

HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.

Stephen A. Douglass, a native of Vermont, after practicing law a few years in western New York, removed to Illinois. By frequent visits to Chicago he became so impressed with its prospective greatness that he purchased lands on the ^lLake~~l~~shore embracing the late University campus and adjacent private parks. Awake to the importance of higher education in the rapidly growing west, he dedicated ten acres, [now estimated to be worth about four hundred thousand dollars,] for a ^uUniversity, and through a personal friend^h, Rev. Dr. Eddy, a Presbyterian clergyman, offered it in trust to the Presbytery of Chicago. The prejudice against Senator Douglas on account of his motion in Congress for the repeal of the law limiting the extension of slavery, prevented the acceptance of the trust.

At the close of a political caucus at the Tremont House Judge Douglas, alluding to the delay in answering his overture, said in substance to the late Charles Walker, "I am disposed to transfer my offer of lots for a ^uUniversity to the Baptists. My mother was a Baptist, my wife is a Baptist, and my preferences have always been with that denomination."

~~Mr. Walker was eminently enthused with the~~
[Mr. Walker came from central New York where he was known as a leader both in secular and religious circles. Enthused with the enobling sentiment, "The public good is the noblest aim," he was prepared to enter enthusiastically into the hopes and enterprises of the new town. He came first to Chicago in 1834 establishing business relations which required frequent visits till ~~his final~~ ^{his} ~~at settlement~~ his permanent settlement in 1843. He was foremost among projectors of the Board of Trade, and one of its first presidents. He shipped the first grain to Buffalo, thus opening

the great grain trade of Chicago with the ^{East} EAST. When the first ^rrailroad out of Chicago was opened he followed the surveyors from town to town, persuading the people to give right of way, and take stock in the new thoroughfare for travel and transportation. He was no less enthusiastic in encouraging the first manufactures, ^cChurches, and schools of Chicago.]

~~take stock in the new thoroughfare for travel and transportation.~~

As the prophetic genius, and ~~the~~ most widely known and influential Baptist of Chicago, Mr. Walker was the providential man to entertain, on ~~the~~ behalf of a great denomination, Judge Douglas's important overture. After a conference with ~~the~~ leading Baptists, consultation with the proposed donor was sought in regard to the terms of the gift. Daniel Cameron, general in the army of the ^{Union} UNION in the late war, at that time associated with Douglas in the publication of a political journal, ~~and~~ being himself a Baptist, became active in the first correspondence with his partner and political confrere. After his pastor, Dr. J. C. Burroughs, had been persuaded to give his time to the development of the great educational enterprise, he united with others in writing to the ^S Senator, then sick at Terre Haute, Indiana, asking him to make ^{tr.} known fully to Dr. Burroughs his plans and wishes in regard to the proposed ^u University. Mr. Cameron himself also visited Terre Haute and discussed with Douglas at length questions relating to the charter of the ^u University, especially in relation to its religious character. ^{Judge} He wished it to be like other American ^u Universities, decidedly Christian, but not ^S Sectarian. He saw no way ^{LC} of pledging its loyalty to Christianity without confiding ~~to~~ ^{to} administration to some denomination of Christians. He felt that the principles, traditions, and martyr testimony of Baptists to both civil and religious liberty gave as sure a guaranty to the inviolability of the trust as it could have under the regime of any other body of Christians. He therefore deeded ten acres of land to Dr. Burroughs

3.

in trust for a ^uUniversity under the control of the Baptist denomination, and Dr. B. ^mbecame its first president.

Among Baptists and other prominent citizens rallying early to the support of this movement financially and officially, should be named William Jones, whose donations and bequest amounted to about forty thousand dollars; J. Y. Scammon, who gave scarcely less in the erection of the Observatory and other occasional donations; Thomas Hoynes, for several years paying the expenses of the Law Department; William B. ^{Dr. A. J. Smith}Ogden; J. R. Doolittle; L. D. Boon; Judge Thomas, ^{S. W. Woodworth,}J. K. Pollard; E. B. McKaig; James E. Tyler; Samuel Hoard; C. N. Holden; Cyrus Bentley; James K. Burtis, Col. ^{M. A.}Rust; Robert Harris; ^{O. W.}Barret, and others who gave largely of their means or faithful service in earnest endeavors to establish the University of Chicago.

Though the donation of lands was conditioned upon their not being mortgaged for improvements, the haste to inaugurate the departments of instruction was so great that their donor, himself a member of the ^fBoard, tacitly yielded to its persuasions, and a loan was raised on the property for the erection of the first ^uUniversity building, and Douglas himself made an address at the laying of the corner stone. Rev. J. B. Olcott, a man of great experience and executive ability in public enterprises, had accepted the financial ^SSecretaryship of the University. He had assisted Dr. Burroughs in obtaining subscriptions amounting to nearly a hundred thousand dollars in Chicago. But through financial revulsion and ^{the}alleged condition of some of the subscriptions, a large part of this amount was never collected.

4.

Mr. Olcott obtained about a hundred thousand dollars in subscriptions in the ^{S/}state, which became an ^{tr}available resource, till nearly the last dollar was paid. But expenses were so great and receipts so slow that the interest on the loan and the current expenses were not punctually provided for, and the increase of debt began seriously to embarrass the ^{S/}Board and raise the question of responsibility for the **disordered finances.**

The secretary, discouraged by non-payment of subscriptions and by inability to increase public confidence, or unite the ^{S/}Board in any efficient measures for improving the financial condition, reluctantly and sadly resigned, his official trust. This withdrawal of one of its earliest and staunchest friends left the University without any financial policy or headship, and deepened the general discouragement.

