add anything except that he, Morehouse and I spent three hours together yesterday (Sunday) and went over the letter which was to go to Mr. Rockefeller last night. I came home last night and wrote him the strongest letter I have yet written, showing him that I was acting without any personal motive and begging him to indicate soon his determination, basing my request on the importance of the case and the necessity of immediate action. I do not think I overdid the matter but it certainly was a strong letter; we shall soon learn what the result will be."

January 12, 1892

Dr. Harper to Dr. Goodspeed:-

"Your telegram and letters received. I presume I came near making a very great mistake, for I hesitated a long time before writing to you; however, the thing has turned out all right and in some way or other, I do not know now, Mr. Rockefeller has the information. Certainly something will be heard from him within a day or two. If anything important happens I will telegraph you. Gates sent you a full letter Saturday night giving you all information up to date. I cannot add anything except that he, Morhouse and I spent three hours together yesterday (Sunday) and went over the letter which was to go to Mr. Rockefeller last night. I came home last night and wrote him the strongest letter I have yet written, showing him that I was acting without any personal motive and begging him to indicate soon his determination, basing my request on the importance of the case and the necessity of immediate action. I do not think I overdid the matter but it certainly was a strong letter; we shall soon learn what the result will be."

January 15, 1889.

Mr. Rockefeller to Dr. ~~Northrup~~:- *Mondou*

Invited him and Mr. Gates to "lunch with me at quarter after one tomorrow. I am pushed but I want to have a few minutes with you both. I have not Mr. Gates' address and will be obliged if you will kindly write him for me."

January 15, 1889.

Mr. Rockefeller to Dr. Heston - *Heston*

Invited him and Mr. Gates to "lunch with me at quarter after
one tomorrow. I am pressed but I want to have a few minutes with you
both. I have not Mr. Gates' address and will be obliged if you will
kindly write him for me."

(Copy)

New York, Jan. 15, 1889

Dear Mr. Rockefeller:

Your kind invitation of this date is received.

I expect Mr. Gates back from Washington Wednesday forenoon. I am confident that he will be free to accept as I also do the invitation to lunch with you at 1.15 tomorrow.

Very truly yours,

H. L. Morehouse.

(Copy)

New York, Jan. 12, 1888

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Mr. Rockefeller to Dr. Harper:-

"Pleased to receive yours of the 13th.

Of late I had rather come to feel that if Chicago could get a college and leave the question of a university until a later date that this would be more likely to be accomplished. If possible I will see Mr. Gates tomorrow and write Dr. Morehouse a note, assuming that he will know of his whereabouts."

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that he will know of his whereabouts."

✓
January 16, 1889.

Mr. Rockefeller to Dr. Harper:-

"I intended to have said in my letter yesterday that I hoped it would be convenient for you to have a little conference with me before you at any time commit yourself to Yale or any other place in an engagement for time."

January 16, 1932.

Mr. Rockefeller to Dr. Harper:-

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✓✓
Mr. Gates to Dr. Goodspeed, January 17, 1889.

Telegram

"Interview with Mr. Rockefeller yesterday and
go to Cleveland with him tonight. All is well."

Mr. Gates to Dr. Goodspeed, January 17, 1889.

Telegram

"Interview with Mr. Hochstetler yesterday and

go to Cleveland with him tonight. All is well."

✓
Jan. 18, 1889

Dr. Harper to Mr. Rockefeller:

"Your kind favors of January 15th and 16th have been received. I am very glad indeed that you have been able to meet Mr. Gates and I am sure that you will find his views very satisfactory. Your request for a conference with you before committing myself to Yale in an engagement for time is noted. I may say that I had thought of informing you of some matters that have been on foot, but after considering I did not think that, perhaps, it would be a proper thing to do. The fact is, I am in a very embarrassing situation with the authorities here and must decide something very soon. I shall be glad to place the matter before you in detail at the earliest possible moment. They have made me an exceedingly fine offer here and to refuse it will be the source of considerable loss. I shall endeavor to see you as soon as possible after you return from Cleveland. If you will kindly notify me ahead I shall be under many obligations.

"Sincerely hoping that something definite may be decided upon for the Chicago College - if it is to be a college rather than a university and hoping that your Cleveland trip may prove a pleasant one, * * * * *

"I had the pleasure of a short visit from Mr. Gates yesterday and so have learned of your journey."

Jan. 18, 1889

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January 19, 1889.

Dr. Harper to Dr. Goodspeed:-

"I write this letter Saturday afternoon. You have had this morning a long interview with Gates and know the whole situation. You know more than I know as I write, for since I saw Mr. Gates he has had a long conversation with Mr. Rockefeller. I am, therefore, writing somewhat in the dark. You will take this fact into consideration. As Gates has probably told you, Mr. Rockefeller is anxious to have me connected with the University although I may remain at New Haven, and the plan has been considered by him to some extent. Since my last talk with Gates I have thought of it a good deal, and I write to say to you that if the brethren at Morgan Park and those interested in the proposed university think it wise, I should be very glad indeed to identify myself in some close way with it. George and I talked the matter over last night for two hours. We wondered whether some such arrangement as this might not be effected, viz., a temporary arrangement for five years during which the administration on the university would be in the hands of three directors, one of whom would have chief charge of the financial affairs, buildings, etc., another, of the courses of instruction, faculty, etc., and a third. The question arises whether yourself, Gates and myself could not together accomplish more than any of us separately, and whether I might not be able to drop a sufficient amount of my outside work to enable me to give time and thought to this new work. Both Gates and Rockefeller seem to think that from the vantage-ground of Yale I might be able to do a great deal. I myself think that I would be able to do more at New Haven, remaining a professor in Yale University, than if I were to detach myself and give the whole of my time to the Chicago University. I do not think that such an arrangement could be carried on for a long time, but necessarily the first five years would be years of organization, and I believe that the matter is entirely feasible. The fact is, I could spend a good deal of time in Chicago if it were necessary, and in view of all the circumstances it might be the right thing to do. I confess to a feeling of surprise that Mr. R. has so set his heart upon my having some connection. I did not believe this before; a letter received from him this week shows this to be clear. He has asked me to make no arrangement with Yale or with any other person without first consulting him. I shall meet him in New York City Monday or Tuesday of next week and settle the matter, so far as Yale is concerned. As I said above, I do not know what may have developed since I have seen Gates. I make this suggestion to indicate my willingness to do anything I can do, under the circumstances. I believe thoroughly that you and I could work together, and that by supplementing each other we could accomplish a wonderful work for Baptist education with headquarters in Chicago."

