Morgan Park Jan 7, 1867

John D. Rockefeller
My Dear Sir,

We desire to found here a new University for the following reasons:

1. We have not one first rate college in the West. Wisconsin, Minn., I. K. & N. have none of any sort, and those in other states are in a condition of utter futility. A Baptist who wishes to give his children a good education must put them into colleges of other denominations, or send them East. We have no school of our own for them. We certainly need one.

2. We must have it, if we hope to keep hold of the intelligence of the West. Our Baptist youth must be educated somewhere, they will be mightily influenced by their religious surroundings in college. If we neglect to provide for their education, we shall lose them and the generations after them. We owe it to the unnumbered thousands of our youth of coming years to give them the best opportunity of education.

3. We need a first class college to aid in raising up a ministry. The seminary needs it. The Southern Freedmen's Home has a dozen colleges directly tributary to it. Since the death of our University, our own seminary can hardly be said to have one. A good...
College would be of inestimable value to it. A first-class Inst.
is certain to become the greatest in our denomination. Chicago
is the commercial, political, social, religious, educational centre
of a wide empire. It is the natural place for every one in the
West to come to. The city will furnish large numbers of students
and they will come from all over the West. Of all places in the
World, this is the location plainly designated by nature, for a great
University for our people.

5. We cannot afford an Institution in the City. It will cost too much.
we might not if we could a suburb is a far better place for
many reasons. Thirty years ago the Methodists went twelve miles north
of Chicago and planted their Coll. in the Woods. It has now grown into
the North Western University with 1200 students. Morgan Park is 1 1/2
Cleveland, O., Oct. 21st 1886.

Mr. Wm. A. Harper,
Drawer 15, New Haven, Conn.

My dear Sir:

Your letter, 16th inst., received.
I enclose herein a check for $100.00 on account of the $1,200.00 shortage in the fund to provide for the Institute of Hebrew.

If you don’t get through let me know.

Yours truly,

John D. Rockefeller.
November 17th, 1886.

Dear Dr. Harper:

Yours of the 16th at hand. Don’t be troubled about what Mr. Pratt said to you. I have already talked to him; don’t know what he will do.

I inclose the $100° last promised on account of your summer work. If you do not get through with the other obligations, you need not hesitate to speak to me again, with the understanding that if I say you “No” you will not be disappointed.

Yours truly,
John D. Rockefeller.
Prof. Wm. R. Harper,
New Haven, Conn.

My Dear Sir:

Yours 20th at hand.

I enclose $100 to help out on the deficit, and have presented the matter again to Mr. Pratt, but do not know what he will do. Hope you will get the balance.

Yours truly,

John D. Rockefeller.
Oct. 20th 1887.

Dear Dr. Harper:

If you are to be in New York within the next week or two, I would be pleased to see you. I go out of town Friday night of this week and return next Friday morning, and should it suit your convenience just as well, I would prefer the interview after my return.

Kindly advise me and much oblige.

Yours truly,

John D. Rockefeller.
26 Broadway,

NEW YORK, Oct. 28th 1887.

Dear Dr. Harper:

I did not arrive in New York until today and my time is so much occupied would suggest next week Friday if agreeable to you at say 1:15 to lunch with me at 26 Broadway. This will give us opportunity for conversation. If this day is not convenient kindly advice me, otherwise I will expect you.

Yours, very truly,

John D. Rockefeller.
26 Broadway, 

NEW YORK, Nov. 5th, 1887.

My Dear Sir:

Yours of the 4th at hand. Please permit me, on behalf of Mrs. Rockefeller, to thank you for your Journal. I am sure she will, in common with myself, take great pleasure in perusing it.

I am called out of the city the early or middle of next week which will probably prevent my arranging for an interview during the week, but I will try to write you again before going in reference to a time and place of meeting agreeable.
to your kind suggestion.
Yours truly,
John D. Rockefeller.

Prof. Wm. A. Harper,
New Haven, Conn.
November 10th 1887.

Dear Dr. Harper:

Referring further to yours of Nov. 4th, I am called out of town for a few days, and on my return have another engagement which may detain me away several days longer, so that I am unable at this writing (as I had hoped to do) to indicate anything definitely in regard to a time for further conversation on the same question we discussed when you were last with me in New York; but I will hope to meet you at some early day and will write.
soon as can. Should you be down town in New York before hearing from me, if convenient, please stop in my office. Your visit gave us all great pleasure. Yours truly,
John D. Rockefeller.

