Colby College
WATERVILLE, MAINE

(2 - President Harper)

However, I find myself working out the subject, which it is not pertinent to do here. But I repeat, if you can put me in the way of getting any information as to facts or any suggestions bearing upon the question, I shall be exceedingly grateful.

With best wishes, I remain

Sincerely,

[Signature]

P. S.
I am much interested in the University Record of the 11th containing an account of the conference on correspondence study. As I read the account, I seem to feel myself present. I am glad that the work goes on so well.
I knew you know and you back me.

Would you like to see me? I wouldn't want to put you in a position of embarrassment to yourself or your family.

[Signature]

[Incident or place marker]
Colby College
WATERVILLE, MAINE

SEPT. 7, 1899

Dear President Starker:

Your kind letter of the 4th, just received, offers me a great pleasure and certain an important service. You will, of course, realize that I could not think of undertaking to give so important an address, with so short a time for preparation, unless I can adapt something already prepared, to the occasion. Scarcely a month will intervene between now and the date of the annual meeting of the Union. Meanwhile I am preparing my paper for Worcester, and one or two short addresses, in connection with the opening of the college. A good many months would be more too long for the reading and thought that this address demands. I should like, if it were possible, to discuss "Theological Thought and the Scientific Spirit." But this is quite out of the question for me.
Dear [Name],

I understand your concern about the potential impact of [specific issue]. I agree that [specific action] might be necessary to address [concerns].

I have conducted research on [relevant topic] and have found that [key information]. This research suggests that [recommended action] could be effective in mitigating [specific concern].

I believe that it is important to [additional action] in order to ensure that [desired outcome].

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to discussing this further with you.

Best regards,

[Your Name]
Now the best I could do would be to give an address upon "Some Assumed Verities of the Christian Faith," the aim being to emphasize the point that whatever mysteries and themes for speculation we may encounter in the realm of our religious thinking, the fundamental truths of the Christian faith are no more matter of conjecture than are the phenomena with which material science deals, that the former are just as truly verifiable by experimental proofs as are the latter, and that the legitimate outcome of theological thought is to lead to a clearer apprehension and firmer grasp of these fundamental verities — God, duty, salvation, immortality.

It is too bad, for an answer to your invitation, to start you with this long letter. But I do so simply because I do not at all know what sort of an "address" is usual or expected. Obviously what I have outlined above is
Sermonic. And therefore if the address but rather philosophical or historical is not expected to be sermonic, what I have outlined will not do, at all.

Ergo, said you see what I can do - what not, in the time available, you will have no sort of hesitancy in letting me know if the only thing I could offer, is not of the nature of what the occasion asks for. I beseech you to do this for your own sake, for the sake of the occasion, and for mine.

Sincerely yours,
Nathaniel Butter.
September 15, 1899.

President William R. Harper,
The University,
Chicago, Ill.

My dear President Harper:-

I thank you for your kind letter of the 12th, which I received yesterday. In accordance with my former letter, I shall gladly accept your invitation to be present and deliver the annual address before the Theological Union October 5th. I suppose the address is to be given in the evening.

You will easily judge, I am sure, that I shall undertake this not without a good deal of diffidence. I know this to be a notable occasion, and I shall certainly have an audience before whom—whether numerous or otherwise—one may hesitate rashly to appear. Since, however, in the light of my explanation of the best I can do, you have renewed your invitation, I shall dismiss all doubts and apply myself to what you have asked me to do to the best of my ability. May I ask that the subject be announced as: Some Assured Verities of the Christian Faith?

I am very grateful for your hospitable invitation, and shall gladly accept it. Mrs. Butler will not be able to accompany me on this journey. I rather think now that I shall plan to leave here Sunday night, October 1st. That would bring me to Chicago on the 3rd. I should then be able to leave Chicago the morning of the 6th and get home early Sunday morning. Please do not suppose that I am planning to tax your hospitality during the whole of the intervening time. I know that relatives of Mrs. Butler in Ravenswood and in Aurora will expect me to at least look in upon them, and my friend John Lenox at Oak Park will doubtless make me some urgent and hospitable overtures. Most of all, however, I shall enjoy being at your house and about the University. To this especially I shall be looking forward with the most pleasant anticipations.