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VV

Mr. Gates to Dr. Harper, January 21, 1889.

"It is not necessary that I burden you with all the details of the western trip. Let it suffice to say that Mr. Rockefeller did not commit himself at any point, but asked a great many questions about details, and seemed to be pleased with the plan that I outlined and the good points of which I defended at length. In parting with me he said that his mind worked slowly in these matters, but was glad to have had this opportunity for extended conversation, and closed by saying 'I think we are in the way of progress.' He emphasized very strongly the necessity of holding the interviews quiet as anything of a more open character subjected him to a great deal of outside annoyance.

Write me in a speedy mail the result of any interviews you may have."

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Write me in a speedy mail the result of any interviews you may have."

Jan. 21, 1889

Mr. Gates to Dr. Morehouse:

"Without burdening you with all the details of the trip I will only say that we talked over a great many matters connected with the proposed institution and with the Education Society. The plan I outlined to you seemed to meet his approval though he did not commit himself. I explained what I thought were the strong points of each item in it. In closing the conversation he emphasized the desirableness of keeping the trip quiet, as anything of a more public nature subjected him to a great deal of outside annoyance. He said in parting - 'I am glad to have had this opportunity for extended conversation; I think we are in the way of progress.'

"I was greatly delighted at the interest he manifested in the Education Society, the desire he expressed to make it a personal relief to him, and the intelligent views he exhibited as to the possible good it could do. I outlined the policy I have in mind as to liens, wills, and so forth, all of which he entered into heartily. He declined to serve on the Board very kindly showing to my satisfaction how he could serve us (as he declared) even better than by being a member of the Board, and influence our action more effectively. He laid much stress on the composition of the Board and intimated that it might take a sifting process of years before we could get men without merely selfish and local interests and with minds as broad as the country, who would not undertake to wrest the Society to their own purposes.

"He asked me particularly about some of the Southern colleges which I referred to in a lump you remember at lunch. I told him in answer on Thursday night that I thought of taking a trip down south to look carefully over the ground. On Friday morning he said - 'I think you had better visit the colleges as much as possible in addition to the correspondence you have with them.' I think he wants me to go down South and there are many reasons why I think now would be a good time. They must be faithfully represented in our report and besides you know they are now sure the Education Society has been captured by the west, and that they have been really rooted out of New York. We must reassure them by exhibiting the interest we really have. I wish you would think this over and write if possible by return mail."

Editorial Note Mr Gates with Dr. Morehouse lunched with Mr Rockefeller on the 16th by appointment and accepted Mr Rockefeller's invitation to journey with him to Cleveland. Mr Gates is here detailing the main features of the conversation on the journey.

Jan. 21, 1889

Mr. Gates to Dr. Merriam:

"Without burdening you with all the details of the trip I will only say that we talked over a great many matters connected with the proposed institution and with the Education Society. The plan I outlined to you seemed to meet his approval though he did not commit himself. I explained what I thought were the strong points of each item in it. In closing the conversation he emphasized the desirability of keeping the trip quiet, as anything of a more public nature subjected him to a great deal of outside annoyance. He said in parting - 'I am glad to have had this opportunity for extended conversation; I think we are in the way of progress.'"

"I was greatly delighted at the interest he manifested in the Education Society, the desire he expressed to make it a personal relief to him, and the intelligent views he exhibited as to the possible good it could do. I outlined the policy I have in mind as to letters, visits, and so forth, all of which he entered into heartily. He declined to serve on the Board very kindly showing to my satisfaction how he could serve us (as he declared) even better than by being a member of the Board, and influence our action more effectively. He laid much stress on the composition of the Board and intimated that it might take a sitting process of years before we could get men without merely selfish and local interests and with minds as broad as the country, who would not undertake to wrest the Society to their own purposes."

"He asked me particularly about some of the Southern colleges which I referred to in a letter you remember at lunch. I told him in answer on Thursday night that I thought of taking a trip down south to look carefully over the ground. On Friday morning he said - 'I think you had better visit the colleges as much as possible in addition to the correspondence you have with them.' I think he wants me to go down South and there are many reasons why I think now would be a good time. They must be faithfully represented in our report and besides you know they are now the Education Society has been captured by the west, and that they have been really rooted out of New York. We must reassure them by exhibiting the interest we really have. I wish you would think this over and write if possible by return mail."

Editorial Note: Mr. Gates with Dr. Merriam discussed with Mr. R. O. Safford on the 14th of September and accepted the Education Society's invitation to examine the various features of the organization on the journey.

Dr. J. A. Smith to Dr. Harper, January 21, 1889.

"I have had quite a long interview, this morning, with Mr. F. E. Hinckley, who, as you know, is our richest Chicago Baptist. One or two of the things which came up I would like to name to you.

I found him thoroughly interested in our enterprise and delighted to know that there is progress on what is now the matter of chief concern in this regard. One point which he made had respect to the placing ourselves in right relation with the city of Chicago, as such, and with those men here in particular, who for the sake of the city and for better reasons still may be expected to feel a hearty and fruitful interest in our undertaking. He said this, for example. The great auditorium here, erected at a cost of some three millions of dollars, is owned by stockholders, such as Marshall Field, and others who are wealthy men. I infer from what he said that the number of stockholders is not large, very likely he himself is one. He expressed the belief that if our university enterprise proceeds in such a way as to command the confidence and awaken the enthusiasm of these men, they will in time donate to us their stock for university purposes-very likely, of course, the founding of scientific schools, perhaps professional and technical.

Then, further, he said that there is a gentleman here who during a succession of years has expended large sums in collecting a museum of American archaeology, Indian antiquities, etc. This, he believe, the gentleman in question would donate, if assured that the character and prospects of the University were such as to justify this. Such a thing would be especially fine for a Western university.

Now, of course, these are just possibilities. But they at least show what possibilities there are. But Mr. Hinckley said another thing. He thinks it a matter of vital importance that you should be the President of the University. He is not, I think he said, personally acquainted with you; but he knows you well, all the same. I am, indeed, more and more persuaded, that with a view to such an impression over the public mind, especially here in Chicago, as we need to make, you are well nigh indispensable to us. That impression should be that the movement means great things. You know well enough what I am at. This does not allude to the temporary arrangement suggested by Mr. Gates; but has reference to what shall be understood as ultimate. "

Dr. J. A. Smith to Dr. Harper, January 21, 1889.

"I have had quite a long interview, this morning, with Mr. J. E. Hinkley, who, as you know, is our richest Chicago Baptist. One of two of the things which came up I would like to name to you.

