PRESIDENT'S OFFICE,

THE HOWE SCALE COMPANY,
RUTLAND, VERMONT.

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.

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 osrry 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 appealed to me as a very simple I assured him that I could help him out and he needn't give it another thought. He seemed specially pleased at this. 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. 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 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. 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 occurs 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,

## Breaking Ground for the Mead Memorial Chapel and Presentation of the Corner Stone

June 23, 1914

X

MUSIC, by the College Band

## HYMN, O God, Beneath Thy Guiding Hand

O God, beneath Thy guiding hand, Our exiled fathers cross'd the sea; And when they trod the wint'ry strand, With pray'r and psalm they worship'd Thee.

Thou heard'st, well pleased, the song, the prayer: Thy blessing came; and still its power Shall on ward, through all ages, bear The memory of that holy hour. Laws, freedom, truth, and faith in God Came with those exiles o'er the waves; And where their pilgrim feet have trod, The God they trusted guards their graves.

And here Thy name, O God of love, Their children's children shall adore, Till these eternal hills remove, And spring adorns the earth no more.

SCRIPTURE LESSON, from the first copy of the Holy Bible brought into the Otter Valley

PRAYER, Ex-President Ezra Brainerd, '64

READING OF LETTER OF PRESENTATION

BREAKING GROUND AND PRESENTATION OF THE CORNER STONE, Ex-Governor John A. Mead, '64. A copy of the Holy Bible will be placed in the stone by John Abner Mead Hinsman

ACCEPTANCE IN BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES, Rev. James L. Barton, D. D., LL.D., '81

ADDRESS IN BEHALF OF THE FACULTY, Prof. Charles B. Wright ADDRESS IN BEHALF OF THE STUDENTS, Homer J. Vail, '14 HYMN, Onward, Christian Soldiers

Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war, With the cross of Jesus Going on before! Christ the royal Master Leads against the foe; Forward into battle, See, His banners go.

Like a mighty army
Moves the Church of God;
Brothers, we are treading
Where the saints have trod;
We are not divided,
All one body we,
One in hope and doctrine,
One in charity.

Crowns and thrones may perish,
Kingdoms rise and wane,
But the Church of Jesus
Constant will remain;
Gates of hell can never
'Gainst that Church prevail;
We have Christ's own promise,
And that cannot fail.

Onward, then, ye people!
Join our happy throng!
Blend with ours your voices
In the triumph song!
Glory, laud, and honor,
Unto Christ the King;
This through countless ages
Men and angels sing.

BENEDICTION, Rev. Arthur H. Bradford

Groundbreaking Sperint

Mr. President, Members of the Class of '64 and Friends.

As the devout Hebrew, wandering in distant climes far from the home of his fathers, ever turns his face, at sunset hour, toward the sacred city to offer his evening devotions, so to-day do we, the former students of Middlebury, on this anniversary day, stirred and thrilled by the glorious memories of the past, return instinutively to the shrine of our college life, to revisit the old Halls of Learning, now so sacred, to grasp again the hands of the few remaining friends, and to consecrate again our lives to the high ideals which for more than a century have inspired the students of our beloved Alma Mater.

As we have been approaching this milestone of our busy lives, the Commencement of 1914, to I have anticipated special pleasure in being permitted to place my offering upon the maltar of my academic life, and on this day, the fiftieth

anniversary of my graduation, when so large a per cent. of my classmates living can be present, to remove the soil and lay the corner stone of a Memorial Chapel which will rise from the highest portion of this Campus.

The history of my ancestors is such as to make it specially appropriate for me to assume this duty, for, as I stated in my letter to our President. Doctor Thomas, it was my greatgreat-grandfather, the first white settler on the Otter Creek, who brought the first copy of the Bible into this valley, and it was his wife, the mother of the first white child born in the valley, with her daughters gathered about her in an Indian wigwam, upon one side of which was seated the squaw and the papooses of the then Chief of the Caugnawagas, who read by the light of a pine torch a chapter from this Bible, and then kneeling with her daughters in a circle, she offered the first prayer, so far as history or tradition teaches, ever uttered in this valley.

