

May 20, 1914.

Miss Marjorie Bates,  
822 North St.,  
Pittsfield, Mass.

My dear Miss Bates;

I have your letter of May 18th with \$5 for the college. I thank you heartily and appreciate your spirit of co-operation. Surely I ought to be very grateful in the loyal support of all our alumni.

I am sorry we have not had your correct address, but I will try to see that it is made right on our mailing list.

I wish I might some time visit Pittsfield and speak in the schools in which you are interested. I always enjoy such trips and usually find that they are profitable. I do not see how I can do anything this year but I hope some time to come.

We shall be very glad to see you at the summer session and I think the program this year is better than ever.

I hope you have heard of our latest gift, a new chapel from Ex-Governor Mead. He proposes to spend perhaps \$60,000 on the building. This came as a great surprise to me a little time ago and has made us all very happy.

Faithfully yours,

degrees

Voted to confer the Degree of M.S.  
(an honor) upon  
Margaret Farmworth Sheldon

See further  
list

Voted to approve the Prudents of  
Departments of instructors as follows:-  
Christy & Perkins, Mathematics \$1,200-  
Mrs. Maria Spaulding, Home Economics \$1,100-

Mead  
(Chapel)

The following resolution, introduced by  
Dr. Bramwell, on motion of Dr. Barton  
& Prof. Kellogg, was adopted by a  
unanimous vote:-

Whereas our esteemed colleague, the  
Honorable John Abner Mead of the Class of  
1864, has signified to President Thomas  
his desire, in commemoration of the  
fiftieth anniversary of his graduation,  
to erect a Chapel for Middlebury Col-  
lege, and his readiness to furnish the  
sum of from fifty thousand to sixty  
thousand dollars for the erection of  
such an edifice,

Resolved, that the President and  
Fellows of Middlebury College heartily  
accept of this munificent benefaction  
with sincere gratitude to both Dr. &  
Mrs Mead and their family for their  
deep interest in the religious welfare  
of the College, so prominently manifest-  
ed by this provision of a suitable place  
for divine worship.

Resolved that the Trustees through  
the Committee nominated by Dr. Mead  
will use their best endeavors to secure  
the erection of a dignified and substan-  
tial structure, in harmony with the  
other buildings of the College, and  
such as will merit the approval of  
the donor.

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Degrees

Voted to confer the Degree of M.S.  
(in course) upon  
Margaret Farmworth Sheldon

New Instructors.

Voted to approve the Prudents appointments of instructors as follows:-  
Llewellyn Perkins, Mathematics \$1,200.-  
Miss Marian Spaulding, Home Economics \$1,100.-

Mead Chapel

The following resolution, introduced by Dr. Bramwell, on motion of Dr. Barton & Prof. Keeloy, was adopted by a rising vote:-

"Whereas our esteemed colleague, the Honorable, John Abner Mead of the Class of 1864, has signified to President Thomas his desire, in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of his graduation, to erect a Chapel for Middlebury College, and his readiness to furnish the sum of from fifty thousand to sixty thousand dollars for the erection of such an edifice,

Resolved that the President and Fellows of Middlebury College, humbly accept of this magnificent benefaction with sincere gratitude to both Dr & Mrs Mead and their family for their deep interest in the religious welfare of the College, so prominently manifested by this provision of a suitable place for divine worship.

Resolved that the Trustees through the Committee nominated by Dr Mead will use their best endeavors to secure the erection of a dignified and substantial structure, in harmony with the other buildings of the College, and such as will meet the approval of the donor."



1914.

Mead  
Chapel

Dr Mead made fitting reference to this resolution. His letter of presentation follows in full:

Rev Dr. John M. Thomas, L.L.D.  
President of Middlebury College.  
My dear President Thomas:

In commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of my graduation from Middlebury College, and in recognition of the gracious kindness of my Heavenly Father to me throughout my life, I desire to erect a Chapel to serve as a place of worship for the College, the same to be known as the "Mead Memorial Chapel". I have in mind a dignified and substantial structure, in harmony with the other buildings of the College, and expressive of the simplicity and strength of character for which the inhabitants of this valley and the State of Vermont have always been distinguished.

It was my great-great-grandfather, the first white settler of this valley, who brought the first copy of the Holy Bible into this unbroken wilderness and it was his wife, my great-great-grandmother, who gathered her large family about her on an Indian wigwam for the first Christian service of the Vermont pioneers of this immediate region. With this memory ever present, it has been my hope and prayer that I might be able and permitted to build for this College a suitable place for divine worship and that it might



1914.

