Dear Mr. Harper,

Your letter reached me this morning. Permit me, in the name of this committee, to thank you for your prompt attention to our wishes. I will inform Mr. Ellis, who is chairman of the building committee, and Mr. Shong will probably soon be summoned.

Your remark in regard to treating the women will until you got their money, I look just as serious by as I meant you to take my answer, that you shouldn't have a cent until you gave us what we wanted. There was nothing
but fun in either of them, but—do you think we have the whip hand?

The rest of this letter is private and confidential
and is written, not to the President of the University,
but to Dr. William R. Harper, who has always
shown himself as ready to listen to all I have had
to say that—I am emboldened to say more. Some
of the things I meant to say can now more pro-
pertly be referred to Mr. Shorley, but others are for
you. I inferred from some remarks of this. Dr.
that while you had not said her way, you had
not approved her desire to place her mother's full
name on the door of the building she erected.

This matter is really very dear to her, and she
will be quite disappointed and hurt if she is
denied. Can you not in some way assure her that
it shall be as she wishes? I think she is quite
pleased with the present plan for the building,
and only fearful that it may not be adopted. The
Shorley can probably reassure her on that point.
If her interest in that building is encouraged,
and she wishes headed, I believe she will provide
for the additional expense that seems necessary,
and will always look after its interests. I cannot
say this authoritatively, none of this letter is of
official, but I think she is planning to secure
they will continue to come in increasing numbers until their object is attained. These women are beginning to feel the power of money, and are learning that they can command money in that great city of Chicago. It rests with you whether they shall direct this money into the coffers of the University, or direct their efforts to other ends. They have already secured one hundred and eighty thousand dollars for you, and feel no hesitancy in undertaking to make it two hundred and twenty-five thousand. I think it will be much more. This is making no mention of

To ask for advice and not allow those giving it to vote in its favor would be want of courtesy, and to adopt their recommendations because to vote them down, in the presence of the ladies, would be scarcely chivalrous, might lead to various ill timed actions. If the Advisory Board is not admitted to the public meetings, the same state of affairs will result that is now hampering our committee, and will necessitate endless runnings back and forth, that will be annoying to both parties.

What questions of administration involve the spending of money if the women have such power thus will be in financial boards, which is scarcely
good economy: if they have no such power, their function will be merely advisory, without the possibility of authoring their case, since they will be shut out of court. Such an arrangement will never suit anybody: the simplest thing, I believe, will in the end be found to be the strict thing, the placing of two or three women on the Board of Trustees. Such an arrangement will satisfy the women, and as small a minority can certainly do no harm in the Board, and need occasion no fear in the man-timid breast. That you will, at the proper time, be asked to do this, I know.

That you will be asked again and again, with an increasing sense of the injustice of the exclusion, I feel very sure. That you will ultimately yield seems to me certain; that is, you will probably find that the price of safety is too high, and that gain to the minority lies on the side of surrender. Why not anticipate that day, and ward off defeat by making grateful friends of those who may develop into victorious enemies. Be generous, before you are forced to be just; you will not be troubled by petitions for the present; but they will come in the future, and
Board. The ladies listened attentively and asked afterwards, "What share will the University give us, if we raise the money?" The answer was, the Alumnae Board. That sounded very well and was quite satisfactory until we attempted to adjust such a conception to realities. To transfer it from paper to actual life.

One more point, and this long letter is done. The University has undertaken to train both men and women. By its extension work, by its special courses, and its post-graduate departments, it has reached out to mature people, not merely to the boy and girl.
very strongly to me.

This condition of affairs you have brought upon yourselves. When the University adopted its very liberal policy in regard to women students, it started upon a course that can have but one end. When it proposed its Advisory Board, it took a long step towards that end, but it did not reach it. No partial admission, no semblance of power without its substance, can be a peaceful and permanent arrangement. If you had done nothing for women, or even if, while opening wider the scholastic door, you had never invited them to your councils, or asked their aid, I doubt if they would ever have asked for any share in this University administration. It is the granted rights that makes them strive for the coveted ill. You address before the Women's Club made a deep impression, and the women have been thinking. Sentences heard that afternoon are often on their lips: I fear that to stop half-way will be to give an air of insincerity to that address. The University must never play false. I know that all that was even hinted at was the Advisory
graduate, but to men and women. What better way of training such people can be found than by giving them responsibility? The women who may be on your Board of Trustees will receive a training of inestimable value, and their presence there will prove an immense incentive to other women to fit themselves for such places. What women can do for you, I know you appreciate. They are our nearest approach to a divine class, and many of them are not untrained.

Perhaps you wonder why I write all this now, when I say I know there is no election near at-hand...
It is because if you remark in regard to Mrs. Palmer's coming and the reference I drew that
the Advisory Board would be called into existence after that. I want to suggest these things
before you create that body.

I know that this letter michael in length the
edition of Gibbons that Silas Yegg began to read
to Boffin, and like that may remain unread.
I know that I ought to apologize for the great
delay I take in writing it at all, but I am fond
of following the example of the original Adam
and saying "you tempted me." You unlocked
the door, and all I had to do was to enter.

Very Sincerely, and Apologetically,

Harman P. Peake.

September the tenth.

This letter requires no answer, and I know you
will believe that my only object in writing it is
to serve the purpose, that I know this nearest-
you heart also, the success of the University.