

Department of English,

The Indiana University,

Bloomington, Indiana.

Nov. 1888.

To the Honorable, the Board of Trustees,
of the Indiana University;
Gentlemen,

The work in the Department of English the current term and to be continued through the year comprises the Freshman Class of about 60 members in the critical study of many of the longer classical English poems with accompanying literary biography, conducted by Prof. Miter, and ~~of~~ the following classes and work conducted by myself: the Sophomore class of 20 in Anglo-Saxon, the Junior class of 7 in English Literature of the 14th Cent., and the Senior class of 17 in the historical plays of Shakespeare; also an advanced class of graduate students in Anglo-Saxon, meeting three times a week, but like all other classes in this Department, taking the full time of a daily recitation; also my Shakespeare Club which takes weekly a full day's time; also the superintendence of a class of 5 graduate students, candidates for the Master's

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Degree, two in residence and three by correspondence.

Serving as Secretary of the Faculty and called upon in various ways for miscellaneous work perhaps more than any other member of ~~the~~ except the President, I make mention of these things at the risk of seeming egotistic, in order that I may emphasize my request that a permanent assistant be appointed in this Department. I can not consent longer to making the Freshman work in English a kind of shuttle-cock to be knocked about from one teacher to another as may happen. Prof. Witer will, I am told, be unable to continue the English work with the Class next term. I propose to take the Class myself, dividing it into at least two sections, and ask for an associate to assist in the Freshman work and to relieve me of say the Sophomore and Junior classes. I can then give my time to the two sections of the Freshmen, to the Seniors, and to the graduate students. Should you be unable to grant my request,

it will be necessary to abandon the attempt to offer a complete course in English.

As a suitable person to give the help needed, and to aid in Latin or in Greek if required, I beg to name Mr. W. F. Bridges Jr., who knows me and my methods as I know him and his, a former pupil of mine at Antioch College, a graduate in 1884 from the Univ. of Cincinnati, a graduate in 1885 from Harvard, a post-graduate at Harvard in 1886-7, having made specialties of English and the ancient classics. The local members of the Board may remember that Mr. Bridge would have received an appointment two years ago in our Preparatory school, if his letters had not been delayed. I do not know that Mr. Bridge is now available, but I am so confident that he is the man for the place that I would respectfully suggest that the choice of a man for the proposed associateship be delayed till he can be communicated with.

Letters written some weeks ago seem not yet to have reached him.

I enclose a list of books to be purchased for the library.

Yours sincerely,

W. B. Clark
Prof. of Eng.