Mead  
Chapel

Dr. Mead made fitting response to this resolution. His letter of presentation follows in full:

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President of Middlebury College.  
My dear President Thomas:

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1914

Mead  
Chapel

rise from the highest point on its campus as a symbol of the position, most prominent in every respect, which Christian character and religious faith should always maintain in its work for our youth.

I have in mind the furnishing of from \$50,000. - to \$60,000. - for the erection of such a structure, and I have to suggest that the Trustees of the College select appropriate plans for its erection which shall meet with my approval, and that said Board appoint a Building Committee at once, consisting of President Thomas, former President Brainard and myself to make the necessary contract for such a structure and to supervise the erection of the same, and I will then bind myself and my estate to provide the necessary means for its erection and completion in accordance with the suggestions of this letter and with the contracts to be made by your committee.

Respectfully,

Signed, John Abner Mead

Rutland, Vt.

May 11, 1914.

On motion of Mr. Partridge, seconded by Dr. Abernethy, the Building Committee for the Mead Chapel was elected as above, Thomas, Brainard, Mead and Currier.

Mr. Coelms of the architectural firm of Allen & Coelms then appeared before the Board with tentative plans for the new Chapel, which were discussed at length.

December 18, 1914.

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of Middlebury College was held at No 60 Broadway, in the City of New York, on the 18th day of December, 1914.

Present:-

President Thomas in the chair

Dr Kellogg

Mr Porter

Mr Hepburn

Geo. W. Cullough

Mr Vail

Dr Star

Mr Wright

Mr Chernette

Mr Gifford

Mr Gifford acted as Secretary of the meeting.

Secretary. s.

As motion, duly seconded, it was resolved that the College proceed with the construction of the Chapel with the understanding that \$60,000.- would be contributed by Dr Mead; the balance estimated at about \$1,000.- to be contributed by the College.

Mead Chap. s.  
el. s.

President Thomas reported Prof Skilling's inability to spend his Sabbatical vacation abroad and his request that he be given six months to be spent in the Society.

Skilling's  
vacation.

As motion, duly seconded, it was resolved that such leave be granted at half salary.



Engineering discontinued

Resolution, duly seconded,  
Resolved that the Department of Engi-  
neering be discontinued as a department,  
and the work of surveying and drawing  
be done under that title.

Relation of  
the College  
to the State.

Dr Thomas reported with reference to  
the relation of the College to the State of Ver-  
mont, and the following resolution was  
offered and unanimously passed:-

Affiliation  
with U.V.M.  
& Norwich.

Whereas, it is important for the interests  
of education in Vermont that the univer-  
sities and colleges of the State be brought  
into some form of affiliation; and

Whereas, in recent correspondence of  
President Benton and Thomas sugges-  
tions have been made which give  
promise of a useful outcome of ne-  
gotiations between representatives  
of the several institutions; therefore

Resolved, that the Trustees of Middlebury  
College express themselves in favor of an  
endeavor to bring about an affiliation  
of the University of Vermont, and State  
Agricultural College, Norwich University,  
and Middlebury College, and declare  
their desire to cooperate with the Trustees  
of the other Universities in bringing about  
such an affiliation; and

Resolved, that a copy of this action be  
communicated to the University of Vermont  
and Norwich University.

Resolution, duly seconded, the Trustees  
adjourned

(signed) James M. Clifford,  
Secretary of the Trustees  
Attest  
J. A. Fletcher, Secy



1916.

January 28, 1916.

The annual mid winter meeting of the President & Fellows of Middlebury College was held, pursuant to call, at the Office of Hon. James M. Gifford, 66 Broadway, N.Y. at 2 P.M., Friday, January 28, 1916.

Present: Messrs. Thomas, Gifford, Hephburn, Starr, Kellogg, Wright, Abernethy and Fletcher

On motion of Dr. Starr the reading of the minutes of the last meeting was omitted

The Treasurer and Chairman of the Finance Committee <sup>read</sup> gave a brief report

Financial.

On motion of Messrs Hephburn and Starr the matter of the Credit (Austro-bank) and Farnell (L. Elmer) mortgage loans was left with Mr Wright under power.

The President made his report.

Architect  
old chapel.

On motion of Messrs Starr & Gifford it was voted to authorize the services of an architect to study and advise as to changes in the old chapel.

Cunningham  
Boardman  
Professorship

On motion of Dr. Kellogg, seconded by Mr Gifford it was voted to appoint Mr G. Watts Cunningham to the Geo. H. and Anne Walker Boardman Professorship at a salary of \$1,800. per year.