A few months afterward, Rev. Benajah Root, a

graduate of Yale and a regularly ordained minister of the Congregational Church, came into this valley at Center Rutland, where the first religious society was organized, and my great-great-grand-mother was one of the fifteen charter members, and years afterwards my great-grandfather married the eldest daughter of said Reverend Mr. Root, and thus she became my great-grandmother on my father's side.

These relations, with many others which I will not rehearse, make it specially my duty to continue the noble work which theme ancestors inaugurated on the first evening of their arrival in this valley, and thus the thought of being able financially, and of being permitted physically, to erect this chapel has been the source of sincere pleasure to me for the last few months, and as I strive to discern the future, I am strengthened, yes, assured, by the many promises of Holy Writ, that the acts of this day performed under such favorable auspices, will be a source of great pleasure to my family, to my

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friends, and to myself, and I trust it will be "the bread cast upon the waters" which will return to many thousands who will succeed us as members of this college, and through their influence and teaching will remain a blessing to many others living in distant lands and during generations yet to come, and other thousands who will never know when or where the sacred seed was planted, which grew so abundantly and comforted them and theirs with sacred blessings, and which can only spring from one source.

Such has been my pleasing experience for the last few weeks and such are my hopes for the future, and for generations yet unborn.

As we stand upon this height of our campus, (made sacred this day by being consecrated to the development of the spiritual life, that which will continue unto the end, - that which will grow brighter and more beautiful as the succeeding generations roll away), from this height we look down upon the grand old chapel, which has been the sacred shrine of our fathers for nearly

invisible cords of love and reverence, reaching forth to every clime, which are entwined about thousands of sacred hearts, binding them more and more strongly to this temple of their youth. This sacred affection cannot be wholly transferred to this later temple, but our fathers and forefathers will all rejoice that a more complete structure has been provided for their children and children's children.

We also look down upon those noble structures of colonial art, old Painters and Starr Halls, and what previous memories are associated with these students' homes of the last three centuries!

Such, my friends, was Middlebury College (54)
years ago when I first came upon its campus,
with all her pleasant memories and her noble work
so well done.

The War of '61 and 65 had a most depressing effect upon our college life, absorbing largely the interest of the students, a large per cent. of whom left the college halls and hurried with

their brothers to the defence of their country, and it was nearly forty years before our Alma Mater recovered from the terrible scourge. Hundreds of thousands of our noblest sons were offered as a sacrifice on the Altar of Freedom, our nation was impoverished and burdened with a debt of many billions, many cities and towns were totally destroyed, many large sections both north and south were left as barren wastes, and thus it took nearly two generations to recover from this affliction.

but what has the last 12 to 15 years added to the original buildings, the Beautiful Library by Mr. Starr, Science Hall by Mr. Ezra Warner, (whom many of us so well remember,) Piersons Hall, by that grand old philanthropist, the McCullough Gymnasium, by our adopted brother, Gen. J. G.

McCullough, the Chemistry Building, the Girls and the first adjacent buildings. These useful and beautiful structures have within 15 years been placed upon our campus at a cost exceeding \$400,000. Such is the physical life

of our college to-day, with an increase of students of from 200 to 300 per cent.

But, my friends, what of the future? Do not fear - the future will in no respect discredit With our Doctor Thomas as standard bearer, with such a corps of professors and teachers, and with many thousand alumni and alumnae, all inspired by the noble deeds of the past century, and specially by the enormous growth of the last quarter of a century, its equal unknown in the history of New England college life, with an immediate future so rich in proffered assistance, we should have no fear less it might be the loss of our own self respect and of our high regard for the future of our children. If (50) years ago those of us then associated with Middlebury College could have raised the veil of the future only for a moment, would we not have been filled with surprise and admiration.

With the prestige of past success and with unabated confidence in the future, let us have perfect faith in the destiny of our Alma Mater,

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each realizing his duty. Let us labor that she may increase abundantly, not only in wealth and numbers, but in that which is infinitely better - growth in the mental, the moral and the spiritual life.