I found him thoroughly interested in our enterprise and delighted to know that there is progress on what is now the matter of chief concern in this regard. One point which he made with respect to the placing ourselves in right relation with the city of Chicago, as usual, and with these men here in particular, who for the sake of the city and for better persons will be expected to lead a hearty and faithful interest in our undertaking. He said this, for example. The great auditorium here, erected at a cost of some three millions of dollars, is owned by stockholders, such as Marshall Field, and others who are wealthy men. I infer from what he said that the number of stockholders is not large, very likely he himself is one. He expressed the belief that the our university enterprise proceeds in such a way as to command the confidence and awaken the enthusiasm of these men. They will in time donate to us their stock for university purposes—very likely, of course, the founding of scientific schools, perhaps professional and technical.

Then, further, he said that there is a gentleman here who during a succession of years has expended large sums in collecting a museum of American archaeology, Indian antiquities, etc. This, he believes, the gentleman in question would donate, if assured that the character and prospects of the University were such as to justify this. Such a thing would be especially fine for a Western University.

Now, of course, these are just possibilities. But they at least show what possibilities there are. But Mr. Hinkley said another thing. He thinks it a matter of vital importance that you should be the President of the University. He is not, I think he said, personally acquainted with you; but he knows you well, all the same. I am, indeed, more and more persuaded, that with a view to such an impression over the public mind, especially here in Chicago, we need to make, you are well right, independent of us. That impression should be that the movement means great things. You know well enough that I am all this does not allude to the temporary arrangement suggested by Mr. Goff; but his reference to what shall be understood as permanent.

"Let me say, besides, that the organization of our university, if we come to that, is sure to be such that local and personal factions can play no part in the administration. A repetition of the old *custom* will be put out of the question by the breadth and character of the organization, if made as it surely must be. There must be a representative on the Board of some of those strong men in Chicago irrespective of denominational associations, who will have just one thing in view - the doing of a grand work - and who will sustain the president in a manful, loyal way. We have, I trust, also men of this character amongst ourselves; and since the first board is, as it seems, to be chosen by the board of the Education Society, it can be made such in character as that the man chosen for president may trust himself to it thoroughly.

You have no idea, Dr. Harper, how much I long to see you committed, heart and soul, to Western work in education. Here is the great field and the great opportunity. We need you-and could there be a grander career than would be open to you here?"

.....

"Let me say, besides, that the organization of our university, if we come to that, is sure to be such that local and personal feelings can play no part in the administration. A repetition of the old ~~error~~ will be put out of the question by the president and members of the organization, it made as it surely must be. There must be a representative on the board of some of those strong men in Chicago investigative of denominational associations, who will have just one thing in view - the doing of a grand work - and who will maintain the president in a manly, loyal way. We have, I trust, also men of this character amongst ourselves; and since the first board is, as it seems, to be chosen by the board of the Education Society, it can be made such in character as that the man chosen for president may trust himself to it thoroughly.

You have no idea, Dr. Hargr, how much I long to see you committed, heart and soul, to Western work in education. Here is the great field and the great opportunity. We need you-and could there be a grander career than would be open to you here?"

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Dr. Goodspeed to Dr. Harper, January 22, 1889.

"I am in receipt of a letter from Gates which troubles me on one point. I gather from it that he has laid before you suggestions as to my connection with the possible institution and that you with your usual generosity have given them your cordial assent. Now I do not wish to be Chancellor or anything else. When he made the suggestion here in the presence of Dr. N. and Dr. S. I at once disclaimed any personal ends or ambitions in connection with the institution (the prospects of which begin again to look very dark to me). I insisted that I would not on any account have Mr. R. suppose that any of us had any advancement to seek or selfish interests to serve. I did not, as I ought to have done, say, I would not for a moment think of the position suggested, because I had no idea it would become a practical question. The two doctors seemed to me to receive the suggestion coldly for which I do not blame them. I have not the least idea that Mr. R. would receive it otherwise. My name must not be mixed up with the question of an institution to the injury of the project. I want just one thing. I want no position. I want no connection with the institution (of our dreams.) I want only the institution. As perhaps Gates will remember I said at the interview above referred to the best way to kill the movement will be for Mr. R. to be led to suspect that some one has an ambition to be served by it. I have none and you must see that no one shall suppose I have. If it will help the matter along, I shall be only too happy to say in advance positively that I will not consent to have any connection whatever with it.

Now that is more than enough about the personal matter. I regret that you were not at home to receive my letter Sunday. In that case you would have gone to New York Monday and called on Mr. R. and seen him. I hope to learn that you did see him.

I regret to learn that Strong is determined to force an issue with you and hope it will prove not to be so. If he does, however, I fear he will live to regret it. The man seems mad, daft. 'Whom the Gods destroy' etc. It seems an unspeakable pity that just at this time Mrs. R. should have been sick and Mr. R. so overwhelmed with business and himself ill. It is an irremediable mistake for us to let you mortgage your future to another people, but we seem powerless."

Dr. Goodspeed to Dr. Harper, January 22, 1882.

"I am in receipt of a letter from Gates which troubles me on one point. I gather from it that he has laid before you suggestions as to my connection with the possible institution and that you with your usual generosity have given them your cordial assent. Now I do not wish to be Chancellor or anything else. When he made the suggestion here in the presence of Dr. H. and Dr. S. I at once disclaimed any personal ends or ambitions in connection with the institution (the prospects of which begin again to look very dark to me). I insisted that I would not on any account have Mr. R. suppose that any of us had any advancement to seek or selfish interests to serve. I did not, as I ought to have done, say, I would not for a moment think of the position suggested, because I had no idea it would become a practical question. The two doctors seemed to me to receive the suggestion cordily for which I do not blame them. I have not the least idea that Mr. R. would receive it otherwise. My name must not be mixed up with the question of an institution to the injury of the project. I want just one thing. I want no position. I want no connection with the institution (of any kind). I want only the institution. As perhaps Gates will remember I said at the interview above referred to the best way to suggest that some one will be for Mr. R. to be left to suggest that some one has an ambition to be served by it. I have none and you must see that no one shall suppose I have. If it will help the matter along, I shall be only too happy to say in advance positively that I will not consent to have any connection whatever with it.

Now that is more than enough about the personal matter. I regret that you were not at home to receive my letter Sunday. In that case you would have gone to New York Monday and called on Mr. R. and seen him. I hope to learn that you did see him.

