



[Solon J. Buck Papers.](#)

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Hamden 36
Cambridge, Massachusetts

December 14, 1912.

My dear Mr. Bush.

It has occurred to
me that you might not
object to renewing your
acquaintance with Conant
Hall. One of my friends who
lives there is going home for the
holidays and has offered me
the use of his room. I
should be glad if you
care to use it. You know

of course there are now only
7 1/2 minutes from Park street,
One is really as near the Copley
Place, or Harvard Square, as if
he were in town.

I have many things
which I want to ask
you about. It will be a
delicious pleasure to have an
opportunity to learn about
Illinois.

Very sincerely yours,

James S. McDonald.

Lebanon, Ill.

April 5, 1912.

Prof. Solon J. Buck,

Urbana, Ill.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter and copy of the preachers' report from McKendree College to the Illinois Conference was received some days ago. The paper of which you send a copy should be dated Aug. 13, 1839.

At that time there was but one conference in Illinois and it was known as the Illinois Conference. That conference appointed visitors to attend commencement at McKendree and take part in the examina-

tious and act on the Board with the Trustees.

Those visitors came from up the state and attended commencement which was held in August (8-13,) 1839 and then returned and made the report to their conference which met in Bloomington Sept. 11, 1839. - There is a long history connected with the two points - "Theological" and "Abolition". The "Theological" was the "scare crow" in the Illinois State legislature and "Abolition" was very odious

to petitions even at that date. Many items in the record here shows that the college was far ahead of general sentiment at the time on these points. The college was running in 1828, and when the first vote was taken on its location it was voted for St Louis, but Peter Cartwright and others declared that it could not be located on slave territory - they reconsidered the matter, fought it out on the slave question and won, but the enemies

of the college gave it much trouble on the question.

When the war did come this college furnished six generals - among them were Gen. Wesley Merritt and Gen. James H. Wilson, and a host of other officers and soldiers, and when Lincoln was nominated a professor and body of students went to Springfield to greet him.

No this history has never been published that I know of.

Respectfully
John F. Harmon.

McKendree College. -

located at Lebanon and incorporated in 1835. Founding was suggested by Rev. Peter Cartwright, and it may be said to have had its inception at the Methodist Episcopal Conference held at Mount Carmel, in September, 1837. First funds for its establishment were subscribed by citizens of Lebanon, who contributed \$385. Instruction began, Nov. 24, 1828, under Rev. Edward Ames, afterward a bishop of the Methodist E. Church. In 1830, Bishop McKendree made a donation of land to the infant institution and the school was named in his honor. It cannot be said

to have become really a college until 1836,
and its first class graduated in 1841. Uni.
powers were granted to it by an amendment
to its charter in 1839. At present the departments
are as follows: Preparatory, business, classical,
scientific, law, music and oratory. - owns
property to the value of \$90,000 - including
endowment of \$25,000 - has about 200
student, and faculty of ten members.

The visiting committee appointed by the 111th annual conference to attend the examination of the students of M^cKen-dree College make the following report

The examination commenced on Monday the 5th of August and Closed on the following Satterday □ On the Monday evening following there was an exhibition of single pieces dialogues & C¹ taken from school-books □ On Tuesday at 10 o'clock the exhibition [of] original pieces commenced □ The result of the examination was highly satisfactory □ The Classes manifested an acquaintance with the branches of literature on which they were examined alike creditable to their intelligence and industry □ Many of the Students showed a knowledge of the subjects of their studies far in advance of what we expected to find. On natural and mental philosophy as well as logic they answered in a manner that showed that they understood their authors using as they did their own language which was perspicuous and elegant equal if not superior to that found in the books which they used. The Classes in mathematics went through with some of the longest demonstrations² of problems in spherical trigonometry and conic sections with the utmost ease □ In mensuration navigation surveying and leveling they seemed to be perfectly at home. In this department a ripeness

Footnotes

#1 Originally: "dialogues, comedies and tragedies" but changed to read as above.

#2 The word "solutions" is pencilled over "demonstrations."

of judgement was manifested in some of the students that would have been honorable in more advanced years. In ancient languages they performed so well that one would almost imagine himself in one of the oldest institutions in the Country listening to a class about to finish their collegiate course some of them being able to read these languages so as to make them appear musical in an ear unaccustomed to such sounds and to translate so readily as to appear like the reading of English authors □ In the preparatory department there was a large Class that had mastered Smiths arithmetic. The Class in geography performed well. The one in English grammar very well. Those in Latin and Greek showed that they were laying a good foundation on which to build a thorough knowledge of these languages □ Indeed we can but speak in the highest terms of praise of professors teachers and students □ We congratulate the trustees in their success in securing a faculty who understand the various branches of science thoroughly and can communicate a knowledge of them so rapidly to others □ When we consider the difficulties with which all concerned have had to contend in building up an institution of learning in a new Country arising from prejudices that are unavoidable the want of suitable buildings apparatus and other conveniences we can but look upon the work of the last year as a pledge of entire success in building up a College of the first eminence which will send forth the blessing of science as from a radiant point in every direction that will drive mental darkness from

the minds of our youth and furnish the church and the State with sons able to guide them to glory and triumph

The discipline of the College is of the first order □ At 6 o'clock A. M. the students are required to assemble in the Chappell for prayers and again at the close of the day. It is a scene of thrilling intrust [sic] to behold so large a number of young men morning and evening singing the songs of Zion and bowing as a family before their Creator in adoring worship. A Code of wholesome laws was laid before the bord of trustees by the president of the institution which was committed for farther examination preparatory [sic] to its final passage in which the power of expulsion for disobedience to the laws of the College is given to the board of instruction subject to appeal to the boart of trustees

In the last year there was a glorious revival of relegion in Lebanon in which the students shared largely □ Some of the most promising among them were converted and remain pious

