



[Solon J. Buck Papers.](#)

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

418 Lincoln Hall, Urbana, Illinois.

March 11, 1914.

Professor
Mr. Frederick J. Turner,

Harvard University,

Cambridge, Mass.

Mr.
My dear Turner:-

The Editors of the Mississippi Valley Historical Review have asked me to prepare an article on historical activities in the Old Northwest and Canada for the first number of The Review to appear in June. I am interpreting this to mean not only the activities of historical societies within the region, but also the activities of institutions outside the region so far as they relate to the history of the Old Northwest and Canada. I should like very much therefore to include in the report a statement of the work of the Harvard Commission on Western History, so far as it relates to this field, since January 1st, 1913, and also a statement of any plans which the Commission may have for future work, and which it is ready to divulge. I expect to deal principally with the publications of the various institutions, with some account of such meetings as ^{may} they have been ^{held} holding during the period, and also notices of important collections of material which have been acquired. If you can give me this information with reference to the Harvard Commission on Western History, or tell me where I can obtain it, I will appreciate it very greatly.

My Bibliography of Travel in Illinois is being bound at the present time, and we are expecting the first copies to be available in a few days. I am working now getting together material for

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a volume on Illinois in 1818, which the State Centennial Commission has asked me to prepare. It is the intention that this volume shall be ready for publication in a couple of years. Our plans for a more elaborate centennial history of the state are still somewhat in the air, but I am inclined to think that the proposed five volume work will go through.

I was sorry not to see you at the Charleston meeting of the American Historical Commission.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

S. J. B./MS

418 Lincoln Hall, Urbana, Illinois,

June 23, 1914.

Professor Frederick J. Turner,
University of Washington,
Seattle, Washington,

My dear Mr. Turner:

You will be interested to know, if you have not already heard, that I have accepted a position of assistant professor in the University of Minnesota. Professor Anderson is going to Dartmouth, and so I will have full charge of the work in American History there. My successor here will be Dr. Theodore C. Pease, who has been doing county archives work for us during the present year.

I want to thank you for sending me the copy of your paper on The First Official Frontier of Massachusetts. I read it the other day with a great deal of interest. Knowing your interest in the work of the Illinois Survey, I am sending you enclosed a carbon copy of our last annual report. The work is progressing so satisfactorily here that I was very loath to give it up, but the opportunity at the University of Minnesota seemed too good a one to be passed up. There is a possibility, too, I understand, that something worth while may be done with the Minnesota Historical Society.

I hope that your summer on the Pacific will be a pleasant one.

Sincerely yours,

S. J. B.

7 Phillips Place

Cambridge Mass.

Oct 13 1914

Dear Buck

I am sure you will not attribute my delay in answering your letter to indifference to your promotion and new opportunities. The truth is that my mail was delayed in reaching me and that part of it never did get out of Cambridge while other letters followed me from Seattle to Eugene to Yachatz to Yagüna and into my camp at the Better Root mountain range where letter writing was out of the question.

You have an opportunity to do a good work in Minnesota and I am sure you will make the history of the west an important part of the University's program. I have written Ford that I

thought you would be an excellent
choice if the historical society is to be
made an aggressive instrument for
Minnesota's whole history. But I imagine
that is a situation that will have to
develop itself partly.

Hope you and Stephenson will like
each other as well as I like you
both.

Cordially yours

Frederic J. Turner

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Nov 17 1914

Dear Buck

If you happen to have two extra reprints
of your Historical Activities articles in The MHA Review,
I should be grateful if you would send one
copy to the Harvard Library, marked "for History
17 Reservations," and one copy to the following
address: Mrs. Wm Hooper, Manchester, Mass.,
"Elsinaes."

It was mighty good, and I thank
you for the Harvard items.

Good luck!

Yours truly
Frederick J. Turner

November 19 1914

Dear Buck —

Heartly congratulations
— quite as much to Minnesota
as to yourself!

I shall watch your
activity with great interest, for
I know how important your
ideas on the subject of State his-
torical society development
are, and I am delighted at your success.

Yours cordially

Fredrick Guernsey

Professor S. J. Duck

Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul

November 24, 1914

Professor Frederick J. Turner

7 Phillips Place

Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Mr. Turner;-

Many thanks for your kind letter of congratulations. I believe that the Society work offers a big opportunity and shall do my best to make the most of it.

I find that I have neglected to acknowledge the receipt from you of a copy of your Memorial Addresses for Thwaites, and also of the separate of the Geographical Influences. I have read them both with much interest and appreciate your kindness in sending them.

In reply to your note of November 17th, I should be very glad to send the reprints of the Historical Activities to Harvard Library, and to Mrs. Hooper, as requested.

Sincerely yours