I regret to learn that Strong is determined to force an issue with you and hope it will prove not to be so. If he does, however, I fear he will live to regret it. The man seems mad, don't you think? It seems an unaccountable pity that just at this time Mr. R. should have been sick and Mr. H. so overwhelmed with business and himself ill. It is an irreparable mistake for us to let you mortgage your future to another people, but we seem powerless.

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Dr. Goodspeed to Dr. Harper, January 22, 1889.

"Your favor came yesterday. It gives me great satisfaction to know that Mr. R. insisted on seeing you before you committed yourself to Yale. I felt that he would wish to do so. I only hope that his heart may be so opened that he will decide on such an institution here as will demand and command you. That is the desire of my heart. We need you at the head and here - not in New Haven.

Nothing would give me greater joy than to work with you, and with you as President.

At the same time I am not going to make difficulties, and am ready to fall in with any arrangement that Mr. R. desires. I am disposed to think that he has something different in mind from the scheme you suggest, and before saying anything on that subject I wait to hear of your interview with him.

I am very glad Gates had so good an opportunity to confer with him. He did not, however, so far as I can learn commit himself to Gates in any way. He left on his mind the impression that he will go forward with the scheme but said nothing as to the time or amount. I am encouraged to hope that he fully intends however to go forward. I very much wish the matter could be brought to a head but we must wait with such patience as we can command."

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Dr. Goodspeed to Dr. Harper, January 22, 1889.

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Jan. 23, 1889

Dr. Morehouse to Mr. Gates:

"Yours of the 21st is at hand. I am very glad to hear of your pleasant and satisfactory visit with Mr. Rockefeller. I have not yet heard from him as he intimated at our interview I would hear from him; but he does not forget those things and it will come around all right soon I am sure.

"As to a trip into the south to visit the colleges I hardly feel prepared to give any advice. It would be advantageous to you and to the Society no doubt if you could speak from personal observation as to the condition of things in the various institutions. Whether a special trip which shall be sufficiently comprehensive to take in the principal institutions throughout the South had best be made you must decide. It will take considerable time and involve a good deal of expense to do it thoroughly. As to removing suspicions in the minds of some of our southern brethren that the Society is captured for the west and that the South is rooted out of New York by the Society, my own conviction is that it is not worth our while to expend much time or money in removing this suspicion, which is lodged mainly in the minds of a few men who are giving themselves to all sorts of scheming. I do not believe there is any wide spread feeling of this sort. In my judgment we can justify our efforts for the West by the openings which have presented themselves to us as they have not been presented in any other part of the country; and because of the development of the west and its inability to provide educational facilities from its own resources as the older states of the east are able to do. The question is whether you have not secured the essential facts concerning the educational situation at the South so that you can intelligently present them if called upon. I wish the suspicious and sectional south could be smashed into everlasting smithereens, and that they would rise to a higher point of view as American citizens. They never think of anything or seem to care for anything except so far as it relates to the South.

"I have a letter from Judge Wayland to whom I send a copy of the letter I wrote you. He expresses himself very decidedly against the incorporation of the Society in the District of Columbia."

Jan. 23, 1889

Dr. Morehouse to Mr. Gates:

"Yours of the 21st is at hand. I am very glad to hear of your pleasant and satisfactory visit with Mr. Rockefeller. I have not yet heard from him as he intimated at our interview I would hear from him; but he does not forget those things and it will come around all right soon I am sure.

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"I have a letter from Judge Weyland to whom I send a copy of the letter I wrote you. He expresses himself very decidedly against the incorporation of the Society in the District of Columbia."

✓
Jan. 24, 1889

Mr. Rockefeller to Dr. Harper:

Arranges for an interview with Dr. Harper at Dr. Harper's
convenience on telegraphic notice.

✓
Jan. 24, 1989

Mr. Rockefeller to Dr. Harper:

Arranges for an interview with Dr. Harper at Dr. Harper's

convenience on telegraphic notice.

✓
Jan. 25, 1889

Dr. Harper to Mr. Rockefeller:

"Your kind favor of January 24th was received. I shall accept your kind invitation and call upon you about 7 o'clock Sunday evening. This is by far the most convenient time for me, and I venture to hope it will not be inconvenient to you."

✓
Jan. 25, 1883

Dr. Harper to Mr. Rockefeller:

"Your kind favor of January 24th was received. I shall accept your kind invitation and call upon you about 7 o'clock Sunday evening. This is by far the most convenient time for me, and I venture to hope it will not be inconvenient to you."

✓
Jan. 26, 1889

Mr. Rockefeller to Dr. Harper:

Acknowledges his letter of the 25th and arranges to see him
on the evening of the 27th at 7 P.M.

✓
Jan. 26, 1889

Mr. Rockefeller to Dr. Harper:

Acknowledges his letter of the 25th and arranges to see him

on the evening of the 27th at 7 P.M.

Jan. 27, 1889

Dr. Harper to Dr. Goodspeed:

"Sunday at 10 P.M. Confidential. Except for Drs. Smith, Northrup and Mr. Gates and Dr. Goodspeed himself.

"I have just returned from a three hours' interview with Mr. R. He was in one of his most affable moods. The interview was in some respects very satisfactory. I think I may state the substance under the following heads:

- "1. He is certainly planning to do something for Chicago.
- "2. He is kept from it partly by the large amount of money he is now giving to other objects - an amount greater by many thousands than in any preceding year; partly by the pressing calls which are coming from every direction (e.g. Dr. Broadus is pushing him unmercifully for \$50,000 for Louisville, as a thank-offering for Mrs. R's recovery (he will not get it); Gilman of Johns Hopkins has been at him; Pres. Well- ing of Columbia has tried to get hold of him, etc., etc., etc.; it makes one tired merely to see the list).
- "3. Gates made a good impression; he likes him.
- "4. Strong has accomplished something but not much.
- "5. He will give the money (which is to be given) to the Educ. Society, allowing it to appropriate it to its pleasure; but in every case he must be allowed to endorse the appropriation.
- "6. He will give it at the rate of so much a year for a cer- tain number of years, - how much, and how many years I could not get him to indicate, though I tried very hard.
- "7. He will decide soon; he asked me to come again within a week or two weeks at the farthest. He proposed to go with me to Vassar my next trip, viz. two weeks.
- "8. He is more tired than ever of Strong and the New York plan is N.G.
- "9. He agreed that, everything considered, I would better stay at New Haven for a period not exceeding five years; if I could so arrange it. He would like the arrangement to be for only three years at most.
- "10. He thought that from there, as a member of a committee or otherwise I could do as much as if I were to go to Chicago for these first five years. He is settled in the conviction that I must drop enough other work to make it possible to do the Chicago work.
- "11. He was never before so kind; nor so interested; nor so anxious to do just the right thing. I never had a more pleasant talk. I am to see him again this week or, at the latest, within two weeks."