We come now to speak of the exhibitions And if it was not that we are bound to tell the whole truth so far as we can we would gladly pass over in silence some things that hap-pened during the evening exercises □ But as the character of every preacher in the Ill Conference is connected with the morality of the institution in as much as it is the conference College we feel bound to relate things as they are □ We regret to say that some of the exercises were exceedingly immoral □ Oaths were sworn lies were told and sworn too, Gods name was

taken in vain family broils were exhibited in a to take away their odium swords and dirks were exhibited coats were pulled off low vulgar language bordering on obscenity was used And all this after prayer had been made and in the place too where the congregation meets to worship Almighty God and by students who profess religion and are members of the M. E. Church. As the sound of the flute or violine was heard at the end of each piece the whole was very much like the theater and wanted only the name to make it such □ The specimens of original Composition delivered on Tuesday morning we apprehend would not suffer by a comparison with any thing of the kind that had ever been exhibited in the United States □ There was an originality of thought boldness of expression combined with elegance of language and correctness in diction that characterised almost every piece

There was one thing connected with these exercises that we could not approve □ We allude to the use of instrumental music particularly the violine □ Notwithstanding it is customary in eastern institutions to cultivate instrumental music we are not thereby convinced that it does any good and we are satisfied that it may do much harm □ If we leave entirely out of the account the hours that are taken up in sawing on the fiddle or blowing on the flute which might be usefully employed in study or in physical exercise so indispensable to the student's health and only consider the associations in which the violine is found we will find reasons sufficient to interdict its use in every thing of a literary moral or religious char-

acter. If checkers, chess, dice, billiards, race-paths cards &c have a hateful appearance because of the wickedness with which they are associated why should the fiddle share a better fate □ And if games for immusement are considered decidedly immoral why should not instrumental music for immusement be looked upon in the same light □ God by the prophet Amos has pronounced a wo to them that chant to the sound of the viol and make to themselves instruments of music like David Amos VI-5 □ This text if D^F/Clarke understood its meaning when he penned his note on it should exclude the violine as well as every other instrument of music not only from our Churches but from every association of a moral or religious character □ The notion that instruments of music facilitate the study or improve the science of music is founded in error □ Those who Claim to be judges tell us that those who learn to sing by the aid of musical instruments have no melody whatever in their song that their singing becomes a kind of squealing by note according [to] rule □ Is it any wonder that God should take from them that which alone makes music sweet [sic] who are better pleased with their own imperfect inventions than they are with the perfect instruments which he has made □ If there was no other reason the simple fact that it give to exhibitions a thaatrical appearance and may thereby create a taste for the theater should be sufficient to interdict its use □ We believe there would not be a repetition of these things if you would express your disapprobation of them and request the board of trustees to take measures to

prevent them hereafter □ Your committee brought the first matter complained of before the board of trustees and although they did not succeed in getting their resolution passed yet one was passed disapproving of every thin[g] of the kind that would be offensive to a religious and intelligent community but these terms are too general to effect the object □ It may be that the professors are convinced of the impropriety of these things □ If so the evil will be at an end □ The only apology we can offer for the appearance of the matter complained of is the deference that is paid to literary productions by literary men □ The pieces having been found in school-books approved by men of learning they are taken as standards of elegance without due regard to their morals □ As these oaths are sworn with all the fluency and eloquence of which they are capable they do not appear as shocking as they do when we hear them from the vulgar herd of mankind □ But surely they are quite as offensive to God □ He will not be pleased with a violation of his commandments though it be done in perfect accordance with literary taste

A Resolution passed the board of trustees disapproving of Theological Seminaries □ One also making provision for the expulsion of a professor or teacher from the institution for advocating the cause of modern abolitionism □ The institution is still struggling under pecuniary embarisments □ could these be removed and means furnished the trustees to go on with and

complete their new College edefice^{we} would soon see M^cKendree
College second to none in the united States □ A little exer-
tion on the part of the preacher in presenting the College
to the numerous friend of education in the State of Ill would
put it above want

The University of Chicago
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

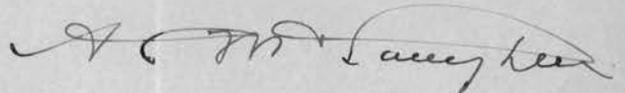
June 13, 1912.

Mr. S. J. Buck,
University of Illinois,
Urbana, Illinois.

My dear Buck:

I spoke to Alvord when he was here the other day about the meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association at Boston next winter. We are now looking around for papers and it has occurred to me that you would have something that you would want to give. Perhaps the most appropriate thing would be relations between New England and western history, but if there is any other subject that you have up your sleeve, I am sure we should be glad to have you come forth at that time and show what you have. Have you any suggestions about the program?

Very sincerely yours,



416 Lincoln Hall,

Urbana, Illinois, July 6, 1912.

Professor A. C. McLaughlin,
University of Chicago,
Chicago, Illinois.

My dear Dr. McLaughlin:

Your letter of June 13 asking me to give a paper at the meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association in Boston arrived while I was out of town and since my return I have been too busy catching up work to give it very much attention. I think I will be able to work up something for you but can not say just now what it will be. It strikes me that the topic which you mention ^{for the whole program} ~~is appropriate~~ that is something along the line of the relations between New England and the West. ~~I should think that~~ would be a good subject for the whole program. A number of very interesting papers could be written on such subjects as the influence of New England capitalists on the development of the West, New England's religious influence, and so on. I will write you again as

soon as I decide on a subject and will endeavor to make
it something along the line you suggest.

Thanking you for giving me this opportunity, I
remain

Very sincerely yours,

S.J.B.-D.

CYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

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ANDREW C. McLAUGHLIN
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ALBERT BUSHNELL HART
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

5609 WOODLAWN AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILLS.,

Aug 6

1912

My dear Buck:

I am counting on you
for a paper for the Boston
meeting of the Mess. Valley
Hist Assoc. I have got

Joe —

Mrs. P. K. Matthews

Geiser

Hulbert

I think if necessary —

How many papers do you think
we ought to have?

Sincerely

A. C. McLaughlin

THE MACMILLAN COMPANY

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THE MACMILLAN COMPANY
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A. M. L.

Prof. Solon J. Buck,

1115 N. College Ave.,

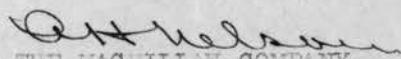
Bloomington, Ind.

Dear Prof. Buck:

In reply to your letter of September 14th, I would say that it is a pleasure to put your name on our regular mailing list to receive our announcements, etc. We are also sending you, under separate cover, copies of our catalogue of texts in Economics and in History.

