

EXHIBIT

tabbies
24-1

May 27, 1914.

Doctor John A. Mead,
Rutland, Vermont.

My dear Governor Mead;

I have received your letter of May 26th. I will send you copies of the letters received from members of the Board, either herewith or by an early mail.

I will advise the R. D. Kimball Company of your advice as to preliminary plans for the heating system and will also try to hurry Messrs. Allen & Collens in their work. I suppose it is wise not to crowd them too much at this particular juncture, as it requires time to do a real good piece of work.

I enclose tentative program for the proposed exercises June 23rd. Please regard this as suggestive only and be free to make criticisms. I have tried to embody the features we have spoken of together, but if I have forgotten anything you will let me know. When we have a program which meets your approval, I will write the various participants and endeavor to secure their consent.

You will note that I have you down for "breaking ground and presentation of the corner stone". I thought it would be appropriate for you to turn the first spadeful of earth. We shall hardly be ready to lay the corner stone, but we can have it there and it seems to me that it would be appropriate for you to make a presentation of the corner stone to the college. The box containing the Bible and any other documents we place in it can be sealed during the ceremony. Naturally you would say a few words at this time concerning your thought in erecting a chapel for the college.

I think Doctor Barton would be the best man of our Board to speak on this occasion. He is greatly interested in the subject, has a wide reputation, and is an effective speaker. Professor Wright, being our Senior Professor, is the natural selection from the faculty and I am sure he would do well. It has occurred to me that it would be a pleasant feature to have a few words from one of the students, and so I have put down the president of the men's religious organization, who is also captain of the ball team.

Faithfully yours,

Middlebury-000520

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



[-1

Rutland, Vt., May 28, 1914.

Doctor John M. Thomas,
Middlebury, Vt.

My Dear Doctor:-

I have just received your favor of the 27th and have read the same with great pleasure, also have received the carbon copies received from the various trustees, all of which I have read with interest and will file with the other papers.

I notice in the order of exercises you state, "scripture lesson from the first copy of the Holy Bible brought into the Champlain valley." I think you intended this to be, into the Otter Creek valley.

Yesterday I was obliged to go to Pittsford in accordance with a promise made to appraise the estate of Mrs. George N. Boardman, and in accordance with his special request, and I regret to state that I found Doctor Boardman very very feeble and very deaf. I was almost sorry that I had met him, because I should much rather think of him as I saw him some two years or so ago. I also met Dr. Henry Walker and he seemed to me very feeble and nervous, and it appeared to me that he was unnecessarily worried over this what appeared to me as a very simple matter. I assured him that I could help him out and he needn't give it another thought. He seemed specially pleased at this. Mrs. Boardman's will is a very strange document, but I had with me Judge Harmon, our county clerk and one of our best lawyers, and he stated that the thing could be worked out, as he thought, satisfactorily. I kept in mind all the time the fact that both Doctor and Mrs. Boardman were to endow a professorship at the college and I hope that there will be a good substantial sum left for the same. ~~I shall be pleased to~~

If there is anything that you wish me to do in connection with this
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corner stone or the breaking of the ground, as you state, kindly advise.

I have just heard that people in "breaking ground", that they often
take and just remove a sod, and this is placed in a box or something, and
is taken sometimes home to the party specially interested, and that he
has used this in connection with some other object. I was thinking
of this just for a moment, that I might bring the piece of sod that is
removed and place the same in Evergreen Cemetery here in Rutland, as a
part of the sod which should be used in our burial lot, which is 50'
in width by some 75' in length, and contains the Mead monument and, as
you are aware, fourteen members of our family. This thought just oc-
curs to me at this moment. You can have this for your consideration.
We will have the little box with the bible which little John is to place
in the stone all properly arranged. Your selection of Doctor Barton
and Professor Wright, etc., meets with my entire pleasure.

With very kind regards, believe me,

Yours most respectfully,



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

tabbies' EXHIBIT
24-3

Rutland, Vt., June 16, 1914.

Doctor John M. Thomas,
Middlebury, Vt.