Jan. 27, 1889

Dr. Harper to Dr. Goodspeed:

"Sunday at 10 P.M. Confidential. Except for Drs. Smith, Northrup and Mr. Gates and Dr. Goodspeed himself.

"I have just returned from three hours' interview with Mr. R. He was in one of his most reliable moods. The interview was in some respects very satisfactory. I think I may state the substance under the following heads:

"1. He is certainly planning to do something for Chicago. He is kept from it partly by the large amount of money he is now giving to other objects - an amount greater by many thousands than in any preceding year; partly by the pressing calls which are coming from every direction (e.g. Dr. Broadus is pushing him unmercifully for \$50,000 for Louisville, as a thank-offering for Mrs. R's recovery (he will not get it); Gilman of Johns Hopkins has been at him; Pres. Wells of Columbia has tried to get hold of him, etc., etc.; it makes one tired merely to see the list).

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"5. He will give it at the rate of so much a year for a certain number of years, - how much, and how many years I could not get him to indicate, though I tried very hard.

"6. He will ~~decide soon~~; he asked me to come again within a week or two weeks at the latest. He proposed to go with me to Kansas my next trip, viz. two weeks.

"7. He is more tired than ever of Strong and the New York plan in N.G.

"8. He agreed that, everything considered, I would better stay at New Haven for a period not exceeding five years; if I could so arrange it. He would like the arrangement to be for only three years at most.

"9. He thought that from there, as a member of a committee or otherwise I could do as much as if I were to go to Chicago for these first five years. He is settled in the conviction that I must drop enough other work to make it possible to do the Chicago work.

"10. He was never before so kind; nor so interested; nor so anxious to do just the right thing. I never had a more pleasant talk. I am to see him again this week or, at the latest, within two weeks."

✓
Jan. 28, 1889

Mr. Rockefeller to Dr. Goodspeed:

Acknowledging his letter of the 17th instant with many thanks.

✓
Jan. 28, 1889

Mr. Rockefeller to Dr. Goodspeed:

Acknowledging his letter of the 17th instant with many thanks.

RECEIVED
JAN 29 1889
NEW YORK

Jan. 29, 1889

Mr. Gates to Dr. Morehouse:

Mr. Gates expresses his pleasure at a contribution of \$500 from Mr. Rockefeller for the current expenses of the American Baptist Education Society and then proceeds as follows:

"I do not need to enlarge to you on my delight at this sign from Mr. Rockefeller. It is none the less pleasing because I had previously unfolded to him confidentially by letter an itemized policy of Western development designed to cover many years. Prof. Harper was to meet Mr. Rockefeller on Sunday last and settle finally the matter of the Yale propositions and his own future. I shall learn the result by tomorrow's mail probably. I have also a faint - very faint - hope that Mr. Rockefeller will in same mail write me something definite on the Chicago matter. I greatly hope that he will summon me east before he makes public any proposition."

Jan. 29, 1889

Mr. Gates to Dr. Morhouse:

Mr. Gates expresses his pleasure at a contribution of \$500 from Mr. Rockefeller for the current expenses of the American Baptist Education Society and then proceeds as follows:

"I do not need to enlarge ~~to you~~ on my delight at this sign from Mr. Rockefeller. It is none the less pleasing because I had previously unfolded to him confidentially by letter an intended policy of Western development designed to cover many years. Prof. Harper was to meet Mr. Rockefeller on Sunday last and settle finally the matter of the Yale propositions and his own future. I shall learn the result by tomorrow, I have also a faint - very faint - hope that Mr. Rockefeller will in some mail write me something definite on the Chicago matter. I greatly hope that he will summon me and before he makes public any proposition."

Jan. 31, 1889

Dr. Goodspeed to Mr. Gates:

"Your telegram received and I enclose the letter. It will certainly be gratifying to you. I guess our cause is safe and that we shall know soon the definite conclusion to which Mr. R. comes. The letter seems to indicate ~~these~~ two things. But I very earnestly hope Mr. R. will not do less than \$1,000,000. We cannot do much in the city with less. If we have but half that we would do better to come out here and get the additional \$100,000. ~~that~~ Mr. Walker would give me in grounds and buildings. I notice with great regret that sales of real estate are now being made daily around the property we looked at and that this week 114 feet have been sold out of the northwestern ^{corner} ~~course~~ of the two blocks we fixed upon. Prices are going up rapidly. This was sold at \$40 per front foot. I fear we shall have to look elsewhere. ~~TSix~~ Six months hence we cannot buy them for any fair price. Dr. Lorimer thinks if we could agree on a price we are willing to give for the old University property we may be able to get it for this purpose cheap. I fear it is doubtful. I greatly regret that Mr. R. did not lay hold of Dr. H. strongly and tell him he must take the Presidency. The fact that he did not make ~~s~~ me fear he is not planning so largely as we have hoped."

Jan. 31, 1933

Dr. Goodspeed to Mr. Gates:

"Your telegram received and I enclose the letter. It will certainly be gratifying to you. I guess our cause is safe and that we shall know soon the definite conclusion to which Mr. R. comes. The letter seems to indicate that two things. But I very earnestly hope Mr. R. will not do less than \$1,000,000. We cannot do much in the city with less. If we have but half that we would do better to come out here and get the additional \$100,000. That Mr. Walker would give me in grounds and buildings. I notice with great regret that sales of real estate are now being made daily around the property we looked at and that this week 114 feet have been sold out of the northwestern corner of the two blocks we fixed upon. Prices are going up rapidly. This was sold at \$40 per front foot. I fear we shall have to look elsewhere. This month hence we cannot buy them for any fair price. Dr. Lorimer thinks if we could agree on a price we are willing to give for the old University property we may be able to get it for this purpose cheap. I fear it is doubtful. I greatly regret that Mr. R. did not lay hold of Dr. H. strongly and tell him he must take the Presidency. The fact that he did not make a move fear he is not planning so largely as we have hoped."