Trusting that you will find among our books announced from time to time some which will interest you, I am,

Very truly yours,


THE MACMILLAN COMPANY,
College Department.

Carnegie Institution of Washington

DEPARTMENT
OF
ECONOMICS AND SOCIOLOGY

PLEASE SEND REPLY TO

Madison, Wis.,

July 23, 1906.

Mr. S.J.Buck,

Berlin, Wis.

My dear Mr.Buck:

In your work on the Granger movement have you paid any attention thus far to the reports of the railway companies for those years in which the Granger movement was most potent? I have recently noticed, for instance, that in the annual report of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Co. for 1874 there are quite a number of sentences that you would probably wish to quote in your essay. No doubt these may be duplicated in the annual reports of other railway companies. I would suggest, therefore, that you go through the splendid collection of railway reports which we have in our library here before you go East next fall, if you can possibly do so.

Very cordially yours,

B.A. Meyer

Railroad Commission of Wisconsin

JOHN BARNES, Chairman.
B. H. MEYER,
HALFORD ERICKSON,
J. M. WINTERBOTHAM, Secretary.

Address all Communications:
"RAILROAD COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN"

Madison, Wis., Sept 7, 1906

Mr. Solon J. Buck,
Berlin, Wis.

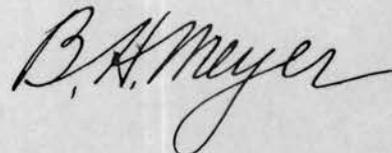
Dear Mr. Buck:--

Replying to your favor of the 3rd inst., I may say that I believe it is best to leave the details of the adjustment of your work entirely in your own hands. I see no reason why you should not cover a part of the field for your Thesis at Harvard, provided it is impossible or impracticable for you to do the whole work before that time. There is, of course, a decided advantage in doing the whole work at once, so that you may use it at Harvard in the same form in which it will later be published.

I enclose a letter from Professor Mc Lean, which I wish you would return at your convenience. I have written Mc Lean, asking him how much work he has done on the Granger Movement, and whether or not he would be willing to place the material which he has collected at your disposal. I wish you would write to him directly, as I have told him that I have made this suggestion to you.

Very cordially yours,

M-U



P.S. Professor S.J. Mc Lean,
Mc.Dougal Audit Co.,
Ottawa, Ont.

Carnegie Institution of Washington

DEPARTMENT
OF
ECONOMICS AND SOCIOLOGY

PLEASE SEND REPLY TO

Madison, Wis.,
April 1, 1907.

Mr. Solon J. Buck,

Conant 12-A, Cambridge, Mass.

My dear Mr. Buck:

If Professors Hart and Gay give you the benefit of their suggestions in your work, I see no reason for your submitting your manuscript or a part thereof to me at this time. I am entirely willing to leave this matter in their hands for the present at least. When you come to Madison next summer I shall try to find time to go over the whole of it with you, and whatever suggestions I have to make, I will make at that time.

Cordially yours,

B. A. Meyer

Carnegie Institution of Washington

DEPARTMENT
OF
ECONOMICS AND SOCIOLOGY

PLEASE SEND REPLY TO

Madison, Wis.,

August 7, 1907.

Mr. S.J.Buck,
Berlin, Wis.

Dear Sir:

For the purpose of making a report to the Carnegie Institution, I wish you would kindly report to me upon the following points:

1. A statement of all the work actually completed by you in the division of transportation as of Sept.1,1907, but not yet published.

2. A statement of work in progress as of Sept.1,1907.

3. A statement of work still to be done by you and the approximate date upon which the same will be completed.

4. A list of your studies in the division of transportation which have already been published and the names and dates of these publications.

I should like to have these reports on or before Sept.1, 1907.

Yours very truly,

B.A. Meyer

Berlin, Wis., August 19, 1907.

Prof. B. H. Meyer,
Madison, Wis.,

Dear Prof. Meyer:-

Yours of the 7th inst. in regard to reports for the Carnegie Institution was received. After puzzling for some time as to how I could arrange my report under the various headings, I finally came to the conclusion that it would be best to place it all under the second heading as "work in progress." The report, accompanied by a provisional outline, is enclosed.

If this is not satisfactory, I will gladly make any changes or additions which you may desire.

Very truly yours,

Carnegie Institution of Washington
Department of Economics and Sociology
Division of Transportation
.....

Statement of work in progress on "The Granger Movement"
by Solon J. Buck, Sept. 1, 1907.

A considerable quantity of material relating to this study has been located, and examined in the libraries of the Univ. of Wis., the State Hist. Soc. of Wis., and the Agric. College of the Univ. of Wis., Harvard College Library, the Boston Public Library and the Office of the Wis. State Grange. Such of this material as is of value has been studied and abstracted and the results classified and co-ordinated. A considerable quantity of material has also been collected for private use by loans and gifts and this is being studied at the present time. An effort is also being made to locate and, if possible, obtain further material by correspondence with the secretaries of the State Granges and others who have been connected with the movement.

The enclosed outline of the study has been worked out and a draft of the first chapter, (13,000 or 14,000 words) has been written. Work on the second chapter is also well under way, about 3,000 words having been written.

The work will be carried on actively during the coming winter, with the expectation of having it practically completed by June 1, 1908.

Respectfully submitted,

Carnegie Institution of Washington

DEPARTMENT
OF
ECONOMICS AND SOCIOLOGY

PLEASE SEND REPLY TO

Madison, Wis. August 31, 1907.

Mr. Solon J. Buck,
Berlin, Wis.

Dear Sir:--

This is to acknowledge receipt of and to thank you
for your report of progress, relating to the work which you
have undertaken under the auspices of the Carnegie Institution.

Very respectfully,

B. A. Meyer
n.

111

26 Grays Hall, Cambridge, Mass.

February 15, 1908.

Professor B. H. Meyer,
Madison, Wisconsin,

My dear Professor Meyer:-

I have talked over with Professor Hart the matter of endeavoring to induce the Agricultural Department to publish my study of the Granger Movement and he considered it a very good plan and expressed himself as willing to do what he could to bring it about. He desired me to ask you if it was your idea that he should write directly to the Secretary of Agriculture.