My family join me in sending cordial regards to all your household.

Sincerely yours,

Nathaniel Butler, Jr.
Dear Professor,

I hope you are having a pleasant day.

I am writing to express my concern regarding the recent changes in the departmental structure. As you are aware, I have been a member of the faculty for several years, and I believe that the current changes might have a negative impact on both teaching and research.

I am particularly concerned about the proposed cuts to the budget. I understand the financial pressures, but I believe that the university would be wise to consider alternatives to such drastic measures. For instance, we could explore ways to increase our fundraising efforts or to seek external grants.

I also feel that the changes in the department's structure could lead to a loss of expertise. I have seen this happen in other departments, and it is a concern that I hope we can avoid.

If you have any questions or if there is anything else I can do to help, please let me know.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
August 10, 1900

Dear Dr. Parker:

I was unsuccessful in my three attempts to find you today. That did not surprise me, as I knew that this would be an unusually busy day, even for you. Of course I was and am much interested in what we talked of this morning. You will no doubt want to think about

[Signature]
it further. If, by and by, you see your way to make a proposition, I shall be very glad to consider it.

In the meantime, I thank you very much for what I have enjoyed during the six weeks, in general, and for your many special courtesies.

Sincerely yours,

Nathaniel Butler.
August 13th, 1900.

President Nathaniel Butler,
Colby University, Waterville, Maine.

My dear Dr. Butler:

I was very sorry indeed not to be in when you called. I was in the city on important business. You will be pleased to know, perhaps, that on that day I succeeded in closing up an important transaction by which the University becomes the possessor of still another new building, which will cost not less than a hundred and fifty to two hundred thousand dollars. This is confidential.

I was talking seriously that morning when we were riding, and I should like to have you consider the suggestion then made. I should think it important for the work to begin January first. Will you not let me know what you think of the plan? As soon as I hear from you I will write more definitely.

Very truly yours,

W. R. Harper
I am writing to express my appreciation for your efforts and dedication. Your contribution has been invaluable, and I wish to extend my gratitude for your outstanding work.

Please accept my sincere thanks for your commitment and hard work. Your dedication to the task at hand is truly commendable. I am confident that your efforts will yield significant results.

I want to assure you that your contributions are not unnoticed. Your work is highly valued, and I commend you for your perseverance.

Once again, thank you for your dedication and tireless efforts. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]
Dear Dr. Harper:

Your letter of the 13th came today. As I have already said, I shall be glad to consider seriously a definite proposition looking to my return to the University. I am happy here, and am glad to have been here as I have. It may be that I can do no more here, but in any case I should be very strongly drawn to the University of Chicago now, by some plan that seems practicable from every point of view.

The experience of the six weeks just closed has been delightful, and leaves me with a distinct desire to keep in, or soon return to, the same atmosphere.

I am very much interested in the suggestion of organizing and extending the affiliations of the University. It would be a very agreeable work, and almost without limit in influence for the University and for all concerned. In any proposition, I should be glad to have my teaching relations to the University made a pretty distinct and...
important element.

I am clear in my judgment, however, that it would not do for me to undertake to drop this work during the course of the year. It would be impracticable, I think, to make those who are interested in the college feel in any other way than that injustice and injury had been done to its interests if the change were to be made before the next Commencement. I think that Small would judge in the same way from his acquaintance with the situation and the people here. Of course it would be in the highest degree desirable that my leaving here if it comes to pass, should be such as to occasion only the best of feeling all around. Equally of course I ought, as soon as it becomes clear that the change is really to be made, to notify those most concerned. I could ask to be released at the close of the fall term, but I could not feel the change to be practicable without the cordial assent of those most
concerned. And that assent seems to me improbable.

What you report respecting another building is certainly most cheering. It is very interesting that after eight years of actual work, the material growth of the University is as visible, as rapid, and as vigorous as at any time in its history.

