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To the President of Indiana University, for the Board of Trustees.

Report of the Department of Rhetoric and Oratory.

This department opens in much better condition than it did last year. A larger number of students are doing work in it; the interest of the students is greater; and their average work, better. This is due, in part, to changes made in the arrangement of the work, and, in part, to the continuation of the same plan of management and of the same system of work from one year to another.

The students actually at work in the department today, number

sixty-four, and are classed as follows:-

Elocution,	general work,	3/5 study	3
"	phonetics,	2/5 "	17
Rhetoric,	Sophomore,	full "	44
"	Junior,	advanced, " "	4
			68
Counted twice			4
Total No. students working in Dept.			64

The Sophomore Rhetoric is a required study, and recites in two divisions: all the others are elective.

The present arrangement of classes requires me to give eighteen recitations or lectures per week, a number somewhat burdensome in a department where so much time outside the class-room is occupied with the correction of essays: but it seemed desirable for

the best interests of the students, and has accordingly been done.

The difficulties with which the Department has to contend in the Sophomore Required Rhetoric, are still serious. Too large a proportion of the students have had no proper previous training in Composition; while some know little or nothing of English Grammar. Something has already been done to call the attention of the teachers of the State to this neglect: meantime it seems desirable that the standard for entrance to the University should be raised in this particular, as rapidly as the condition of the schools of the State will justify.

About one hundred dollars worth of books are needed in the library by this department this year. A partial, but somewhat incomplete, list of the books most needed, will be placed in the hands of the librarian before the meeting of the Board.

I wish also to call the attention of the Board to the portion of a letter attached hereto, in connection with the action taken upon the question of my salary at the meeting of the Board held in June last.

I received this part of a letter from President Jordan, the last of March, 1890, with the assurance that his recommendation was that my salary be made fifteen hundred dollars. He gave me the letter in answer to my inquiries as to what I could fairly expect would be done about my salary, a matter that seemed, according to the record, to have been overlooked at the time of my election. My inquiries were made at a time when correspondence with some friends about positions elsewhere rendered it especially important that I should

know what I could depend upon him. This letter I did depend upon so completely that I made no effort to call the attention of the Board to the letter at the June meeting, assuming, till it was too late, that ~~that~~ it was merely a matter of the correction of the record.

Upon presenting the case to a member of the local execution committee, Dr. Maxwell, I was told that the action was taken in the absence of Mr. Jenkinson, and in ignorance of what he had done, and that if the circumstances were presented to the Board at the November meeting, perhaps something might be done to make my salary more in accordance with the tenor of this letter.

Respectfully submitted,

Geo. W. Saunderson.

Prof. of Rhetoric & Oratory.

Nov. 3d 1890.

Saunderson.