

October 3, 1916.

Miss Mildred D. Lusk,  
48 Berkeley Ave.,  
Newark, N. J.

My dear Miss Lusk;

I thank you very much for the joint subscription of yourself and Miss Funnell of one share of the Hudson Professorship Fund. I am very glad to have your help and hope at some time to push this matter until our alumni are all participants. It will be very satisfactory if you make the payments as you suggest.

I feel that we have had a good opening of what promises to be a very good year. Both our new chapel and Hepburn Hall are very serviceable. Of course I appreciate the chapel especially.

Marion has a delightfully beautiful day for her wedding and we are all very happy for her.

Thanking you for your good wishes, I am

Faithfully yours,

October 2, 1916.

Mr. Sanford H. Lane,  
224 Wellington St.,  
Ottawa, Canada.

My dear Mr, Lane;

I was pleased to receive your cheerful letter. I hope you will be able to come some time during the fall, for visits from you are always helpful to the boys as well as to me. There is always a good impetus at the start anyway and always a chance for a little good counsel and encouragement after things have started.

The new buildings certainly make a great difference in the life of the college. I am sure the men feel better and are better, as well as behave better, from having such a home as Newburn Hall. Life there is quite different than it used to be in the old dormitories, especially in the divisions filled with Freshmen and Sophomores. The quiet rooms and halls, the cleanliness of the building, the presence of a house mother, all help wonderfully. The dining room is very cheerful and the social room above with the fine trophies is as attractive as it is unique.

The new chapel is simply wonderful. With the organ and the choir we have an entirely different service than was ever possible before in the college. I feel keenly the responsibility and am sure that these services take more out of me.

We seem to have a good start in athletics. The boys are working nicely under Mr. Holmes. Perhaps Mr. King is a harmonizing influence. He is enthusiastic by nature and tends to keep up a good spirit. The victory over Union Saturday has put a good deal of courage into the men.

Our present enrollment is 360, 192 men and 168 women. This is a gain of 17 over the largest attendance a year ago. I think it may increase this year about 10 beyond our present registration. Two men are taking delayed examinations today and we know of several stragglers. There are at present 125 new students in the Freshman class; 71 boys and 54 girls. The Sophomore class is also the largest we have ever had, over 100.

S.H.L. 2

We have not held our old students so well for several years. One encouraging item is 37 boys from Vermont in the Freshman class. If one of those Freshmen passes his examinations the last place in Hepturn Hall will be taken. We are certainly very fortunate to fill so large a building completely the very first year.

Faithfully yours,



May 29, 1916.

Hon. A. Macdonald,

St. Regis Falls, N.Y.

My dear Mac;

I do not want to be negligent again and therefore am reminding you of the Pedagogy prizes amounting to \$50 which you have authorized us to offer this year, and for which students are now competing.

I know you have not forgotten our little friendly controversy on the arrears of this account.

I hope I shall see you this summer so that you may take a look at our new chapel and Hepburn dormitory and also that I may show you some of the Battell estate.

Faithfully yours,



662  
September 27, 1916.

Rev. Robert Gardner MacGregor,  
New Rochelle, N. Y.

My dear MacGregor;

I thank you for your kind letter and for calling my attention to the two girls from your parish, Elizabeth and Ruth Ball. I met them at the reception to incoming students last evening but will take pains to make their acquaintance more particularly. We have certainly a fine class and I hope they will enjoy their associates as well as the college.

I am very happy at the opening of this year in the use of our new chapel. It seems simply glorious to me to have such a fine building for our daily services. I take most of the Sunday services myself which is a good deal of responsibility, but a feature of the work I much enjoy.

Again let me thank you for writing me about these girls. I shall always identify them as belonging to you.

Faithfully yours,

2486

October 26, 1916.

President W. Douglas Mackenzie,  
Hartford Theological Seminary,  
Hartford, Conn.

My dear Doctor Mackenzie;

It would also be very pleasant for us to keep up the delightful relationship which you established a few years since and your suggestion that Doctor Adam might come to us is very gratifying. I know him slightly, as he came to East Orange just as I was leaving for Middlebury. You may know that we have a beautiful new chapel, a very reverent room, so that a speaker now has much better opportunity to impress our students. We have a Sunday service at five P.M. and I will at once write Doctor Adam to ask if he can come to us December 3rd or 10th.

If you felt that you could follow his visit by coming yourself later in the college year we would be most happy to welcome you. I hope you will not think me greedy. I would really like you to see our unique chapel, a pure New England meeting house with interior somewhat more in accord with modern religious feeling.

I thank you for your kind expression of interest in our work. I feel that we are constantly growing in effectiveness and academic standards, as we certainly are in material equipment and expansion of numbers.

Faithfully yours,

H.O.  
June 5, 1916.

Mr. James F. McLaboe,  
68 William St.,  
New York City.

My dear Mac;

I thank you very much for your gift to the Hudson Fund. I am sure this is a good thing to do, but it is hard to stir enthusiasm for an endowment. People like to see something as the result of their generosity. Perhaps also Middlebury alumni are not the ones who have gotten rich out of the war.

Things have gone very nicely during the year, although occasionally I have had my share of difficulty. I am happy to state the executors of the Battell estate have turned in their account and that is likely to be better systematized before long.

I hope we shall see you Commencement. I think you will be pleased with Hepburn Hall as well as the new chapel.

Faithfully yours,



40  
September 29, 1916.

James F. McNaboe, Esq.,  
68 William St.,  
New York City.

My dear Mac;

I thank you for your kind letter. I hope I am not making too much of what was doubtless merely Father Leonard's anxiety to be faithful to the interests of his parishioners. I am sure you are right that his attitude is that of sympathy and co-operation. I think it very likely that nothing more will be said of the matter, which I very much hope will be the case.

I do not know what occasioned action at the University. I do not remember to have spoken with any one on the subject except to Father Leonard the other evening. I think very likely I can ascertain the true history of the matter and will bear in mind to do so when the right occasion offers. From what I read in the papers I suspect there was a good deal of agitation and feeling connected with religious exercises in the public schools in Burlington, and that the action of the University came out of this. Benton is an inveterate "butter-in" and it would have been just like him to change the policy of the University in an endeavor to curry favor, especially as it might make his institution look a little more like a "state university". I should imagine that this was the inwardness of the matter, rather than that it was due to the initiative of Bishop Rice.

I must admit that the Head chapel makes it look as if we were doing something different in the way of religious exercises. The building is prominent and impressive. It looks more like a church than anything we have had and the organ confirms the impression. In reality, however, as I pointed out to Father Leonard, we are doing nothing new. The exercises are the same as we have always held and it is the place for the college announcements, as from time immemorial. We have simply changed to a more desirable

J.F.McN. 2

meeting place an exercise which has been held since the beginning of the college and which our catalogue states all students are required to attend.

I am very grateful for your thought on the subject and I know that you will not do too much and that whatever you do will be right. I am down as a delegate to a celebration at Rutgers about the 14th of October. I have had some thought of giving it up in order to get a little vacation, but the first time I can I will run in to see you.

Faithfully yours,



57  
June 24, 1916.

Mr. Carl A. Mead,  
55 Wall St.,  
New York City.

My dear Carl;

I received your kind letter and generous subscription of another share to the Hudson Fund during the hurry of Commencement days. I thank you very heartily.

So far I have received in writing only this pledge of yours, in addition to those previously made by the class of '91, i.e., Harrington, \$100, Mrs. Thomas, \$125. I have no doubt the verbal pledges at the class dinner are good and that the full amount of \$1000 will be subscribed. I suppose Noonan is still in town and I have in mind to take up the matter with him and see if we cannot get the whole \$1000 completed in proper form.

We had a great Commencement and I was very sorry you could not be here through it all. The Commencement dinner Wednesday was on the same high grade as the earlier exercises in the new chapel, the speeches of Mr. Elliott and Mr. Saxe being of great interest and real permanent value.

Again thanking you for your co-operation and wishing you all success, I am

Faithfully yours,



1569  
June 5, 1916.

Rev. Frazer Metzger,  
Randolph, Vermont.

My dear Mr. Metzger:

I was glad to receive your letter of June 2. If Mr. Huggard does not receive an appointment from Senator Conant, and I think it quite likely he may not, I trust he will apply for one of our college scholarships. From what I learned of him through you and Mr. Vail, I should think he would be entitled to such encouragement.

I should certainly be glad to consider an application for a college scholarship from Hollis Cooley of whom you write me. We have a fairly liberal endowment for scholarship purposes and I am glad when we can use this for our Vermont boys, in addition to the state scholarships. You will readily appreciate that often boys from the larger places outside are more prompt in making application for such aid and therefore sometimes receive the first consideration.

I enclose blanks for applications for both of these boys and if they will fill them out and return them to me promptly, I will be glad to see what we can do for them. It would be well for them to apply even if they are not certain of coming, although I hope both young men may find courage to make the start.

We should be very glad to see you at our Commencement. If you are not here then I hope some time you will get the view of the interior of our new chapel.

Faithfully yours,

Brandon, Vt. Sept. 11th., 1916.

John A. Fletcher,  
Middlebury, Vt.

Dear Sir:-

As requested I am sending you an approximate statement of the Mead Chapel Acct. There is a little more extra work to add to this account which I have not yet completed aside from that I think it is O.K.

Contract dated Jan. 11th 1915.	\$51,945.00
Extra work	
Marble Pilasters &c as per letter of Feb. 27th., 1915.	1,031.00
Rock Excavations April 17th., 1915.	382.50
Change in Tower as per letter Aug. 11th., 1915.	407.00
Change in Roofing of Spire as per letter Oct. 12, '15.	184.00
Change in the Bell Deck for Bells as per letter Oct. 12th., 1915.	309.00
Chancel Windows Backed with glass, Order of Architects.	52.50
Basement Drain Ordered by John Weeks.	98.61

CREDIT

By check on Acct.	\$45,000.00
By Chapman Lumber, 89,336 Feet @ 25.	2,233.40
By Water Proofing Back of Marble Omitted.	100.00
	-----
	\$47,333.40    \$54,409.61

Very truly yours,

Thomas W. Rogers



SEPT. 11 1916

Unlabeled amount

Left 12 161.17

59,055.08

59,216.25

Rogers bill to pay 7,041.81

Total cert value -  
six claims + surplus 66,258.06

On hand 59,288.95

paid 53,897.16 \$ 6,969.11

to pay 53,911.79 ✓

59,288.95

500.

SEPT 11 1916

5,391.79

41596.

1077.16

11222.

53897.16

1742.05

55639.21

61,031.

5,391.79 due from Rogers

See letter & statement  
left Sept 12, 1916

Rogers bill # 7041.81







Mead Memorial Chapel, Sept. 12, 1916.

Statement according to data at this time.

Amount to be given by Dr. Mead	\$61,031.
Paid by him thru College Treasurer	
	\$53,897.16
Paid direct ( Chapman )	<u>1,742.05</u>
	55,639.21
Balance	<u>35,391.79</u>

Rogers Contract.

As per his statement herewith	\$54,409.61
Paid him by college	\$45,000.
Credit on Chapman lumber deal	2,233.40
Other credit	<u>100.</u> 47,333.40
Balance	\$7,076.21

( A small amount additional to this, Mr. R. says. )

Calhoun Contract.

Contract	\$3,200.
Paid	<u>2,700.</u>
Balance	500.
Other payment to him	29.90

Tentative Resume.

Paid on account of Chapel	\$59,055.08
Add lumber payment to Chapman	1,742.05
Due Rogers ( plus ? )	7,076.21
Due Calhoun	500.
Due other ?	?
Chimes ( given by Dr. Mead )	<u>7,000.</u>
	\$75,373.34

John A. Fletcher, Treasurer.

September 19, 1916.

Hon. John A. Mead,  
Rutland, Vermont.

My dear Governor Mead;

We have our opening Thursday morning of this week at nine o'clock. All the faculty and students will be together in the new chapel and I am expected to make an opening address. I am sure it would add much to this first assembly of students in the Mead Memorial Chapel if you and Mrs. Mead could be present, especially if you could bring little John and his father and mother. I know you are very busy, and of course I would not impose it as a duty, but if you can run up we will all be very glad to see you.

I had fully expected to get down to Rutland before college opened and tell you about some of my experiences in Texas, but I have been so busy I could not find the time. I hope I can see you some time and have a good talk.

Faithfully yours,



Sept. 20, 1916.

Dr. John M. Thomas,  
Middlebury, Vt.

Dear friend:-

I have your very kind letter of the 19th and have read the same with special interest. I have just taken up this subject with Mrs. Mead and she fears she would not be able to ride up there and return as quickly as Carl and I feel we must. Thus, unless something entirely new develops, I must thank you for your very kind invitation and only give pressure of business as my excuse for not being with you, although I assure you I appreciate your kind thought and it is not impossible that I may feel I will have time to go up, although I hardly expect to now.

Mrs. Mead's special excuse is that she has heard from Mrs. Thomas about the wedding and she thinks she must go to that and will hardly try to attend both functions.