Mrs. Butler joins me in sending cordial regards to Mrs. Sturtevant and to you and your household.

Sincerely yours,

Nathaniel Butler.
August 21st, 1900.

President Nathaniel Butler, J.D., at that time Professor of History, Colby University, Waterville, Maine.

My dear President Butler:

I am authorized by the Board of Trustees to negotiate with you for your return to the University, and I write to make the preliminary form of a proposition.

1. The University will invite you to accept (a) a professorship in the department of pedagogy, it being understood that at least one-half of your time will be given to the actual work of teaching in the classrooms in connection with that department;

(b) The directorship of the co-operative work of the University, with the understanding that you will be expected to travel during a maximum of one quarter;

(c) An editorial position on "The School Review", this to be shared with other members of the department.

2. It is understood further that the salary will be the regular salary of a professor, three
thousand dollars ($3000.), and that in addition the University will pay such expenses as you would incur in traveling on behalf of the University.

Hoping that you will consider this proposition and that I may receive any suggestions from you with reference to it, I remain

Very truly yours,
PAUSE
August 25th, 1900.

Dear Mr. Butler:

Your letter of the 21st has just reached me. Before replying to it as an official letter, I want to write to you personally and more freely.

President Nathaniel Butler,
out the responsibilities of the Presidency, to live Colby College, Waterville, Maine,
and move and have your being. Comparatively few professors in the University have a larger salary,
you make in the letter. I think, however, that your experience at Waterville ought not to have too much influence in this matter. As President there undoubtedly have come upon you many expenses which you would not need to incur in Chicago.

As the matter now looks, I do not see how the Trustees could arrange for the salary which you suggest. By great effort it is possible that the sum of five hundred dollars in addition to that mentioned in my former letter might be secured.

This, however, would be the maximum which the University could at present reach. I am hoping that the time will come when the salary of the professors will be somewhat increased, but at present we are not able to do more. I am inclined to think that you ought to be able on that salary, and with—
(Dear Dr. Young,

I have just received your letter. I think I can understand the points you make in the letter. I think, however, that your experience of the necessity of a better education is not to have gone much influence in this matter. As a matter of fact, I have come to the conclusion that you would not need to attend in Chicago.

As the matter now stands, I go not see how the President could arrange for the entry with the President. His great effort to be practical that the men of the people go to the state. Mentioned in my former letter might be something.

This, however, would be the maximum without the limit of the number of present care. I am hoping that the time will come when the career of the people will have somewhat increased. But at present we are not able to do more. I am fond of thinking that you ought to be able to get the better and with-

Yours truly,

[Signature]
Colby College
WATERVILLE, MAINE

August 25, 1900

Mr. Harper:

Your letter of the 21st has just reached me. Before replying to it as an official letter, I want to write to you personally and more freely.

You have very kindly kept before my mind the possibility of returning to the University. I have thought about it a good deal and always with hesitation. I have to see that it might come to pass. I have said to myself that when these conditions are met, I should feel perfectly clear and free from hesitation. These conditions are: 1) That the prospect of doing what is to be done here, does not justify my keeping at it longer; 2) That the work prepared for me at the University should be such that I should feel assured that I could do it well; and 3) that in the position to which I might be called I could, without too much thinking "about tomorrow," provide for my family and especially educate my boys, giving them such surroundings and advantages as they ought to have. My experience in Chicago, as well
You letter of Feb 1660

...
Colby College  
WATERVILLE, MAINE  

August 25, 1900  

Harper:

Your letter of the 21st has just reached me. Before replying to it as an official letter, I want to write to you personally and more freely. You have very kindly kept before my mind the possibility of returning to the University. I have therefore thought about it a good deal and always with pleasure, and with the hope that it might come to pass. I have said to myself that when those conditions exist, I should feel perfectly clear and free from hesitation. These conditions are, 1) That the prospect of doing what is to be done here, does not justify my keeping at it longer; 2) That the work proposed for me at the University should be such that I should feel assured that I could do it well; and 3) that in the position to which I might be called I could, without too much thinking "about to-morrow", provide for my family and especially educate my boys, giving them such surroundings and advantages as they ought to have. My experience in Chicago, as well
Colby College
WATERVILLE, MAINE

makes it perfectly clear to me that I am not to do this at a salary of $8000.