Jan. 31, 1889

Dr. Harper to Mr. Gates:

"I think I owe you an apology. When I finished my interview with Mr. Rockefeller last Sunday night I sat down and wrote a letter to Dr. Goodspeed giving the whole interview as faithfully as possible. I thought I asked him in that letter to forward it to you because I did not have time to write another letter and wanted you to get it at the earliest possible moment. Perhaps I omitted this statement; this will account for your not receiving any word. I have telegraphed this morning. Meanwhile I have sent word to Dr. Goodspeed to send you my letter which is more accurate than any statement which I can give you just now. Suffice it to say that I am quite sure that great progress has been made. Mr. R. is surely going to do something; not, perhaps as much as we want him to do, but a good deal; and, furthermore, he is going to do it through the Education Society. He has great confidence in you and he proposes to "kill two birds with one stone", viz., to put the Education Society on its feet and help the Chicago University. I think his present plan is to turn the money over to the Education Society unconditionally, with the understanding, however, that their appropriation of his money must be endorsed by him. He thinks with you and me that for the present I would better stay at New Haven; that I can do more good here. I am glad to tell you that Dr. Broadus is of the same opinion. I talked the matter all over with him last night. The matter is now in the hands of you and the brethren. I think within two weeks he will make a proposition. He asked me to come again this week or in two weeks, and I should not be surprised within two weeks to have a letter to the Education Society in reference to the matter. He told me that what kept him back from doing a larger thing was the fact that he must stand by all the enterprises which he had taken up. He could not afford to give them up. I write in great haste. I have asked Goodspeed to send you my letter."

"Dear Dr. Morehouse:

"This letter I just received and thinking you will be interested I forward at once. Let us very closely respect Harper's confidence.

F.T.G."

"How bountifully Providence seems to be vindicating your judgment in pressing the organization last year. I stand with head bowed - hat in hand. Kindly return this at once."

Jan. 31, 1889

Dr. Harper to Mr. Gates:

"I think I owe you an apology. When I finished my interview with Mr. Rockefeller last Sunday night I sat down and wrote a letter to Dr. Goodspeed giving the whole interview as faithfully as possible. I thought I asked him in that letter to forward it to you because I did not have time to write another letter and wanted you to get it at the earliest possible moment. Perhaps I omitted this statement; this will account for your not receiving any word. I have telegraphed this morning. Meanwhile I have sent word to Dr. Goodspeed to send you my letter which is more accurate than any statement which I can give you just now. Suffice it to say that I am quite sure that great progress has been made. Mr. R. is surely going to do something; not, perhaps as much as we want him to do, but a good deal; and, furthermore, he is going to do it through the Education Society. He has great confidence in you and he proposes to 'kill two birds with one stone', viz., to put the Education Society on its feet and help the Chicago University. I think his present plan is to turn the money over to the Education Society unconditionally, with the understanding, however, that their appropriation of his money must be endorsed by him. He thinks with you and me that for the present I would better stay at New Haven; that I can do more good here. I am glad to tell you that Dr. Brodman is of the same opinion. I talked the matter all over with him last night. The matter is now in the hands of you and the trustees. I think within two weeks he will make a proposition. He asked me to come again this week or in two weeks, and I should not be surprised within two weeks to have a letter to the Education Society in reference to the matter. He told me that what kept him back from doing a larger thing was the fact that he must stand by all the enterprises which he had taken up. He could not afford to give them up. I write in great haste. I have asked Goodspeed to send you my letter."

"Dear Dr. Morehouse:

"This letter I just received and thinking you will be interested I forward it once. Let us very closely respect Harper's confidence. F.T.G."

"How doubtfully Providence seems to be vindicating your judgment in pressing the organization last year. I stand with head bowed - but in hand. Kindly return this at once."

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Dr. Goodspeed to Dr. Harper, January 31, 1889.

"Your letter came duly to hand. I am greatly obliged to you for writing me so quickly and so fully. Two things are very gratifying. 1. That Mr. R. is intending to go forward, and, 2, that he will decide definitely soon.

I regret that he did not lay hold of you with a strong hand and insist on your taking the lead of the enterprise at the outset. I cannot reconcile myself to anything else. It makes me fear he is not planning to do a sufficiently large thing. It would be a sore disappointment if he should propose less than a million. What I would like would be this.

1. \$125,000. for an Academy at Morgan Park or in some other suburb or some place not too near the University.

2. \$75,000. for the Seminary with the condition that it should sustain some relation to the University.

3. \$1,000,000. for the University of which \$100,000. might be used to purchase the site with the understanding that we should raise \$300,000. for buildings, library and apparatus and the encouragement that when we had done this he would be ready to join in further efforts to build up the institution.

I hope you can get some such agreement as this.

The \$125,000. for an Academy here would at once being \$75,000. more from Mr. Walker in grounds, buildings, and cash. The \$75,000. for the Seminary would put it into living condition and enable me if I am needed for the University to leave the Seminary with a clear conscience. The connection of the Seminary with the University would unify our educational work which seems to me most important.

If he will put his gift at \$1,200,000. to be paid in six years or less we can easily raise \$300,000. and then be ready when you are ready to come to undertake with his help the sum of \$1,500,000.

But I feel in the strongest way that the thing to do is to begin on a larger scale with you here at the head of the enterprise."

Dr. Goodspeed to Dr. Harper, January 31, 1889.

"Your letter came duly to hand. I am greatly obliged to you for writing me so quickly and so fully. Two things are very gratifying. 1. That Mr. H. is intending to go forward, and 2. that he will decide definitely soon.

I regret that he did not lay hold of you with a strong hand and insist on your taking the lead of the enterprise at the outset. I cannot reasonably myself to anything else. It makes me fear he is not planning to do a sufficiently large thing. It would be a severe disappointment if he should propose less than a million. What I would like would be this.

1. \$125,000. For an Academy at Morgan Park or in some other suburb or some place not too near the University.

2. \$75,000. For the Seminary with the condition that it should sustain some relation to the University.

3. \$1,000,000. For the University of which \$100,000 might be used to purchase the site with the understanding that we should raise \$300,000. For buildings, library and apparatus and the encouragement that when we had done this we would be ready to join in further efforts to build up the institution.

I hope you can get some such agreement as this.

The \$125,000. For an Academy being would at once being \$75,000. more from Mr. Walker in ground, buildings and cash. The \$75,000. for the Seminary would put it into living condition and enable me if I am needed for the University to leave the Seminary with a clear conscience. The connection of the Seminary with the University would unify our educational work which seems to me most important.

If he will put his gift at \$1,200,000. so he paid in six years or less we can easily raise \$800,000. and then be ready when you are ready to come to undertake with his help the sum of \$1,500,000.

But I feel in the strongest way that the thing to do is to begin on a larger scale with you here at the head of the enterprise."

"I have sent your letter to Gates.

