

Doe H
The Petition
of
the Elver

To the Masters of Indiana University

Gentlemen,

The undersigned Students, and who have been students of the Indiana University, until very recently, deem it due to themselves, to the Character of the University and to the Masters of the institution, to state briefly some of the causes which have tended for some time to diminish the number of Students, to lessen their Confidence in the integrity of a portion of the Professors, and which if not remedied by some redeeming power, must soon terminate the existence of the University as an institution of learning.

Some of the undersigned have for a long time borne with the insults, partiality and injustice of a portion of the faculty; and though they longed to permit their rights, and feelings to be trampled under foot without remonstrating, they would feel that they were unworthy even the name of gentlemen.

The undersigned therefore most solemnly protest against the unprincipled course of Dr A. N. Myler President of the University, for the following among other reasons.

Because he basely insulted, Mr. William McCall in his lecture room, a Student in his senior year, by using ungentlemanly language to said McCall, calculated to arouse the indignation of any man of feeling, or having any pretensions to a respectable standing in society; after his own son, and another Student (J. McRae) had may laid and attacked in a cowardly manner, the said McCall; and after a trial had been had for an assault and battery before the faculty of the University.

Because he has impeached the Credibility of the evidence of some of the most respectable Students, young men at the University, who were examined at mimesis at

at the trial of his son and servants before the civil
authorities of the county, for their assault and battery
committed on McCall.

nd Because by his partiality and notorious injustices
in the trial between his son & McCall and McCall
he has excited hostilities among the students, thereby ren-
dering it impossible for them to pursue their studies
in peaceful and quiet manner they should.

rd Because (with the exception of Mr Parker) he has the
whole faculty completely under his control, so that
his will is the governing power of the University.

And Because he has refused and still refuses to
permit the University to be governed by the bylaws pro-
vided by the trustees according to the express provisions
of the Charter of the University to be operative, and sub-
stitutes his own arbitrary, prejudiced, and despotic
will in lieu thereof.

The undersigned would remark before conclu-
ding this note that ~~some~~ some of the professors, besides
being the pliant tools of Dr. Wiley are notoriously inca-
pable of discharging their respective duties.

In consequence of the recent difficulties in the
institution a number of the most valuable students
have left the ~~institution~~ University, to seek some place
where they can procure an education without having
their rights and feelings trampled under foot regardless
of any just cause. A number more will leave as soon
as they can settle up their business, and as before men-
tioned without aiding the institution must necessarily

go down
Some of the undersigned regret exceedingly to be
driven from the institution in defence of themselves
and their characters, it being the State University, loca-
ted in a healthful and moral place, and more con-
venient in many respects than any other institution
in the West; but at the same time they are unwilling
to have their rights disregarded and their feelings man-
tly insulted without cause. Another portion of the
undersigned reside at a distance from Bloomington
and could probably procure an education elsewhere
as well as here, but having formed an acquaintance
with the citizens of the place, believing they can live as
economically here as elsewhere, and having valuable clas-
mates, signed to be driven from the University, but unless
they can have common justice done them, they will be
necessarily compelled to do so.

The undersigned, therefore respectfully request that
you may ~~be able to find~~ take the necessary measures
of placing the affairs of the University in a proper footing
and eradicating such causes as in your opinions may
have a tendency to destroy the University.

Bloomington March 1839

Very Respectfully

Names

~~A. M. H. H.~~

Crofton T. Cookery

Robt C. Moore

~~at P. L. Lister~~

D. J. C. Smyth

~~E. C. Maxwell~~

J. W. Buskirk

M. K. K. K.

M. Bailey

R. L. Lulaney
R. V. Marshall

Having signed my name to
this document in haste and
at a time when I was very
much excited and having
since that time examined it
carefully and found my
mistake I have by the

permission of Doct. A. Wylie
scratched out my name
from among its signers

E. C. Maxwell

I have arrased my
name from this paper
for the same reason

P. B. Lister

I have arrased my
name from paper
for the same reason

A. C. Murphy

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