

JAMES POYNTZ NELSON,
PROFESSOR OF CIVIL ENGINEERING,
STATE COLLEGE OF KENTUCKY,
LEXINGTON, KY.

To
James N. Patterson, Esq., Ph. D.,
Lexington, Ky. June 4, 1897.

My Dear Sir; -
I have had the honor to be informed by the
Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the A. & M.
College of Ky. of their formal request for my
resignation of my Professorship in that College.
I have acknowledged the receipt of that communication,
and I address you now to say that my resignation as
requested will be tendered when the Board meets.

In view of the probable ownership of my every
relation with you, the President of the College and,
as such, the mover of its policy, I feel that
there is due for me some expression of my
sentiments, by reason of this sudden change
in my circumstances. Yet I am at a loss to
say as I would and as I should all that seems
right for me to say.

First I am aware of a sentiment of respect
for you because of your superb mental gifts and

J. H. P. #2

JAMES POYNTZ NELSON,
PROFESSOR OF CIVIL ENGINEERING,
STATE COLLEGE OF KENTUCKY,
LEXINGTON, KY.

requirements that have made you to me were a person whose companionship was pleasing and helpful to me. But I am forced to regret that, though you did lay me under great and lasting obligations to you by kindness and courtesies, you lacked even towards me that cooperative sympathy in my work without which I must have failed to make my Department an expansion as was necessary for its prosperity. I felt ever that you were not my friend in my collegial work even while you were my entertaining and, at times, cordial companion. Because you let my Department die of your want of support towards it, therefore it met with the condemnation of the Board.

Mismanaged by members, I failed. Of course you can say with seeming fairness that upon me alone depended the number of my students. But you see too shrewd a man not to know how to let the blame rest where it lies, along the plan you may

H. P. # 3.

JAMES POYNTZ NELSON,
PROFESSOR OF CIVIL ENGINEERING,
STATE COLLEGE OF KENTUCKY,
LEXINGTON, KY.

have in view. Quietly, patiently, persistently, surely,
your plans embraced my enforced retirement,
I reason now grate to you, I was doomed to
the fate that you foreordained for me from the
beginning. Under the cloud of secrecy of various
kinds, you have been able to work out this
retirement of mine by means that seem to relieve
you of the responsibility for my retirement. Still
the fact remains that ever there has been warned
that I was not your kind of a man; that my
activity in public affairs vexed you; that only
and ever as you let stay on you finally, - men
of narrow interests, selfish purposes, subservient
natures, colden personalities, men who are
specialists and nothing more, - could stay; that
unless I lived solely within the confines of my
prescribed department, I must suffer the fate that
has fallen me. -

H. P. 14

JAMES POYNTZ NELSON,
PROFESSOR OF CIVIL ENGINEERING,
STATE COLLEGE OF KENTUCKY,
LEXINGTON, KY.

When my eyesight became impaired, and I was overwhelmed with the fear of total blindness, which certainly is not beyond probability now, I contemplated retiring from the Faculty of which you are the master. Even then I thought that possibly in some way my intellect, my attainments, my voice, my presence, and my influence might be used to the advantage some effort for their retention. I am chosen by the Board of which you are ^a controlling member with "a lack of exclusive interest" in my Department. Now, when you know the circumstances that surround me, when you know wherein of late I have been busy with pure public matters not of exclusive interest to my Department, ^{or to myself} when, in common with you in a small degree and with others in a larger, I have been interested profoundly in protecting the property of men like yourself from the assaults of agrarianism, and when I have been loyal to you when

H. P. #5,

JAMES POYNTZ NELSON,
PROFESSOR OF CIVIL ENGINEERING,
STATE COLLEGE OF KENTUCKY,
LEXINGTON, KY.

assaults were made upon you by men in places of influence, you suffer me to be retired from you I would clandestinely and with something of painful circumstances to me. Because of my persistent desire to have retained for you sentiments of lofty regard if not of affection, I regret that all of this has come to pass.

Probably this is the last word that will be between us. With pain I look back over the past six years. Therein I seem to have failed. You have succeeded. Your success demanded that events should be as they are. I wish that I had stood by you as your devoted admirer had often offered or to do. But that is all gone, even as for so many lost opportunities for sympathy, frankness, cordial cooperation and friendship. - With best respect, Yrs. truly,
J. P. Nelson

432 New Jersey Av. N. H.

Washington, D. C., June 7-97.

Pres. State Agric. College,
Lexington, Ky.