At length Rev. M. G. Clark, with the highest reputation as a successful leader, was persuaded to undertake to ^{tr}resore public confidence and carry forward the enterprise. After temporary provision to meet pressing obligations, to awaken new interest, ^{S/}measures were taken for paying off debts, and enlarging appointments for the University at the same time. Professor Mixer, the popular teacher of languages, gave up his duties in the class-room to assist the ^{S/}Secretary in his great undertaking. About a hundred thousand dollars was collected from old and new subscriptions, and the new building ^dwas completed.

Meantime Prof. ^{S/}Mixer, aided by others, had procured and had

5.

t/ equipped the best telescope in the country, Hon. J. Y. Scammon next to Douglas the largest benefactor of the University, erecting the Observatory at his own expense. 2/

Besides, to stimulate the contributions and crown the hopes of friends of the University, it was understood that William B. Ogden, the first mayor of Chicago, and then a member of the Board of the University, would erect another wing to the main building, as soon as the whole mortgaged and floating debt was removed. But when the main building and Observatory mounting the best telescope in the country, were completed, adding more than one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars to the net value of the University property, and the required subscription for paying off the entire debt, and obtaining Mr. Ogden's crowning gift seemed assured, latent divisions of counsels in the Board became pronounced. Messrs. Mixer and Clark felt compelled to abandon their work. The conditional subscription was lost. The claim of creditors was greatly augmented. 2/

Lemuel Moss, LL. D., encouraged by Baptist friends of education, entered upon the forlorn hope of restoring public confidence and saving the property of the University, Dr. J. C. Burroughs assuming the office of Chancellor. At Dr. Moss' request a Committee of eastern friends of the University, was appointed to visit Chicago and report its condition and measures for saving it. But on the very day the three men, possessing the entire confidence of the denomination, and abundantly able themselves to pay off its debts, were to start for Chicago, an official telegram informed them that any pecuniary assistance would be gratefully received, but the Board would 2/

6.

decline any foreign interference in the administration of the University. The visit to Chicago was indefinitely postponed. Eastern friends felt themselves stopped from further efforts to help the University, while debt and discouragement kept an apace. Through a question of official rank and jurisdiction a revolution occurred in the ^{b/}Board, releasing Dr. Moss to the presidency of the University of Indiana, and dooming the University of Chicago to ^areign of more violent partisanship, greater loss of public confidence, and deeper ^adiscouragement. During the turbulent experiences of this period Senator Doolittle had consented to act as vice-president of the University, and sought by mediating service and sacrifice to avert perils encompassing it. Hon. ^aS. Abernethy, one of the graduates of the University, who had risen to honorable rank in the Union army in the late war, was persuaded by love for his alma mater to make another effort to unite the counsels, and save the promise of the University. But after a year or two of vain endeavors to improve its financial condition, or the harmony and efficiency of its ^{b/}Board, he left the University with still increasing debt and still darkening discouragements.

At length Dr. Galusha Anderson, with superior talents, ripe experience, and encouragement of friends east and west, made another struggle to save the University. But he could not overcome the chronic disunion, or raise funds to prevent proceedings for foreclosure of ^{m/}Mortgage against its property. Creditors agreed to cancel

7.

their claims for a hundred thousand dollars and received five thousand as an acceptance of their offer. But the balance was not obtained. And after considerable delay the ^bBoard, on the ground that the mortgage they had given was not a legal security, offered their creditors fifty thousand dollars as payment in full. The creditors were indignant, and declared that the ^bBoard sought not only to rob them of their money, but also of their business reputation, in assuming that they ^{tr}accepted bogus securities for their loans. From that time the ⁱInsurance ^cCompany, no longer seeking settlement by compromise, demanded the face of their claims, and pressed proceeding for foreclosure. The University could no longer pay salaries and for a year or two special contributions were raised for the support of the Faculty in the forlorn hope of rehabilitating the ^{institution}University. At length the President, giving up hope, left with unpaid salary, and professor after professor followed, and some of them with feeling of disappointment that clouded the rest of their lives.

Still later, while progress of foreclosure seemed slow, and uncertain, it was hoped that Prof. ^{W. H. Harper}, supported by ^{the}friendship and credit of J. D. Rockefeller, would decline a flattering call to Yale College and give the prestige of his name and great talents to one more effort to recover a lost cause. And his most intimate friends believe that his sense of duty, and generous nature would have prompted the heroic experiment and crowned it with success, had not a divided vote in the ^bBoard forbade his giving up the bright promise

8.

at New Haven for an undertaking made twice as hazardous by divided counsels.

Afterward, when an effort was made to obtain ^a a syndicate of Baptist friends of education to redeem the property and reorganize a Board and Faculty, allowing the denomination two or three years to reimburse them and formally assume the administration of the restored University, the officialism which had defeated so many hopeful efforts checkmated this measure also by appointing a president pro tem, who at the end of an heroic struggle, said publicly that the denomination had failed to support his endeavors to recover the lost institution.