Very truly yours,

Railroad Commission of Wisconsin

B. H. MEYER.
HALFORD ERICKSON.
JOHN H. ROEMER.
J. M. WINTERBOTHAM, Secretary.

Address all Communications:
"RAILROAD COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN"

Madison, Wis., Feb. 24, 1908 190

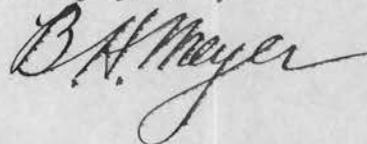
Mr. Solon J. Buck,
26 Grays Hall,
Cambridge, Mass.

My Dear Mr. Buck:--

It is entirely agreeable to me to have Professor Hart open negotiations with the Department of Agriculture at Washington regarding the publication of your monograph. You may tell Professor Hart that I shall be glad to have him use my name in that connection if it will be of any assistance to him.

In case I should go east early in April I shall make it a point to confer with the officials in the Department of Agriculture. However, it is extremely uncertain whether or not I shall be able to attend the meeting in New York on April 6.

Very truly yours,



MU

Carnegie Institution of Washington

DEPARTMENT
OF
ECONOMICS AND SOCIOLOGY

PLEASE SEND REPLY TO

Madison, Wis. March 3, 1908.

Mr. S. J. Buck,
26 Gray's Hall,
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Sir:--

Please report regarding the progress of your work at your earliest convenience. I should greatly appreciate having a reply not later than March 20th.

Yours very truly,

MU

Boyer Meyer

26 Grays Hall,

Cambridge, Mass.,

March 16, 1908.

Professor B. H. Meyer,

Madison, Wisconsin,

My dear Professor Meyer:-

I enclose a report of my work on the Granger Movement as requested in your note of the 3d inst. A revised copy of the outline is also enclosed.

Your letter of February 24, regarding the publication of the work by the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture was received. I informed Prof. Hart of its contents and he agreed to take up the matter at once with Secretary Wilson.

Very truly yours,

Report of progress on a

Study of the Granger Movement,

by Solon J. Buck,

March 16, 1908.

The first drafts of Chapters I. and II. (see outline enclosed) are completed, about 15000 words each, but will need some revision. Work has been begun on Chapter III. and practically all of the material for the rest of the monograph has been collected and arranged.

Respectfully submitted,

Carnegie Institution of Washington

DEPARTMENT
OF
ECONOMICS AND SOCIOLOGY

PLEASE SEND REPLY TO

April 3, 1908.

Mr. Solin J. Buck,
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Mr. Buck:

If I have not previously acknowledged receipt of your Report of Progress I wish to do so now, and also acknowledge your letter transmitting letter which Professor Hart received from Secretary of Agriculture Wilson. I am sorry there are no prospects for publication in the department. Have you canvassed the ground in the East. I should like to have your monograph published in the Wisconsin Bulletin, but in view of the fact that you are taking your degree at Harvard, it may be a little more difficult to do this than it otherwise would be. You doubtless know that many demands are made upon the Bulletins.

I shall be pleased to be kept informed of the progress of your work.

Very cordially yours,

B. A. Meyer

Railroad Commission of Wisconsin

Address all Communications

"RAILROAD COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN"

B. H. MEYER, Chairman
HALFORD ERICKSON
JOHN H. ROEMER
J. M. WINTERBOTHAM, Secretary

Madison, Wis., July 20, 1908.

Mr. S. J. Buck,
26 Gray's Hall,
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Sir:

I have been requested to make another report. The "report should include a complete bibliography from the beginning of your investigation to the present time.....also a list of the names of your present assistants and the work on which they are engaged".

Kindly send me a full statement of the work which you have done up to date and when you will complete the whole of it. I trust it will be possible to finish it by the coming autumn. If it has already been completed, please state the exact title of publication, if published; also, if still in manuscript form, where and when it will be published.

Please submit your report to me not later than August 20.

Very truly yours,



BHM-Gr

Carnegie Institution of Washington

DEPARTMENT
OF
ECONOMICS AND SOCIOLOGY

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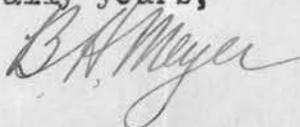
Madison, Wis. Aug. 31, 1908

Dr. Solon J. Buck,
1115 North College Ave.,
Bloomington, Ind.

My Dear Mr. Buck:--

I received your letter of the 15th inst. in due time, giving an account of your work for the Division of Transportation. I sincerely hope that you will be able to complete your studies in the near future. You will realize that the completion of the final history of transportation is very much contingent upon completion of the special studies, and while I fully realize the difficulties under which the various collaborators must prosecute their work, I know you will pardon me for suggesting that a special effort be made to complete your work before many months. What arrangements, if any, have been made with reference to the publication of your study. I know it will constitute an excellent volume and there should not be much difficulty in securing a suitable publisher. Kindly let me know what the prospects are.

Very cordially yours,



BHM-U

Railroad Commission of Wisconsin

B. H. MEYER.
HALFORD ERICKSON.
JOHN H. ROEMER
J. M. WINTERBOTHAM, Secretary.

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"RAILROAD COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN"

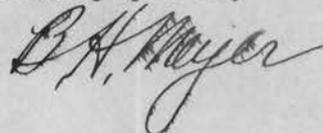
Madison, Wis., August 31, 1909.

Mr. Solon J. Buck,
1013 North College Avenue,
Bloomington, Indiana.

Dear Mr. Buck:-

I have your letter of the 20th inst., but I do not find the chapters which you say were left for me. Possibly they were left in the general office, and I shall make inquiry regarding them. I hope you will be able to complete the work before very long. If you will please send me at once a brief statement, giving the exact situation at the present time, with reference to the progress of your work, I shall be under obligations to you. I need this statement in making the annual report.

Very cordially yours,



BHM-IMB

Railroad Commission of Wisconsin

B. H. MEYER.
HALFORD ERICKSON.
JOHN H. ROEMER.
J. M. WINTERBOTHAM, Secretary.

Address all Communications:
"RAILROAD COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN"

Madison, Wis..

September 15, 1909.