Dear Sir:-

Please consider me an applicant for the position of assistant instructor in mechanical drafting. I am a graduate from Purdue Univ. in Civil Engr. and refer you to Prof. Fred Morley, of La Fayette Indiana.

Respectfully yours,

B. Fred Beckman

Sloane Physical Laboratory, Y.U.

Mr. H. M. Snyder, who graduated from the Academic Dep't. of this institution in 1895, while in college pursued a course of instruction in Practical Physics for one year, in the Sloane Physical Laboratory, under my direction. He had previously pursued a course of general Physics for one year. Since his graduation Mr. Snyder has been Assistant in Physics in the Laboratory, and for the last year has been the John Sloane Fellow in Physics. He receives the degree of Doctor of Philosophy this year, and has presented for his thesis the discussion of a problem in electricity successfully worked out experimentally, and ably stated. He has been an earnest and diligent student, and has done work of a high order. His studies have included besides Physics, a large amount in mathematics and mathematical Physics, and one year in Chemistry. He has for two winters conducted an evening school in Electricity, in Bridgeport, Conn., with marked success.

I am confident that Mr. Snyder is well fitted for the position of teacher of Physics or Mathematics, and possesses the scholarship and character that will insure success.

(Signed) Arthur W. Wright,

Professor of Experimental Physics.

New Haven, June 24, 1897.

I can, therefore, heartily recommend him to any board of education or institution of learning in need of a teacher in the departments in which he has specialized.

(Signed)

Charles C. Ramsay.

MADE IN U.S.A.

Bethlehem, Pa. June 26. 1897.

Pres. James Kennedy Patterson, Ph.D. LL.D. F.S.A.

Dear Sir.

Professor Merriman handed me your letters to him with the statement that he had mentioned my name to you as a possible applicant for the vacant chair of Civil Engineering at the State College of Kentucky.

I was born in Kittery, Maine, thirty five year ago, my father's family was originally English and my mother's Scotch although both have been in this country over two hundred years. I prepared for college at Phillips Exeter Academy (under Prof. G. A. Wentworth) and was graduated at Dartmouth College. Scientific Department in 1885. During the next fall and winter I was teaching, and in April 1886 I accepted a position at Saint Paul in the office of the Chief Engineer of the Chicago, Burlington and Northern R.R. I worked for that company two years, my last position, ^{with} them being assistant engineer on the construction

of a railroad between Walnut and Street, Ills. From April 1888 to Aug. 1890 I was in the office of J. Edwin Jones C.E., then Supt. of Streets for the City of Boston, Mass. Since 1890 I have held my present position and have taught nearly every subject in our course except those in the Freshman year. During one of my vacations I had charge track laying on the electric railroad in this town. For four years I have had charge of the Summer School of Surveying connected with this University. I have occupied my leisure time in studies connected with my profession, having assisted Prof. Merriman by making quite elaborate tests of the strength and weathering qualities of roofing slate for a paper read by him before the Am. Soc. C.E. 1892. I am, jointly with Prof. Merriman, author of a "Handbook for Surveyors" John Wiley sons, 1895. I have also another book partly completed which I hope to have published during the next fall. In April 1895 I was elected Ass. Member. American Society of Civil Engineers.

So much for my application and in connection should like more definite information

regarding a few questions. The schedule of studies indicates two or more subjects in civil engineering being taught at the same time, will there be an assistant? Would it be impertinent to ask the reason the present vacancy? Is the city a healthful one and are the educational advantages for young children good? Are living expenses high? what would be the rent of a suitable home with modern conveniences. Would it be possible to reduce the time before which the maximum salary is given by especial application or fitness?

By referring again to your letter I see that I should have stated also that I devote very little time to politics but have usually voted the republican ticket, I am a regular attendant at the Presbyterian church and that my family consists of two children six and eight years old respectively.

Yours very truly
John P. Brook.

Instructor in C.E.
Lehigh University.

#202 N. New St.
Bethlehem, Penna.

Bethlehem, Pa. July 12, 1897.

Pres. James K. Patterson, Ph.D.

Dear Sir,

Your letter was received. I shall close the summer school on Friday, July 16 and shall be ready to leave Bethlehem on the following Monday, July 19. I shall spend my vacation at my home in Maine, but if you are to be in New York much before August 1st, I will wait until I have seen you before going there. I can leave Kittery, Maine at 7 A.M. and reach New York City at 4 P.M. so there need be no delay in keeping the appointment in any event.