In this connection I wish also to state that I have just seen our Mr. John Hinchey, father of Frank and Fred. Mr. Spafford called me up a few days since and told me of the situation as to the above young men. Their father, grandfather and uncle, and I think one or two other members of the family are all in our employ at the shops. I saw the father at once after hearing from Mr. S. and had a long talk with him. He stated he feared it was too late, as the boys had virtually made every possible arrangement to go to Burlington. I urged him as strongly as I thought prudent, advising him of the opportunities and urged him to have the boys visit Middlebury and look over the situation. I am pleased to

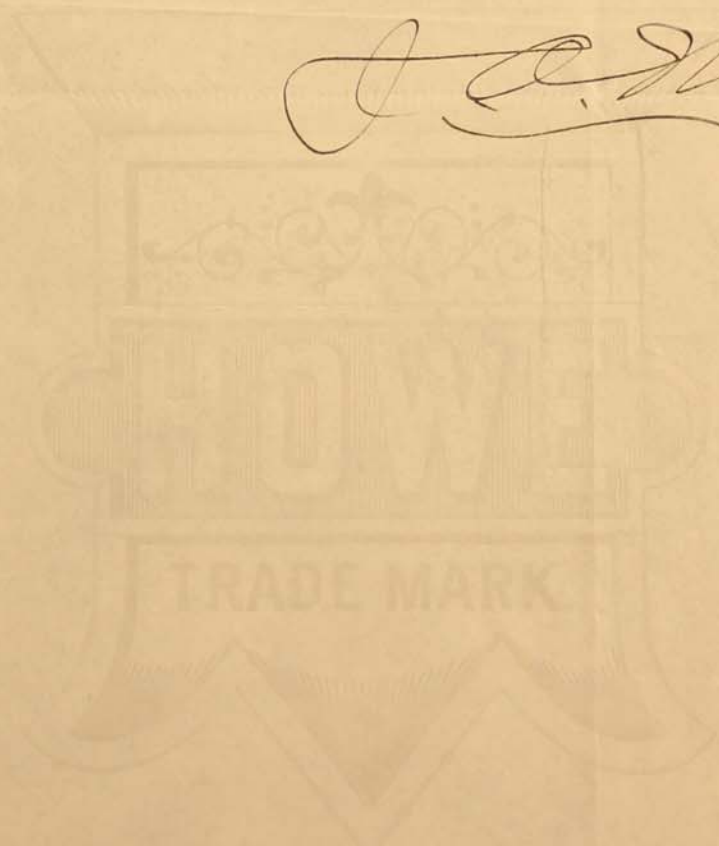
J. M. T. #2.

state that the Father came to me this morning and advised that the boys are both going to Middlebury. Thus, I am especially pleased to feel that you are to have these two fellows, as certainly they come from a hard working, industrious family and a family of a good deal more than ordinary ability. In fact, they are bright, progressive young fellows.

I should be delighted to see you at Rutland at any time that might suit your convenience, that we might talk over your experiences in Army life.

With kindest regards to Mrs. Thomas and family and best wishes to yourself, I am,

Most respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. A. Meek". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a large, faint watermark.





NINETY YEARS OF SUPERIORITY  
**MENEELY & COMPANY**

NOS. 1531-1541 BROADWAY

WATERVLIT, NEW YORK, U. S. A.

FORMERLY WEST TROY

**CHURCH, CHIME, PEAL, SCHOOL and OTHER BELLS**

THE OLD MENEELY BELL FOUNDRY

CHIMES AND PEALS SCIENTIFICALLY ATTUNED BY OUR SPECIAL IMPORTED  
INSTRUMENTS ASSURING ABSOLUTE ACCURACY

ESTABLISHED 1826

ANDREW MENEELY - - 1826

A. MENEELY & SON - - 1850

A. MENEELY & SONS - - 1851

E. A. & G. R. MENEELY - - 1863

MENEELY & CO. - - 1874

WATERVLIT, N. Y., January 7, 1916.

Dr. John M. Thomas,  
Prest. Middlebury College,  
Middlebury, Vermont.

Dear Doctor Thomas:-

We are mailing you two extra keys for the chime lock besides the one that Mr. Ernest Meneely had and which he carried back with him.

He has been quite ill since his return and the Doctor insists that he stay in bed until he entirely recovers from his severe cold.

We are glad indeed that Governor Mead, yourself and the people generally are so well pleased with the bells and we hope that you will have no difficulty in getting young men to play the bells and show them up to the very best advantage.

Very sincerely yours,

MENEELY & COMPANY, INC.

*A. C. Meneely*  
Assistant Secretary.





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**MENEELY & COMPANY**

NOS. 1531-1541 BROADWAY  
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2848

WATERVLIET, N. Y., January 13, 1916.

Dr. John M. Thomas,  
 Pres. Middlebury College,  
 Middlebury, Vermont.

Dear Doctor Thomas:-

I am mailing under separate cover a book containing the three College songs that I transposed for the Chimes, "The Chimes of Trinity" and about forty of my best pieces of chime music both Sacred and Secular.

These are all transposed into the key of the Chime and are also numbered hence it makes no difference whether the chimer plays by note or number.

I think you will find this book a great improvement over the one you have and wish I could have made it sooner but have been confined to the house with a very severe cold.

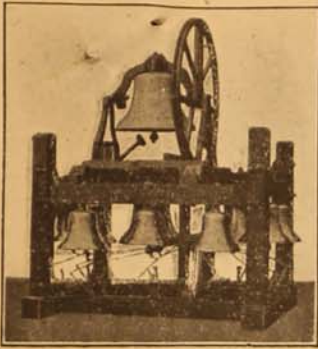
With my respects and best wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

*Ernest Meneely*

Secretary of

MENEELY & COMPANY.



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*2848 act. OK.*

WATERVLIET, N. Y., February 9, 1916.

Dr. John M. Thomas,  
Prest. Middlebury College,  
Middlebury, Vermont.

Dear Dr. Thomas:-

We remitted to Mr. Rogers several weeks ago for his work in connection with the erection of the bells, and for cutting and filling in the openings in the lower portions of the tower. We now have his advice that he has painted the chime frame, work he was to do for us as soon as weather and conditions permitted. This, we believe, finishes all our work at the Chapel in connection with the chime. Kindly let us know so that we can write to Dr. Mead to that effect.

The marked article herewith from the "Register" of January 7th. is, we presume, from your pen (typewriter). If yes, have we permission to attach your name to the matter for our use?

With our very best wishes for our friends in The Green Mountain State, believe us to be

Very sincerely yours,  
MENEELY & COMPANY, INC.

*Andrew H. Meneely*  
President.





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MENEELY & CO.	- -	1874

WATERVLIET, N. Y.. February 16, 1916.

Dr. John M. Thomas,  
Middlebury College,  
Middlebury, Vermont.

Dear Dr. Thomas:-

Dr. Mead closed up the account for the bells several days ago. We will not forget that we still have something to do for you at commencement time.

With our best wishes

Very sincerely yours,  
MENEELY & CO., (INC.)

*Andrew H. Meneely*  
President.





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WATERVLIET, N. Y., February 18, 1916.

Dr. John M. Thomas,  
Middlebury College,  
Middlebury, Vermont.

Dear Dr. Thomas:-

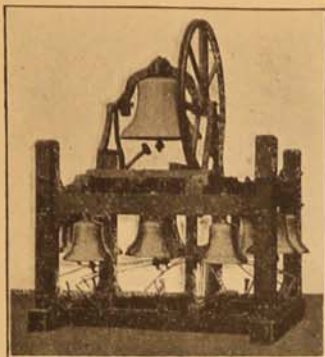
We are in receipt of your favor of the 15th inst. from Daytona, Florida, in which you give us permission to use the note from the Register of January 7th over your name.

We appreciate the favor very much indeed, and trusting you are having an enjoyable vacation, we remain

Very sincerely yours,  
MENEELY & COMPANY, INC.

*Andrew H. Meneely*

President.



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WATERVLIET, N. Y., March 31, 1916.

Dr. John M. Thomas,  
Pres. Middlebury College,  
Middlebury, Vermont.

Dear Dr. Thomas:-

In looking over our electrotypes for your programme we find we have the following in hand and would like to know which ones you would prefer to use so that we can pack them and lay them aside ready to mail you when you want them.

✓ Cut marked No. 1 we have, also the same picture 5 3/8" x 4 1/2" we are not particularly in favor of this picture. Cut marked No. 2 is, we think, an excellent cut and we can supply that in this size but this size only.

The console picture (No. 3) is a good cut but does not give any idea of the size - when we are putting up chimes our men are continually being asked about that console even where the people have the program with this picture in it.

✓ We have just had some cuts made up like the post-card photo enclosed herewith which being an absolute picture of the undersigned playing a set of bells gives an exact idea of how it is done.

We would like to have your decision on this matter as soon as possible so as to get this matter settled.

With our respects and best wishes, we remain

Very truly yours,

MENEELY & CO., INC.

*Ernest A. Meneely*

Secretary.



**Meneely & Company, Watervliet, (West Troy), N. Y.**

Founders of the World Famous Meneely Bells

Established 1826 by Andrew Meneely

#2

Dr. John M. Thomas.

These with the two college songs put in anywhere you  
please will take just about an hour to play.

Hoping that this will be entirely satisfactory, we are

Very truly yours,

MENEELY & CO., INC.

*Ernest A. Meneely*

Secretary.



2848  
April 1, 1916.

Mr. Ernest A. Meneely,  
Watervliet, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Meneely;

I am glad to have your letter with reference to cuts for the commencement program.

I think we shall wish a program something like the University of Washington and would be glad to use cut No. 2 and also a cut like the picture post card.

We have also a cut of the chapel, of which I enclose copy, and may wish to include a picture of Governor Mead.

I have arranged with Estey & Company for an organ recital Sunday evening and a brief recital each day during Commencement. We will plan for the recitals on the bells in connection.

Thanking you for keeping us in mind of this matter, I am

Faithfully yours,



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WATERVLIET, N. Y., April 4, 1916.

Dr. John M. Thomas,  
Pres. Middlebury College,  
Middlebury, Vermont.

Dear Doctor Thomas:-

Your favor of the 1st inst. is received and we have put up in a package the electro of chimes and of the undersigned playing the chimes; you may also use, if you wish, the electro of the console.

The cut you sent us of the Chapel is very beautiful and should by all means be used in the programme and Governor Mead's picture if he will allow it.

Mr. Haynor of the Troy Times Art Section is very anxious to get the picture of the Chapel and will publish at an early date an illustrated article about it, the bells, etc. He was talking to us about this last Friday and we think has already written you for data and such photographs or electrotypes as you might care to let them publish.

We have just escaped a serious flood here and hope that with favorable weather the immense amount of snow will go out without the disastrous results of 1913.

Hoping that you are enjoying the beautiful Spring weather that we have here at present, we are

Very sincerely yours,

MENEELY & CO., (INC.)

*Ernest Meneely*  
Secretary.



2849  
April 12, 1916.

Mr. Ernest A. Meneely,  
Watervliet, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Meneely;

We have quite a bunch of boys trying out for chimera. The interest is keen and some of them do very well. I have told them that we ought to decide the matter about the last of next week, possibly Thursday.

It occurs to me that it would be better for us and fairer to the boys if you would come up here and select the man you think shows the most skill and promise. At the same time you could give some instruction to those who are selected. You could also adjust the bells. One of the rods was broken after you left and I am not sure it has been put back quite right. I think the college ought to pay your traveling expenses and hotel bill if you would be so kind as to do this favor for us.

I have not yet heard from Mr. Raynor but can send the data and photographs if he desires.

Faithfully yours,

The Troy Times,  
ESTATE OF  
Charles S. Francis

Troy, N. Y., April 12, 1913.

Dr. John Thomas,  
President, Middlebury College,  
Middlebury, VT.

Dear Sir:-

We would be very pleased to publish a picture of the new Mead Memorial Chapel at Middlebury in an early issue of The Troy Times Saturday Art Section, if you are willing to send us a photograph of the building and a description of the same for this purpose.

Thanking you for such courtesy as you may extend, I am

Yours very truly,

*Rutherford Hayner*

Editor of Troy Times Art Section.





NINETY YEARS OF SUPERIORITY  
**MENEELY & COMPANY**

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WATERVLIET, NEW YORK, U. S. A.  
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THE OLD MENEELY BELL FOUNDRY

CHIMES AND PEALS SCIENTIFICALLY ATTUNED BY OUR SPECIAL IMPORTED  
INSTRUMENTS ASSURING ABSOLUTE ACCURACY

WATERVLIET, N. Y., April 14, 1916.

Dr. John M. Thomas,  
Middlebury College,  
Middlebury, Vermont.

Dear Doctor Thomas:-

Your favor of the 12th inst. was received by me late last night on my return from putting up two bells in the Italian Catholic Church, Albany.

I am very sorry to say that my entire time is taken for next week placing Easter bells, having first to go to Massachusetts to put up a big bell, then as soon as I get back from there, go to Yonkers, N. Y. to put up a medium sized bell and adjust the lever strokes on our enormous low C chime in St. Mary's Church.

I could come during the week after Easter - Thursday or Friday or any time thereafter that would be convenient for you.

I just talked with Mr. Haynor of the Troy Times, he says that he wrote you this week and that you undoubtedly have his letter by now.

I am sorry that I cannot come to Middlebury when you want me but hope that the later date suggested will be all right.

Sincerely yours,

*Ernest A. Meneely*  
Secretary of

Meneely & Co., Inc.

2848  
April 18, 1916.

Mr. E. A. Meneely,  
Meneely & Co.,  
Watervliet, N., Y.

My dear Mr. Meneely;

I received your letter of April 14.

I am sorry you cannot be with us this week, but I do not think we ought to keep the boys waiting and trying too long and therefore I guess we will make our own decision as best we can.

Of course we should be glad to see you any time when you want to try out the bells again and we are looking forward to your visit at Commencement.

I have received Mr. Haynor's letter and will try to get the material to him promptly.

Faithfully yours,





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2948

WATERVLIET, N. Y., April 24, 1916.

Dr. John M. Thomas,  
Middlebury College,  
Middlebury, Vermont.

Dear Doctor Thomas:-

Your favor of the 18th was received by me Saturday but as I had to get to Albany for rehearsal for Easter music in St. Peter's Episcopal Church, I didnot have time to answer.

I am sorry indeed that I could not comply with your request but really am glad that you decided to judge the best player or players yourself. I feel that I would a great deal rather have you do that.