Inspired by this thought, my family and for huddling College, myself wish to dedicate this Memorial Chapel with good will and affection for to our respected President, Doctor Thomas, and former President and Classmate. Doctor Brainerd. and to all others associated with our Alma Mater. as Trustees, Teachers and Students, I wish to break the ground and place the corner stone for this Memorial Chapel, with the hope and prayer that there shall be a sacred duty resting upon to make this Holy Temple, so soon to be prected, an instrument of great good to those of this generation and to those who may follow after, and that our Alma Mater may be favored by steadily increasing numbers and with ample means for the noble work which will devolve upon her. and all of which she will attempt so willingly, so courageously and so faithfully.

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gr. Barton.

I am honored in being permitted, upon behalf of the Trustees of Middlebury College, to accept from the hands of one of their number, a graduate of the College and an honored citizen of this Commonwealth, this corner stone and that for which it stands, namely, a fitting chapel to be erected upon this site and to embody and represent and perpetuate the religious life of this College.

It is doubly gratifying to me, as it is to
the Board of Trustees, that this building, as a
memorial, will bear the name of a family so long
and so honorably connected with this institution
and thin in the state and nation has always
therefore true piety and civic and national
righteousness.

This College has always stood for Christianity and has aimed to send out its graduates
actuated by the leftiest Christian ideals. The
foundations of this institution were laid by the
sons of the Pilgrims and the Puritans. Their
ideas of the place religion should hold is

demonstrated by their making the Chapel the central building of the first three buildings erected. This has been encroached upon and crowded by the increasing material demands until the Spiritual idea seemed to be overshadowed by the material. Today we see the religious ideals of our forefathers emancipated and exalted to this loftier position and embodied in a structure worthy the College and its resplendent history. Here, upon this hilltop it will, by the outlines and symmetry of its architecture, proclaim that this College believes in God, in the supremacy of righteousness, in the creation of a safe, sane and just society, the triumph of justice, the transcendent worth of character, the reality of the unseen, and in the immortality of the soul.

Christianity has always been the friend of education. In the middle ages when intellectual life stagnated, the Church kept burning upon the altar of learning the flame of true education. It was the Church that with deep penetrating prevision laid both upon

the Continent of Europe and in Great Britain the foundations of the greatest Universities of the Old World. The history of education in America is but a repetition of the story of the leader-ship of the Church in the promotion of sound learning.

Even today, among the more than 360 colleges reported by the Commissioner of Education in the United States, only 30 are known to be secular in their origin and management. On the other hand, education has not always given due place to that for which the Church stands and sometimes has tried to rule it out as antagonistic.

In this Chapel education and religion will meet upon common ground and none can say to the other "I have no need of thee." Education will lift religion from the realm of sentiment into the sphere of intelligence, and religion will save education from provincial narrowness, self-destructive, arrogance.

There are two kinds of education, that which culminates in the accumulation of know-ledge, and that which imparts constructive power

through the creation of character. Both are necessary for the development of a broad and balanced manhood and womanhood. The library, the halls of science and history and philosophy and literature, as well as the gymnasium and the athletic field, are essential parts of a true college. Through these the awakening minds as well as bodies of the students are aroused to effort and made to experience new visions, and arrive at new conclusions regarding the material and intellectual universe. But education must take cognizance of the fact that above the body and the mind of man there presides a spiritual self whose capacity for growth is boundless and through whose action character becomes selfassertive. This superior self can find its satisfaction only in an atmosphere of spiritual ideas and in the realm of spirit. It is that part of man which reaches out after God and in its searching cries, "Oh that I knew where I might find Him."

This chapel will provide for the generations of students and faculties of this college that to

which the other buildings cannot minister. To this place all will turn in order to experience the reality of the unseen, to satisfy the thirst of the soul for God.

as to be superior to every financial want, though its faculty surpass all others in recognized intellectual and pedagogical supremacy, though it impart all knowledge and all wisdom in every department of modern education, though its researches be as broad as the universe and as boundless as time, yet, if its supreme purpose be not to create Christian character it will become a national menace and an intellectual monstrosity.