Mr. Solon J. Buck,

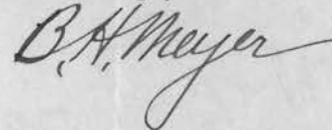
Indiana University,

Bloomington, Indiana.

Dear Mr. Buck:-

This is to acknowledge your report of the 13th inst., for which I wish to thank you. If anything occurs to me after I have read the chapter submitted, I shall write you again. Meanwhile, I hope that you will be able to complete your study before the end of the present academic year.

Yours truly,



BHM-IMB

Railroad Commission of Wisconsin

B. H. MEYER.
HALFORD ERICKSON.
JOHN H. ROEMER.
J. M. WINTERBOTHAM, Secretary.

Address all Communications
"RAILROAD COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN"

Madison, Wis., January 24, 1910.

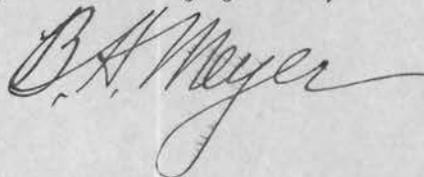
Mr. Solon J. Buck,
904 South Busey Avenue,
Urbana, Illinois.

My dear Mr. Buck:-

I have been endeavoring to go over the parts of your monograph submitted heretofore, but pressure of other matters has made it impossible. In order to make suggestions in which I have confidence, and which may possibly be of some use to you, it is necessary to devote more time to this matter than I have at present. I must therefore ask you to proceed in any manner which appears to you to be best.

I was glad to hear of your new plans, which certainly appear to be promising.

Very cordially yours,



BHM-IMB

Railroad Commission of Wisconsin

B. H. MEYER, Chairman
HALFORD ERICKSON
JOHN H. ROEMER
J. M. WINTERBOTHAM, Secretary

Address all Communications

"RAILROAD COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN"

Madison, Wis., Feb. 15, 1910.

Dr. S. J. Buck,
Univ. of Illinois,
Urbana, Ill.

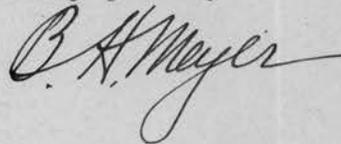
My dear Mr. Buck:

Work on the final volumes of the History of Transportation is in progress and I am naturally anxious to know exactly when the unfinished studies and monographs may become available. Since the earlier part of the final volume ^{or} the volumes will probably not go much, if any, beyond 1850. I am desirous of securing all the material bearing upon this early period. Will you not, therefore, have the kindness to let me know how soon it will be possible for you to submit the material covering this period and also how soon thereafter all of the results of your work can be submitted.

I appreciate greatly the personal sacrifice which you have made in taking this work. Whatever you may be able to do to facilitate the work from now on will be fully appreciated.

Very cordially yours,

BHM-EMS



Railroad Commission of Wisconsin

B. H. MEYER.
HALFORD ERICKSON.
JOHN H. ROEMER.
J. M. WINTERBOTHAM, Secretary.

Address all Communications
"RAILROAD COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN"

Madison, Wis..

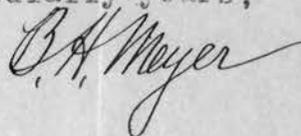
March 23, 1910.

Dr. Solon J. Buck,
904 South Busey Avenue,
Urbana, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Buck:-

The express package containing another installment of your manuscript arrived some time ago. Our Secretary, Mr. Winterbotham, has been away for some weeks, and in his absence I am unable to locate the package which you left last summer. It is not with the other manuscripts in the University Library, and I assume it is somewhere in our office. Will you kindly let me know with whom and in what place you left the manuscript last summer? I hope to go over your manuscript in the not distant future, and if anything occurs to me in looking it over I shall write you again. I am looking forward to the published volume with much interest.

Very cordially yours,



BHM-LMB

Railroad Commission of Wisconsin

B. H. MEYER
HALFORD ERICKSON.
JOHN H. ROEMER.
J. M. WINTERBOTHAM, Secretary

Address all Communications:
"RAILROAD COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN"

B. H. Meyer

Madison, Wis..

April 8, 1910.

Mr. Solon J. Buck,
904 South Busey Avenue,
Urbana, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Buck:-

Your letter of the 4th inst., addressed to Professor Meyer, has been handed me, and I note your statement that some time last summer you called at this office in company with Mr. Drew, and left with me for Professor Meyer a manuscript which was to be given to him upon his return.

I have no recollection of the matter, and do not at all question the fact of your visit. Professor Meyer, of course, has many callers at the office, and when he is away I am apt to have letters and other things left with me to be given to him. The course that these take is that they are at once placed upon his desk, where he gets them upon his return. I will be glad to have you let me know when you were here. I would not bother you about this, but Mr. Drew is in Washington, and I cannot get this information from him. I have made a search through my desk, and cannot find any trace of the manuscript. If you left it while Professor Meyer was away on his vacation, it might have become mixed up with other papers, and have become lost in that way. I trust, however, that this has not occurred.

Yours sincerely,

J. M. Winterbotham

JMW-IMB

Railroad Commission of Wisconsin

B. H. MEYER
HALFORD ERICKSON
JOHN H. ROEMER
J. M. WINTERBOTHAM, Secretary.

Address all Communications:
"RAILROAD COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN"

Meyer, B.H.

Madison, Wis., April 25, 1910.

Solon J. Buck,
904 South Busey Avenue,
Urbana, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Buck:-

Your letter of the 11th was duly received, and I very greatly regret to state that the manuscript has not yet been found, although further search is being made therefor. I trust you have a copy of it. If we discover it we will advise you.

Yours truly,

JMW-IMB

J. M. Winterbotham

Railroad Commission of Wisconsin

B. H. MEYER.
HALFORD ERICKSON.
JOHN H. ROEMER.
J. M. WINTERBOTHAM, Secretary.

Address all Communications:
"RAILROAD COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN"

Madison, Wis.,

April 29, 1910.

Meyer, B. H.

Mr. Solon J. Buck,
904 S. Busey Avenue,
Urbana, Illinois.

Dear Sir:-

Professor Meyer has handed to me your letter of the 27th, and in reply will say that he will procure from Professor Taylor your manuscript and have the missing part copied.