Still later, when a citizen of Chicago had promised to become responsible for a hundred thousand dollars, if a like amount could be obtained East, and a third citizen of unsurpassed efficiency had agreed to unite in securing a third hundred thousand dollars toward restoring the University, and the projector of this movement felt assured of success, an unexpected and formidable antagonism arose, leading to the abandonment of the plan.

Other facts may be recalled to show the inability of the Board, manipulated and discouraged as it was, to seize any advantage or carry out any vigorous measure to build up the University. At the time of Douglas's death his friends saw the feasibility of paying for the main building by making it his monument, with his statue conspicuously placed in the tower. A member of the Board went East, delivered an address on "the interest of the Republic in her great men" in several places, and met gentlemen from every part of the country at Saratoga, who enthusiastically approved the plan and

9.

promised personal cooperation in carrying it out. But just as he was ready to open the new subscription, word was received that a meeting had been held in Chicago of those favoring a separate monument for Douglas, who in the absence of those seeking a grander memorial, organized the rival plan and sacrificed another golden opportunity for assuring the ~~promise~~ ^{success} of the University.

An attempt was made to have the public lands appropriated by Congress to Illinois for Industrial education valued at three quarters of a million devoted to founding an agricultural college in the agricultural center of the State, and a polytechnic school in Chicago, the polytechnic center of the commonwealth, to be located on the lands donated by Senator Douglas for higher education. The measure was defeated by apathy, if not by division of the Counsel in the Board.

An offer of a quarter of a million of dollars was made to the University for a Polytechnic school, on easy terms. But dilatory and inefficient negotiation with the proposed benefactor failed to secure the gift. A rival University in a suburb of Chicago obtained the bequest, on condition that the school should be located in the city. It ^{has been} ~~was~~ reported that the suburban college, unwilling to share its local honors with the city, has forfeited the endowment now doubled in value, by neglecting to found a polytechnic school in Chicago.

After the great fire had made ^{yet} more desperate the financial condition of the University, a sale of lots was made on its behalf East and West. But on account of apathy ⁱⁿ ~~of~~ the Board and sudden de-

cline in values of real estate the sale, though amounting to more than a hundred thousand dollars, yielded little profit to the University, while it caused heavy losses to ~~the~~ self-sacrificing friends.

Thus from the first in its external administration, partly no doubt from unfavorable circumstances, but much more from divided and partisan counsels, the University ignominiously failed. It would seem ^{it} absurd to attribute the disasters of the Chicago University mainly to periods of financial revulsion, when ^{through} ~~with~~ the same ~~friends~~ ^{friends} and with less promise at first the ~~University~~ ^{Northwestern} University increased its endowment to more than two millions; Lake Forest its endowment to more than a million; the Presbyterian Seminary increased its properties to about a million; and the Congregational Seminary acquired scarcely less property. The Chicago University not only failed to add to its properties, but lost its original magnificent gift. Through accumulations of interest, deficits in meeting current expenses, commissions on loans, and expenses of unwise litigations, an original debt of some twenty thousand dollars increased to the formidable claim of four hundred and forty-two thousand dollars made just before ^{was} ~~the~~ ^{begun} the demolition of the magnificent group of buildings which had stood in the center of Chicago more than thirty years, ~~beginning~~

The creditors deny that they were to blame for this deplorable iconoclasm. They charge the University with not only seeking to rob them of their money, but also of their business reputation, by declaring the securities given them ~~not~~ not valid, and thus forcing

11.

them to the ~~Courts~~^c for redress. But may not friends of the University ^{urge} ~~claim~~ that a rich corporation, whose claim had become so formidable, partly through commissions and high rates of interest, should have been more considerate of the great cause of education, and not so lightly ^{have} ~~overthrow~~^m the University of Chicago? That they should not ~~have~~ so willingly have dishonored a great denomination, struggling with a great enterprise of philanthropy, while enthralled with incompetent or partisan leadership, which could formulate action of ^c Committee or Board, prevent impartial discussion of measures, disregard suggestions and appeals of wise counsellors, and leave the friends of the University ignorant of its real ~~condition and~~ perils, *and without official power to interfere* till it was too late to save it?

[Some ^{tr.} have supposed that disagreeable histories should be suppressed, but the Bible did not suppress the treachery of Joseph's brethren, the conspiracies against Moses, the sin of David, the *shame* ~~vices~~ of Solomon, nor the rivalries and disputes of Christ's Apostles. The justice of history will not suffer the lamp of public experience to be put out. The "ghost" of any public iniquity will "not down" at cowardly and untruthful bidding. The best ^{tr.} safeguard against errors of the future is faithful exposure, and frank confession of errors of the past. A more vigilant and conscientious officialism, and a more loyal and fearless Journalism are ^{ies} prime necessities of our times. With the audacity of ~~an~~ irresponsibility men rush ^{to} places of power where angels might shrink abashed.

