

THE INDIANA UNIVERSITY,

REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF Philosophy

Nov 4

1887

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY:

I have first to report that in accordance with the permission and wish of yourself and the Board of Trustees, I have spent the past year in the study of Philosophy at the University of Berlin.

I have further to acknowledge the election of me to the Professorship of Philosophy in this University & to inform you that I have entered upon the duties of that position.

For the Department of Philosophy, I have to report as follows:

I

II

Fourteen students have elected to place themselves under the patronage of the Department. Five of these are Seniors.

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY:

Thirty-six students have elected work this term in the classes of the Department. With two exceptions, these are Juniors ~~or~~ Seniors.

II

Owing to my absence, the course of study in Philosophy made in consonance with the University curriculum of two years ago, was not replaced by the new four-year course in time to go into effect this term. The change will be made at the beginning of the next term. The work of this term is as follows:

- A. Psychology; 5 hours per week; 21 students;
Text, Sully; weekly papers by class;
lectures on "Experimental Psychology,"
"Weber's Psycho-Physical Law," "The Application
of Mathematics to Psychology." "Psychology

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TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY:

within the limits of legitimate science,"
"Scientific Method as determined by Psychology."
I only remark that this work insists
on confining itself within the limits of
verified or verifiable science.

B. Socrates: Tu & Thu; 2 students (Every
student but two in my Department besides
many others had elected this in advance
last year & the year before) Text: Plato's
Apology, Krito, Phaedo, Protagoras & part of
The Republic. Subject: Life, Method & Ethics
of Socrates, a chapter in Sociology; weekly
papers.

C. History of Philosophy; 5 hrs; 13 members.
1. General; Texts, Schweigler & Jellier,
The aim is to review the History
of Philosophy, regarded as a department

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of Universal History, - as one of the forms in which humanity has expressed itself, - and as therefore one of the legitimate objects of historical science

The method is, besides recitations, lectures, conversations &c, to secure from each member of the class a booklet, containing his own abstract & review of the ground covered.

2. Special. History of Theories of Scientific Methods

The most important original data of the History of Philosophy are the books of certain men. My students are working at the most important of these original data, relating to the History of Scientific Method.

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TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY:

They make minute written reviews
+ general written reviews of the
following books:

Plato: Apology, Krito, Phaedo, Symposium, Euthydemus, Theaetetus, Parmenides, Gorgias, Sophist.

Aristotle: De Anima.

Des Cartes: Discours sur la methode

Bacon: Novum Organum.

Locke: On Human Understanding.

Berkeley: On the Principles of Human Understanding.

Hume: Enquiry Concerning Human Understanding

Mill: Examination of Sir Wm Hamilton's Phil.

Lewis: Comte's Positive Philosophy.

These books are historical events,
as exhaustless ~~sources~~ ^{objects} of scientific
inquiry as the Battle of Waterloo, or as

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the City of Rome, or as the Sistine Madonna, or as any other thing in the world. I claim for the work which is spent upon them the same rank as that given to the original investigation in any of the departments of the University.

D Philosophical Club; conducted by the students of the Department with others; weekly meeting at my house; usually three papers & general discussion of topic chosen at the beginning of the term by the author of the leading paper. Following topics have been discussed. "The Will" "Evolution" "Berkeley's Theory of Knowledge," "Relativity or Absoluteness of Moral Law" "Thoreau's Individualism."

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TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY:

III

The new four-year course in Philosophy proposes to give.

1. General work in Psychology, Logic, Ethics, History of Philosophy & Outlines of Philosophy

In amount, this work will be equal to that generally given to undergraduates. These courses are intended chiefly for students of other departments. Every student ought to have some work in this Department. It is proving that most of them elect work in it.

In method, it will employ recitations, texts, side readings, lectures, conversations, examinations, these as means of securing the instruction & discipline

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required, and ^{12/} it proposes to distinguish itself from most of the work done in this department ^{elsewhere}, by drawing the line everywhere against metaphysics, confining itself strictly within the limits of ascertained truth.

2. Special work all the time in Experimental Psychology and in certain lines of the History of Philosophy. I propose to place this work in all respects on the level with the best scientific University work. I ask from you the means to carry this on & that you shall make upon it the same rigid demands which original work everywhere expects to meet. If the thing proposed be not worth

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Doing, or if the work done fall below the strict demand of science, then you will know it & this Department will become obsolete. Nobody who knows, is afraid of this result.

In order that I may introduce & carry on work in Experimental Psychology, I ask you to appropriate One hundred & fifty dollars (\$150.⁰⁰) for the purchase of a Hipp's Chronoscope. If the instrument cost more, as I suppose it will, I am willing to pay the excess. With Prof. Hays's assistance, I can arrange for other necessary apparatus. I ask permission to speak with you directly in respect to the work proposed & the apparatus required.

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TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY:

IV

In compliance with your request that I should do what work I am capable of doing in Elocution, I have offered work in English Pronunciation, which is taken by thirty-two students.

The work consists of "an exposition of the vocal elements of English & of how to produce them, as determined by Phonetics & Physiology & drill to secure for all bodily organs engaged, right habits of producing them.

I have also done work in drilling students for public speaking.

- The Secretary of the Board finds no record of any salary assigned me.

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TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY:

This error in form, I beg to be corrected. By verbal information through a member of the Board + by a letter of President Jordan's conveying the information of my election, I understand that my contract is for ^{\$}1500 per year. Inasmuch as this is more than that received by some other members of the Faculty of my age, I venture to add that having just received notice of an explicit offer of ^{\$}1500 salary elsewhere, I think that amount is not more than the market value of my work.

Respectfully Submitted.

Wm J Bryan

Professor of Philosophy.

This error in form I hope to be corrected. My verbal information through a member of the Board + by a letter of President Johnson conveying the information of my election, I understand that my contract for \$500 per year. Inasmuch as this is more than that received by some other members of the faculty of my age, I venture to add that having just received notice of an explicit offer of \$500 salary elsewhere, I think that my contract is not more than the market value of my work.

Respectfully submitted,
Wm. W. Johnson
Professor of Philosophy

Wm. W. Johnson
1887