Yours truly,

J. M. Winterbotham

JMW-IMB

Railroad Commission of Wisconsin

Address all Communications:
"RAILROAD COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN"

B. H. MEYER.
HALFORD ERICKSON.
JOHN H. ROEMER.
J. M. WINTERBOTHAM, Secretary.

Meyer, B. H.

Madison, Wis., Sept. 14, 1910.

Solon J. Buck,
1111 Arbor St.,
Champaign, Ill.

My dear Mr. Buck:

I have your letter of 13th inst. and am today sending you by American Express the manuscript which you left with me. I would be glad to have you acknowledge receipt of it.

Truly yours,

J. M. Winterbotham

JMW-KMR.

Interstate Commerce Commission H.

Washington

November 8, 1911.

Dr. Solon J. Buck,
University of Illinois,
Urbana, Ill.

My dear Mr. Buck:-

I am enclosing herewith a copy of a letter which I have recently received from President Butterfield of the Massachusetts Agricultural College. Kindly give this matter careful consideration and write me with respect to it.

I do not hesitate to say that my own impression of the movement in the smaller northwest has been that the Grange movement was completely swallowed up in the Granger movement. I recall distinctly how proceedings of the Grange would be devoted to the discussion of transportation questions. The Grange was active in politics, and during the time of its greatest activity that line of work apparently overshadowed all others. However, I can see that the distinction which President Butterfield suggests might well be made, provided it is historically accurate. From the point of view of the movement through the series of years in its relation to the rural population and rural problems, the distinction would doubtless be desirable for it adds greatly to the idea of continuity and severs it from the more or less spasmodic

political outburst.

Now, you must be the authority both on the Grange and the Granger movement, and I shall be greatly interested in learning what your views regarding this question are. If you can conveniently do so, kindly send me an extra copy of your reply which I may forward to President Butterfield.

Hoping that you are enjoying your work and that I may soon receive a printed copy of your monograph, I remain,

Very cordially yours,

B. A. Meyer

Enc.

C O P Y

MASSACHUSETTS AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, AMHERST
PRESIDENT'S OFFICE.

October 31, 1911.

Prof. B. H. Meyer,
Madison, Wis.

My dear Professor Meyer:

I noticed one thing in Mr. Buck's outline which you showed me the other day in New York, that I think may tend to perpetuate what I believe to be a common error. He seems not to differentiate between the Grange movement and the Granger movement. The Grange movement represents a distinct organization which has persisted until the present time. The Granger movement was undoubtedly accentuated by the organization of the Grange and for a time found its outlet through the Grange, but it had many other manifestations and finally developed into something entirely different and apart from the Grange organization. In the periodicals of the day these two things are thoroughly confused, and the failure to distinguish ought not to be perpetuated.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) Kenyon L. Butterfield,
President.

CHARLES A. PROUTY, CHAIRMAN
JUDSON C. CLEMENTS
FRANKLIN K. LANE
EDGAR E. CLARK
JAMES S. HARLAN
CHARLES C. McCHORD
BALTHASAR H. MEYER
JOHN H. MARBLE, SECRETARY

IN REPLY ADDRESS
"INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION"

Interstate Commerce Commission

K

Washington

May 13, 1912.

Dr. Solon J. Buck,
University of Illinois,
Urbana, Illinois.

My dear Dr. Buck:

I thank you for a copy of your two publications entitled "Pioneer Letters of Gershom Flagg" and "Some Materials for the Social History of the Mississippi Valley in the Nineteenth Century", which were duly received.

Very cordially yours,

B. H. Meyer

Brule, Mo., Aug. 15, 1912.

My dear Dr. Buck:

I have been corresponding with the Carnegie people with the view of securing the appropriation suggested or requested in your letter to me of July 2nd. This accounts for the delay in answering. I had to consult them because the funds at my disposal are insufficient to meet the needs of the work in hand, not to speak of new burdens. There is a possibility of my having a little balance later on; and if so I shall certainly keep you in mind. The Institution was unwilling to grant the money for the reason that it is not its policy to do so. It has never done so, they write me. I am very sorry, because it seems a hardship for you to have to carry this additional burden.

Very cordially,
B. A. Meyer

EDGAR E. CLARK, CHAIRMAN
JUDSON C. CLEMENTS
CHARLES A. PROUTY
JAMES S. HARLAN
CHARLES C. McCHORD
BALTHASAR H. MEYER
JOHN H. MARBLE
GEORGE B. MCGINTY, SECRETARY

IN REPLY ADDRESS
"INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION"

Interstate Commerce Commission

~~Washington~~ Brule, Wis., Sept. 7, 1913.

My dear Dr. Buck:

Please let me know by return mail whether your Granger Movement has actually appeared in print; if not, when will it appear.

With kindest regards,

B. H. Meyer

W. R. MACKENZIE, PRESIDENT.
ALLEN A. SHORT, VICE-PRESIDENT.

MAURICE A. MUDD, CASHIER
EDW. D. MEREDITH, ASST. CASHIER



The First State Bank of Chester

CAPITAL \$ 25,000
SURPLUS \$ 5,000

Chester, Illinois.

December 8, 1910.

Prof. S. J. Buck,
Urbana, Illinois.

MY dear Mr. Buck:

I thank you for your very nice letter of recent date. I am sorry that you did not get to make your anticipated visit to Prairie du Rocher and Ft. Chartres.

I am taking the liberty of mailing you a picture of the old powder magazine at Ft. Chartres: this magazine is practically all that remains of that once historic fortification.

The picture is not a very good one, being one that I took with a kodak and then had enlarged, but it will serve to give you an idea of how the place looks.

Trusting that I may have the pleasure of meeting you again, I am

Yours very respectfully,

Maurice A. Mudd.

P.S. Remember me to Prof. Alvord.
M.A.M.

MONDAY EVENING, APRIL 2, 1900.

HOW THE UNITED STATES HAVE EXPANDED.

By DANA C. MUNRO, A. M., Assistant Professor of History in the University of Pennsylvania, and WM. FAIRLEY, Ph. D.