[No one seems to question his capacity to fill any office in

municipality, ^s State, or Nation. All seem to grasp at honors without waiting for honors to crown their virtues and expert wisdom. Hence the maladministration of political trusts, and the wreckage of educational and charitable institutions. Benefactors confiding their wealth to the administration of those whose chief qualification for the trust is appreciation of office, have little assurance ^{that} their bequest will answer the purpose for which it was made. ^{PD} To the last, ^a Alumni, ^b Benefactors, and the most enlightened friends of the University hoped for its rehabilitation on the ⁿ lands donated for it by Senator Douglas. Those working most effectively to realize Mr. Rockefeller's conditional promise, fondly hoped that after the million dollars had been secured, it would not be too late to regain the lost property, and thus redeem the tacit pledge of the Denomination to Douglas and other benefactors. But the expectation ^d ^{of those who thought thus} was vain. The [^] apprehension of others of danger ⁱⁿ delay was sadly justified. The demolition of such an architectural pile, consecrated to such beneficent purposes, located in a city of such limitless resources in wealth and enterprise, seems a more profane and deplorable iconoclasm than the burning of royal palaces, public libraries, and ^r temples of Religion by Mohammedan fanaticism in the early Christian centuries, or the ruthless devastation of towns and cities following the invasion of ⁿ Northern Vandals in Southern Europe.

[Overthrow of ^l Empire may be as instructive in history as a reign of peace, ^{the} wreck of a Republic as ^{the} stability of its administration. ^{this} May record of disasters in the history of Chicago University, as a beacon, warn those assuming guardianship of educational or other

public trusts against betraying them through partisan or inefficient administration, and guide them in ^{to} wise and successful measures for promoting higher education and the general public welfare.]

[The late death of Prof. Olson, ^{who,} in his last communication to a friend in Chicago before the tragic event, ^{did} pleading for the rehabilitation of the University, and the death of Rev. J. B. Olcott, its first financial secretary, and of J. Y. Scammon, one its earliest and largest benefactors, and of two of its latest and accomplished ^{men were leveling} professors, Messrs. Howe and Howes, while the walls and towers of the University were ~~being leveled~~ ^{by} to the Earth before the wondering, and almost tearful gaze of Chicago, ~~added to the pathos of the catastrophe~~ ^{the} as symbolizing ruthless wreck of noblest aims, hopes and deeds of life, ^{added to the pathos of the catastrophe!}]

Painfully ^{of} watching the decline of the Chicago University many years, and daily observation of the late demolition of its massive walls, graceful turrets, and lofty tower, while crowds were pausing before the spreading ruin, inquiring with wonder, bated ^{the} breath and sometimes tearful eyes, what this great destruction might mean, and who should be blamed for such stupendous iconoclasm, inspired the following Elegy, articulating the sad inquiry, the indignant protest, and profound sorrow of a thousand loyal and loving hearts.

[It was hoped that the ablest of American college ^h Presidents might leave the oldest Baptist ^c College of America^d to organize a Baptist ^u University in the rising metropolis of the West. Whether devotion to Brown University alone, or apprehension of elements of weakness afterwards developed in the new corporation, also, contributed to deter Dr. Wayland from accepting the trust can only be surmised. It was credit^aible to Dr. Burroughs that he visited Providence to urge upon him the claims and promise of the new educational enterprise, ~~and that he modestly objecte^{ing}d~~ to his own promotion to the presidency, and finally appear^{ing}ed to regard himself as holding the office for some coming man. Since leaving the University Dr. Burroughs has been honorably associated with the superintendance of the public schools of Chicago.]

d/ [Division of counsels from the first, promoted rather than placate^d by partisan or timid Baptist journals, prevented ^{the} filling of professorships in the University. At one time measures were considered for the removing ^{to Chicago} of Dr. W. R. Williams, (~~at the time~~ ^{then} deemed the most learned clergyman in this country, ~~to Chicago~~), with his rare and large library. But dilatory action failed to realize even his promised visit to the new University to consider its claims.

[Professor Richards, one of the most brilliant scientific lecturers in the country, was commended for the ^c Chair of natural sciences. Members of the Board earnestly pressed his appointment. Terms of service were agreed upon. Large subscriptions were offered by leading citizens towards his support and it was believed that his lecturing through the West would make the endowment of his chair

easy, and attract students to the University. But a party was form-^{ed}
~~ed~~ ^{which thwarted} ~~overruling~~ the ~~expected~~ action of the Board. Robert Harris was so
discouraged by the defeat of this appointment and the overthrow of
s/ Dr. Moss' administration that he gave up office and hope for the
University.]

pa/ [Nathan Shepherd, the Journalist, lecturer, and elocutionist,
representing the culture in special demand in the new West, was en-
gaged for a Chair in the new institution. He was abroad at the time
lc/ of the great fire, to further improve himself for his supposed life
work in Chicago. Being in Paris at the time of the great disaster
which that impoverished Chicago and threatened the University, he made
successful appeals in London and in Paris for enlarging its library.
But an anonymous article in a Chicago paper, animated by partisan spirit
that clouded the proceedings of the Board, insinuated that Prof. Shep-
pa/ herd was not officially connected with the University, or authorized
to collect funds for it. James E. Tyler, one of the most honored
members of the Board, in the same paper, repelled the slanderous at-
pa/ tack, attesting Prof. Shepherd's official relations to the University
and his authority to receive contributions for its library.]

