

Mathematics
1888

Bloomington, Indiana

Nov. 7, 1888.

To the Honorable Board of Trustees;

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the following brief report from the Department of Mathematics.

We have in all One Hundred and Fifty Seven students, the present term, in our Mathematical classes. There are in eight classes as follows: 94 students in Geometry (in four sections); 16 in Analytical Geometry; 38 in Descriptive Astronomy; and nine in Geometrical and Analytical Mechanics. The work, I believe, is progressing ^{in these classes} satisfactorily, and the total number of students is about 25% greater than ever before.

It will appear from the report of the Secretary of the Board that something over \$50 or of the amount appropriated to the Math. Dept. is still unexpended. I shall not ask for its reappropriation at present.

I wish to make a statement of what we can ^{teach} do in the Department of Mathematics with our present teaching force.

1.) The required year of Mathematics.

To do effective work the Freshman class must be divided into four sections; thus it furnishes work for one teacher.

2.) One Sophomore, one Junior, and one Senior Class. These are all devoted to Pure Mathematics and the mathematics of Engineering and Astronomy.

3.) This leaves one hour vacant by teaching four hours per day. This is devoted to Descriptive Astronomy the 1st and 2d term and to Surveying the 3d term.

Now it seems to me that more Astronomy, Engineering, and the Popular side of Mathematics, should be taught. I am sure that neither of us wish to ask that the amount of our work be lessened; but we should be glad to see more in the above lines done. Of course this can only be done by additional help. If practicable it is

very desirable that we should have additional help next year.

As soon as possible, I believe we should have here an equipped Engineering Laboratory with a practical and practical Civil Engineer to superintend it. I have sent two young men to Rose Polytechnic Institute this year because we neither had the means nor the time to give them the sharp side of their work.

Joseph Swain

Prof. Math. I. U.

Prof. Orin

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