The Minneapolis Journal's Home Study Courses

COURSES OF INSTRUCTION—Mondays, Studies in United States Expansion, by Dana C. Munro, A. M., and Wm. Fairley, Ph. D.; Wednesdays, Studies on Electrical Engineering, by Arthur E. Watson, A. M.; Fridays, Nature Studies, by Allen Walton Gould, A. M.

CHAPTER VII.

The Annexation of Texas and the Mexican War.

Copyright, 1899.

In the second quarter of the present century many considerations favored the incorporation of Texas with the American union. The Sabine river, which the treaty of 1819 with Spain had fixed as the southeastern boundary of the Louisiana purchase, presented no adequate topographical barrier to the onward march of settlement. Regarded from the point of view of climate and of soil, considerations which determined the advance of a migrating population, the country between the Sabine and the Nueces was a part and parcel of the southern empire.

This impulse toward occupation was strengthened by the fact that the territory in question was practically "no man's land." Its fertile acres were in the nominal possession of a race which was indisposed and unable to extract from them a tithe of their utility. No obstacles, in fact, except that of a shadowy jurisdiction lay in the way of southern pioneers, who, moved by the same impulse that everywhere along the border carried our Anglo-Saxon civilization toward the orient, crossed the Sabine and set their stakes in the rich plains of the new region. In 1830 colonists to the number of 20,000 had already taken advantage of this opening and in the same year the Mexican government, foreseeing the outcome of this peaceful invasion, feebly sought to stem the tide with a decree prohibiting further immigration from the United States into Texas.

Left to the operation of these economic forces, the incorporation of Texas would have accomplished itself with a minimum of difficulty and the trans-Sabine territory would have been acquired through the gradual processes of assimilation. Other factors, however, intervened and projected the Texan question into the arena of that great sectional struggle, which at a later period strained our national institutions to a point of rupture. This struggle is to be regarded as the opposition of two phases of development which characterized the two great sections of our nation, the north and the south. We find them set over against each other, each struggling for the triumph of its essential idea; the north with its industrial development based upon the greater efficiency of free labor; the south with its agricultural interests seemingly dependent on the institution of domestic slavery; the north gathering unto itself virile elements from all

annexation of the Texan territory came forward, a movement strengthened with the approval of the Texan leaders, the question assumed a more serious aspect. At the outset the government was held back by the undesirability of offering so grievous an affront to a neighboring friendly state, which refused to regard the achievement of Texan independence as an accomplished fact so long as such an acknowledgment was likely to result in an extension of American territory. But as the struggle for annexation progressed these purely diplomatic considerations became of relatively less importance, and with the rise of the antislavery propaganda in the north the Texas question assumed increasing importance and came to constitute the pivotal center about which the embittered and irreconcilable conflict of sectional issues revolved.

For nearly a decade the young republic of Texas was left to her own devices. It was not until the administration of Tyler that the waning influence of the north in the councils of the executive, marked by the retirement of Webster from the department of state and the succession of his great opponent, Calhoun, permitted the government formally to surrender itself into the hands of the annexationists. Even then the task was difficult of execution. The desires of the president met with determined opposition in the national legislature, and it was only when the question had been submitted to popular decision in the election of 1844 that a newly constituted congress, by act of March 1, 1845, empowered the executive to welcome Texas to the privileges and duties of American statehood.

By this act of annexation the United States had assumed the responsibility of defending the newly acquired territory against the claims of Mexico, a task rendered the more difficult from the fact that the independent government of Texas had claimed and occupied the territory to the Rio Grande, although the area actually occupied by the emigrants had not extended beyond the Nueces. This further claim the United States was the more willing to assume, since the act of annexation itself had been carried out against the protests of Mexico and was formally declared by her to be an act of war.

President Polk, elected upon a platform which demanded the "reannexation of Texas," with all its consequences, proceeded at once to assume the burdens which the situation imposed. Responding to the demands of Texas for defense against a supposed renewal of hostility on the part of Mexico, he dispatched General Taylor with a body of



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SHADED PORTION CEDED BY MEXICO IN 1848.

parts of the world to swell the impetus of its westward movement; the south stimulated with the quick returns of a staple of increasing value, but handicapped with the burden of an institution discredited by the world's judgment.

Viewed in connection with this impending struggle the importance of the Texan question is readily perceived. By the Missouri compromise the south was limited to the extension of its fundamental economic ideas to a smaller share of western territory. In order to preserve that equilibrium of powers which was conscientiously regarded by the sectional leaders as the fundamental basis of union, the south, with its waning material importance, was driven to a vigorous struggle for the creation of new states within its prescribed limits. The north, conscious of growing strength and superiority, had passed beyond the point of insistence on sectional equipoise and was prepared to carry the war into the enemy's country with its propaganda against the very principles upon which southern society was based.

The national government, conscious of these warring motives and of the necessity of providing an outlet for southern expansion; conscious as well of its error in abandoning so lightly in 1819 a territory geographically belonging to the south, sought to repair its error by purchase. In 1827, and again in 1829, proposals were made looking toward the peaceful acquisition of the country to the Nueces river. In 1835, when it had become evident that the gradual absorption of the Pacific slope would eventually widen the range of our relations with Mexico, an effort was made to acquire the whole of the territory east of the Rio Grande and north of the thirty-seventh parallel to the Pacific. To these overtures Mexico turned a deaf ear. With that pertinacity in the mere political occupation of territory which is a characteristic of the Spanish blood, even in dilution, her government refused to part with any portion of its domain, and the United States, baffled in its peaceful effort, had no choice but to fall back and await the action of those forces, of which, in a last analysis, the political activity of a nation is but the result and the ratification.

In the case of Texas, however, these forces were ripe for action. Already the American colonists, who formed the bulk of the Texan population, were beginning to chafe under the arbitrary and incompetent Mexican jurisdiction. In 1835 the federal system, guaranteed by the constitution of 1824, was over-

troops to the disputed belt between the Nueces and the Rio Grande. In March, 1846, General Taylor moved from Corpus Christi, on the right bank of the Nueces near its mouth, to a point in the extreme southwestern portion of the territory claimed by Texas, opposite Matamoras. That this act was irritating to the Mexican population of the lower Rio Grande, is beyond question; that it was intended to irritate is almost as evident. The American government had failed to re-establish diplomatic relations with its humiliated neighbor, and was now convinced that war or the threat of war was the only solution of the difficulty. In order to perfect our title to Texas a treaty was necessary, and no treaty of the kind was to be obtained with peaceful measures.