I am reserving the dates that you want me to come up at Commencement time and look forward to my visit to your beautiful town with a great deal of pleasure.

Under separate cover I am mailing a copy of the Troy Times of last week and have marked the part in the Art Section regarding the Chimes. Mr. Haynor said that he thought he would run this now and the article and pictures that you will send him at a later date preferably just before Commencement. If you care for a few more of these papers I have some left which I will gladly send you.

With my best wishes, and respects, I am

Very truly yours,

*Ernest Meneely*  
Secretary of

MENEELY & CO., INC.





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*Dr. John M. Thomas,  
Middlebury College,  
Middlebury, Vt.,*

WATERVLIET, N. Y., *May 23, 1916.*

*Dear Doctor Thomas,*

*I have recently looked all through our  
correspondence to find out exactly what  
date you expect me at Middlebury for the  
Commencement Exercises. The only date I  
find is in one of the early letters in which  
you stated you would want me to come  
ABOUT the 30<sup>th</sup> of June.*

*My reason for wanting to know definitely  
is that on the 19<sup>th</sup> my fiance is to graduate  
from College and if there is any possible  
way for me to do it I want to be here  
for that event.*

*Please let me know at your convenience  
just what the plans are*

*Very sincerely yours*

*Ernest Meneely.*



NEW YORK  
PHILADELPHIA  
BOSTON  
ST. LOUIS  
LONDON



J. G. ESTEY  
PRESIDENT  
J. H. ESTEY  
TREASURER

## ESTEY ORGAN COMPANY

CABLE ADDRESS  
"ESTEY" BRATTLEBORO

BRATTLEBORO, VERMONT, U.S.A.

May 24, 1916.

Dr. John M. Thomas,  
Middlebury, Vt.

Dear Sir:

We have your favor of the 23rd. We were beginning to get a bit uneasy in regard to shipping the organ and therefore, concluded not to wait for your further advice and had the organ packed and shipped on Monday.

Will you be kind enough to telegraph our Boston Office as soon as the organ arrives in Middlebury?

Yours very truly,

Estey Organ Company.

By

Dict. JGE-G



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WATERVLIET, N. Y., June 2, 1916.

Dr. John M. Thomas,  
Middlebury College,  
Middlebury, Vermont.

Dear Dr. Thomas:-

I received your favor of the 24th ult. but have delayed answering until I could correspond with Mr. Milks, Chimer of St. Peter's Church, Albany.

I tried to arrange so that I could come up Saturday attend to the adjustment you spoke of in a previous communication, play the recital Sunday then have him come up for the other days; or just Monday and Tuesday morning. He just notified me that he cannot be sure he can do it, so he thinks I better not count on him.

Anyway you can go ahead with your plans being sure that some representative of the firm will be there to play the bells the 18th, 20th and 21st and perhaps the 19th.

We are mailing under separate cover the electros needed for the program.

Very truly yours,

*Ernest Meneely*  
Secretary of

Meneely & Co., Inc.





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Dr. John M. Thomas,

WATERVLIET, N. Y., June 9, 1916.

Middlebury College,

Middlebury, Vermont.

Dear Doctor Thomas:-

We are just in receipt of your Secretary's favor of the 8th inst. regarding Chime Program for Tuesday, June 20th.

The writer understood you to say regarding the recitals that you were going to follow the University of Washington program so that in case you have mislaid the copy you had, we are mailing another to you.

The music that was used there that for various reasons is undesirable on your chime we have crossed off.

Any of the hymns that are in the manuscript book which we sent you can be substituted for these.

The secular pieces on this program that are not crossed off are excellent on bells and you will undoubtedly want to use the College tunes that we transposed for you.

We would say that a good program for The recital of Tuesday would be as follows, you of course, can change it to suit yourself.

Westminster Chime Quarters, 4 o'clock (or whatever hour the recital is to  
Ring out Wild Bells take place)  
Flow Gently, Sweet Afton  
Suwanee River  
Columbia, Gem of the Ocean *the*  
Stars of a Summer Night  
The Bridal March (Lohengrin)  
The Chimes of Trinity  
My Old Kentucky Home  
Old Black Joe  
Hail Middlebury  
All thro' the night  
Marching through Georgia  
Wearin' o' the Green  
Home Sweet Home  
America





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WATERVLIET, N. Y., June 12, 1916.

Dr. John M. Thomas,  
Middlebury College,  
Middlebury, Vt.

Dear Doctor Thomas:-

Will you please let me know at once the hour at which the Chimes Recital are to take place Sunday and Tuesday?

I desire this information to decide what train to take Saturday and also whether or not it is advisable to come down for Monday.

Later in the week I wish you would mail a rough copy of the programme so that I could lay out and practice my music.

Very truly yours,

MENEELY & CO., INC.

*Crest Meneely*  
Secretary.



2848

June 13, 1916.

Mr. Ernest A. Meneely,

Watervliet, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Meneely;

I enclose copy of the chimes program sufficient to give you the hours and selections. You will note that for the occasions when only a short program is called for, I have not specified selections. Of course it will be possible to arrange such changes as may be requested or desired.

I trust this information will be sufficient.

Faithfully yours,



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WATERVLIET, N. Y. June 15, 1916.

Dr. John M. Thomas,  
Pres. Middlebury College,  
Middlebury, Vermont.

Dear Dr. Thomas:-

Your favors of the 13th and 14th to Ernest were received promptly. He was obliged to leave for Connecticut on Tuesday but should arrive home either tonight or early tomorrow morning.

Wishing you all success in your plans for Commencement and with our best wishes, we remain

Very truly yours,  
MENEELY & CO., INC.

*Andrew H. Meneely*

President.

AHM - VM





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WATERVLIET, N. Y..

June 27, 1916.

*sent program EFB*

Dr. John M. Thomas,  
Pres. Middlebury College,  
Middlebury, Vt.

Dear Dr. Thomas:-

Have you a dozen or more copies of the leaflet  
" The Dedication of the Mead Memorial Chapel" that you can spare? If  
yes, we will be pleased to receive the same. The cut from the  
architects sketch shows something of the dignity and massiveness of the  
Chapel.

We wish for you and your family better weather for  
your vacation than you had for Commencement.

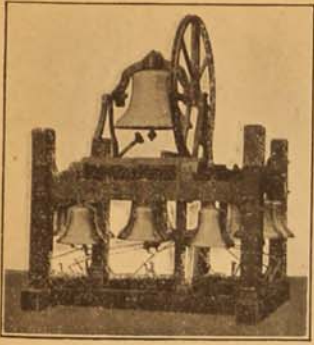
With best wishes and expressing our appreciation of  
all favors shown, we remain

Very sincerely yours,  
MENEELY & CO., (INC.)

*Andrew H. Meneely*

President.





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*ack,*

WATERVLIET, N. Y., October 7, 1916.

Dr. John M. Thomas,  
Prest. Middlebury College,  
Middlebury, Vermont.

Dear Dr. Thomas:-

Dr. W. A. Shanklin, Prest. of Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn., has been promised the funds for a chime of bells, and, from the letters received, we judge that those interested are in much the state of mind that you and Dr. Mead were before you had finally decided to place the order with us.

If not asking too much, will you kindly write to Dr. Shanklin detailing something of your experience and commenting upon the quality of the work we furnished and our methods of business. If you so write, we would like to have you send a carbon of the letter to Mr. S. H. Olin, Chmn. Comm. on Buildings and Grounds, 34 Nassau St., New York City, and a second carbon to us.

As you doubtless appreciate, the selling part of our business is a difficult proposition, and we can only hope that in doing our work well and better than anyone else does, we merit good words from those we serve.

On account of the advance that has taken place in the price for copper since your order was placed we will ask you to say nothing of the figures we were quoting last year.

Thanking you in advance for any favor you can show us, and with our respects and best wishes, we remain

Very sincerely yours,

MENEELY & CO., INC.

*Andrew H. Meneely* President. Middlebury-001190



October 13, 1916.

Mr. Andrew H. Meneely,

Watervliet, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Meneely;

I have been away on a little vacation for several days and have only now found time to write to Doctor Shanklin. I enclose carbon of my letter and am also sending one to Mr. Olin as you request. I might perhaps have been more extravagant in my language, but I think this sort of a letter will bring fully as useful to you.

Wishing you all success, I am

Faithfully yours,



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WATERVLIET, N. Y., October 16, 1916.

Dr. John M. Thomas,  
Middlebury College,  
Middlebury, Vermont.

Dear Dr. Thomas:-

We appreciate your kindness in writing to President Shanklin of Wesleyan University, and to Mr. Olin, their Chmn. of Comm. on Buildings and Grounds.

The fact that Middlebury has a chime seems to have been quite widely circulated among those in charge of other Colleges and Universities - just how we do not know - as we have had a number of inquiries in which reference is made to your bells.

President Shanklin can make actual comparisons quite easily. New Britain is only a few miles from Middletown and the South Congregational Church there has a great chime of 14 bells, largest 4300 lbs. The organist of the Church is a Wesleyan graduate. Christ Church, New Haven, has a chime of the same size. Christ Church, Hartford, has a chime of 12 bells, largest 3500 lbs. - there is a smaller chime in the same city.

We shipped a chime to Philadelphia last week - our seventh set for the city proper and one of its suburbs; and received this week an order for a chime of 11 bells for St. Matthew's Cathedral, Laramie, Wyoming.

Thanking you for your favor at this time and for your kindness in the past, we remain

Very sincerely yours,

MENEELY & CO., INC.

*Andrew H. Meneely*

Middlebury-001192  
President.



November 16, 1916.

Dr. John M. Thomas,  
Middlebury College,  
Middlebury, Vt.

My Dear Friend:-

I have just received your very kind letter of the 15th inst., and have read the same with special interest and am pleased that the suggestion I made ~~you~~ meets with your approval. I confess that I was hoping that with something of this kind being done, it might stimulate some of our friends to pattern after Mr. Hepburn's example and give you an elegant dormatory for the girls or possibly something else which you might more desire at this time.

I shall be delighted to see a copy of the manuscript to which you refer and if I knew where it was to be printed, I might have, perhaps, a few copies struck off for my personal use. I almost feared you would think my writing you was a suggestion that you might use the material I have accumulated for the purpose which I suggested and for this reason I hesitated about writing you. But when you suggested Prof. Wright's assisting you, possibly it would not be so great a burden to yourself, as I feel strongly there is no one who could undertake this with such assured success as would you and Prof. Wright. Should any new plates or suchlike be desired to make the same more pleasing, I trust you will advise me and I will be more than willing to furnish the same. I do not know whether Tuttle Co. could do this job possibly as well as some others, and yet they might. If we undertake it, I should hope we might get the

Dr. J. M. T. #2.

very best. I have a few papers which I have accumulated in a large envelope and if you desire, I shall be very willing to send you the same any time you may suggest.

With very kindest remembrance to Mrs. Thomas and family, also to Prof. Wright and family, believe me,

Yours sincerely,

*J. A. Mead*





November 17, 1916.

Hon. John A. Mead,  
Rutland, Vermont

My dear Governor Mead;

I am very glad to have your good letter of November 16th and am much pleased that you think so favorably of getting out a little book on the chapel. If you will send the material you have collected to me Professor Wright and I will go over it as soon as possible and block out a plan of the material, but of course we will submit it to you before preparation of the manuscript. I have spoken with him about it and he is very willing to help all he can, and is as much pleased with your thought as I am.

I think we ought to take sufficient time to consider the various portions of the material very carefully. Professor Wright is at work at odd moments now in preparation of the ~~catalogue~~ and I have several appointments in the near future, but we can give some time to it at once and I should suppose that in the Christmas vacation we could bring the manuscript to completion.

In addition to the material of which I wrote you there are a number of articles from the Rutland Herald and from a number of other Vermont papers, including the Herald's account of the first ringing of the chimes, which I should think would be very nice to include. Doubtless you have more of this material than I, but I have kept what I could in a scrap book.

The little book of which I wrote you was to be only a bound manuscript, not a printed volume. I thought you might still value it as being unique and prepared especially for you. It will be sent to you as soon as it comes from the binder.

Governor Mead, 2

We will have plenty of time to consider the question of where the book shall be printed. I am glad you have in mind the quality of the work, and there should certainly be some illustrations, including the interior as well as the exterior of the chapel.

One can never tell in what manner such a publication will influence others. It may put a suggestion in some one's mind which will bear fruit only after many years. I have often thought that perhaps I should give more attention to the issuing of reports and bulletins setting forth the needs and possibilities of development of the college. We have made such progress that I fear some have the idea that we have attained our growth, which is of course far from the case. Our accommodations for girls are crowded to the limit and we cannot receive a larger number unless we can provide for them, as we have not found boarding in the village satisfactory. We also need a new arrangement of our administrative offices in the old chapel, as they are now scattered very inconveniently, and I fear this would necessitate another recitation building, preferably for History and Political Science. I want we should at least discuss these matters thoroughly at the trustee meeting in New York January 26th, since there is no telling what possible benefactor some one of the trustees may be able to influence.

Again let me thank you for your kind and helpful suggestion and your kind remembrances to my family. With cordial regards to Mrs. Mead and yourself, I am

Faithfully yours,



Rutland, Vt., Nov. 18, 1916.

Dr. John M. Thomas,  
President, Middlebury College,  
Middlebury, Vt.

My Dear Friend:-

This A. M. I received your long letter of the 17th and have read it for the second time with special interest, and have just spent half an hour or so gathering a mass of material pertaining to the chapel, which has been accumulated during the last two years or more and which possibly you may find, some of it at least, of use in the compiling of the little book to which you refer. I have not been over the same at all carefully, so without question you will find quite a few duplicates and a large mass of material which you cannot use in any way. I would simply suggest that you and Professor Wright use your own good judgment in every instance. I have sent you many letters, clippings from different papers, etc., etc., all in a mass without any arrangement as to dates or in any otherwise has it been arranged to be convenient for you.