My Dear Friend:-

I have just received yours of the 15th and note that you would suggest of Judge Wicks accepting our invitation as a member of the building committee. I regret that I did not think of this before, but whenever I have been in Middlebury ~~it~~ has been a good deal of a hurry to return as quickly as possible, that business would not pile up on me here at the factory, and I have thought, as I stated in former letter, many a time of your suggestion as to Judge Wicks and I certainly thought it was advisable. I shall be delighted to have him with us.

As to the completing of the plans, I am just as anxious as you and would be more than pleased to have this building started at the earliest moment possible, though I do hope that we will not regret what we undertake, and when the plans are acceptable, then for us to find some contractor as quickly as possible.

As to Doctor Brainerd taking a part in the laying of the corner-stone, etc., it would be very pleasing to me.

I will endeavor to take up the subject of Mr. Bradford's being present.

I think I have not yet seen the announcement of the hour when the laying of the corner stone will be held. Several have asked me, but I could not tell them.

Thanking you for this information, I am,

Yours most respectfully,

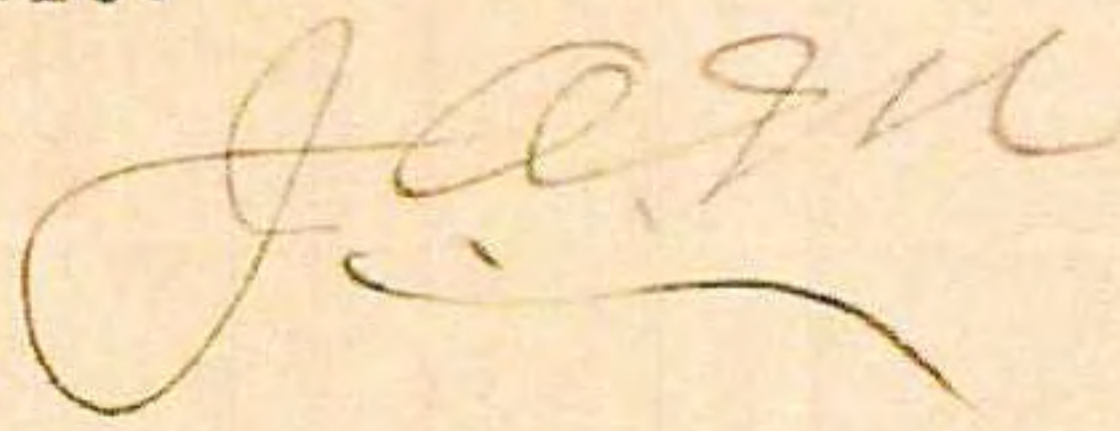


P. S. I have just had a talk with Mr. Bradford and he
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(J. M. T. #2)

that he knows of nothing now to detain him from being with us on Tuesday at the laying of the corner stone, and expresses a great deal of pleasure in the suggestion which is being made of his taking part.

I have also just this moment been and ordered a copper box and have asked our man to make it 6" x 8" x 1½". I think we talked about having the hole somewhat larger than that, but that will permit this being inserted without any trouble.



EXHIBIT

24-4

June 19, 1914.

Hon. John A. Mead,
Rutland, Vermont.

My dear Governor;

On my return from my Massachusetts trip I find your letter of June 16th. I have seen Judge Weeks and he will be very much pleased to serve with us on the Building committee. I think he will be very useful when it comes to practical matters in putting up the building.

I called on Mr. Collens yesterday and found that he was making good headway in the preparation of sketches. He will be able to show us something of the style which Professor Harrington seems to favor and I shall be much interested, as I have no doubt you will be also, in noting the impression made by the two general designs upon the members of the Board.

The hour fixed for the exercises is 2 P.M. Tuesday as noted on the program of commencement week, copies of which you have. I am very glad Mr. Bradford will be here.

I am glad to have the view of the Congregational church at Woodstock, which has always seemed to me one of the most beautiful buildings in Vermont. The interior is also very pleasing.

Faithfully yours,