My income for this year will be something over $4000, and I shall no more than come out even with the world, at that. The first two conditions referred to, seem to me to be fulfilled. But I do not think I should be justified in turning away from this work and taking my family back to Chicago, unless I could be sure of earning $4500 a year. With that income, I could "live and move and have [my] being," and do my work and feel that I was giving to those dependent upon me no more than what they really ought to have for present comfort and for future usefulness.

This is just what is in my mind. I will add explicitly what is implied, that I should be very glad if it might appear that I could really earn $4500 in the service of the University. One cannot, of course, fail to be impressed with its
Coply College
Watertown, Mass.

Dear Mr. Smith,

I am writing to express my great pleasure at receiving your letter of March 2, 19__.

I was very pleased to learn of your interest in my college and I am confident that you will find it to be a very rewarding experience. I have been a student at Coply College for the past three years and I have found it to be a wonderful place to learn and grow.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your recent promotion to the rank of a first-class student. I am confident that you will continue to excel in your studies and I look forward to hearing more about your progress.

Thank you for your continued support and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]
Colby College
Waterville, Maine

Self-immense and rapidly growing influence, in this country and beyond. Through the cooperative work that influence would be extended most widely and intimately, I think. It is a great prospect, and I should gladly have a part in realizing it, if the way might be open.

I am quite sure that you will fully understand what I have tried to say, and that you will not regard the position I have taken as strange or unreasonable.

With kindest regards to you and your household, in which Mrs. Butler joins, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Nathaniel Butler.
Culpo College

WATERFORD, MASS.

[Handwritten text not legible]
Dear Dr. Harker:

On my part, I appreciate the force of the point you make and the kindness of your letter. It is difficult for me to avoid the appearance of trying to "drive a bargain," in writing about this — a rather, it would be difficult if you did not know, as I am sure you do, that I am not wishing to do anything of the kind. For reasons I have already named, I am ready and shall be heartily glad, to take up the work you have outlined at the University, if it proves practicable. I have gone over the whole question anew, since your last letter came, with the purpose of seeing what is practicable. My experience of living in Chicago and here, together, constitutes a pretty good basis for my conclusion. And that conclusion is that I should not have to move my family from Illinois to Chicago, to live there.
with my growing boys to educate, and to meet the demands that I cannot avoid, on a salary of $3500. As a matter of fact my gross income this year has been more than $4500. This, of course includes what I earned this summer at the University. But much of it has come from my constant opportunities to preach and to lecture — work for which, even if I should have as many calls, I could not find the time and strength in my new work. My expenses in Chicago would be different but not so much less, when the higher rates of rent and of domestic service are counted.

I would not weary you with these details save to show you the only reason why I "stand out." I do however think, upon careful consideration that I should feel safe and confident to undertake the new work for four thousand dollars a year. And I even
Cotter College
YORK HOUSE, YORK

To

I wish to draw your attention to the statement that I have been informed that a certain amount of 2,000 £ is a sum required by the College for the payment of salaries and maintenance of the College. I have been informed that this amount is urgently needed and that the College is in great financial difficulty.

The purpose of this letter is to call upon the Committee to consider the matter and to take any necessary action to raise the required funds as soon as possible. I am sure that the Committee will appreciate the gravity of the situation and will do all in their power to assist the College.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

[Note: The handwritten text is difficult to transcribe accurately. The above transcription is an attempt to capture the essence of the letter.]

hope that, when the greatness of the proposed work is considered, you and your trustees will see your way clean to name that amount in the salary paragraph of the outlined proposition you first sent.

I am sure that you will entirely understand all that is behind this letter, and that as you will acquit me of any wish to annoy you by "haggling".