Miss Ross  
salary

Voted to make the salary of Miss Ross, the Drew of Women, \$1,600. from July 1st, 1916.



voted: that the Finance Committee  
be authorized to appeal to the  
General Education Board for  
a grant of \$150,000 toward a  
total of \$600,000, of which  
~~\$425,000 shall be for endowment,~~  
~~and of which total fund~~  
to include the gifts of ex-Gov.  
John A. Mead and Hon. A.  
Barbon Hepburn for a chapel  
and a dormitory and commons,  
the balance of the fund,  
viz. \$425,000, to be for  
endowment.



Meeting of Board, at Pres. office  
June 1915.

Present

Pres. Thomas,  
Mead,  
Star,  
Kellogg  
Brainard,  
Lippel  
Partridge  
Hyslop,  
Chenault  
Stafford.

Letter from Dr. Mead read by Dr. Thomas

Mead & carried that the gift  
of Dr. & Mrs. Mead be accepted.



Noted that President be authorized  
to obtain a new lease

Noted the Trustees accept  
the Meads proposal to add  
#1031, to the gift of the Chapel  
with guarantee to agree to in-  
stead to help organ to cost \$5000.

Discussion of Mr Battell's will





A meeting of the Board of Trustees of Middlebury College was held at No. 60 Broadway, in the City of New York, on the 18th day of December, 1914.

Present:

President Thomas in the chair  
Dr. Kellogg  
Mr. Porter  
Mr. Hepburn  
Gov. McCullough  
Mr. Vail  
Dr. Starr  
Mr. Wright  
Mr. Abernethy  
Mr. Gifford.

Mr. Gifford acted as Secretary of the meeting.

On motion, duly seconded, it was

RESOLVED that the College proceed with the construction of the Chapel, with the understanding that ~~about~~ \$60,000 would be contributed by Dr. Mead. The balance estimated at about \$1000 to be contributed by the College.

President Thomas reported Prof. Skillings' inability to spend his Sabbatical vacation abroad and his request that he be given six months to be spent in the South.

On motion, duly seconded, it was

RESOLVED that such leave be granted at half salary.

On motion, duly seconded,

RESOLVED that the Department of Engineering be discontinued as a department, and the work of surveying and drawing be done under that title.



20

## Governor Mead

In the death of ex-Governor John Abner Mead of the class of 1864 Middlebury College has lost one of its most distinguished alumni of the State of Vermont, & one of the most helpful of its Trustees & most generous of its benefactors. Governor Mead was a notable example of ~~those successful men~~ <sup>those successful men</sup> of our nation who have pushed ~~American manhood~~ their way upward against great obstacles and by force of mind & will & character succeeded to positions of great ~~of~~ responsibility & usefulness in the industrial world & in public life. His career as a physician was honorable & highly useful. Turning to business he became one of the masters of industry in New England. In the gift of the Mead Memorial Chapel he endowed our college with one of the most beautiful buildings on any campus in America, which will speak to coming generations of his wisdom & foresight in benevolence and symbolize the ~~strength~~ strength of character of its donor.

Attest

Secretary

teacher and a notable example of manhood to students for thirty-nine years. As a writer of text-books he was one of the great teachers of the nation. Kindly and faithful as a friend, helpful as a counsellor, vigorous in judgment, virile in influence, a man whose look was always forward and whose heart was always full of courage, his alma mater has abundant reason to be grateful for his life and to cherish his memory in honor and affection.

#### Governor Mead

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Dr. Mead.

On motion of Mr. Hephum it was voted to adopt the following resolution:-

Resolved that we deplore the severance by Professor Wright of his connection with Middlebury College. While we quite understand the motives that impel his action,

Professor  
Wright.



May 29, 1914.

Miss Florence C. Allen,  
Brattleboro, Vermont.

My dear Miss Allen;

I have been having a little correspondence with Mason Sharp and his father. The young man seems to be well on the way toward Middlebury, at least if we grant his application for a scholarship. He may not give me your name as a reference, but I would be glad to know your judgment of his worth and promise. I see that his father is a Methodist minister, which tells something.

Some time since Mr. Wiley received letters from Whittemore of your Senior class. I would be glad to have you tell me how the case stands with him. Are there any other likely Seniors beside these two?

We have increased the tuition a little this year, making it an even \$100, which perhaps seems more of an increase than it really is. Since this is the off year for Vermont scholarships, the legislature in its wisdom arranging so that all sixty appointments are made in one year, leaving none for the next. Mr. Wiley is also new at student correspondence. For these various reasons I am trying to help a little this year in this matter, as I do not want that Middlebury should go back just at this time.

I am quite sure that "glorious" will be your adjective for Doctor Mead's new \$60,000 chapel. With others that adjective is reserved for the eighth consecutive base ball victory, no defeats in the meantime.