& Prof. William A. Mathews, the distinguished author and
literary critic, though endeared to Chicago by affiliation with its
culture, social and religious progress, and for several years asso-
ciated with the University Faculty, was so dissatisfied with its ad-
ministration and out-look that he left it and the city of his adopt-
ion and sought genial pursuits in the Athens of America.

is/ Prof. J. R. Boyce, the distinguished scholar, and author of Greek text books, was attracted from the University of Ann Arbor by *speaks/* the promise of the new University of the growing ^mMetropolis of the West. The only endowment ever obtained for the University was secured for his chair. But dissatisfactions and darkening out-look released him to a chair in Morgan Park Seminary, where he is finishing the scholarly work of his life.

professor Prof. Mixer, after earnest double service in the class room and in finance to save the University, accepted the Chair of Modern Languages in the University of Rochester, which he continues to honor.

Professors Johnson, Sylla, and Sawyer passed away before the University had sunk into the gloom of settled ~~dis~~pair, and are *e/* remembered gratefully by alumni in different parts of the country.

McChesney, not satisfied with the uncertain out-look of the chair of *g/* Geology in the University of Chicago, enjoyed ^{now} a generous competence acquired by service as mining expert and engineer.

essors Prof. Freeman and Stearns affectionately remembered by graduates from Chicago, adorn chairs in the State University of Wisconsin. Prof. ^{part}Hudnot, after winning marked confidence and respect of the Faculty and students of the Chicago University, won equal honor in the service of the State University of Illinois. Prof. *howe* Bastion, leaving the University in the general discouragement, became teacher in higher departments of the public education of Chicago.

8 Professors ^{Riggs, Stuart,} Howe, Howes, Olson, and Butler continued hoping for rehabilitation of the Old University through all the deepening gloom of discouragement, till the decision of the ill-advised lawsuit ^H

17.

closed its doors against them. Prof. Olson, after a career of extraordinary usefulness in the University of South Dakota, died but a few weeks before the culmination of the catastrophe of the University he had honored both as its graduate and as member of its faculty.

Professors Howe and Howes died at their homes in sight of the crumbling walls and falling towers of the University buildings on successive days, honored and beloved by all who knew them.

Prof. Butler*, loyal to Chicago University till the last hope of saving it and restoring its prestige and promise, had faded out, now holds an important Chair in the State University of Illinois, with brightening fame. Professor Stuart &c.

Though ~~they~~ struggling with difficulties for which they were not responsible the professors of Chicago University wrought a noble work. While the city was growing in material resources they were developing a taste for learning, attracting young men to the pursuit of higher education, and twining the laurel of culture around the column of its commercial greatness. They enriched a soil for the growth of skilled manufactures, refinement of Art, the adornment of learned professions, and the graces of social life. As the Academy of Athens, schools of philosophy in Corinth and Rome elevated and refined the civilization of their times, so the Christian college ~~en-~~ ⁱⁿ⁻ ~~riches~~ ^{enriches} our American civilization with beautiful sentiments and ennobling aspirations, and imparts to our free institutions that "wisdom and knowledge" which are the only certain guaranty of "the stability of the times and strength of Salvation" to a Republic.

[Students of Chicago University have adorned every honorable

* Professor Butler has recently accepted an appointment in the new Chicago University [W. L. P.]

18.

calling and profession, the sphere of trade, finance, ^l Law, ^m Medicine, ^b Politics, the ^t Judiciary, the ^r Press, and the ^p Pulpit. Hundreds have taught schools and colleges, and filled pulpits in towns and cities of our own country, or borne the Gospel and Christian civilization to heathen lands. With an enthusiasm and persistence nourished by the air from our lakes and prairies, educated western men have become leaders in manufactures, commerce, social progress, and in Christian missions and civilization over the ^l Earth. In Chicago alone are three millionaires, ~~but~~ a score of lawyers, and a judge of one of the ^c Courts, who were enrolled among the early students of this University.]

19 [A University in a great city has advantages, denied to any suburban institution, in immediate accessibility to churches, professional schools, public libraries, art galleries, lecture courses, and manifold literary and social circles.

As other Universities are already established in various suburbs of Chicago the demand for one more accessible to the same advantages is manifest. As Chicago has outgrown older cities on both sides of the sea in skilled industries, manufactures, commerce, rapid transit, railroad extensions, and in convenience and splendor of architecture, is there any reason why she may not surpass them also in various departments, appointments, faculties, and endowments of a National University, which may rise phoenixlike from the ruins of the past?

The new University, as the outgrowth of the old one will garner up the fruitage of its faith, prayers, consecration, and heroic sacrifices. As in the Revelations those espousing the cause championed by a former generation are represented as the same witnesses raised from the dead, so the builders of the new University, will carry out the purposes of the founders and real friends of the old one.

20

[The most eminent Christian philanthropist of this Country
has offered six hundred thousand dollars toward the new Univer-
sity, on condition ^{that} sufficient local subscriptions are added to
assure sympathy and support of the University after it is establi-
shed. ~~Rich men of Chicago will you not at once Will not rich~~
~~men of Chicago show their appreciation of higher education, this~~
~~magnificent Will not rich citizens Will not~~ ^{the} rich citizens
^{of Chicago} show their appreciation of this generous offer ~~to Chicago by~~ [&] ~~meet-~~
^{by} meeting its wise conditions, and thus awaking enthusiasm in
the movement, and hastening the building in this central metro-
polis of the continent, the best appointed, [&] best endowed
~~University in the World~~ and best patronized University in the
World?

