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Bloomington, Ind. Feby 24 1889

Hon D.D. Banta

President of the Board of Trustees
of Indiana University

Dear Sir:-

I have the honor to submit to you the resignation of my position as professor of zoology in the Indiana University said resignation to take effect at the close of the fiscal year July 31 1889.

While writing you I deem it my duty to call your attention to the strained conditions existing here. The strong men upon the faculty are in a state of uncertainty for they know not what to expect and this of necessity has its influence upon ~~the~~^{their} teaching. I am unable to decide where the fault lies. Were it a feeling held by but one or two of the faculty I could readily imagine them in the wrong but when you find that most of the stronger men on the faculty, the men who give the institution its standing, have no confidence in the stability of present arrangements and are in a constant state of irritation and dissatisfaction, I think that you must admit

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that there is trouble. As I said, I do not know where the fault lies but certainly for the efficiency of the University something should be done.

You may say, if the professors do not like it, they can resign but this, you must remember is a rather serious step, for aside from the fact that they are dependent upon their salaries for support, the fact of a resignation here without other cause than dissatisfaction with the management would militate against obtaining other positions. Then the fact that several numbers were called to their present position from other colleges by the Board of Trustees makes it a matter of simple justice that their complaints be heard.

Should you wish details I will gladly furnish them so far as in my power for I believe that the board when they know the facts will take steps to remedy them, and I can speak with a freedom which others might not feel from the fact that my reputation was made before I came here and is not dependant upon

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any persons here. Still consultation with other members of the faculty would, no doubt, prove corroborative of what I have said and of what I would say.

In conclusion let me say that what the faculty most desire is a feeling that their wishes and opinions are consulted and an assurance of square treatment by those in authority. Without this their teaching will necessarily suffer and the Indiana University will rapidly relapse to the condition of a High School from which it has but recently emerged; with it they will labor faithfully and loyally for the best success of the University inspired by the feeling that their efforts are appreciated and confident that there are here the elements for an institution second to none in the west.

I am
Yours truly
J. S. Kingsley