You state that you think during "the Christmas vacation" you might have time to "whip this all into shape." I surely hope you will not burden yourself with this matter, as there is no very great haste. I should much prefer to have you take plenty of time and thus have the same entirely to your satisfaction when it is complete. I have said nothing to Mrs. Mead yet about "the little book" to which you refer, which is to be in the form of a manuscript - still I know that she will be greatly pleased with the same.

As to illustrations, I hope you will just arrange as many as



(J. M. T. #2)

you think will add in any way to the interest of this subject. To be frank with you, I have special hopes that it may be productive of great good to our college, as I do feel that others can be made specially interested in our Alma Mater, and that the full history and description of the chapel should induce others to lend a helping hand. We will have it published in the very best shape possible and I should be more than willing to distribute it very thoroughly among those, at least, whom I could expect would be interested. As you state, the chances for a dormitory for the girls I think would be very much increased with some such little advertisement as we could give to the college along these lines.

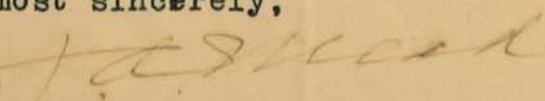
You refer to the other buildings which no doubt you should have and I am sure they will come in due time.

Referring to the meeting in New York on Jan. 26th; if you could advise me of your plans so that we could all work in harmony, I am sure much better results might be obtained. If a large board like that of your trustees gathers without any special previous information as to what the necessities are, it does not appeal to me that they can do nearly as good work. I shall endeavor to be present and trust that I may see you previous to that meeting and to learn what your wishes are and to be enabled to be of some assistance.

Kindly remember me to Mrs. Thomas and your family, also to Professor Wright and family, and President Brainerd and family, believe me,

Yours most sincerely,

*P. S. Same & return to me what you will not care to use it may be from to den do with nothing else*



P. S. I will endeavor to send this material either by express or parcel post and get it to you by Monday or Tuesday of next week.



724  
November 24, 1916.

Hon. John A. Mead,  
Rutland, Vermont.

My dear Governor Mead;

I was very glad to receive your letter of November 18th and the material concerning the chapel. I have looked this over only very hurriedly but I can see that we shall be able to produce a very worthy book and one that will be interesting to all the friends of the college and I think also very useful. Professor Wright is still busy with the catalogue, but I am sure in due time we shall both enjoy getting at the preparation of the manuscript.

We have invited the village churches to hold their usual union Thanksgiving service in the chapel Thanksgiving morning at ten o'clock. They seemed very glad to come. The sermon will be preached by the Congregational pastor, Mr. Newell. Of course many of our students will be home and some will not attend the service, but I think we shall have a fair number. Now we would like it very much if you and Mrs. Mead and the others down to little John could run up Thanksgiving Day and attend the service and stay on for your Thanksgiving dinner at Hepburn Hall. It would give us all a great deal of pleasure, but the least the students.

I want to thank you for your suggestion as to previous information and co-operation before the trustee meeting. I have often thought I should send out some form of a report or statement calling attention to the questions to be presented at the meeting, but your suggestion has enforced the idea which I think I should certainly carry out.

Faithfully yours,

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE,  
THE HOWE SCALE COMPANY,  
RUTLAND, VERMONT.

Rutland, Vt., Nov. 25, 1916.

Doctor John M. Thomas,  
Middlebury, Vt.

My Dear Friend:-

Many thanks for your very kind letter of the 24th, at hand this morning. I am pleased to learn that the material concerning the chapel has proved of interest to you, although, as I stated in former letter, it was bunched up very hastily without any reference to dates, etc. etc.

We all appreciate your invitation to be present at the Thanksgiving exercises and also at the dinner. I hardly know just what the programme is, <sup>material</sup> but I have heard hints that Mrs. Mead and Mrs. Hinsman have been making some arrangements as to the same. I assure you it would afford me special pleasure could I be with you on the occasion referred to, though with Mrs. Mead's poor health I am sure she would not dare undertake the journey, and should we go, it would simply mean leaving her at Rutland alone.

As to the suggestions with reference to the New York trustees' meeting, you will pardon me for having offered any whatever, but some forty odd years of experience <sup>has</sup> taught me one lesson which I have always endeavored to appreciate, viz., that where there is a large board of trustees or directors, I have almost invariably selected three or four for whose judgment I had the greatest respect and who were thoroughly interested, and who were in shape to do things, so to speak, and then keep them in line with what seemed to me specially advisable, and I do feel that the same rule will work very nicely with you, though you will pardon my making this suggestion. You know all the circum-

Middlebury-001200



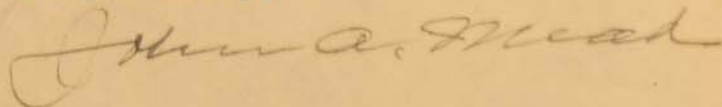
(J. M. T. #2)

stances, everything you have to build upon, and can discount the future to far greater extent than those of us who are but very poorly informed, so to speak, as to the whole situation, and thus it seems to me you should take the part of leader and then select two or three others, to endorse and back up your suggestions, when you come to the general board meeting. To go into the meeting of a large board, each one perhaps with peculiar ideas and with no definite programme in their own minds whatever, they are apt to get started in the wrong direction and perhaps will do far more harm than they can possibly do good. You have some strong men on your board and men who are specially interested and able to do things if it is necessary. I think Mr. Hepburn is one of them. As to the general management of affairs, Ex-President Brainerd is a good second. Mr. Partridge, with his knowledge of law and varied experience, is another strong man. And with these men fully advised of your wishes and the general situation, I can but feel that you would accomplish more in your board meetings than you would to gather without any special endorsement of what your plans might be as to the future.

Pardon me for all this, but believe me sincerely interested in the future of yourself and Middlebury College.

With very kindest regards to your family and yourself, believe me,

Yours most respectfully,



P. S. I am enclosing a very old document signed by former President Madison. I do not know whether this would be of any interest whatever in your library. If so, you are surely welcome to the same.

November 28, 1916.

Hon. John A. Mead,  
Rutland, Vermont.

My dear Governor;

I was very glad to have your letter of November 25th. I had not realized that I was making plans to separate the family on Thanksgiving Day and I would hardly have the heart to ask you to come without Mrs. Mead. If it should turn out so that she could be with us even for part of the time, we would do all we could to make it comfortable for her. At any rate we shall be there for the union service at ten o'clock and the Thanksgiving dinner at Hepburn Hall. You will be interested to know that Mr. Hepburn has sent word that the turkey and fixings shall be "on him" on this occasion.

I want to thank you for the interesting document with the signature of President Madison. This will be much appreciated by Professor Wetherell who gives special attention to American history, as well as to the library.

I think your suggestions as to members of our Board with whom to confer on important matters before our meeting are wise and I will try to get things into shape to present them. The trouble is that people will not let me alone as to making outside addresses and it is hard to find the time for consecutive work in order to give general oversight of the college here. I refuse a good many but there are others from people to whom I am under obligation, and it keeps me going.

I want to make a little study of the comparative resources of our college as compared with such institutions as Williams, Amherst and Bowdoin. I think it will show that we have a good deal still to do.

Hoping that I may see you, if not Thanksgiving Day, in the near future, and wishing you all a very joyous holiday, I am

Faithfully yours,



PRESIDENT'S OFFICE,  
THE HOWE SCALE COMPANY,  
RUTLAND, VERMONT.

Rutland, Vt., Nov. 29, 1916.

Doctor John M. Thomas,  
C/o Middlebury College,  
Middlebury, Vt.

My Dear Friend:-

Your very kind favor of the 28th is before me this morning, referring particularly to the ceremonies for Thanksgiving Day. I regret beyond expression that Mrs. Mead took a very severe cold on Monday last and has been suffering quite severely since. Last night she had a very poor night, sleeping but very little, and this morning we find her with quite a high fever, and I do feel <sup>that</sup> it would not be safe for her to leave the house under any circumstances as she appeared to me this morning. She is very much weaker than one would naturally think to meet her for a few moments. I sincerely hope that you will all have a most enjoyable Thanksgiving party and surely I feel proud of Mr. Hepburn as one of us and <sup>that he</sup> is so situated that he can be as liberal as he apparently is, and in addition that he has the means to do these kind things. It is that class of men that I feel you want upon your board of directors and not a lot of deadwood, with no personal allusions.

Pardon me for stating again or perhaps repeating what I have said many times, that you, (surrounded with your professors,) with President Brainerd, etc., know exactly what the necessities of the college are and my thought would be, then, to surround yourself with those people of the means and of the disposition of Mr. Hepburn. In that way you have the two necessary conditions for helping Middlebury and doing those things for her which certainly you and all the rest of us would feel so proud of <sup>at</sup> being connected with <sup>& apart of</sup> our old Alma Mater.



(J.M.T. #2)

I am pleased that you consider favorably the suggestions which I have made, as I do feel that they will be a great help to you. It will relieve you during the meetings which are to be held, by allowing somebody else to take the initiative, introducing such measures, etc., and discussing them as would meet entirely your approval. I realize and I think it is natural that our friends are calling upon you upon all occasions for public addresses, etc., etc; but this leads me to another thought, viz., that the Lord has gifted you to a very great extent with ability to formulate and deliver these addresses in a manner which probably excels that of any other person in our state. I would only simply add that whenever you appear you are doing a great good to the college beyond any question, but I would not accept so many invitations that you cannot do full justice to yourself. Could you so govern these affairs that when you did deliver an address, that everybody would say that that was the very best and no one could do better, I do not believe it is in the power of man to be <sup>at any</sup> doing the very best thing and have to do it too often, but these remarks are unnecessary on my part, as you appreciate all this far better than I or better than I could express it. *am*

I feel proud of Middlebury and I want to see her, as our boys would say, "on the map" good and strong, and that this condition shall be such that as the years roll by, her position among the New England colleges will be stronger and stronger. Pardon me for all this.

Wishing you all a very pleasant occasion on Thanksgiving Day and with very kindest regards to Mrs. Thomas and family and all our friends, believe me,

Your friend, sincerely,

*John A. Thomas*  
Middlebury-001204



Rutland, Vt., Dec. 6, 1916.

Doctor John M. Thomas,  
C/o Middlebury College,  
Middlebury, Vt.

My Dear Friend:-

I received a copy of the booklet pertaining to the Mead Memorial Chapel and have reviewed the same with the greatest of pleasure, and wish to thank you for your kindness in this matter. It is something that both Mrs. Mead and I shall prize very highly, as in fact this chapel will be one of the milestones on the way of life, which will mark an important period in our short history. As I understand, this is a copy for us to keep.

Thanking you again for your very kind thought in this matter and with very best wishes to Mrs. Thomas and all mutual friends, I remain, as ever,

Yours sincerely,

*J. A. Mead*  
*Do I understand that Prof Wright*  
*assisted in compiling this book.*  
*As I want to represent him in my gratitude*



DEC 7 1916

Dear President Thomas,

May I trouble you  
once more to have the Prof.  
send me one of the pictures  
of the Corner Stone Ceremony  
he call it the "Smiling one"  
John, his Grandfather, and  
Father in the foreground  
and Dr. Bradford with his  
hand on his lip at the right  
The Booklet on the Tread  
Memorial Chapel is very  
beautiful and much appreciated



Thanking you in advance  
for the courtesy in regard  
to the film which I would  
like as soon as convenient  
I remain with love to all

Faithfully Yours Friend  
Mary S. Mead.

The Homestead

December 7, 1916.

December 8, 1916.

Hon. John A. Mead,  
Rutland, Vermont.

My dear Governor;

When I was in Rutland some weeks ago you very kindly spoke of your willingness to help us in the matter of hymn boards, which should be a very nice addition to our chapel equipment. I took up the matter with Mr. Collens, the architect, and he stated that we would not want to put in our chapel any stock design but should have something especially prepared to harmonize with the interior. He prepared sketches of two designs, and I enclose the blue print which he sent me. I asked him to get estimates on two boards of each design and I have just received the figures. The more elaborate boards with the angel's head would cost \$115 for the two. The plainer ones would come to \$60. There would be some additional cost, for express and setting up in the chapel, card board letters, and architect's commission of 15% for making the designs. This would add say about \$25.

Mr. Collens strongly recommends the more elaborate and expensive boards and hopes you will want to install them. I have great respect for his judgment and taste and certainly he has given us a beautiful chapel, and any little addition we make to it ought to be of the best, both in design and workmanship. At the same time, I confess that I like the simpler design better, and that irrespective of cost. It seems to me more appropriate for our chapel. Mr. Collens says that the angel's head does not look well in the blue print because the whites are reversed. You may agree with him and certainly we shall be very pleased to have either of these beautiful boards in the chapel. They would help greatly in both our daily and Sunday service.

I may say that the estimate for the simpler board is from the Derryfield Company of New Hampshire, which made the finish. That on the other board is from a wood carver in Boston. I have no doubt that either would do a very good job under the direction of Mr.



Governor Mead, 2

Collens. He plans they should be placed in quite a prominent panel in the chancel.

I am very glad you are pleased with the little book concerning the chapel and I hope you will find it a pleasant reminder. The credit for the compilation and for the neat work belongs to the secretary in my office, Miss Ethel F. Bartlett. Professor Wright has the material you sent up and he tells me he is sure we can make a very attractive and interesting book.

I have not forgotten your willingness to go over a few matters to be presented at the meeting in New York and when I can get things in a little better shape I want to present my suggestions for your consideration. I expect to be in New York next week and hope to have a good talk with Mr. Hepburn.

Faithfully yours,

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE,  
THE HOWE SCALE COMPANY,  
RUTLAND, VERMONT.

