

13 Windsor Terrace
Newcastle-on-Tyne.
England.
August 9th 1883

Sir

If you should need an
opinion on the defence of
Bloomington University buildings
from lightning, I should be
glad to assist you.

Last year I wrote a small
work on The Action of Lightning
(Larkwood & Co. London) mentioned
in Van Nostrand's (circular of July

1882, advocating certain simple economical measures of defence tending to prevent lightning strikes and not involving the use of lightning rods or, necessarily, of any apparatus.

I have devoted much time to the study of lightning and have amassed nearly 700 detailed instances of lightning accidents, including 123 cases of the failure of lightning rods. I consider these instruments as costly contrivances

for inviting danger to buildings.

Last month I was employed by H. M. Prison Commissioners in reporting on the recent accident at Leeds Prison and in advising on its future defence.

My fee for a written opinion (given after an examination of plans and particulars) is one guinea.

I am at present in communication with Messrs Scheide, of Oil City, Pennsylvania, in reference to the

defence of the tanks in their
charge.

If a tracing of the University
buildings accompanied by explanations
relative to site, soil, positions of
necessary metals, &c. were sent to me
I would by the return mail, or
certainly in a week's time, send
back an opinion.

I advise no patented system.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant

To/
The Principal. }
Bloomington }
University }
Indiana }
U. S. A. }

A. Parnell
(Colonel [late R.E.]).
Consulting Engineer