Prof. Wm. R. Harper,
New Haven, Conn.
November 17th, 1887.

My Dear Sir:

Yours of the 15th at hand. Saturday is to be a very busy day with me, but if you call at my office at about quarter after one, and agreeable to you, hope we can steal a few moments to lunch together.

Yours truly,

John D. Rockefeller.

Prof. Wm. A. Harper,
New Haven, Conn.
November 30th, 1887.

Dear Dr. Harper:

Yours, 29th, at hand.

I am also just in receipt of one from Dr. Strong, of the 26th, and have felt obliged to write him the following:

"My dear Dr. Strong:

Yours of the 26th. at hand.

For all the reasons, I have decided to indefinitely postpone the consideration of the question of a University or Theological..."
Seminary in New York.
Very truly yours,
John D. Rockefeller.
I am just making preparations to leave the city, probably this afternoon, until next week.
Yours, very truly,
John D. Rockefeller.

Prof. Wm. A. Harper,
New Haven, Conn.
December 16th 1887.

Dear Dr. Harper:

Yours, 15th, at hand. I will be pleased to have you lunch with me at my office next Monday say about 1.20

Yours truly,

John D. Rockefeller.

Prof. Wm. A. Harper,
Yale University,
New Haven, Conn.
December 21st 1887.

Dear Dr. Harper:

Yours, 26th, at hand, inclosing lety. No. 146 for 100 shares of the stock of the Society of the American Institute of Hebrew. I inclose herein my check for $1,000 in payment. It will do to send the statements as you suggest about January 1st.

If you refer to the University talked about for New York, think would not say much about it, more than that there has been more or less of talk about something of that kind for a number of years among different of our people, but nothing definite arrived at yet.

Yours truly,

John D. Rockefellow.
February 15th 1888.

Prof. Wm. R. Harper,
Yale University,
New Haven, Conn.

My Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of yours of the 14th.

I will be pleased to have you lunch with me on Saturday at quarter after one, 26 Broadway, if convenient and agreeable to you.

Yours truly,

John D. Rockefeller.
THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

This Company TRANSMITS and DELIVERS messages only on conditions limiting its liability, which have been assented to by the sender of the following message. Errors can be guarded against only by repeating a message back to the sending station for comparison, and the company will not hold itself liable for errors or delays in transmission or delivery of Unrepeated Messages, beyond the amount of tolls paid thereon, nor in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within sixty days after sending the message.

This is an UNREPEATED MESSAGE, and is delivered by request of the sender, under the conditions named above.

THOS. T. ECKERT, General Manager.

NORVIN GREEN, President.

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Received at 57 W

Dated New York 17

To Mr. R. Harper

Yale

Shall be out of town

Tomorrow regret cannot keep appointment

John D. Rockefeller
February 23rd 1888.

Dear Dr. Harper:

Yours, of 18th, at hand.

I have just returned after an absence of several days, and regret exceedingly that I have not the time to make an engagement for this week, but should you be down the last of the next week hope my present rush will be over.

Very truly,

John D. Rockefeller.
Standard Block,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Sept 15/88

Dr. W. R. Harper
Yale University
New Haven Conn.

My Dear Sir:

Yours, 12th at hand, and I have requested my Secretary to forward you one hundred dollars on account deficit of eleven hundred you reported for the Hebrew Schools for this season. If you fail to get the balance, do not hesitate to speak to me, but I am borrowing money from next year's account and trying to make that loan as small as I can in reason, for the balance of the year. My family join in kind regards.

With best wishes for the success of your work, I am,

Yours truly,

John D. Rockefeller
26 Broadway.
New York.

October 30th, 1888.

Dear Dr. Harper:

Your letter just reached me this morning. I did not return to my house until Friday last. When do you go up to Vassar again? I may spend a Sunday with you there, and have opportunity for conversation.

Yours very truly,

John D. Rockefeller.

Dr. W. R. Harper,

New Haven, Conn.
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Received at 11:40

Dated New York 8

John R Harper

Gale university

Telegram received. I want to go to Richmond Saturday morning at ten o'clock. Don't want goodspeed meet us at Cornell?

I will leave for Cornell next week.

Thursday or Friday night John D Rockefeller
Received at 1886

Dated New York 29 Nor

To. Chief R. Harper

I will be very glad if you can make the engagement for some other night than Friday night on account of another important meeting.