Faithfully yours,

May 20, 1914.

Miss Marjorie Bates,  
822 North St.,  
Pittsfield, Mass.

My dear Miss Bates;

I have your letter of May 18th with \$5 for the college. I thank you heartily and appreciate your spirit of co-operation. Surely I ought to be very grateful in the loyal support of all our alumni.

I am sorry we have not had your correct address, but I will try to see that it is made right on our mailing list.

I wish I might some time visit Pittsfield and speak in the schools in which you are interested. I always enjoy such trips and usually find that they are profitable. I do not see how I can do anything this year but I hope some time to come.

We shall be very glad to see you at the summer session and I think the program this year is better than ever.

I hope you have heard of our latest gift, a new chapel from Ex-Governor Mead. He proposes to spend perhaps \$60,000 on the building. This came as a great surprise to me a little time ago and has made us all very happy.

Faithfully yours,





State of Vermont  
Elbert S. Brigham  
Commissioner of Agriculture  
St. Albans

June 13, 1914.

Pres. John M. Thomas,  
Middlebury, Vt.

Dear Dr. Thomas:---

I have your letter of June 8th with enclosure from Bureau of Immigration. I think you are taking the right view in the matter in not encouraging boys to go out West, because I think that our boys have as good opportunities to work right here in Vermont.

I shall try to get down for Commencement Day if possible but do not now know if I shall be able to do so..

With best wishes, I am

Very truly yours,

B/E

*E. S. Brigham*

Your success in getting \$60,000.00 from Dr. Mead removes from my mind any possible doubt as to the future of Middlebury. I had experience when I was chairman of Chapter House committee in 1903.

*E. S. B*

*Check  
Fidelity  
affiliated  
Mead's  
Brigham*

14 Reed St.,  
Pittsfield, Mass.,  
Sept. 15, 1914.

Dr. John M. Thomas,  
Middlebury, Vt.

My dear Dr. Thomas:

I am a candidate for the position of superintendent of schools at Hartford, Vermont. Will you kindly write a letter in my behalf to Mr. Alfred E. Watson, White River Junction, Vermont? I trust that you remember me. I was superintendent at Lenox, Mass., four years.

I recently returned from Sitka, Alaska, where I had charge of a boarding school for Indian boys and girls. I find that few positions are opening at this time of the year and I should be much pleased to get this one.

I was delighted to learn that you are to have a chapel. I always thought that I would build one for the college if I ever got rich.

Thanking you for anything you may do for me, I am,

Most sincerely yours,

*E. G. Bridgman*



May 13, 1914.

My dear Bryant;

I want you to have the good news as soon as possible and therefore beg to call your joyful attention to the enclosed letter from Ex-Governor Mead. He is very happy in the matter, taking great interest in all preparations, having visited Middlebury several times already to look over the site, etc. It will be announced to the faculty and students Friday evening, May 15th. So if things ever get to going slow again I shall send you off on a leave of absence and call for another Carnegie report.

Faithfully yours,

23 Brantchester St.  
Cambridge, Eng.  
May 23, 1914.

My dear John, -

Your letter of the 13<sup>th</sup>, containing the good news about the Head Memorial Chapel, has just reached me, and I must send a word of congratulation and rejoicing at once.

We need the chapel more than any other building, and it seems too good to be true that the need is so soon to be met.

It is most encouraging to have this gift and the one from bro. McCullough come just at this time when so many things have happened to give trouble. We are now than happy over the news, and only regret we could not have shared it with the Wrights. They were here for three days, beginning last Saturday, and gave



gave us great pleasure by their visit.

Mr. Wright was not at all well when he arrived but improved quite a bit while here, though his condition was not at all satisfactory when he left. We hope his ocean trip will do him much good.

We all send hearty good wishes and congratulations, and we thank you for giving us such an early report of the good news.

Sincerely yours

Ernest C. Bryant.



April 25, 1914.

Rev. James L. Barton, D.D.,  
14 Beacon St.,  
Boston, Mass.

My dear Doctor Barton;

One of our friends has conferred with me on the subject of the erection of a suitable chapel for the college. I have no definite promise and it is quite likely that nothing positive will be determined for some time yet, but the situation is hopeful. The prospective donor has allowed me to confer with Allen & Collens, architects, 40 Central St., Boston, without committing us in any way, to see what they would suggest. Mr. Collens has visited Middlebury and looked over the site. He said he would like to confer with some one in Boston who knew about the college and might be able to advise him on some points and I gave him your name and told him I was confident you would be willing to confer with him.

