

Bloomington Ind. June 5th 1838.

Dear Sir,

Your letter in answer to mine, enclosing your appointment as President of the Indiana College, was received by last mail; but not having it in my power to converse with any of the trustees, before the departure of the return mail, I deemed it prudent to defer writing, until the present time.

However desirous it might be to the Board of trustees, and the friends generally of our institution of learning, to receive a definite answer from you, in relation to your acceptance of the Presidency of the Indiana College, still we neither wished, nor expected you to act precipitately, or unadvisedly on the subject.

The trustees on due consideration, concur in the views, and reasonings, set forth in your letter; and acquiesce in your proposal of visiting Bloomington in Oct. next. Under an existing regulation of the Board, there will be a general meeting of all the trustees from the different parts of our state at Bloomington, on the 29th day of Oct. At the same time the Governor of Indiana, the U. S. district Judge, the Judges of the Supreme Court, and many other gentlemen of our state, will be present; and we are assured, that several gentlemen who feel a deep interest in the cause of education, will then visit us from adjoining states. We wish you therefore, if possible, to be with us at that meeting. It will afford an excellent opportunity of consulting many of our most distinguished, and influential

citizens in support of the colleges, and you will also have it in your power, to become acquainted with our principal state officers.

In consequence of the particular intimacy existing between Mr. Hall and myself, he took the liberty of shewing me your letter to him, and as his information upon some of the subjects mentioned in that letter, is limited, he requested me to give you as far as possible, answers to the interrogatories proposed. In relation then, to the character of the Board of trustees, I will say, that four fifths of them, are decidedly the friends of morality and religion.

A majority of them are men of intelligence, but not having had experience in the management of a literary institution, are measurably unacquainted with their duties as trustees.

Upon the whole, it may be said of the Board, that they are men whose intentions are good, subject to err, for want of information, but who will when properly advised, promptly retract an error, and do what is right. The Board erred at their last meeting in electing the professors now here, for a definite time; but they will correct this error, at their next annual meeting. It is not my opinion, that any of the members of the board are bigotted, farther than an honest preference of their own religious views, may be so considered.

There is but one clergyman in the board, and he is of the Baptist order. Several other enquiries will be best answered by our charter, a copy of which I send you in a printed Bill as it passed the Legislature. There are a number of New Lights in this, and the adjoining Counties. The purchased lands in this state are mostly held by Resident owners, some by Non-

residents; but I have no knowledge of any large tracts, in any one neighborhood, held by any individual, or Company of individuals.

Our state is rapidly populating — In 1820 there were about 140,000 inhabitants in Indiana, and at this time we have upwards of 300,000. The current of emigration still continues unabated, and in a short time our settlements will extend north, to the borders of Lake Michigan. The society of Bloomington is civil and polite, neither chargeable with "rudeness" nor entitled to the appellation "refined" — It is however evident, that our society is yearly becoming more refined. Our citizens generally are moral, and a large proportion of them are professing Christians of the Presbyterian, Cumberland Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist, Covenant, and New-light or Christian Orders. Thus sir, I have endeavored honestly, and candidly, to answer the interrogatory proposed by you, and shall with pleasure at any time you may request it, give you any additional facts, or information you may desire. Mr. Hall will, I presume write to you, and give you information on some subjects not mentioned in this letter. We shall be much gratified by hearing from before you visit us in October next.

Believe me to be sir, with sentiments of regard, Dear Sir,

Your Obedt. Servant

David W. Maxwell

Res^d. Andrew Mylius D.D.

Pres^t. of the Board of Trustees
of the Ind^a. College

A. W. Harewell P.M.
Bloomington, Ind.



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Rev. Andrew Wylie D.D.

Washington

Pennsylvania