Throughout the East religion is interwoven with the daily concerns of all. It is
this that has saved society from chaotic dissolution through the unrestrained passions of
evil men by casting about them the restraining
influences of a genuine religious belief.
Only we Christians are inclined to question the
place of religion in shaping character and in

the creation of ideas and ideals that shall dominate. Religion is the greatest concern of
all races and conditions of men in all the
world. It calls out the greatest sacrifices,
inspires the most astounding heroism, commands
the largest army of devotees, and exercises a
more resistless sway than all physical and intellectual ideals and forces combined.

We are here today concerned with the erection of a structure that will stand, not only for a religion, but for that religion whose supremacy is acknowledged by all others and whose beneficent sway means purity of thought and purpose, perfection of character, and self-sacrificing service for humanity. The building to be erected on this spot is exalted above the gymnasium as the soul is exalted above the body; above the library as the oracles of God written upon the human heart are above the printed words of men; above the halls of science, art, philosophy and history, as the author and creator is above that which he has created; superior to all that human vision can grasp as

the unseen, eternal God is exalted above that which is temporal.

behalf of themselves and their successors, in the name of the generations of students it will serve, in full recognition of the supreme importance of such a religious center to the life of the institution, and in loving memory of him whose name this structure is to bear, gratefully accept at your hand this Chapel as we pledge ourselves to safeguard to the limit of our capacity the gift and the ideals it is intended to perpetuate.

Exhibit 2 - 027

Mr. President, Doctor and Mrs. Mead, and friends of the College here gathered:-

The most beautiful stories of the world are those of fulfilled desire, and it is to the opening chapter of such a story that we have come today. I esteem it a peculiar privilege that it falls to me - as an older member, not a better; as one who has awaited, not more earnestly but longer, the coming of this hour - to express in however imperfect a fashion the joy of the Faculty in this realization of a cherished hope. That joy is common to us all - to students and alumni, to Trustees, Faculty, and friends - but the deepest satisfaction should be found in the hearts of the Maculty, for the reason that of all these groups it is they who should appreciate most fully our need of the chapel that is here begun. How, indeed, could it be otherwise? They are in daily touch with the college life, as Trustees and Alumni cannot be; and that touch is prolonged, as the undergraduate touch is not, through an ever-increasing number of college generations. I would not minimize others' delight in the great good fortune that we share. The Corporation may well rejoice in this generous benefaction, with its timely and convincing proof of a strength for Middlebury commensurate with her days. Nor will any one question, who knows them well, the happiness of our students in the prospect now unfolding. The thoughts of youth are long, long thoughts. Oftener than the world believes, there is, I doubt not, in student minds, beneath their careless seeming, a wistful longing, an unsatisfied hunger, for the deep things of the Spirit; nor do I doubt that this latest gift has kindled in student hearts a hope,

vague and unformulated, perhaps, but real and rich in promise, that with this chapel there is coming for Middlebury a new and better order in which they are to have a part. All this is true, yet nevertheless it is the Faculty to whom for years the need must have seemed most pressing, and to whom in consequence the splendid possibilities of that new order should reveal themselves most fully.

Archbishop Temple, himself for years a second Arnold at Rugby, said once to one who was reconstructing an ancient grammar school, "If I were making a school, I should create the chapel first of all." There is no true pedagogics in any other plan: the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. And I trust that in the truest sense Middlebury College, from the very first, has been built about her chapel; how else account for that bead-roll of her sons whose consecrated service in every field has been for more than a hundred years her chief cause for pride? Nor would I exalt unduly the need of a stately structure for the effective fostering of spiritual life: it needs but the dream of a ladder and of angels ascending and descending on it, to make of even a desert place a veritable house of God and gate of heaven. But the soul, with artist instinct, has ever craved embodiment in form -"For soul is form, and doth the body make" - and vaulted nave and rhythmic hymn are alike the outcome of its Godward aspiration. Such an embodiment should this structure be. Happy this institution if the chapel we have here begun a chapel whose very lines, I trust, as they rise upon this summit, may prove for us all in the years to come a compelling call to goodness; whose very atmosphere, I trust, may dispose

our hearts to praise - shall be but a fit expression, a symbol in stone, of the mingled strength and beauty of the Middlebury life.