Sincerely yours,

Nathaniel Butler
C messy College

The President's Office

[Handwritten text]

[Signature]

[Date]
Sept. 29, 1900.

President Nathaniel Butler,
Colby College, Waterville, Maine.

My Dear President Butler:

Your letter of September 2nd was received in Chicago, forwarded to me in Boston. It was in Boston not very far from you that I had the pleasure of reading it. I think I understand your situation and entirely sympathize with you. The difficulty with the case lies in our situation not in yours. I wish it were possible to talk about a larger sum than was named in my last letter. My greatest difficulty will be to get the trustees to consent to that sum. This would not mean that they were not anxious to have you come,—but that situation as we are and with the rate of interest constantly decreasing we are not able to increase expenses.

I shall hope that we may be able to talk the matter over sometime soon.

Yours most sincerely,
September 20, 1906

President Metropolitan Bible

Gorby College, Watertown, Maine

My Dear President Burtier:

Your letter of September 3rd was received in

Boston, rewarding to me in Boston. It was in Boston

not very far from you. I wish I had the pleasure of meeting

it. I think I understand your situation and understand

your sympathy with you. The difficulties with the case

the interest in our union not in yours. I wish to make

you in our interest not in yours. I wish to make

possible to talk about a letter and then we mean to try

these letters. My present difficulty will be to get the

right letters. This would not mean

transference to concern to that man. This would not mean

that they made not express to have you come - but that minus

was not able to interfere experience.

I angrily hope that we may be able to talk the matter

over sometime soon.

Yours most affectionately,
Dear President Harper:

President Nathaniel Butler, your kind letter of September 29th. I am very glad to get it. It satisfies me that my last letter to you was perfectly understood. I was a little afraid that I might not have expressed myself justly, and I was very glad to be assured upon that point. I expected you to make some mention of your plans, namely, that you consent to give four courses of University Extension lectures. You ought to do this any way and this will enable me to get the sum you have been in 

indicated, namely $4,000, this on the supposition that you can persuade the Trustees to put in that other $500.

What do you say?

Yours most truly,

[Signature]

Nathaniel Butler
October 21, 1900.

Dear President Harper:  


gothic college, Weymouth, Mass.

I write this letter in order to make you aware of the committee of the University Extension Association. You must know that any way and shape with ample time has the sum you have asked. By the sum you have asked, $2,500. In the presentation of the sum you have requested, I can bear the treasurer to put it to their credit. 

What do you say?

Very much yours,

[Signature]
Dear President Harper:

I have your kind letter of September 29th. I am very glad to get it because it assures me that my last letter to you was perfectly understood. I was a little afraid that I might not have expressed myself just clearly. I am very glad to be assured upon that point. I appreciate the kindness of this letter of yours and I confess that I still hope that something may be realized out of what we have been talking about.

I am wondering whether you may have been in Boston when I was myself there. I spent both last Sunday and the Sunday before with the First Church.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Oct. 4, 1900.
Oct. 18, 1900

Colby College
WATERVILLE, MAINE

Oct. 23, 1900.

Dear Dr. Harper:

I like very much your suggestion about University Extension lectures, assuming that the detail can be arranged. Of course I should want to avoid having too many lectures. I am glad that we are so near an agreement. I have asked Professor Doway to write you in response to the point raised in your letter as to the character of the Pedagogical courses. You will hear from him very soon.

Yours very truly,

[Signature]

Yours of October 16th is received. I am glad that we are so near an agreement. I have asked Professor Doway to write you in response to the point raised in your letter as to the character of the Pedagogical courses. You will hear from him very soon.

Yours very truly,

[Signature]
October 19, 1960

Mr. Dean of Faculty,

Coach College, Waterville, Maine

My Dear Mr. Dean:

You and your faculty were so kind to me when I was at College. I am glad that you and your faculty were able to accommodate me in my request to attend your College.

I have been living in the town where I am attending College. I have been working hard to keep up with my studies. I am looking forward to my graduation in the near future.

Thank you for your kind hospitality.

Yours truly,

[Signature]