Already a citizen bearing the name of one of the most charac-
teristic of Chicago's pioneer settlers, has pledged a ~~one~~ hundred
thousand dollars toward founding a preparatory school which
may become a feeder to all departments of the new Universi-
ty, and at the same time contribute perhaps more than any of them
to the moral culture of our citizenship, and the stability of our
civil institutions.

Another citizen, the most eminent ^a American merchant, has given
ten acres of land, valued at about a hundred and fifty thousand
dollars, for the ^{site} ~~sites~~ of the proposed ⁱ institution, next to the
old one the best that could have been selected. It is more acc-
essible to banks, hotels, ^e churches, ^l libraries, and other public
institutions of the city than Harvard is to the corresponding

institutions of Boston, or Columbia ~~to New York~~ to those of

e881

New York. More than two hundred and fifty thousand dollars have already been subscribed toward the four hundred thousand necessary to meet ~~Mr. Rockefeller's~~ secure Mr. Rockefeller's gift, mostly ~~by Baptists of Chicago, Fifty thousand by F. E. Hinckley, and twenty five thousand by E. Nelson Blake.~~ *mostly by Baptists of Chicago, a fifth of it by F. E. Hinckley*

Will not others emulate these inspiring examples, and according to their several tastes hasten the establishment of the

different departments of ~~the University?~~ *this school of learning?* Should not the best

|-|

appointed College building in this country be erected as a grateful memorial to the first and largest benefactor of the new University?

Should not another building bear the name of the projector of the original University of Chicago, as redeeming the pledge made to him, in accepting ~~the~~ his gift to Chicago and the cause of higher education?

Should not the Jones Hall be restored as a tribute to one of the ~~Lowest~~ first and largest contributors to the old University?

Should not a Law department be endowed in the name of one who first urged the establishment of a Law school in Chicago, and gave service and liberal subscriptions in money towards founding one?

W. W. EVERTS, D. D.

3342 Rhodes Avenue.

CHICAGO, ILL.

Chicago, 1889.

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Founding one?

Who will build a new ^o Observatory, mounting the best
 [5] Telescope in this country, and bearing the name of the build-
 der of the old observatory, one of the most public spirited of al
 Chicago's eminent citizens, and who has so recently passed away?
 Who will increase the treasures, and lecture courses of the
 Academy of Science, making them available to the University
 by honorable association?

Who will follow the example of the ^a Alumni in endowing a pro-
 fessorship for ^P Professor Olson in the New University, and fill
 other ^{chairs} CHAIRS with the most distinguished scholars of our
 Country?

Other foundations of learning may have been slowly laid in the
 old cities of the world. But in a city surpassing all others
 in the rapidity of its developments, unnecessary delay in build-
 ing up a metropolitan ^u University ^w would dishonor Chicago, and retard
 the progress of higher education.

M. W. Everts

3342 Rhodes Ave. Chicago Dec. 27 -87.

Dear Dr. Harper.

Have you happened to see my appeal for the rehabilitation of Chicago University in the Watchman, National Baptist or in the InterOcean of this city? As you may not have seen any of these appeals I enclose the one published in the Paper of this city. I have received letters of some of the most eminent of the Alumni of the University thanking me for the appeal and emphatically endorsing my views. Besides I have not yet heard any intelligent Baptist of this city or the North west express a doubt that the rehabilitation would be far the best thing for the Denomination and their cause of education if it can be accomplished. Now I believe with the favor of Providence a People two and a half million strong and with abundant resources can do the BEST thing. Let a new Board be formed to restore the University in the city, and at the same time build up an Academy as a feeder to it in Morgan Park. This plan may unite and please both parties perhaps. And I am quite confident if the denomination unite in it G. C. Walker might be persuaded to Endow the Academy in the name of his father as WALKER INSTITUTE, while restoring our University Plant in the City we shall be able to hold it against any rival movement. If we leave the city it seems to me certain that in the near future other parties under pretext of a non-sectarian movement will commence the departments of a university and fix upon it a rationalistic stamp forever. Dr. Duncan whom I saw often during the summer at Haverhill

believed that if the Baptists were united in desiring it Br. Rockefeller might be disposed to undertake the restoration, and at length give it a million and allow it to bear his name. If it is restored Those giving the first two hundred thousand dollars should be empowered to appoint the first board of Trustees and thus also determine the first Faculty. It is now believed by some of our wise men that if any Syndicate of the East would offer one hundred thousand dollars on condition that the whole debt be raised another hundred thousand could be at once raised here, and that a third hundred thousand could be obtained in this city and the northwest the next eight or ten months, and that after the restoration was fairly established it would not be difficult to obtain other endowments as they are needed from this city and the west though no eastern benefactor appeared. I hope you will favor an effort for rehabilitation and do what you can by word or deed to promote it.

In the religious regime of the University we could magnify Bible teaching and biblical Theology above systematic Theology as likely to appease the strong feeling against sectarian theology in Colleges.

Yours fraternally

W. W. Everts

Old by C. 1/58

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 fairly established it would not be difficult to obtain other enter-
 prises and I have passed for this city and the west through to
 eastern minister appeared. I hope you will favor an effort for
 restoration and to what you can by word or deed to promote it.
 In the various regimes of the University we could hardly
 Bible teaching and biblical Theology above systematic Theology as
 likely to suppress the strong feeling against sectarian theology.

Yours fraternally

W. W. Swartz

Enclosures

W.W. Everts jr.

