

Bloomington Indiana Nov. 10th 1888.

Committee on
Affairs of the University

Gentlemen

At the last meeting of the Board in June I made some representations to the members in full meeting, touching the Vice Presidency and the salary. As I understood the Fall meeting to be the special time for making changes in the salary I write this brief note to you as a committee.

I would say nothing about a formal election to the office, if I had not been thought a suitable man to discharge the duties of Vice President, but by appointment, I have been acting in that capacity for over four years. That length of time, especially in view of the frequent and long continued absence of the President, would seem to be long enough to test one's fitness for the position. If any further proof is required I submit a few considerations

(1) In a very young Faculty, the oldest member of which is under fifty years of age, I have been longer in the service than any other Professor, as I am now teaching my twenty second year in the University.

(2) I have never been prevented by sickness, even for an hour, from attending to my duties in College. Such extraordinary and unprecedented regularity of attendance would seem to call for some recognition. Such a thing as a Professor going on for over twenty years and never reporting "sick" and never even missing a class except when some unusual circumstance or the lecturing service of the University has called him away, certainly indicates an important qualification in an Institution where the President must be away so much.

(3) I might refer to my Character, general standing and influence in the community but perhaps I ought to leave that to suggest itself to you.

Again on the matter of Salary I may be allowed to say a few things.

(1) My pay was, for a time, some ten or twelve years ago, \$2000. It was cut down to \$1800.

and afterward on account of the exigencies of the treasury it was put down below that. It now stands at only \$1700. The University lost nothing, I understand, at the time when, under the fear of the ~~loss~~, the salaries were cut down. As the University is now stronger financially than ever before is it not proper that the Salary should be put back to \$2000.?

- (2) There are certain extra duties and responsibilities which fall to the one filling the place of Vice President. Is it not right that this fact should be recognized by an increase of salary?
- (3) Again it is always expected that the President & Vice President, as well as other leading Citizens, will be ready to entertain invited guests such as lecturers, Ministers &c. This "doing of the honors" of the University, while it is an important ^{service} to the Institution and adds to its good name and that of the town, becomes no small item of expense. My wife and I would be glad to feel that the salary justifies us in doing even more than we have done, which, as you know, has not been a little.
- (4) You remember that Dr. Wylie had the \$2000. during the latter part of his service.

For a time, perhaps, some entertained the theory of employing some man from abroad, paying him an exceptional salary, to discharge most of the duties of the President, while President Jordan should spend most of his time in travel lecturing &c. I do not suppose that anyone seriously entertains that view any longer. It is plain I think, to those who have had experience that nobody but the real President of the University can regularly fulfill the duties of that high office.

The Vice President should preside and look to the work in his absence, and give to his administration a hearty support.

Trusting that these considerations will have their due weight with you

Very Respectfully,

Amzi Stwater