Perhaps Gates told you of the site on South Park we looked at. Part of the blocks we looked at had been sold this week. There is a great boom in that region just begun, and it is already too late to buy there. Three months ago we could have bought at great advantage. Do not say this to Mr. R. or he will think we are pressing him.

Dr. Lorimer thinks we should agree on a price we are willing to give for the Old University property and offer it to the Company. D. G. Hamilton suggests this to him. De Witt has telegraphed Hamilton he has a nibble for it and has offered to sell for \$325,000."

"I have sent your letter to Gates."

Perhaps Gates told you of the site on South Park we looked at. Part of the blocks we looked at had been sold this week. There is a great boom in that region just begun, and it is already too late to buy there. Three months ago we could have bought at great advantage. Do not say this to Mr. H. or he will think we are pressing him.

Dr. Lottner thinks we should agree on a price we are willing to give for the Old University property and offer it to the Company. D. G. Hamilton suggests this to him. Dr. Witt has telegraphed Hamilton he has a quibble for it and has offered to sell for \$325,000."

Dr. Goodspeed to Dr. Harper, January 4, 1889.

"Yours enclosing the letters from Morehouse and Taylor came yesterday. I gave them to Drs. N. & S. and to no one else. They were of course greatly delighted over Taylor's position. We are also very much pleased by what you write of Prof. Burnham's attitude.

In regard to Boyd I hope you and Dr. M. are wrong. He assured Gates he was fully in favor of an institution at Chicago, but was not decided in his own mind as to whether it should be a College or University. Moreover he is cultivating friendly relations with Dr. Bright and Dr. B. is a strong advocate of the University idea.

I am therefore in doubt as to Boyd's attitude. Some one who has influence with him ought to see him. I think well of Gates going to N. Y. He ought to try to reach every man who has any influence with Mr. R. and enlist them actively on our side. Judson, Crandall, Humpstone, Chas. L. Colby, Robt. Harris, etc. etc.

Of course I am quite in the dark, but I am disposed to think that Mr. R's mind is turning more and more to the College as opposed to the University. The difficulty about this is that a College of high grade located in the city will need \$4,000,000. If the outcome is a College with \$1,000,000., I shall feel that it ought to be here at Morgan Park. You can't do much with \$1,000,000. inside the city. That amount would go just twice as far out here. If there are any men who are dissuading Mr. R. from the work of founding an institution here their names ought to be known and published as the perpetrators of a damnable crime and they ought to get the public execration they deserve.

Your telegram is at hand. I have sent it over to Dr. N. We will meet Gates Monday. Our new term opens Tuesday and I fear Dr. N. will not feel that he can get away.

My letter, I have written (I wrote it last Tuesday) but have no present intention of sending it and probably shall not send it at all, unless my further views are invited - tho I feel as tho' I should like to write a volume on the subject.

Galusha Anderson has been here and has come clear round and would now cheerfully commend our movement to Mr. R. if the way was opened. So at least he assured

Dr. Goodspeed to Dr. Harper, January 4, 1889.

"Yours enclosing the letters from Worcester and Taylor came yesterday. I gave them to Mrs. H. S. and to no one else. They were of course greatly delighted over Taylor's position. He was also very much pleased by what you write of Prof. Burnham's attitude.

In regard to Boyd I hope you and Dr. H. are wrong. He assured Gates he was fully in favor of an institution at Chicago, but was not decided in his own mind as to whether it should be a College or University. However he is maintaining friendly relations with Dr. Wright and Dr. H. is a strong advocate of the University idea.

I am therefore in doubt as to Boyd's attitude. Some one who has influence with him ought to see him. I think well of Gates going to N. Y. He ought to try to reach every man who has any influence with Mr. H. and enlist them actively on our side. Johnson, Grinnell, Humphreys, Cass, J. C. Colby, Robt. Harris, etc. etc.

Of course I am quite in the dark, but I am disposed to think that Mr. H.'s mind is turning more and more to the College as opposed to the University. The difficulty about this is that a College of high grade located in the city will need \$1,000,000. If the outcome is a College with \$1,000,000, I shall feel that it ought to be here at Morgan Park. You can't do much with \$1,000,000 inside the city. That amount would go just twice as far out here. If there are any men who are dissuading Mr. H. from the work of founding an institution here their names ought to be known and published as the perpetrators of a damnable crime and they ought to get the public execration they deserve.

Your telegram is at hand. I have sent it over to Dr. H. We will meet Gates Monday. Our new term opens Tuesday and I fear Dr. H. will not feel that he can get away.

My letter, I have written (I wrote it last Tuesday) but have no present intention of sending it and probably shall not send it at all, unless my further views are invited - tho I feel as tho I should like to write a volume on the subject.

Calvin Anderson has been here and has some clear ground and would now cheerfully command our movement to Mr. H. if the way was opened. So at least he seems

Dr. Goodspeed to Dr. Harper, January 1, 1888.
"us - that he will do anything he can to help us.
I trust he will never learn till I tell him how I
raged against him for a few days.

Dr. N. is in the city or I should have seen him
about your telegram. I send this now that you may
have the letters again."

In regard to Boyd I hope you and Dr. N. are wrong.
He assured Gates he was fully in favor of an institution
at Chicago, but was not decided in his own mind as
to whether it should be a College or University.
Moreover he is cultivating friendly relations with
Dr. Bright and Dr. B. is a strong advocate of the
University idea.

I am therefore in doubt as to Boyd's attitude.
Some one who has influence with him ought to see him.
I think well of Gates going to N. Y. He ought to try
to reach every man who has any influence with Mr. B.
and enlist them actively on our side. Judson, Grandall,
Barnstone, Chas. L. Coley, Robt. Harris, etc. etc.

Of course I am quite in the dark, but I am
disposed to think that Mr. B's mind is turning more
and more to the College as opposed to the University.
The difficulty about this is that a College of high
grade located in the city will need \$4,000,000. If
the outcome is a College with \$1,000,000., I shall
feel that it ought to be here at Morgan Park. You
can't do much with \$1,000,000. inside the city. That
amount would go just twice as far out here. If there
are any men who are dissuading Mr. B. from the work of
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Mr. B. if the way was opened. So at least he assured

us - that he will do anything he can to help us.
I trust he will never learn till I tell him how I
raged against him for a few days.

Dr. H. is in the city or I should have seen him
about your telegram. I read this now that you may
have the letters again."

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Mr. Gates to Dr. Harper, January 5, 1889.