The Faculty thank you, Governor Mead, from profoundly grateful hearts. You have bodied forth our dream of years; you have given to an airy nothing a local habitation - and not the least of our pleasure is the thought that through all the days to be it will bear your honored name.





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Newspapers by ancestry

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DR. MEAD TURNS SOD
FOR 'MIDD'S' CHAPEL
(Continued From Page One.)

GROUND FOR CHAPEL BROKEN
GIFT OF EX-GOV. J. A. MEAD TO
MIDDLEBURY.
Gov. Mead Also Makes Gift of Corner
Stone-His Duty To Continue the
Work Begun By His Ancestors.
The exercises of commencement
week at Middlebury Tuesday centered largely in the ceremony of breaking
ground for the Mead memorial chapel,
the gift of Former Gov. John A.
Mead of Rutland.
A scripture lesson, from the first copy of the Bible brought into the
Otter Creek valley, was read. Former
President Ezra Brainerd offered the
prayer.
Ex-Gov. Mead broke ground for the new chapel and made the presenta-
tion of the corner stone. A copy of
the Bible was placed in the stone by
John Abner Mead Hinsman of Rut-
land, grandson of the donor.  In his address at the breaking of
ground Gov. Mead said:
which I will not rehearse, make it
ground Gov. Mead said: 'These relations, with many others which I will not rehearse, make it specially my duty to continue the noble work which these ancestors in-
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Rev. James L. Barton, DD., LL. D.,
spring from one source." Rev. James L. Barton, DD., LL. D., of Boston, also a graduate of the col- lege and a member of the board of trustees, delivered an address in ac- cepting the gift from former Gov. Mead. Prof. Charles B. Wright de- livered the address in behalf of the student body. The exercises closed with hemediction by Rev. Arthur H.
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Mead Memorial Chapel.

The festivities of commencement week centered largely in the ceremony of breaking ground for the Mead memorial chapel at 2:00 p. m., the gift of former Gov. John A. Mead of Rutland. The exercises of laying the corner stone were very impressive.

A scripture lesson, from the first copy of the Bible brought into the Otter Valley, was read. Former President Ezra Brainerd offered the prayer.

Ex-Gov, Mead then broke ground for the new chapel and made a presentation of the corner stone. A copy of the Bible was placed in the stone by John Abner Mead Hinsman of Rutland, grandson of the donor.

The acceptance of the gift in behalf of the trustees was by Rev. James L. Barton. Prof. Charles B. Wright delivered the address in behalf of the faculty. Homer J. Vail, '14, gave the address in behalf of the student body. The exercises closed with benediction by Rev. Arthur H. Bradford of Rutland.

At 4:00 o'clock came the ball game between the Chinese University of Hawaii and Middlebury, resulting in a score of 7 to 2 in favor of Middlebury. https://www.newspapers.com/image/533613995

## THREE-YEAR-OLD PARTICIPATES.

## Ex-Gov. Mead's Grandson Helps to Break Ground for Mead Memorial.

An interesting episode in connection the ceremonies of breaking ground for the Mead Memorial chapel at Middlebury last week was the placing in the corner stone of a copper box, hermetically sealed, by John Abner Mead Hinsman, three-year-old grandson of the donor. This box contained a copy of the Holy Bible, a national silk flag, copies of the Rutland Daily Herald of June 16, 1914. Rutland Evening News of June 25, 1914, and the Middlebury College Campus of June 20, 1914, containing descriptive articles upon the nature and offering of the gift, and also a program of the Middlebury college commencement exercises for 1914, the speech of former Gov. Mead upon the auspicious occasion and the cards of the family, Dr. and Mrs. John Abner Mead, Mr. and Mrs. Carl B. Hinsman and John Abner Mead Hinsman.

In the ceremony of breaking the sod for the foundation of the edifice, ex-Gov. Mead, assisted by his grandson, who, with a spade the handle of which was decorated with blue and white ribbon, the colors' of the college, worked with a will amid the applause of the audience.

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