In regard to your Fathers relations rto the movemnt
to unite the two Bible societies , and hus unite Baptists in Bible
work I have this to say .We saw eye to eye from the beginng to
the end of the movement, working together in the meetings at
Martha's Vinyard, 1880, Aratoga 1881, Indianapolis 8882, andm all the
measures , to the time of the transfer of the interest of the societ
ties to the Publication society in at the Saratoga BConvention 18
84. We were together members of both Boards, and us learned the
deep seated prejudices in representrtatives of the two societies ,
which prevented the harmonious consumation of the Union of the
societies though formally agreed to by both; and defeated the earnest
endeavor to perpetuate an independent Bible society , herby honoring
the wisdom of the founders of the societies, and and the judgement
of our Foreign missionaries experts in Bible work abroad. After Ia
I had myself paid nine thousand dollars toward the revision of the
Old Testament , and was ready to pay the ballance I had pledged
for that object and had negotiations with obne of the greatest
publication houses in this country for Bringout the recvised
Old Testament in advance of the Revision of the Canterbury Comm-
ittee, the publication was defeated , by a hreatee injubnction
of one of the societies , thereby delaying and breaking up our work.
Besides , measures for holding a meeting of The A. & F. B. Socirty
after The Saratoga Convetion, where a much larger number of its
friends could have been gathered to deliberate upon the aards

of the Saratoga Convention, and adopt them if deemed wise, or take other action, with a larger and more impartial deliberation of the friends of Baptist Bible work. But the same fatality that had attended the administration of the societies so long, prevented any wise action and consented to the holding the convention where one State, sent almost a third of all the delegates, and the very State which through its Baptist organ had for years discredited, and determined to destroy both Bible societies. If the views urged by your father had not been opposed here might have been a different issue of the Baptist Bible Work.

In regard to the Watchtower, our views and policy agreed, and unexpected obstruction, and the enterprise was only partially successful. But your father acted with disinterestedness, and gave to the enterprise much strength till the same obstructive policy which defeated our expectations in Bible work also defeated our hopes in the Watchtower!

Cheney Morgan,

W. W. Evans Jr.
515 Brown Street
Philadelphia

[The picture of the Building to precede this upon the
first page as a frontispiece]

~~HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.~~

The Old University.

Two noble towers to-day lie prone in dust,
And fitly we deplore their mutual fall,
Untimely one, conspicuous, fair and tall,
Defeat of hope and mockery of trust:
The other—in God's time—as own we must
With tears, the tender tribute of us all.*
The one, of stone, lies neath reproach's pall—
As built defiant of times normal rust,
No tears its riven walls and crumbled columns greet.
They would exhale in mists of fervid shame,
We tread their stones beneath indignant feet,
And ask with bated breath whom we shall blame.
Let Douglas weep, if grief can stir the dead—
Let learning's er the wrack droop low her head.

W. C. Richards.

* Referring to the late William Prosser,
an eminent and honored citizen of Chicago,
whose death occurred coincidentally with the
beginning of the destruction of the old
building

HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Two noble towers to-day lie prone in dust,
And fitly we deplore their mutual fall,
Ultimately one, conscientious, fair and tall,
Defeat of honest mockery of trust;
The other in God's time-as own we must
With tears, the testament of us all.

The one of stone, lies northward, a pall-
As built testament of times normal trust,
No tears its river walls and crumpled columns meet.
They would explain mistof fervid shame,
We tread their stones beneath indignant feet,
And say with dated breath when we shall blame.
Let Douglas see, it grieves our stern shield-
Let Learning, or the weak troop low her head.

W. D. Howells

[Faint, illegible handwritten text on the left margin]

Chicago Sep 10/88

by W.W. Everts

Dearest Wife

I have by force of
circumstances been so much
absorbed with the internal
affairs of the University of Chicago,
& the questions of difference arising
between Prof. Mixer, & later
N.G. Clark & Dr. Burroughs, &
these questions have been so
misrated & misapprehended by
the public, & doing great injury
to different parties, that I deem it
best to leave this written statement
to my family & others who may in
after years wish to know the truth
& do justice to all parties.
The point to which every thing
has been carefully managed,
through past months & each year,
is to create an impression that
Prof. Mixer, Clark, myself & others
had been conspiring against &
persecuting the President of the
U. Whereas, the fault of these
parties was really only, the
Council slowly formed &
reluctantly entertained, & after
the lapse of years, committed
to follow the real guardians
of the University, that the President
is not qualified for his great
office. The following is the
manner in which my Council

[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting on the top half of the page, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.]

was slowly & reluctantly joined
Before coming to Chicago
in 1859, I knew it was understood
that Dr. B. accepted the office,
only temporarily, & he knew it
seemed then impossible to obtain
a suitable incumbent of the
office. The ~~the~~ ^{the} spokes of the
matter. His friends quite freely
took the same view of it
and the delighted friends of
education, came with the
affairs of the University, & the Bap,
Secret

Soon after my settlement, Dr.
Thompson, my predecessor in the
first chair, who with whatever other
faults he possessed, was never
regarded as ~~frustrated~~ ^{frustrated} with envy
or jealousy toward his brethren,
in a lengthy conversation about the
affairs of the University, assured me
that he knew the public sentiment
of the city, & especially of the
educated class, & that there was a
general want of confidence of
Dr. B's competence for his office,
and that but for that incompetency,
any prosperity might be predicted
for the University.