"Your letter (of December 28) followed me to Minneapolis. I like to regard the confidences I receive even more strictly than my friends sometimes intend. I ventured, however, as I believe in your interest, to show your letter to Dr. Mabie. It is significant that a man of Mabie's high views of inspiration should be indignant at Dr. Strong's attack. He will write you and I hope to your comfort.

You have my own entire sympathy. I do not mean to say that I am in accord with all your views for I do not know them. My own notions of the Old Testament are not fully settled. Quite likely I should limit inspiration in most places to the selection and arrangement of materials. Very likely I should regard much that many Baptists regard as written by the Holy Spirit like the song of Jael for instance as simply the reflection of the spirit of the age inwrought into the narrative for Divine purposes. More to the point, I believe in the liberty of private judgement on such questions within the fold and brotherhood of Christ. I understand the union of believers in the visible church to be based by our Lord on repentance faith and Baptism an orderly walk and correct doctrinal views about repentance faith and Baptism. The only significance I claim to this view is that it represents I am sure the convictions of the Baptist denomination. I think you ought to feel entirely

Mr. Gates to Dr. Harper, January 2, 1882.

"Your letter (of December 22) followed me to Minneapolis. I like to regard the confidence I receive even more strictly than my friends sometimes intend. I ventured, however, as I believe in your interest, to show your letter to Dr. Noble. It is significant that a man of Noble's high view of inspiration should be indignant at Dr. Strong's attack. He will write you and I hope to your comfort."

You have my own entire sympathy. I do not mean to say that I am in accord with all your views for I do not know them. My own notions of the Old Testament are not fully settled. Since likely I should limit inspiration in most places to the selection and arrangement of materials. Very likely I should regard much that many Baptists regard as written by the Holy Spirit like the song of David for instance as simply the reflection of the spirit of the age brought into the narrative for living purposes. None to the point. I believe in the liberty of private judgment on such questions within the fold and brotherhood of Christ. I understand the union of believers in the visible church to be based by our Lord on repentance faith and baptism an orderly walk and correct doctrinal views about repentance faith and baptism. The only significance I attach to this view is that it represents I am sure the convictions of the Baptist denomination. I think you ought to feel entirely

safe and wholly at home. Whether they may fully agree with your views or not every thoughtful Baptist does claim and exercise the right of private judgement on all the questions at issue between you and Dr. Strong, and all thoughtful men will be quick to resent any curtailment of that liberty. That is the real question and here you will be sustained I am sure by the well-nigh universal voice.

I do not fear the influence on Mr. Rockefeller of Dr. Strong's attack. But Dr. Strong has much to fear for himself. For effectiveness his attack has been timed most inopportunately. Mr. Rockefeller can scarcely repress the suspicion that Dr. Strong's motives are far other than zeal for truth. It is unfortunate for Dr. Strong that he could not have chosen a time for his attack when his motives could not be questioned.

Mr. Rockefeller will naturally inquire also why of all the trustees of Vassar Dr. Strong should have chosen himself to share his trouble about your heresy. Here again Dr. Strong was impolitic. Rockefeller is the last man the Doctor should have approached, if he desired to avoid the suspicion of ulterior motives. Heresy hunting is at best an unpopular and a risky business. It can be vindicated rarely. But when the valiant and zealous Nimrod lays himself open to the charge of attempting to ruin the influence of a Christian brother for ulterior motives of his own he presents himself in a most pitiable

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with your views or not every thoughtful Baptist does
claim and exercise the right of private judgment on all
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all thoughtful men will be quick to resent any curtailment
of that liberty. That is the real question and here you
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voice.
I do not fear the influence of Mr. Rockefeller or Dr.
Strong's attack. But Dr. Strong has much to fear for
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most ineffectual. Mr. Rockefeller can scarcely express
the suspicion that Dr. Strong's motives are far other
than real for truth. It is unfortunate for Dr. Strong
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his motives could not be questioned.
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all the friends of Vassar Dr. Strong should have chosen
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be vindicated rarely. But when one violent and serious
blatant lays himself open to the charge of attempting to
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motives of his own he presents himself in a most pitiable

light. While Dr. Strong would be greatly grieved to be so interpreted, and while he would certainly repudiate such a motive he has been most inopportune in time and most untactful in the person chosen to share his suspicions. With the public who know nothing of the circumstances Dr. Strong might make a better appearance, but with the trustees of Vassar it seems to me his charges can not fail to react disastrously on himself. My first thought was to wonder by what right Dr. Strong became your inquisitor. Of course as an officer of Vassar he has the right to inquire what you teach there. But his inquisition can not pass beyond what you have publicly taught there. I think the issue should be held strictly to the subject matter of your public teaching and that at Vassar. Your own rights and your own dignity may well be consulted. But I admire your swift decision to avoid if possible a fight. I have come slowly to agree with you. Dr. Strong is a very determined man. This matter is with him be sure one of duty and conscience. You will have to go or he will. And if he resigns that will be I fear only the beginning of troubles. He will appeal to the denomination against Vassar its President and its trustees and if nothing worse happens he can injure the President and the patronage of the institution. I have some hope though not much that your own tact and grace will find a way to reconcile the doctor. What touches me in this matter is not its effect on Mr. Rockefeller but on yourself. I fear

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be so interpreted, and while he would certainly repudiate
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But I admit your right to decide to avoid it possible a
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is a very despicable man. This matter is with him to
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against Vassar its President and its trustees and if
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patronage of the institution. I have some hope though
not much that your own tact and grace will find a way to
reconcile the doctor. That touches me in this matter is
not the effect on Mr. Rockefeller but on yourself. I fear

that you will regard it as giving new weight to some reasons why you wish to decline to come to Chicago. I am strongly impressed with the idea that our matter hinges at last on your acceptance of the presidency.

I have too much to say on this to enter upon it now. The whole subject is with me day and night. I can scarcely keep away from the east."

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You have my own entire sympathy. I do not mean to say that I am in accord with all your view for I do not know them. My own notions of the Old Testament are not fully settled. Quite likely I should limit inspiration in most places to the selection and arrangement of materials. Very likely I should regard much that many Baptists regard as written by the Holy Spirit like the song of David for instance as simply the reflection of the spirit of the age brought into the narrative for divine purposes. Here to the point, I believe in the liberty of private judgment on such questions within the fold and brotherhood of Christ. I understand the union of believers in the visible church to be based by our Lord on repentance faith and baptism an orderly walk and correct doctrinal views as well as repentance faith and baptism. The only significance I claim is this view is that it represents I am sure the spirit of the Baptist denomination. I think you ought to feel entirely

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