The temper of the Mexicans on the Rio Grande was unable to ignore the challenge implied in General Taylor's strategy. An aggressive movement against our troops across the river, resulting in the shedding of American blood, threw the nation into the hands of the war party and gave occasion for President Polk's ringing war message, in which an interminable series of Mexican outrages seemed about to meet with final chastisement at the hands of a justly indignant nation. The war advanced with an unbroken succession of brilliant achievements against an unequal foe. Begun for Texas, it involved the permanent occupation of the southwest to the Pacific. The treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, Feb. 2, 1848, established the Rio Grande as a boundary and wrested from defeated Mexico the territory which, with the subsequent Gadsden purchase of 1853, now constitutes the states of New Mexico, Arizona and California, a total area of 591,398 square miles.

In all this spoliation, which, in fact, has little justification but that of force and utility, the loss of Mexico was rather sentimental than material. Throughout this region her rule had been but the shadow of power. Nor was she dealt with after the refined methods of modern conquerors. So far from paying the expenses of the war, in addition to her loss of territory, she received a partial recompense of \$15,000,000 and the cancellation of claims to the amount of \$3,500,000. And, moreover, she obtained, with all this sacrifice, a natural boundary against the aggression of a powerful neighbor, a boundary which, under the conditions at present governing the utilization of land, is not likely to be disregarded.

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In the case of Texas, however, these forces were ripe for action. Already the American colonists, who formed the bulk of the Texan population, were beginning to chafe under the arbitrary and incompetent Mexican jurisdiction. In 1835 the federal system, guaranteed by the constitution of 1824, was overthrown by Santa Anna and a government by presidential edict introduced, a system quite as effective, no doubt, for the general purposes of Mexican progress, but thoroughly unpalatable to men of American antecedents. They resisted the efforts of Santa Anna to coerce them into obedience with military force, rose in revolt under the leadership of Sam Houston and formally declared their independence March 2, 1836. The battle of San Jacinto, April 21 of the same year, resulted in the defeat and capture of the Mexican leader and the practical achievement of Texan independence, a fact which the Mexican government, however, persistently refused to recognize.

Thus in a brief contest a body of American frontiersmen had detached from an alien and unsympathetic government a land which they had made their own by occupation and settlement. Their cause had perhaps no standing in the equity of nations, but it possesses a certain justification in the logic of human progress, which arrays the masterful and the productive against the feeble and the unprogressive, and is, perhaps, no more reprehensible nor less irresistible than other natural phenomena.

How thoroughly the Texan revolutionists were Americans, how closely they were in sympathy with the needs and aspirations of their section is shown by the constitution of 1836, which signalized their advent to independent statehood. Slavery was legalized beyond the power of legislative interference; the residence within the state of free negroes, except with special official permission, was prohibited and the importation of slaves was permitted only from the United States. Clearly Texas was to be a portion of the southern system.

The news of Houston's victory was received with enthusiasm throughout the union. The legislature of Connecticut was the first to advocate the recognition of Texan independence. The president was empowered by congress to extend to the new state the official sanction of the United States, and England, France and Belgium, influenced by commercial motives, soon followed.

When, however, a movement for the an-

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SENATOR DAVIS' SHELL

The Boston Globe's Washington correspondent gives the following account of Senator Davis' speech:

The Davis speech created a profound sensation at both ends of the capitol, and is the sole topic of discussion in and out of the halls of congress to-night.

"In my judgment," said chairman Davis, in closing his remarks, "Mr. President, the only course that can be logically and wisely pursued under present conditions is to abandon this pernicious mockery of a tariff between Puerto Rico and the United States and return to the path of 'plain duty,' and pursue it."

With these, the closing words of his speech, uttered with dramatic emphasis, his small, squeaky voice keyed to its topmost note, his palms uplifted as though imploring the almighty to bear witness to his plea, his cold, impassive, almost expressionless features crimson with conflicting emotion, he dropped into his seat amid the confusion and disorder of the galleries.

For an instant senators sat as though dazed, riveted to their seats. The administration coteries were stunned, the free traders jubilant.

Every one appeared to be wondering what effect the speech would have upon the warring senators, whether it had swept them off their feet and back into line with Davis. Senator Elkins was the first to move. Gliding smoothly over to the Davis seat, he put out his hand and extended his congratulations.

Fun in Prospect.

Galveston Morning News (Dem.).

It only requires the presence of Mr. William C. Whitney in the next democratic convention to insure the fun which, as some people are now willing to bet, can be enjoyed there. It is hardly probable that with Hill, Gorman et al., on hand Mr. Whitney would miss the occasion for \$4.

No Pensions for Royalty.

Philadelphia Times (Ind.).

Congress, which is composed of men whose ancestors reduced "royalty" in the United States to a vulgar fraction after two wars with England, would have nothing to do with Senator Hoar's scheme to pension the queen of Hawaii.

(Copy)
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
MADISON

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

March 9, 1906.

To whom it may concern:

Mr. Solon J. Buck has been in my classes during the last two years, and has done excellent work. During the present year he is a member of my seminar, working on the first crusade. His major work has been in American history, but he has done very satisfactory work in medieval.

Dana C. Munro.

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
MADISON

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

November 21, 1913.

Mr. Solon J. Buck,
416 Lincoln Hall,
Urbana, Illinois.

My dear Mr. Buck:

I am very much obliged to you for your letter about Alvord, which I am turning over at once to the Committee which has charge of the selection of a successor. I know that the Committee is getting all the information that it can about the various possibilities, and will be grateful to you for your letter. I hope that we shall certainly get some suitable person in the near future, because at present I am having more of the duties than I care for.

Sincerely,

Wanda C. Wharo

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
MADISON

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

December 18, 1913.

Dr. Solon J. Buck,

University of Illinois,

Urbana, Illinois.

My dear Buck:

I wish to thank you for the separate on the New Element in Illinois Politics before 1833. I read it in the Proceedings when it first appeared, and am glad to have the separate, which I shall probably pass on to one of my friends, so that he may also see the article. I was much interested in it.

Yours very truly,

D. C. Mears