A year or two later Prof Lylla
was called to the Faculty of Assistant
by Dr. B's nomination.
After a century, I think about two
years he left, from some difficulty.

or want of fairness with
the President. Before leaving,
you remember, his terms alleged
against what he deemed the
had moral quality of the President's
Character & administration - want
of transparency - reliability & etc,
and declared with considerable
emotion "The University can
never prosper, with moral
sacrifice, involved in such
a presidency."

Subsequently Prof Johnson
of the Latin department, made
similar complaints to myself
& others. And just before his
death, with tears in his eyes
declared to me the "University
can never rise to its proper
destiny under such an
administration."

Mean time I became aware
that Prof Lattin, one of the
first teachers in founding
the University, returned to Rochester
with serious charges against
the honor of the President, in
intercourse with him.

Also I found that Prof Mixer
the oldest & best known of all
the Faculty, made similar
complaints, & declared repeatedly
he could remain in the University
under a headship, he regarded
both intellectually, & in moral

[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

for the office
Besides ~~from~~ ^{to} the
other professors, I received more
or less in the same complaints
Through all this period my doubts
were growing into convictions.
Nevertheless nothing was being
done to save the University
financially. Every six months
the Vice-Chancellor of Yale
meets interest & question after
reached us shall "Will the
University be sold to another
denomination".
During this period, Mr. Elliott
who had raised most of the
valid subscribers to the University
resigned, & to some of his friends
the name of the resignation. The
given "Disengaged" "Disappointed
with Dr B" "He managed to have all
the credit of the enterprise. I am left
to do the work, bear the responsibility,
& the reproach of want of success."
Through ~~caution~~ ^{caution} in this
current they much had
made him to different funds.
I had more recently Dr.
D. has unequivocally declared
his wish that Dr. B. should resign
& even talked means to induce
him to do it.
About the time Elliott
resigned, I felt it to be my

[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting on lined paper, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.]

my appearance & years per me
necessity, & urged him to take
measures to save it financially.
If he were to leave his chair for
while for that purpose, the
faculty cordially agreeing to
do extra teaching to allow him
to do so. The president
tried to try to do so. But
from one extreme & another
did not. I personally saw
most of the Board, especially
Bap. after the the new
year had; stating the project the
public expected were not realized
he should leave his position & look
to a new boys school, if he
were not sold out.

After a lapse of months,
nothing yet being done, I said
the same again, & assured him
of my growing fears, that while
other public enterprises were advancing,
ours was liable to sink, owing
as it did the cost of the building
& having received the land
as a donation, & being out
of funds for expenditure.
I then urged my Court
that his original purpose should
be carried out, & that he ought
to seek out a successor
up to this time, no
students had heard me

[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

question Dr. B's Competency for
his office, nor had my etc.
I had only spoken to a few
fellow Guardians of the Nursery
I had never spoken to
you fully & plainly to Dr. B.
himself
From that time Dr. B. distrusted
me. And though I assured him
I would favor his having any other
place he might choose in the
Nursery, & that he should be
honored by choosing his own
Successor, as according to his
oft professed purpose, I found
I was reported as conspiring with
myself & others against him.
Still I did all I could to put
the welfare of the Nursery -
proceeding students, & friends &c;
& only maintained my Country
& Dr. B.'s duty, & its reports to
the greater progress of the Nursery,
& spoke of the same to members of
the Board, going to his
special friends, as well as others,
to avoid open rupture, by
friendly counsel & adjustment
I meant Mr.
Clark, accepting the final
Secretaryship through my want
& mine, he being
desirous as to the President's
Competency, & believed he did
much to weaken his hands

in the Building Enterprise
in disappointing students (board)
Management of the Boarding
house. At length difficulty
between him & Dr. B. became
great. It was evident Dr.
B. intended his removal, &
also Mixers. As Clark &
Mixer had advanced the second
funding of the University,
I saw in that not only unjust
toward them, but great injury
to the progress of the University.
While during Dr. B's final
administration no permanent
evidences had been put
up, the land having been
given; the money for the
first thing having been loaned,
& the subscriptions having
been used as far as collected
to pay current expenses.
During Clark's & Mixer's
services, some hundred
& fifty thousand dollars of
permanent endowment had been
put in.
Perceiving what you was having
made through the County, through
Congress, or other means with
Bos. C. M., I urged them
to ask the Exec. Comm. for
Examination into causes of
want of being, & danger
to University, allowing unreported

Present of Gold headed Barry
had been gotten up, as declaring
esteem of students. But few
of them understood the thing
at all & afterwards, though much
had been done to raise the
President at Br. as experts
older students declared. Students
were greatly divided in opinion
about competency of Dr B, though
all wished him well.

It was alleged before the Board
that many of his supporters,
while a few weeks before, the
thing together assured me, that things
they had done better the past
year, the Dr. had to be justified
all the time.

Dr. B. was cited as supporting
him. But he had recently
advised the Dr. to resign;
Corresponded with East
Brook about a succession;
I declared to me his fears that
the University would never
amount to much without
a change of President.

Dr. S. was cited as supporting
him. But on different
occasions he had declared
to me, he had never entertained
the idea of accepting a job
with the University, he even
he "could not get along with
Dr B."