Rutland, Vt., Dec. 9, 1916.

Doctor John M. Thomas,  
C/o Middlebury College,  
Middlebury, Vt.

My Dear Friend:-

Yours of the 8th inst., with enclosure, at hand. I have read your letter with interest and should be more than willing to leave the judgment in this matter to yourself, though I must confess to you, as you state, that at the same money I should prefer the simpler board. I note that these are to be obtained from the Deerfield Company of New Hampshire and possibly it would be as well for you to negotiate with them, as the figures are all specified and you would know exactly what conditions would be necessary as to the finish, etc., etc.

Hoping that you may have the same at an early date and that it may be entirely satisfactory, I am,

Yours most respectfully,

*John A. Wood*

P. S. Kindly send bill when the same is obtained.

(Enclosure)

*JAM*



December 11, 1916.

Hon. John A. Mead,  
Rutland, Vermont.

My dear Governor Mead;

I have received your kind letter of December 9th and am very greatly pleased that you will provide the hymn boards. I note that you also like the simpler design. Perhaps if we could see both completed, we would agree with the architect, but I confess the plainer one appeals to me much more. Perhaps I told you Professor Wright also agrees with me. I will see that the same is ordered and that you have a memorandum of the expense.

I enclose a little table which I have prepared showing the relative endowment of Middlebury College compared with that of some of the best and strongest New England colleges, with which we would like to stand on the same footing. The question in my mind is whether it would be wise to include such a statement in a printed report. One shrinks from exhibiting his weakness, yet personally I am inclined toward the policy of full publicity. It seems to me that our alumni and friends ought to know just how we stand when compared with others. I should try of course to bring out our elements of strength as well, our noble history and remarkable record of the success of our alumni. It also must be made clear and emphatic that we have a stable foundation sufficient to insure permanent usefulness. I find that some large benefactors select objects of their beneficence much as they select a bank, according to financial strength. It does not appeal to them so much that an institution is poor and needy, as that it is strong enough to assure permanent usefulness of their gifts. We ought to be able to appeal both ways: our needs are certainly great, but we have, including the value of our buildings, assets of over a million and a quarter.

Governor Mead, 2

If I am not burdening you too much, I would like also your judgment on the policy suggested by the enclosed copy of a form from the Treasurer's report of Mount Holyoke College. You will note that it suggests conditional annuity gifts. There are a good many people looking forward to the close of life, who need the income of their property, yet who would like to provide completely for its disposition after their death, with absolute certainty and without delay or expense of administration. You may remember that Doctor Boardman gave us \$30,000 in this way. We gave him a bond for \$1500 annual income, and immediately upon the death of himself and Mrs. Boardman, the principal began to work for us. We have sufficient assets to make our guarantee absolutely good and I have thought for some time that in a quiet way we might encourage such benefactions.

I must tell you that President Brainerd is attending our chapel services every Sunday, and yesterday seemed particularly pleased and deeply moved by our Christmas praise service. It is a joy to me to note how much good the chapel seems to be doing him. I think there are others who feel in the same way, for every Sunday the gallery is full of visitors.

Faithfully yours,



74  
December 11, 1916.

Mrs. John A. Mead,  
Rutland, Vermont.

My dear Mrs. Mead;

I have at last found the picture you want and enclose a print. I understand that you would like to have the film for a little time. I will get this tomorrow, if it does not come in time to enclose in this letter. It seems to me that we ought to use several of these interesting pictures in the little book which Governor Mead has in mind. They were taken by Miss Charlotte Marsh of our present Junior class.

I very much wish you could see the chapel in actual use by the students. Yesterday we had it crowded for a Christmas praise service, which was very impressive. One student said afterwards that this vacation he was going to attend church at home. I thought that the best sort of a tribute to the good influence of the chapel.

I was very sorry to hear that you have not been well recently and I hope your strength will speedily come back to you.

Faithfully yours,

Rutland, Vt., Dec. 13, 1916.

Doctor John M. Thomas,  
C/o Middlebury College,  
Middlebury, Vt.

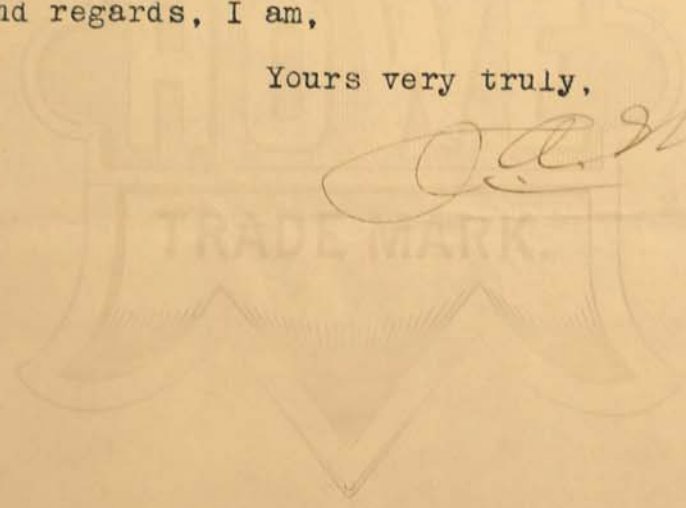
My Dear Friend:-

In looking over the little booklet on the chapel, I notice that the picture of the same is the old sketch which was made before the change took place, which gave two extra small windows <sup>over</sup> on either side at the very east end of the chapel. In the old construction, you will remember there was but one window on either side. This little change, to Mrs. Mead and myself, betters the general appearance of the chapel very much, and we were thinking that when the new booklet came out, that if you could use the later picture, perhaps it would add very materially to the general character of the same.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours very truly,

*J. A. Mead*





Rutland, Vt., Dec. 13, 1916.

Doctor John M. Thomas,  
President, Middlebury College,  
Middlebury, Vt.

My Dear Friend:-

I have your favor of the 11th inst. with enclosures, which have been of special interest to me, and I sincerely hope that "the hymn board" will be entirely satisfactory when the same is received.

Referring to the comparisons made as between the financial strength of Middlebury and other New England colleges, I have read that statement very carefully and I could but feel that it would be better for Middlebury if a statement of all the colleges in New England were given in the same list or nearly all of them. This statement shows Middlebury as of the very last of its class and the question is, how would some of our friends look upon a showing of that kind? There is no question but what, when you come to a record of "the success of the alumni of your college," and much more that could be said along these lines, Middlebury would stand very high, but, as you suggest in said letter, those who could help us might hesitate, feeling that there was a weakness there that was perhaps not fully explained.

My thought has been, as I suggested to you, that you could balance up your Board of Trustees in such a manner as to make them perhaps far more efficient. If you surrounded yourself with a few strong able men of good judgment, who could advise with you as to the management of the college itself, then have a few strong financial men who, directly and by their assistance, you could bring to your aid strong financial strength and, in addition, you might want a few of our



(J. M. T. #2)

local men just for their political influence; it seemed to me that your board would be far stronger than at present.

As to the first class, you very naturally should be the sole judge, and also as to the last.

Then, when you come to the second class, you will pardon me for suggesting some of the names that possibly I referred to before. Mr. Elmer A. Darling of East Burke, for one, a man of very large means, a bachelor, living with his sister and occupying one of the finest residences in the state, and with so much money that he hardly knows what to do with it, and, withal, so far as I have been able to judge, a very capable man and a man of good business judgment. I have met him but a few times but have always liked him very much.

Then, again, I would refer to our Mr. Wilbur of Manchester, who is another man in exactly the same class that hardly knows what to do with the surplus money which is being dumped upon him annually.

Could we with these also add T. N. Vail, though I do not now know his relations to the University, and possibly one or two others, I can but feel that you would obtain certain results financially that you would hardly expect to enjoy otherwise to any great extent. If these men could be drawn to Middlebury, could be made interested in our efforts there, could be induced to be with us on commencement days and to have a good enjoyable experience, I do think that you would hear from them in a substantial manner; and not only that, but could they be interested in our work, they would draw others of the same class with them, viz., get them interested in Middlebury as well. This may be visionary but I can but feel that if this subject is pursued carefully, prudently and but very few really know of the plans, that you



(J. M. T. #3)

and the college would benefit very largely. But you will pardon me for offering these suggestions. As a rule, the less a person knows the easier they talk, and probably that is my position.

As to the Mount Holyoke policy, as shown by their blank, I can but feel that this is a splendid suggestion. This in fact would be, as it appeals to me, one of the very best forms of life insurance, - something not only to care for the giver during his stay here, but it will be a pleasure to him or her all the time during the years which may precede their passing away. I can but feel that this ought to be a very attractive feature. I suppose the same, also, would be free of taxation and thus would be a special help. I can but feel that some suggestion of this kind to the very parties whom I have mentioned above might be attractive to them, and could you get the ball rolling in that direction, I think we should see the good results and very quickly. Certainly Doctor Boardman's example could be made use of in a most substantial manner.

I am delighted to learn that Brainerd is becoming more and more interested in the chapel. All such facts could be used with special benefit. I sincerely hope that just as much could <sup>be</sup> said as to the dormitory, that Mr. Hepburn might enjoy the fruits of his efforts. He <sup>should</sup> be made known of them; and referring to Mr. Hepburn, he without doubt could suggest to you two or three names of parties in New York who could be interested, if we just made a special effort along that direction. Possibly it might be well for you to consider the above in rather of a confidential manner, as certainly I would not want to appear too prominent in any such effort, though I want to assure you that I will do what little I can to further any such move.

(J. M. T. #4)

In addition to the above, I should say that I am personally in very close touch with the duPonts of Delaware. I know very well Ex-United States Senator Allee <sup>their financial grand</sup> and their Mr. Dickson, who is their financial man. Could we get Alfred duPont to come to Vermont and attend one of our commencement ceremonies, and he could be made interested, I should hardly dare suggest what the results might be. I am led to believe that this family is the wealthiest in America, who have virtually and to a very great extent been the creators of their wealth. I do not hear that they have ever become interested in any of our colleges.

But I will not detain you further. There is so much that might be said along this subject.

I am sending you by this mail a copy of Doctor Butler's report on Columbia University, which possibly may be of some service to you. I am an alumnus of Columbia, as you may know, through the medical department.

With very kindest regards to your family and all mutual friends.  
I am,

Yours most respectfully,





PRESIDENT'S OFFICE,  
THE HOWE SCALE COMPANY,  
RUTLAND, VERMONT.

Rutland, Vt., Dec. 26, 1916.

Hon. John M. Thomas,  
Middlebury, Vt.

Dear Sir:-

I have received the Memorial Calendar and surely I must confess that it is fine. Mrs. Mead was more than pleased with it and has placed it in a conspicuous position in our sitting room.

May I ask what is the date of your meeting in New York?

With the compliments of the season, I am,

Yours most respectfully,

*John M. Mead*



December 27, 1916.

Hon. John A. Mead,  
Rutland, Vermont.

My dear Governor Mead;

I am very glad that Mrs. Mead and you like the calendar. It is something some of the boys got up without my knowledge, but I really think they did very well. I thought you would like the picture of the students going to the chapel.

The meeting in New York will be Friday, January 26th, at two P. M., probably as usual at the offices of Mr. Gifford, 60 Broadway. I hope we can persuade Doctor Brainerd to go down this year. I am talking with him about it and think quite likely he will go.

I ought either to see or write you with reference to interesting the men you name in your letter some time ago. I should think either Mr. Wilbur or Mr. Darling would make a good man to make one of the Board of Visitors which the last legislature authorized. There is now a vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Caswell of Orleans County. This board is required to visit the college twice a year and so far the members have received a very favorable impression. There is nothing to prevent their meeting with us occasionally at trustee meetings. The Governor has the appointment, but doubtless Mr. Graham would listen to our wishes:

I have been busy about a good many matters but am getting together the report of which I spoke to you and hope to send you a copy for your suggestions within a few days.

Faithfully yours,



PRESIDENT'S OFFICE,  
THE HOWE SCALE COMPANY,  
RUTLAND, VERMONT.

Rutland, Vt., Dec. 28, 1916.

Doctor John M. Thomas,  
President, Middlebury College,  
Middlebury, Vt.

My Dear Friend:-

Many thanks for your favor of the 27th, at hand this morning.

Referring to the calendar, I am pleased to note that it is very much admired by every person who has seen the same.

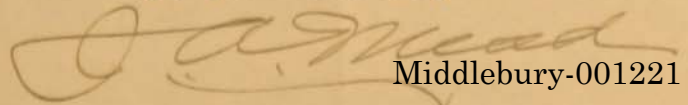
As to the date of the meeting, January 26th, I will endeavor very hard to be present on that occasion. I shall be obliged to start west in a very few days after Jan. 1st, but hope to be able to find myself back in New York by the evening of the 26th.

I am pleased that you are considering favorably the interesting of either Mr. Wilbur or Mr. Darling in Middlebury. <sup>Call</sup> I do feel that something of this kind would help you far more than you anticipate. I have just received a beautiful Christmas card from Mr. Darling and I have had several from Mr. Wilbur, though this year Mr. Wilbur's was not so elaborate. Darling's was certainly beautiful. If there is anything that I can do to assist in having either one of the above named on the Board of Visitors, I should like very much to take the subject right up with Graham, and if there are any vacancies on the board, I should like very much to see some person of this character recognized.

You say nothing about Mr. Vail in your letter. Is he tied up with Burlington?

Thanking you for writing me and with very best wishes for your family and yourself, I remain, with the compliments of the season,

Most respectfully, your friend,

  
Middlebury-001221

December 29, 1916.

Hon. John A. Mead,  
Rutland, Vermont.

My dear Governor Mead;

I am very glad indeed to learn that you expect to be able to attend the meeting in New York on the 26th. You will remember that we have a business meeting in the afternoon and a dinner in the evening.

