

Bloomington May 7th. 1828.

Rev. & dear Sir, I flatter myself the present crisis is a sufficient apology for this unceremonious introduction, & for the abrupt style of my letter.

Mr John H. Clary, Professor of Mathematicks & myself, who both, have long proposed & desired your election to the Presidency of the College of Indiana, cannot but be extremely solicitous that you should accede to the wishes of the Board of Trustees, which by this time must have reached you. In the hope therefore, that it may aid your determination, be assured that the call of the Board is entirely unanimous & cordial, that it meets the entire approbation of the townsmen & of all the principal men of the whole state both in public & private life.

Should you come hither, Sir, your influence may be exerted upon a very broad scale towards the noblest & most beneficial ends; - the advancement of religion & of liberal education.

Hitherto the smiles of Providence have been upon our Institution; & the very hand of God has visibly directed all events; & hence we cannot but hope that the same Being intends this as the scene of your future labours.

The publick are all waiting impatiently for your decision: & great & universal will be the disappointment should you by a sense of duty be impelled to a declination of what may be termed, not merely the call of the Trustees, but of the whole state.

Bloomington I acknowledge is a new town & in a new country). But it is widely different in appearance from new towns generally; the work of improvement in all respects is rapidly advancing; - & in regard to healthfulness abundant evidence may be furnished that ^{it is} by far superior to most places in the West, & equally to any whether in the East or West. For instance I have preached here to a small congregation for more than 3 years & in this time have buried but one adult person connected with the Presbyterians - & he died from a pulmonary disease derived from his parents. I have buried also an infant child, my daughter, who died of a peculiar eruption). Besides I recollect in the whole town not more than 5 or 7 deaths; & all from casualty or some special & occasional disease.

With regard to Mr Flannery & myself I may say we are enthusiastic in our ^{respective} professions; & that we are abundantly willing to become coadjutors in all schemes for the promotion of learning. And this will doubtless weigh in your estimation when it is remembered that the influence & example of this College are to be felt & imitated through the entire state. Here too, I may add, that no similar situation can now be found, & no juncture ever again occur, so very favourable for the adoption & wide dissemination of any plan to promote the interests of education. May, Sir, I affirm not too strongly when I say, that with the blessing

of God upon judicious, well timed, persevering & ~~united~~ ^{united} efforts, we may mould a system of education for the whole state; that this college may at no distant period be far superior to any other in the West; & that Indiana may ultimately become one of the most enlightened states of the union.

With these & various other considerations which must have occurred to your reflections, may we venture to hope, dear Sir, that you will prefer Indiana College as the scene of your future exertions?

Hoping that such will be your determination, believe me, Sir, to be

Yours, very respectfully,
Baynard R. Hall.



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Rev. Andrew Wylic D. D.
President of Washington College
Washington
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paid

Room Baynard Hall
May 1828