John H. Rockefeller
### THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY

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Received at

**Dated**

**To.**

**Yale University**

*We will not go to Cornell at present Mrs. Rockefeller has a bad cold*

*John D. Rockefeller*
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Received at: 346 P  Noy 16 1888

Dated: Newyork 16

To A. W. R. Harper Yale University Newhaven

Confidential, was it the Pastor of the First Baptist Church Newhaven you spoke to me about and does he preach tomorrow. I have arranged to go to Newhaven at four o'clock tomorrow afternoon and reluctantly withdraw the suggestion made this morning for dinner hoping to see you elsewhere.
Received at

Dated

To

soon

John D. Rockefeller
November 22nd, 1888.

Prof. Wm. R. Harper,

Yale University,

New Haven, Conn.

My dear Sir:

Yours, 21st, at hand.

I found on returning home, Mrs. Rockefeller had met with an accident in the explosion of an alcohol lamp. Her hands and face were badly burned and she will require to be several weeks in bed. We hope she is improving, and trust she will entirely recover. This will prevent my going to Vassar, which I regret. Not prepared to say anything in reference to asking Dr. Strong to write about the University yet.

Yours truly,

John D. Rockefeller.
26 Broadway.
New York.

November 27th, 1888.

Dear Dr. Harper:

Please accept many thanks for your note of the 26th, advising of your interview with Dr. Robinson of Brown.

Yours truly,

John D. Rockefeller.

Prof. Wm. R. Harper,
Yale University,
New Haven, Conn.
November 30th, 1888.

Dear Dr. Harper:

Your favors of the 28th and 29th, duly received.

Regret I cannot go to Washington. Am no further along in the consideration of the Chicago question. Cannot move in it with reference to any local pressure in any way.

Excuse brevity. In great haste.

Yours truly,

John D. Rockefeller.

Prof. Wm. R. Harper,

Yale University,

New Haven, Conn.
December 12th, 1888.

Dear Dr. Harper:

Your letter of the 8th inst., is at hand.

I enclose my check for $100 on account of the deficit for the Institute of Hebrew, and hope you will succeed in raising the whole amount.

Yours very truly,

John D. Rockefeller.

Prof. Wm. R. Harper,

Yale University,

New Haven, Conn.
also see

Harper correspondence, Feb 20, 1897 WRH to M.A. Regenmacher
Harper 1894, 1904, 1905
Gift
Distinguished Persons, letter of
Brustein, Isaac N.
Affiliations: Morgan Park (for summary of Rockefeller gifts through 1896 & the legal restrictions thereon)
Finance, Conferences on
American Institute of Hebrew (JDR to WRH, May 23, 1897)
CROSS REFERENCE SHEET

Name or Subject       John D. Rockefeller       File No.

Regarding

Date

SEE

Name or Subject

HARPER CORRESPONDENCE FEB 20, 1897 WRITTEN TO M. A. PRYORSON
See Harper 1894, 1904, 1905
Gifts

Distinguished Persons, Letters of
Breasted, James H.

Affiliations: Morgan Park (for summary of Rockefeller gifts
through 1896 and related instructions thereon)

FINANCES, CONFERENCES ON
American Institute of Hebrew (for to wrt May 23, 1887)

File cross reference form under name or subject at top of the sheet and by the latest
date of papers. Describe matter for identification purposes. The papers, themselves
should be filed under name or subject after "SEE."
May 15th 1889.

Rev. Fred T. Gates, Cor. Sec'y,
American Baptist Education Society.

My dear Sir:

I will contribute six hundred thousand dollars, ($600,000) towards an endowment fund for a college to be established at Chicago, the income only of which may be used for current expenses, but not for land, buildings or repairs, providing four hundred thousand dollars, ($400,000) more is pledged by good and responsible parties, satisfactory to the Board of the American Baptist Education Society and myself, or or before June 1st 1890; said four hundred thousand dollars, or as much of it as shall be required,
to be used for the purpose of purchasing land
and erecting buildings, the remainder of the
same to be added to the above six hundred
thousand dollars, as endowment.

I will pay the same to the American Baptist
Education Society in five years, beginning within
ninety days after completion of the subscription
as above, and pay five per cent. each ninety days
thereafter until all is paid; providing not less
than a proportionate amount is so paid by the
other subscribers to the four hundred thousand
dollars; otherwise this pledge to be null and
void.

Yours, very truly,

Jno. D. Rockefeller.