I am greatly pleased that you will interest yourself in securing Mr. Darling or Mr. Wilbur for the vacancy in the Board of Visitors. Either one would be very acceptable to me. I have also talked with Judge Weeks, who secured the passage of the bill authorizing this board, and he approves heartily of your suggestions. I think it would be very helpful if you would take up the matter with Mr. Graham, and if you learn that he would appoint either one of these men, secure their consent. Probably it would be wiser to find out whether Mr. Graham would make the appointment before approaching either one, but I will leave that entirely to you.

You will find a statement of the duties of the Board in the Laws of 1915,

As to Mr. Vail, my understanding is that he was elected a trustee of Burlington but declined the appointment. So Doctor Henry H. Vail, his cousin, told me, although I think I have since seen his name on the list of U.V.M. trustees. I will try to look this matter up a little further and let you know. I am sure there would be no question as to the immediate election of Mr. Vail to our Board if he would consent to serve, and I am sure every member of the Board of Trustees would agree with me in this. I have spoken with several of them on the subject at different times.

Again thanking you for your kind letter,  
I am

Faithfully yours,



663

May 26, 1916.

Rev. George S. Mills,  
Bennington, Vermont.

My dear Mr. Mills;

I thank you for your letter. I wish much we might have a man of the type of Mr. Keedy in our church here. The situation is somewhat difficult and it will not do to press amman too strongly on the ground of his fitness for a college constituency. I think this feeling is less strong than it used to be and the people generally are coming to realize that a man who can command the hearts of earnest-minded students is the man who can reach people generally.

As to the other matter, I certainly appreciate the evidence of your confidence and thank you for it. For my ownmpeace of mind I hope the question will never become practical for me. It would certainly be a very serious one, although I confess my path has seemed to me pretty straight ahead.

I was sorry not to be with you at the conference, but this is a busy season for us. I wish you could see the interior of our new chapel. I think your sense of reverence would approve.

With cordial regards, I am

Faithfully yours,

43  
November 14, 1916.

Principal Benjamin C. Miner,  
Central Avenue School,  
Newark, N. J.

My dear Mr. Miner;

I thank you for your good letter with reference to Derwent McCann. It is such co-operation on the part of our alumni that is most helpful. I am writing the young man and sending him a catalogue and illustrated bulletin.

I am sure our alumni can recommend our college to such boys at the present time with a great deal of confidence. There has never been any question as to the character of our instruction or the thoroughness of our work, or the attention given to the needs of the individual student. In recent years also we have had no cause to be ashamed of our library and laboratory facilities, nor of our residences for women. Our weak point latterly has been the character of the homes provided for boys. This has been entirely met by the erection of Hepburn Hall and I am glad to report that the new building is most successful in every way. All who visit it are greatly pleased not only with the accommodations but also with the methods of administration. Last Friday I had a call from a gentleman of means from New York, who had visited Exeter Academy and Williams and other such institutions, and he was enthusiastic as to the building. His only criticism was of our rates, which he said should be double. I need not describe the building, as you have doubtless read our publications, but I can truthfully say that it is more attractive than the illustrations show.

Our new chapel is doing a great deal for the students. It is a very impressive building, of reverent atmosphere and the daily service with the organ and choir, exert a very strong and helpful influence upon the entire student body. I wish much all our alumni might see these things for themselves.

Again thanking you for your good help, I am

Faithfully yours,



329  
May 15, 1916.

Doctor J. Morrison,  
507 $\frac{1}{2}$  Main St.,  
Houston, Texas.

My dear Doctor Morrison;

I have received your letter of May 10 and am much pleased that you are soon to send us the books from your library on higher mathematics and astronomy. I assure you they will be very welcome. The instructors in the related departments are anticipating your gift with much interest.

You will be pleased to know that the college has recently acquired the interesting collection of Vermont pamphlets compiled by the late Horace W. Bailey, U. S. Marshal for the District of Vermont. This is quite a unique collection of Vermont documents and will in itself give distinction to our library as one of the important repositories for Vermont history. I hope we shall be able to add to this collection from time to time.

I thank you for your kind words on the growth and prosperity of the college. I am sure if you were to be here you would note many changes. While the new buildings are beautiful in themselves, and of course very serviceable, I think they only set off the greater charm of the older structures. We are coming to have quite an extensive campus and its beauty is increasing year by year.

Again thanking you for your kindly interest,  
I am

Faithfully yours,

June 24, 1916.

Miss Ruth D. Norton,  
Vergennes, Vermont.

My dear Miss Norton;

I have your subscription of one share at \$50 toward the Hudson Professorship and check for \$10 as the first installment on payment. I thank you sincerely and heartily. The fund has been growing a little lately, although it is still far from completion.

I have not met quite the response I had hoped for from our recent graduates, and your gift is a distinct encouragement.

We certainly had a great Commencement and it was good to me to feel the loyalty and enthusiasm of our alumni and friends. I was particularly pleased at their appreciation of the beauty of the interior of the new chapel and its possibilities of usefulness for us.

Again thanking you for your good help, I am

Faithfully yours,



November 23, 1916.

Hon Thomas H. Noonan,  
Buffalo, N Y.

My dear Noonan;

You will remember the enthusiasm and applause of the promise of \$1000 to the Hudson Professorship by the glorious class of '91 at the last commencement. The treasurer, however, reports that the matter stands on his books as follows:-

V. C Harrington	100
C A Mead	100

To this should be added one half of the subscription which he has credited to me along, i e., \$125 from Grace S Thomas.

Now what am I going to do to get the balance in proper and sufficient form? I am enclosing a number of subscription blanks, thinking you may think best to write to the members of the class. Of course I should be glad to write to any or all of them if you prefer, either independently or in addition to your own appeals. I would like very much to get the matter in shape so that we have valid subscriptions for the full amount suggested.

We are having a glorious year in the old college. The new chapel is wonderful and exerts a very perceptible influence. We can feel it in the manners of the students and see it in their conduct. Hepburn Hall is very popular, there being a waiting list of ten. We have 373 students on the ground today, including the largest Freshman class we ever had and also much the largest Sophomore class. There has not been a single act of disorder. The inter-fraternity spirit is excellent. Our success in football, losing only two games and winning the championship of Vermont, has of course had its share in raising the spirits of us all.

With cordial regards, I am

Faithfully yours,

# City Court of Buffalo

WILLIAM P. BRENNAN, CHIEF JUDGE

PETER MAUL  
ALBERT A. HARTZELL  
THOMAS H. NOONAN  
PATRICK J. KEELER  
GEORGE L. HAGER  
MARTIN P. FLEMMING, CHIEF CLERK

} ASSOCIATE JUDGES

Nov. 28th, 1916.

Dr. John M. Thomas,  
Middlebury, Vt.

My dear Doctor Thomas:-

Yours of the 23rd is just received

I ought to have received this amiable call down on your part a long while ago. Ever since I got back from the summer vacation I have intended taking up this matter with you but often times when I thought of it I was not where I could do anything, and when I was where I could do anything I did not think of it.

My record of the subscriptions is as follows:

Mrs. Thomas,	\$125.00
Reilly,	100.00
Boynton,	100.00
Mead,	100.00
Harrington,	100.00
Bryant,	50.00
Mrs. Bryant,	50.00
Noonan,	100.00

---

TOTAL . . . . . \$725.00

This leaves \$275.00 unsubscribed, with four of the Class who did not subscribe, Benedict, Bell, Pinney and Walker. I take it that neither Pinney nor Walker can afford to subscribe anything. I imagine that Benedict can



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} ASSOCIATE JUDGES

give a little. He ought to be able to give at least \$25.00. This will leave only \$250.00 to be made up. If you can induce Frank Bell to subscribe \$150.00 of that \$250.00 I am sure that I can get Reilly to put in \$50.00 more and I will put in \$50.00. That will make an even \$1,000.

At Commencement time I got two blanks signed by Bryant and his wife and I inclose the same herewith. I am writing Boynton inclosing one of the blanks that you sent and will write Reilly today. I have requested Boynton to send his pledge directly to you. If you do not hear from him you may take it up with him directly or let me know. I inclose my own subscription for the \$150.00. I will do my share towards making up the \$1,000 regardless of whether or not we can get Reilly and the others to come across. I am inclined to think that you are the best one to write both Benedict and Bell. I do not know Benedict's new address. From what I understand of the situation Bell could easily give the entire balance of the \$275.00 and not miss it, but personally I will be satisfied to do what I said and try *and hope* to persuade Reilly to help, ~~if~~ you can get Bell to do as much as Reilly and I are doing.

# City Court of Buffalo

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ASSOCIATE JUDGES

I have been watching the successes of the college with a great deal of interest. The only time that I ever look at the sporting column of the newspaper is on Sunday morning to see what the College has done on the foot ball field the day before. . I was very much pleased to see them win over our ancient enemy at Burlington. If our boys will play base ball with the U.~~V~~.M. team at any time except Commencement I think they will win their fair share of games. They get the notion that so much is expected of them at the Commencement game that the nervous strain is too strong and they go to pieces under it.

The Mead Chapel and Hepburn Hall are certainly wonderful additions to the college equipment.

We had the pleasure of having Professor and Mrs. Wright and Marjorie stop with us over night at the cottage on the lake shore when they were on their way to Akron this summer, and Mrs. Wright and Marjorie stopped at the house for breakfast on the way back. It always gives me a lot of pleasure to entertain my old friends and Mrs. Noonan enjoys it as much as I do, and there is a standing invitation for every one of them to stop when



City Court of Buffalo

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PETER MAUL  
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PATRICK J. KEELER  
GEORGE L. HAGER

MARTIN P. FLEMMING, CHIEF CLERK

they go by.

With best wishes to every one, I am.

Very truly yours,

*Thomas H. Noonan,*

PAID  
BY  
BOND

LAW OFFICE OF  
EBENEZER J. ORMSBEE  
POST OFFICE BLOCK

2498  
BRANDON, VT. June 17, 1916.

Hon. John M. Thomas,  
Middlebury, Vermont.

My dear Sir:-

You are entitled to and have my especial thanks for your invitation of the 14th instant to attend some of the Commencement gatherings of next week. I cannot say with certainty, but if everything is favorable I hope to attend the dedication of the chapel on Sunday afternoon and also be with you on Wednesday to witness the Commencement exercises, and if reasonably possible to attend the Commencement dinner of that day.

Again, let me thank you for your invitation.

I am, sincerely yours,

*E. J. Ormsbee.*



1455  
October 31, 1916.

Principal A. W. Peirce,  
Dean Academy,  
Franklin, Mass.

My dear Mr. Peirce;

It is very kind of you to repeat the invitation to me to give the Founders' Day address at Dean Academy. I shall be very glad to come for you Friday, February 16th. I shall try to learn, as the time approaches, both from you and from Professors Perkins and Bonney what will be expected of me.

The students from Dean Academy are among our good students and I am glad to have them so well satisfied. We are having an excellent year, the new chapel and new dormitory and commons assisting us greatly in our work. I am interested to know that you have one of my First Regiment boys and I hope he will wish to join the Dean delegation at Middlebury.

Faithfully yours,

98  
January 4, 1916.

Mr. Samuel B. Pettengill,  
809-810 J.M.S. Bldg.,  
South Bend, Ind.

My dear Mr. Pettengill;

Please accept my very best wishes for the success of the firm of Hubbard & Pettengill, and for every good to yourself particularly. I shall always remember you as one who helped to give me a favorable impression of the students with whom I was to work, and my gratitude and good wishes will always follow you.

I wish you could see the present activity on the campus. Governor Mead's chapel is a most impressive building and I think its practical value will be not less than its beauty. The new dormitory Mr. Hepburn is erecting will be a great thing for us. The appointments of the building are as good as could be devised and it gives us living accommodations inferior to those of no college in New England.

The presence of one student from California and another from Oregon encourage me to hope that we may gradually develop a sprinkling of students from the west. I realize that it will be only the exceptional student, but there will always be a select number who will wish to attend a New England college, and Middlebury should have its share. Eight years ago we had none from New Jersey and now we have twenty. This year we have seventy from Massachusetts. Our experience is that by getting a list of the Senior class in the high school every year undemanding them literature at their home addresses that sooner or later a student appears. I have thought of selecting certain towns and cities in the middle west where we have alumni in which to initiate such a campaign. Could you get us a list of the members of the Senior class in South Bend?

Faithfully yours,



June 22, 1916.

Mr. William H. Porter,  
Glen Cove, L.I.

My dear Mr. Porter;

I want you to know that we had a most successful Commencement in every respect and that the various exercises passed off very pleasantly. The number of guests was larger than for many years and it was very gratifying to me to note their enthusiasm over the progress of the college. I think the alumni were especially moved by the services in the new chapel, which is a most beautiful building, inspiring feelings of reverence. Such a place of worship, with the fine organ and ample space for choir introduces a new feature of helpful influence into the life of our college. There was also very deep gratification in Hepburn Hall and its excellent facilities for student residence.

Mr. Elliott was a genial guest and was very cordially received both when the degree was conferred and after his address at the dinner. He made us a very good speech indeed and testified to his deep appreciation of the recognition we had given him.

I want you to see the programs of the various exercises, in which I am sure you will find some items of interest. I am sending these under separate cover.

Trusting that you are making good progress toward recovery, I am

Faithfully yours,

1185  
September 19, 1916.

Mr. William H. Porter,

Loon Lake, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Porter;

I have been intending to write you for several days to express my pleasure with the new fence and walk along Porter Field. I had no idea it would improve appearances so much. The fence seems to me to be very well adapted to its purpose.

We open our 117th year on Thursday and expect a good attendance. We are greatly advantaged this year in the possession of both Hepburn Hall and the new chapel. I used to have some anxiety moments, especially after a Freshman and his mother had been in my office and left to look up the boy's room in one of the old halls, but Mr. Hepburn has very effectively put a stop to any misgivings on the subject of residences for boys.

