

Bloomington Dec 1828

Dear Sir,

We have this day received yours
of the 3^d, after two weeks of anxious
expectation. What you heard respect-
ing the late proceedings of our board
is true! a thing most unexpected
to myself and colleagues not even
when it had entered our minds -
I was acquitted by a committee of
the board about two hours before the
election I was acquitted by a com-
mittee of the board to assist them
in making laws and forming a
course of studies, nor did I even know
that there was another candidate;
you may judge of my surprise when
I was told after all was over that six
sage members of the board had
voted ^{against me} - well why? you are aware
I presume that exceedingly foolish res-
olution of our board I was out of
office at the close of last session our
Trustees therefore in their decision and
I believe that I was only a candidate
and if not elected certainly I shall not

right to campaign - To give you an
idea of the whole matter, We abused
first that the board of trust of the state
Seminary as an institution was form-
ed by itself ~~and~~ only managed it with
prudences from the influence of my
colleagues About eighteen months
ago in spite of him the board reap-
ed a resolution to elect an English
teacher. Of mathematics they were
as ignorant as ~~they were as ignorant~~
as they were of the Moon. This English
teacher used to instruct students in
Arithmetic, Bookkeeping and such other
trifles as the trustees had heard of I was
distant from a friend in this state
that a professor of Math. He was want-
ing him and came on a visit to
the place. When I arrived I found
five or six candidates all of them
living in the vicinity of Bloomington
of their scientific character. You can
easily judge I was generally elected
and vainly supposed that my plentuous
wonderful science all improving but
these candidates were alike ignorant
of me and my profession; and, boasted
that the unfortunate vulgar fractions
and could teach any man equal to
any man, another trifling a man

of half the world why I should be chosen
then, how could that man see except that
I was a cloth coat, a camel or a cow, and
belonged to the Presbyterian church; while
they were unforgotten any more at all
and belonged to some other denomination.

There were then as you may suppose
no small amount of envy and jealousy
and excited amongst the Synagogue
where these men had any influence
it was however entirely local and would
have subsided before this had it not been
for other circumstances. The most respect-
table of my opponents were a clergyman
Mr Harris a graduate of some college
but without any recommendations
or character as a mathematician!!

He presented himself to the board of
visitors to whom the trustees referred the
matter and was unanimously rejected
at the last meeting of the board he
again offered his services; and several ^{things}
now favoured him. ^{Three} students who had
been under my tuition having entered
to take a short course as they said were
directed to review, essentials to their prog-
ress. This they did not like as their ob-
ject was to get through rather than
to understand; they therefore resolved
not to obey and a resolution of the fac-
ulty that they should receive no further
favour. They next discovered that

I was partial, and had? I had previously suffered a student to prepare the same study without reviewing it! Stupid! as this was, it was considered by the busy bodies of the town as a most insurmountable difficulty. In addition to this a very wicked fellow in the college who would not learn if he would and would not if he could; and whom we have prepared to report as incompetent, to pursue his studies, taking advantage of the excitement in the town, wrote us an impudent letter and absconded, to add his name to the catalogue of his already tales. In this state of things nothing ~~nothing~~ was wanting ^{and} ~~and~~ a certain class to effect something but a leader, one, they had in our old friend Lane, his influence over all the most ignorant part of society of course elicits our abomination to him, he is moreover well versed in a species of low reasoning and intrigue, and therefore well qualified for the part he had to act, This is all the knowledge he has and were the chance to be given to the college his only ~~idea~~ would be to make a man

of his own party in the place about
qualifications he knows or cares nothing
of Mr Sevenworth, a true brother of his
in character is a member of the board
they are ~~both~~ intimate friends and
both embarked in the same cause
Mr Sevenworth impressed some unauthori-
zed members of the board with an idea
of his superior knowledge by bringing
with him a bundle of laws which he
had collected from several colleges,
by holding a book at examinations
and looking wise, and by his confident
expressions; one of which, was, that the
professors in Eastern colleges were elec-
ted for six months or a limited time
by this truth he effected the payment
of the resolution electing us for six months
this man told Mr Hall a few hours before
the election that with both of us he was
perfectly satisfied that he desired no
change, whilst at the same time he was
telling those ~~members~~, over whom he
exerted some influence, that it was
of great importance to silence popular clamor,
that therefore I should be left out

once to produce all the unprepared possible
a petition in favour of Tarris recom-
mending him as a pious man and one
who would please the people and signed
by 37 from the town and county ^{was prepared} ~~same~~
of the subscribers of this paper I have been told
for I have not seen it have scarcely drawn
a sober breath for seven years. One of
the trustees was an elder in Mr Tarris's
church and being very ignorant nothing
could be expected that there he would
vote, a temptation like for his own preacher
let things be as they might. This petition
was presented a few minutes before the
vote was taken, by this means several of
our trustees ~~attested~~ for Mr Tarris who if
the subject had been properly represented
to them would, I believe, have voted dif-
ferently. It was not their intention to
injure me nor did they appear to have
any case of the rectitude to which any
acquaintance ^{was involved}. It was an impotent attempt
at most, for had it succeeded, the disrepute
would have fallen on other shoulders than
mine, if I am not much mistaken.
I will only observe ~~that~~ that the college
has no more faithful friend than I have.

have been nor did any one ever discuss
such treatment - Thus you believe the worst
of the story and truly it was bad enough
the reason that nothing was said in our
communications to you, on this subject
was the difficulty of representing the case
as it really ~~is~~ by titled and if you were
acquainted with the circumstances it
would not hinder your acquaintance

for first. The election of Professor is now
 permanent. The noise which is altogether
 confined to this place is subsiding. Two of
 the students who left the institution refused
 to have any thing to do in the ^{petition} business and
 has returned and made his acknowledgements
 and been re-admitted.

See and those who would attempt such
a thing again have test^{their injuries} some have throu-
ghly repented of what they have done and
will not be wheedled again -

These admitting no reformation in the
 heresies in the society you may ~~see~~ ^{perceive}
 (I was not here at their last meeting)
 that what is better these are determined
 to assign ~~any~~ ^{any} that member is lower

After so long a letter I must conclude
the want of room. In conclusion I believe
should you accept the proffer of the coll.
can not at all abate my respectfully
J. H. Dimey

Bloomington &
Deerfield

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Rev. Dr. Mylie D.D.

Govt Washington

Mar

Pennsylvania