Doubtless you know that their firm erected the Union Seminary buildings in New York, the chapel at Williams, and that they have done a good deal of college and church work. My own idea has been of a building exclusively for religious and other assemblies, i.e., not dramatic. I do not think it would be best to add Y.M.C.A. or club room features, although there might be a choir room and ought to be a minister's room. I have had in mind a structure of the New England meeting house type, and feel that a Gothic cathedral would be quite out of place for us.

Sentiment in the state seems to be turning against the Carnegie report so far as the college appropriations are concerned. I expect we shall come out of the trouble confirmed in our position, though perhaps with slightly diminished income from the state. The assurance of position, however, will be worth all it has cost.

I hope you are planning to attend commencement June 24th.

Faithfully yours,



June 2, 1914.

Doctor James L. Barton,  
14 Beacon St.,  
Boston, Mass.

My dear Doctor Barton;

One of the features of commencement will be breaking ground for the Mead Memorial Chapel and presentation of the corner stone at 2 P.M. June 23rd. I enclose a copy of the proposed program. This is the wish of Governor Mead as well as myself that you speak in behalf of the trustees. I am sure every member of the Board would say that you are the one particular person to represent us in that connection. The program should not be extended and an elaborate address is not called for, but we do want something said in behalf of the governing body of the college and you will know just what it should be and just how to say it.

Allen & Collens are preparing new sketches, in addition to the revision of the sketch which you saw, and we are to have a meeting of the joint committees of trustees and faculty Friday morning this week. It is taking time, but I think everything is coming out very nicely indeed.

Faithfully yours,

AMERICAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS



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FRANK H. WIGGIN TREASURER  
JOHN G. HOSMER PUBLISHING AND  
PURCHASING AGENT

June 5, 1914.

President John M. Thomas, D.D.,  
Middlebury College,  
Middlebury, Vermont.

My dear Dr. Thomas:-

I was greatly moved by the request of yourself and Mr. Mead that I should give the address at the laying of the corner-stone of the Mead Memorial Chapel at Middlebury, and do it on behalf of the Board of Trustees. I should be very glad to do this, but would like to hear from you as to the length of time that you want me to occupy. I can readily see that the ceremony should be comparatively brief. Would you say five minutes, or six minutes, or ten minutes? I would like also to see the final plans as far as completed before the ceremony. I could see them here in Allen & Collins' office, I have no doubt.

I am glad things seem to be moving on satisfactorily.

Very faithfully yours,

JLB/E



June 8, 1914.

Doctor James L. Barton,  
14 Beacon St.,  
Boston, Mass.

My dear Doctor Barton;

I have your letter of June 5th and am much pleased that you will accept the appointment at the service in connection with the Mead Memorial Chapel June 23rd. I should say that your address should occupy from ten to fifteen minutes. The general exercises will be brief, and we plan besides your address only a brief word in behalf of the faculty and an address in behalf of the students. The latter of course will be quite short and Professor Wright will not transgress as to time.

We have had a meeting of the building committee with a faculty advisory committee, but while the spirit of harmony is very beautiful, we actually do not at all agree. Only a small minority hereabouts approve the New England meeting house plan. We shall work out the problem, but it will take a little time and patience.

The above will indicate that it may not be possible for you to see plans which have been fully adopted, but we are still working with Allen & Collens, and you can see there at any time the plans as far as adopted.

Faithfully yours,

Administrative Offices  
The University of Vermont  
Burlington

May eighteenth,

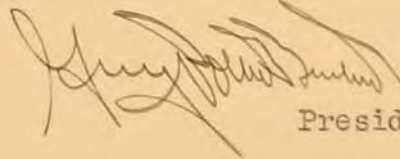
Nineteen Fourteen.

My dear President Thomas:-

Pray accept my heart-felt congratulations on the good fortune that has come to Middlebury College in the gift of a chapel from Governor Mead. I rejoice with you in the prospects and earnestly hope that Governor Mead's generosity will stimulate some good friend of the University of Vermont to emulate him.

With best wishes for your continued success and happiness, I am,

Cordially your friend,



President.

President John M. Thomas,

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE,

Middlebury,

Vermont.



May 20, 1914.

President Guy Potter Benton,  
Burlington, Vermont.

My dear President Benton;

I thank you for your earnest congratulations on the gift of a chapel by Governor Mead, but personally I feel almost equally the responsibility of erecting such a building, which has in it so great possibilities for so many years. I certainly hope that the erection of this chapel will suggest to some alumnus of the University of Vermont the similar need there, which I know was very close to President Buckham's heart, as it has been to your own.

Faithfully yours,