Your mother tells me that she hopes for a visit from you before you return to New York. We shall be very glad to see you and I think you will be pleased with the appearance of things.

Faithfully yours,



1149

GEORGE H. PROUTY  
NEWPORT VERMONT.

Thanksgiving

Dr John W. Thomas.

Middlebury Vt

My dear Dr. It did seem good to hear from you once more after such a long time. It is true that I have not been to see you for a long time and my only excuse is not really a valid one, as I well know.

I have however been very busy and hope something has been accomplished - When I began I felt a great <sup>deal</sup>, as you did when

the tree was planted. In spite of the discouraging outlook much has been accomplished and great improvements that at times seemed impossible have become accomplished facts.

I have learned that the building of Mills and Railroads is only a matter of continuous labor with a little judgment and the building of a Village is only the repetition of building our house.

If your young men could only come to understand this they might look forward with more confidence, any of them are

Capable of doing big things if they only have courage and industry - The realization of this truth has never come to me fully till within the last three years now I should not be afraid to undertake anything for which I am fitted.

I did not intend to preach so forgive me - Am very sorry you could not come here but understand and will find out who phoned you and explain. I do hope to see you before very long.

With kindest personal regards  
I remain  
Yours very sincerely  
G. H. Prouty



November 21, 1916.

Hon. George H. Prouty,  
Newport, Vermont.

My dear Governor Prouty;

I received a kind invitation by telephone this morning from Newport asking me to speak at a meeting of your business men's organization, and was very sorry indeed that I was obliged to decline. As I tried to explain, I have already sufficient appointments to keep me quite busy until the first of the year, more in fact than I wish I had. Our college work has grown wonderfully since you planted that elm tree on our campus and I am kept pretty busy. I wish you could look in upon us now and see some of the results of our recent work. I remember that my heart almost sank within me as we trudged up that hill in the mud for the tree planting and I hardly found the courage to say the words I had planned to say, that I planted that tree in faith "in the expansion of Middlebury College toward the west." But we now have not only the fine buildings for girls up on that hill but also Governor Mead's beautiful chapel and a magnificent dormitory and commons for boys, erected by our good friend Mr. Hepburn. I hope if you are ever in this part of the state you will let me show them to you.

I did not catch the name of the gentleman who telephoned, but doubtless you know who the officers of the organization are, and if you will express to them my regret that I was unable to accept their invitation, I will appreciate it.

Faithfully yours,

172  
December 2, 1916.

Doctor Daniel G. Reilly,  
2nd and Madison Sts.,  
Dayton, Ohio.

My dear Dan;

I am made exceedingly happy this morning by your most enthusiastic letter and your very generous gift of \$150 to the Hudson Fund. Your loyalty and generosity are most gratifying. I certainly thank you with all my heart.

I knew the class of '91 was good for its commencement subscription but I wanted to get the matter in business shape and of course the sooner it is paid in, as yours is, the sooner it will begin to work for the college. I wrote Frank Bell and think I will write him again today and tell him what you are doing.

I hope the example of '91 and that of '76 will influence other classes so that we may raise the entire fund. I have no doubt it will be completed some day but I should much like to see Professor Wright elected to that chair and be the first occupant.

We are surely having a most successful year in the old college. The boys greatly enjoy Herburn Hall and we have a waiting list for the rooms. An excellent matron lives in the building and it is a proper and quiet home for young gentlemen. I thank God every day for the new chapel. It surely exerts a most wholesome and refining influence over all our students. We have 373 on the ground, 30 more than we ever had before.

With very cordial regards and sincere gratitude, I am

Faithfully yours,



June 19, 1916.

Rev. Joseph Reynolds,  
Rutland, Vermont.

My dear Mr. Reynolds;

I have received your letter of June 15 and the certificate of scholarship appointment of your daughter Louise from Senator William H. Wright. This appointment will be honored for the ensuing two years. It is very gratifying that you find the work of the college in behalf of your daughters satisfactory. We are glad to have them here and they are in every way desirable students. I wish you could have been at our chapel services yesterday. It seems to me that they must mark a new era in the life of the college and one that promises very great good for every student.

Faithfully yours,

June 24, 1916.

Mr. Gilbert W. Roberts,  
2 Rector St.,  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Roberts;

Mr. Wiley has handed me your check for \$10, being a contribution to the Hudson Professorship fund. I thank you sincerely and heartily for this gift. This fund has been a little slow in getting started, but we have been making better progress recently and I am strongly hoping that some way may be found to push it through to success. It certainly seems as if it should appeal to all our alumni.

We had a great Commencement, one that brought courage and joy to us all. It was very gratifying to note the satisfaction of the alumni in the facilities of our new Hepburn Hall and Commons and also their appreciation of the new chapel. The interior of the chapel is most impressive and the services there during Commencement will not soon be forgotten. There is every reason to hope that our college has entered an era of enlarged usefulness.

Again thanking you sincerely for your cooperation, I am

Faithfully yours,



April 11, 1916.

Mr. Paul D. Ross,  
6 East 11th St., N.,  
Portland, Ore.

My dear Friend;

I have received your letter of April 1 and read it with interest and also looked over the circular of the school of accountancy which you have been working. First let me say that it is good to hear from you and also to know that you have been doing such earnest and valuable work.

I must report that this particular field has been less on my mind the last year or so than it was some time before. The demand and interest have seemed to turn in other directions. We found it necessary to introduce instruction in Spanish this year. The instructor has not been successful but there has been such a demand for the work that I am very sure we must keep it up. We should also have an instructor in European History, but I do not see the funds just now. The Battell bequest, with the very large forest interests, naturally turn us toward Forestry and more work in Botany than we are now doing. I have not altogether forgotten my idea of some time developing courses related to the department of Economics, of a more practical nature, but I do not see the opening at present. My idea has been to introduce sufficient courses that our graduates might enter the second year of the Tuck school at Dartmouth or the Wharton School at Philadelphia.

I am glad you wrote me and I am sorry I cannot be more encouraging. I wish you might visit the college now and see some of the changes we are making. The new chapel is certainly a beautiful building and Hepburn Hall will be a great addition to our equipment. We are glad to have a Portland student here and he is giving a good account of himself.

Faithfully yours,

April 1, 1916.

Miss Mary S. Saxe,  
Westmount, P. Q.

My dear Miss Saxe;

I was out of town when your letter with reference to the centenary of the birth of John Godfrey Saxe was received and regret that I have not been able to give earlier attention to the matter. The suggestion impresses me quite favorably and I shall at once confer with some of our trustees on the subject. In the meantime I shall be very glad of any suggestions you may have in mind. We have already made plans for the dedication of our beautiful new chapel, the gift of ex-Governor Mead of Vermont, and the opening of Hepburn Hall, a residence for boys. These features should make the Commencement quite notable, aside from any recognition of our greatest poet. It may interest you to know that the closing lines of *Carmen Laetum* are to be inscribed on the walls of the social room in our new Hepburn Hall.

Faithfully yours,



374  
November 7, 1916.

Mr. H., A. Severy,  
745 Villa St.,  
Racine, Wis.

My dear Mr. Severy;

Miss Bristol handed me some days ago your letter of October 23rd reporting that she had sent to you the desired record. I am very glad to have your inquiry concerning the Hudson Fund. We have pledged to the amount of \$6654, of which over one-third has been paid in. This may not seem a large start toward the desired \$40,000, but it is a beginning and I hope we may find some way to press the matter to a successful issue. I have had some idea of trying to secure some one in each class to take up the work with other members of the class. It does seem as if almost any one of our alumni could manage to take one share of this fund, particularly as we propose that payments shall extend over five years.

The books show that you have not paid alumni dues since 1910. We have not been in the habit of pressing for collection of back dues and perhaps it would be fully as helpful if you made your contribution to the Hudson Fund.

I am very glad to report that things are going very nicely indeed this year. The new chapel is of very great help and Hepburn Hall is more popular than we had anticipated. The whole spirit of the college seems to have changed, and that for the better. Perhaps our athletic successes have helped some.

Your name was pronounced when I visited the home of my cousin, Mrs. Gilbert, in Cleveland a week or two ago. With best wishes, I am

Faithfully yours,

January 6, 1916.

Mr. Harry C. Shaw,  
Rutland, Vermont.

My dear Mr. Shaw;

I want to thank you very much for the excellent story on the ringing of the chime last Tuesday and especially for your kind thought and generous act in making the music of the bells possible for Mrs. Mead to hear. It was truly an inspiration that came to you.

I confess I am surprised at the interest and pleasure awakened among all classes of people by this gift of Governor Mead. Nothing that has come to the college since I have been connected with it has awakened a more general response. I can see that the music of these bells will be one of the pleasantest memories in connection with our village for years to come and that they will awaken a sentiment whose results no man can tell.

Again thanking you sincerely, I am

Faithfully yours,



# The Rutland Herald.

ALL THE NEWS WHILE IT IS NEWS  
THE TRUTH—NO MATTER WHAT IT COSTS

RUTLAND, VERMONT, June 12, 1916


My Dear Dr. Thomas:

The Herald would greatly appreciate short abstracts of the speeches of those who are to take part in the dedication of the Mead Memorial Chapel, Hepburn Hall and others who have a prominent part in Commencement exercises. If you will ask those who are to participate to send us such abstracts we will be able to put together a far more comprehensive story than we will be able to do if we have to rely on our correspondent.

If I can arrange to do so I hope to report the chapel dedication myself.

With regards, I am,

Very truly yours,



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

1494  
June 13, 1916.

Mr. Harry C. Shaw,  
Rutland Herald,  
Rutland, Vermont.

My dear Mr. Shaw;

I have your letter and will be glad to do all I can to supply you with advance material concerning Commencement.

I will send you an abstract of the address of Hon. John G. Saxe in commemoration of the centennial of the poet's birth. I may say that this is quite a valuable document, not only because of its real worth as a tribute to the poet, but also from its political references. It is a virtual declaration against Wilson, in the name of the sturdy Vermont democracy of the poet Saxe. Considering that Mr. Saxe was the leading political adviser of Governor Glynn, this statement is significant.

I have written Mr. Howard Elliott for a copy of his address, and will send you an abstract if I receive it. This address will be made at the same time, the Commencement dinner Wednesday.

Doubtless you have already received from Governor Head a copy of his remarks at the dedication. I doubt if I shall have a copy of the dedicatory sermon by Dean Brown.

Some time between now and Sunday I must write a baccalaureate and will try to send you an abstract at least by Saturday.

I hope that you will be able to carry out your good purpose to attend the dedication. I am sure you will be impressed by the beauty of the building and its superior fitness for its purpose. I enclose copy of a recent letter to our alumni which gives my own impression.

Faithfully yours,



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April 12, 1916.

Pres. John M. Thomas,  
Middlebury College,  
Middlebury, Vermont.

Dear Dr. Thomas:-

Our agent, Miss Salmon, who is in your State, writes us that you are looking for a hymnal, of which you would wish about 400. By this same mail we are sending you a copy of our "Students' Hymnal."

We inferred from what Miss Salmon said that you might not wish to have the responsive readings and other text matter preliminary to the hymns. On an order of this size or larger we would be willing to furnish the books with such matter omitted. If it should prove that even with this suggestion we have not met your needs, we wish that you would advise us freely as to what you have in mind, and we will see if we cannot supply what you want.

The list price of this book as now published is 60¢, subject to 20% discount.

Awaiting the favor of your reply, we remain

Very truly yours,

SILVER, BURDETT & COMPANY,



V. Pres. & Sec'y.

FWB/W

1345  
April 13, 1916.

Mr. Frank W. Burdett,  
221 Columbus Ave.,  
Boston, Mass.

My dear Mr. Burdett;

I thank you for letting me see a copy of your Students' Hymnal, but I must report that the book will not meet our needs, even without the responsive readings. We must have a larger and more modern book.

I was glad to meet Miss Salman and hope she will come to this office whenever she is in this part of Vermont.

Faithfully yours,



October 26, 1916.

Miss Margaret Slattery,  
14 Beacon St.,  
Boston, Mass.

My dear Miss Slattery:

Could we persuade you to take one of our college vesper services? We have a new chapel, of which we are very proud. It is a most reverent room and the attitude of the students toward the service is very gratifying. Nearly all of our 370 students attend, about forty per cent women. In addition of course we have members of the faculty and visitors from the town. The service is at five P.M. and the address would not much exceed twenty minutes. The honorarium would be \$50. If you are willing to come, I am quite sure that our Dean of Women will beg for an additional special address to our girls. Middlebury is just two hundred miles from Boston and is reached conveniently by both day and night trains, without change. I hope very much you will say that you can come and I can arrange for you almost any Sunday after February 1st.

Faithfully yours,

June 22, 1916.

Doctor M. Allen Starr,  
5 West 54th St.,  
New York.

My dear Doctor Starr;

We missed you at Commencement which was a most notable occasion. The attendance of alumni was larger than at any time since my inauguration and their enthusiasm was very evident. There was deep gratification over the new building Mr. Hepburn has given to us and the Mead Memorial Chapel also made a pronounced impression. The interior of the chapel is very successful. With the atmosphere of reverence the large organ and ample space for choir, we shall be able to have services of a sort impossible with our former facilities. It was pleasing to note that our alumni fully appreciated the importance of such an addition to our college equipment.

Possibly you will be interested in some of the programs of Commencement. I will send them to you.

I want you also to see a copy of the annual report of our librarian. It represents fairly the usefulness of the library and I am sure does not over-emphasize the need of more room for books. The daily usefulness of the library could not fail to be largely increased by the addition of the third stack. You very kindly said to me once that you hoped to do this for us at some time and I felt that I could therefore call the librarian's statement to your attention.

Faithfully yours,



5, WEST FIFTY-FOURTH STREET.

NY Oct 2

My dear Pres. Thomas.

I have just read in  
the Campus your excellent open  
up address and am very  
glad you were able to come  
back to college for I am  
sure your work there is of  
much more service to the Coun-  
try than anything you could

As called on to do in Mexico -

I congratulate you on the high  
tone of this address which touches  
the right chord and should  
be an inspiration to the students.

When the library bills are  
ready I will send a check.

Sincerely  
M Allen Stan



October 4, 1916.

Doctor M. Allen Starr,  
5 West 54th St.,  
New York City.

My dear Doctor Starr;

I thank you for your kind letter with reference to my opening address. It was occupied pretty definitely with considerations of immediate application to our problems here, but I thought it might be interesting to our alumni and our local constituency also. I am glad to say that the response of the students has been very gratifying. It certainly does make a difference as to what sort of environment you give to young men and women in which to live and do their work. Our chapel services are practically the same we have always held, and yet I am sure the impression in the spacious and reverent building is very different. Similarly a different student conduct is induced by the civilizing influences of Hepburn Hall. That building is practically full, there being only one vacancy at present. I think this is pretty good for so large a building added to the equipment of a small college.

We have 360 students, 17 more than the highest attendance last year, and of course the stragglers are still coming in. There is a larger number of new students and also a larger Sophomore class than we have ever had.

I have signed a contract for the college for the changes in the library and in accordance with your suggestion will let you know when the remittance is needed. We are very happy that these additions are to be made and I am sure it will greatly increase the use of the library. I doubt if there was any way in which the same amount of money would do more for the increase of our facilities.

Faithfully yours,

1278  
October 24, 1916.

Miss L. E. Stearns,  
647 Prospect Ave.,  
Milwaukee, Wis.

My dear Miss Stearns;

In accordance with my promise I am sending you a copy of my Statement to the Educational Commission, and also an essay of the late Professor Royce on the subject. This is all ancient history now. The net result of the investigation, as you doubtless know, was the confirming of the appropriations to colleges in the same amounts without limit of time. The main recommendation of the Commission as to a stronger central control over the schools and efficient state administration is being well carried out under our new Commissioner, Doctor Hillegas.

I wish you might some time visit Middlebury again. We are increasing the capacity of our library by the addition of a new stack and a beautiful new chapel as well as an excellent new men's dormitory and commons.

I was sorry not to see you after my address in Concord and hope our paths may cross again.

Faithfully yours,



January 6, 1916.

Mr. John E. Stetson,  
Springfield, Vermont.

My dear Mr. Stetson;

I thank you for your check for \$10 toward your subscription of \$50 to the Hudson Professorship. This fund is growing slowly and I have hopes that eventually we shall succeed.

We are having an exceptionally good year at the college. The new chapel pleases every one and it is certainly a most beautiful and impressive building. With the rich interior, the large organ and the chime of bells, it will certainly add greatly to the life of the institution. The new Hepburn dormitory also grows on one. It is a very large building and the appointments are excellent. We shall certainly be in advance of any college in Vermont as concerns living accommodations for both boys and girls, and I think the reputation of our instruction is already sufficiently established. You must run up some time during next summer and see for yourself.

Faithfully yours,

95  
May 2, 1916.

Rev. L. E. Sunderland,  
9908 Somerset Ave.,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Sunderland;

I have just been talking with Judge Bingham and he tells me that he has another boy for us next September and that the young man is now with you. I am very glad indeed to learn this. Mr. Bingham has spoken of the possibility of a scholarship and I told him I would send a blank for application to you. If the boy will fill this out carefully, I think we shall find it possible to assist him toward apportion of his tuition.

The outlook for a good class next year seems to be excellent. Undoubtedly the new Hepburn dormitory will help us. It is a very good building, larger and more impressive than I have been able to make people who have not seen it realize. At least all who visit the college express their surprise and admiration at both this building and the new chapel, which we hope to dedicate at Commencement.

Faithfully yours,



2878

October 25, 1916.

Mr. Nobuzo Suyemitsu,  
Sapporo, Japan.

My dear Mr. Suyemitsu;

I was very much pleased to receive the announcement of your marriage and desire to extend to you my sincere congratulations and best wishes for great happiness to yourself and your bride. We shall always remember with great pleasure your stay in Middlebury and your earnest and cordial spirit of co-operation in the studies of our college.

I wish you might be here to see our new chapel and the new Hepburn Hall. The dormitory is very attractive and gives most convenient and pleasant homes for nearly one hundred of the boys. I am glad to report that the building is entirely full this year and the occupants are enthusiastic over the facilities it affords them. It is certainly much pleasanter than the old buildings and a quieter place for study.

You will readily appreciate that the new chapel means a great deal to me. It is a very impressive building and the interior conveys the feeling of thoughtful reverence. We now hold the daily service at ten o'clock and with the organ and large choir chapel means much more than it used to to all our students. I feel that it is an instrument for great good, with very real effect upon all our college life.

We have 370 students this year, quite a gain over any previous year and the spirit of the college is excellent.

Again wishing you the greatest happiness and success in all your life, I am

Faithfully yours,

2715

June 23, 1916.

Hon. George H. Sweet,

Potsdam, N. Y.

My dear Doctor Sweet;

It was kind of you to write me your regret at not being able to attend Commencement and we were sorry you could not be with us. The occasion was a most enjoyable one. I think I have never known such enthusiasm and feeling of confidence on the part of our alumni and friends. There was great interest in the opening of Hepburn Hall and even after my many descriptions I think our alumni were surprised at the extent of the two structures and the excellent facilities it provides. They were also deeply impressed by the new chapel, whose interior especially incites a feeling of reverence. The services there with the large organ and excellent student choir were very impressive.

I want you to see some of the programs of the exercises and will send them to you under separate cover.

Faithfully yours,



765-

June 7, 1916.

Rev. Benjamin Swift,  
Woodstock, Vermont.

My dear Ben;

There has been no inconvenience caused  
me and I will put you down for Sunday, August 13.  
The little calendar with the beautiful picture of  
your church is very good. Some day you must see  
the most beautiful church interior in Vermont, in  
Mead Memorial Chapel, but I will admit that it has  
a rival in Woodstock.

Faithfully yours,

92  
January 26, 1916.

Rev. Robert L. Thompson,  
Johnstown, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Thompson;

I thank you for your good letter with reference to Rev. Luther A. Brown. He is a man we have been watching and I shall be glad to speak of your suggestion to the trustees, although I would not be optimistic as to the result this year. We have a number of suggestions before us, some from previous years, and the Board is disposed to be conservative. I think generally the alumni wish to be careful in this respect, even if it does necessitate patience when their own friends are under consideration.

One possible difficulty you will allow me just to hint at is that there are a number of young fellows coming ahead in the Troy Conference who will bear watching on the part of their alma mater.

I thank you also for your invitation to spend a Sunday with you. I remember our day together in Granville with much pleasure and would like also to come to Johnstown. Just now I am hoping to get off for a month in the south, the first real vacation since 1908, and am making no plans ahead, but I will try to remember you and shall be glad to hear again from you at any time.

I am sure it would do you good to see the old campus now, although you might scarcely recognize it. The new chapel is wonderfully beautiful and Hepburn Hall is larger and finer than I can make anybody realize until they have seen it.

With cordial regards, I am

Faithfully yours,



92  
June 6, 1916.

Rev. Robert L. Thompson,  
Johnstown, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Thompson;

I thank you very much for your agreement to take one share of the Hudson Fund and for the payment of the first installment, which is hereby acknowledged. I am sure this ought to appeal strongly to our alumni, although I confess the responses are neither very numerous nor very large as yet.

I wish you might be with us at Commencement and inspect our new buildings. I am sure you would be particularly pleased with the chapel which is a most beautiful place for religious worship. I am counting greatly on it and believe it will be a most useful means of influence upon the entire student body.

Again thanking you for your co-operation,

I am

Faithfully yours,

1211  
September 28, 1916.

Mr. John W. Titcomb,  
Lyndonville, Vermont.

My dear Mr. Titcomb;

I am glad to become a sustaining member of the Hughes campaign to the extent of the \$10 suggested and am sending my check to Mr. Bliss.

I am such a persistent beggar in Middlebury and Addison County, for the college, for the Y.M.C.A., for a hospital, etc., that I hesitate to approach my neighbors in the manner suggested. If a meeting of Addison County Republicans could be called, or my name would be of any use in a general appeal to the Republicans of the county, I would be glad to cooperate. Our old war horse, Colonel Thad M. Chapman, would be a good man for a little financial work in this vicinity.

I had a very interesting experience on the border, but there were many important matters waiting me here and I came back none too soon. We have had a very fine opening and the outlook for the college is very bright. Our new buildings are of great assistance to us, both the fine dormitory which bears the name of Mr. Hepburn and also Governor Mead's chapel. If you are in this vicinity, do not fail to let me show them to you.

Faithfully yours,



53  
October 14, 1916.

Rev. William H. Van Allen,  
28 Brimmer St.,  
Boston, Mass.

My dear Van;

I thank you very much for your kind wishes. It was hard to send ~~away~~ the first child but fortunately she is to make her home in Rutland and we hope to see her often.

I see something about you every little while and rejoice in your manifold usefulness. I wish you could come and preach in our beautiful new chapel some Sunday afternoon. I cannot offer you an honorarium, but I would like you to know that the pulpit is open to you. I take most of the services myself, but it would be a delight to give way to you. I am sure the chapel is having a very helpful influence on the students and I rejoice greatly in the opportunity it gives me. Our new Hepburn Hall is entirely full and we have a waiting list. It is a very fine building in every way. We have more students than ever before, having a slightly larger Freshman class and a much larger proportion of our old students back. Come and see us if you can.

Faithfully yours,

June 20, 1916.

Miss Pauline M. Weiss,  
95 Milford Ave.,  
Newark, N. J.

My dear Miss Weiss;

I have received your kind letter with checks for alumni dues and for the Doshisha college fund. You are very kind to help us in these endeavors. I will see that the checks reach the proper treasurers.

I wish you might have been with us this Commencement, especially to see the beautiful new buildings. I am naturally particularly interested in the chapel, where so much of my own work will be done. It is a most beautiful building and cannot fail to be of great usefulness to the college.

Again thanking you for your kind thought, I am

Faithfully yours,



785  
November 20, 1916.

Rev. Stanley White, D.D.,  
156 Fifth Ave.,  
New York.

My dear Stanley;

I think your congratulations are all the pleasanter that they did not arrive in the bunch. I will let Mrs. Thomas enjoy them with me and then send them on to the daughter, who is now in her own home in Rutland. As you suggest, there are decidedly two sides to the marriage of daughters and by ourselves we would never have the courage to send them away. Marion has followed her mother's example in leaving the parental roof quite early in life.

You are a bold man to confess that you actually passed through Middlebury without looking us up. You would have found Mrs. Thomas and the children at home, and they would have been most happy to see you and to show you a little about the college. If you ever are within fifty miles again you must let me personally conduct you and show you one of the finest little colleges in the whole country. We are especially proud just now of our new chapel and a new dormitory and commons for boys.

The border experience was very interesting and I think I did some good, although I enjoyed college work much better. It was not exactly a vacation, although I came out of it all right.

I am glad to see your second letter is addressed Middlebury not boro. We are very proud of that bury and pronounce it just like the latter part of a strawberry. With most cordial regards, I am

Faithfully yours,

1349

January 11, 1916.

Rev. A. W. Wild,  
West Stewartstown, N.H.

My dear Mr. Wild;

I am very grateful to you for taking the trouble to write me concerning the promising students whom you would like to interest in Middlebury College. We shall be very glad indeed to send them literature and to do all we can to interest them in our institution. The more I see of other colleges and the more carefully I study our own work the more confident I am in pressing the case of Middlebury College to prospective students.

We are having a very pleasant winter with enjoyment from the new buildings which are adding so much to the campus. The white marble chapel is certainly very beautiful and I am sure the interior will be impressive and give us an opportunity to reach our students better than we have ever done before with a helpful religious spirit. The Hepburn dormitory is a magnificent building, commanding in size and excellent in all appointments. I have just come from a trip during which I conferred with Mr. Hepburn as to the furniture of the building, which he proposes to furnish, and which he wants right in every respect.

Again let me thank you for the evidences of your good will.

Faithfully yours,



1349

June 6, 1916.

Rev. A. W. Wild,

West Stewartstown, N.H.

My dear Mr. Wild;

I understand the situation and do not expect you to participate in our endeavors. But I know you would not want me to omit your name from the list of alumni to whom bulletins and appeals are sent from time to time. I wish very much you could be here and see the young man graduate, and also inspect our new buildings. We think the chapel especially beautiful and I believe it will exert a most helpful influence on our young people.

I know your loyalty and thank you sincerely for your good wishes.

Faithfully yours,

1141  
October 19, 1916.

President Mary E. Woolley,  
Mount Holyoke College,  
South Hadley, Mass.

My dear Miss Woolley;

I wish very much indeed that you would speak at one of our Sunday chapel services during the current academic year. I know you like to be at home each Sunday and that it is asking quite a little of you to make the trip to Middlebury. I know also that I am late in my invitation, but I did not know earlier that we would be in position to invite any one from outside. I have been made very happy by the character of the services we are able to have in our new Mead Memorial Chapel. The impressive and reverent room, with the organ and vested choir, make such a difference in comparison with the gymnasium where we were obliged to hold the services last year. The response of the students is most gratifying. Over one third of them are women and you are one of those I want most to be among the few I am privileged to invite. The honorarium would be \$50. I can arrange for you to come almost any Sunday of the academic year, if you will let me know that you are willing to do so and will give me an idea of available dates.

Faithfully yours,