Please address me at Bethlehem until July 20. and afterwards at
KITTERY, YORK CO. MAINE. P.O. BOX #8

Yours very truly
John P. Brook

R.R. Fare 18.40
Baggage .40
Sleepers 4.00
Breakfast 1.50

47-N-64

47-M-64

Great Falls, Mont. July 12, '97

James K. Patterson, LL.D.

Lexington, Ky.

My dear Sir:-

Your letter of July 5 was forwarded to me at this place and reached me today. I fear professional engagements will prevent my return to New York before September, but I would ask as a favor that you notify me of the time you will be in the city, and if possible I will meet you there. You may still address me at Ithaca.

Respectfully yours,

J. McCausland.

Purdue University.

JAS. H. SMART, LL. D.,
PRESIDENT.

W. F. M. GOSS,
PROFESSOR OF EXPERIMENTAL ENGINEERING
AND
DIRECTOR OF THE ENGINEERING LABORATORY.

LAFAYETTE, IND., July 12 1897

President J. K. Patterson,
State College of Ky., Lexington.

Dear Sir,

This letter will introduce to you Mr.
C. B. Peterson, a graduate of Purdue,
from the department of Civil Engineering,
and for a number of years, one of our
instructors in mechanical drawing. His
record here entitles him to my highest
Commendation. He is a good student, and
a fine workman. His attainments are of a
high order and his impulses are all good.
He is a very useful man to us and we
should miss him greatly if he were to leave
Purdue.
I shall be glad at any time to

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Purdue University.

W. F. M. GOSS,
PROFESSOR OF EXPERIMENTAL ENGINEERING
AND
DIRECTOR OF THE ENGINEERING LABORATORY.

JAS. H. SMART, LL. D.,
PRESIDENT.

LAFAYETTE, IND.,

answers any specific questions concerning
him, if later, you should care to ask
them.

With very best wishes, I am,

Respectfully

W. F. M. Goss.

Correct Copy,

Washington D.C.,
July 16. 1897.

The Hon. Board of Trustees,
of the State College of Kentucky,
Sirs:

I hereby make formal application for the
vacancy in the Department of Civil Engineering in the State
College of Kentucky.

In regard to my education in my own specialty,
I would say that I am a graduate of Cornell, and there
taken the Puertes Medal for scholarship in Civil Engineering.

Place of birth: Allegheny Pa.

Parentage: Native Americans.

Church Relationship: Protestant Episcopal.

Political Affiliation: Generally Republican.

General Education: A graduate of Washington
High School, and all other education in the
public schools of Washington, D.C.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) Gilbert P. Ritter,

Room 69 McGill Building,
Washington D.C.

COURSE IN
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING.

—♦♦—
The Lehigh University.

Bethlehem Pa July 23rd 1897

Dr James K. Patterson

President of State Agric. College of Kentucky

Dear Sir:

F. A. Weir writes me that he is an applicant for the instructorship in Electrical Engineering. Although I cannot speak of his electrical knowledge as an expert, I believe his attainments in this direction to be very great and well deserving your consideration. He graduated here in '89 having made a most excellent record as a student. Became instructor & then professor in mechanical engineering but devoted all his leisure to his favorite subject electricity. He has made sacrifices to acquire a college degree and also to ~~lose~~ to gain time for advanced study. He is a very capable, serious-minded and trustworthy gentleman and will take great pains to give satisfaction. Yours respectfully
J. F. Klein

47-M-64

July 23, 1893

Pres. J. K. Patterson,
Lexington, K.Y.

Dear Sir,

I learn from my friend, Prof. W. S. Aldrich of the West Va. University, that the Chair of Civil Engineering in your college is vacant.

Will you kindly send me catalogue of school, and other particulars of position? If remuneration is satisfactory, I should like to send you testimonials. Ed refers you to Prof. Aldrich, who is able to give

any information you
may desire in regard
to my ability & char-
acter.

Very truly yours,

J. M. Levell,
136 Sumac St.,
Wissahickon,
Philada., Pa.

35 Hazen Str., Ithaca, N. Y., July 23,
'97.

Pres. Jas. K. Patterson, Ph.D.,
Lexington, Ky.

Dear Sir,

At our interview in New York I intended to state to you that I was a candidate for more than one position, but afterwards forgot to mention this.

To day I was informed by Pres. A. Q. Holladay of the N. C. College of Agric. & Mech. Arts that the Board at its last meeting, July 19th, elected me unanimously to the chair of physics and electrical engineering. The salary (\$1200) offered is but little more than you expect to pay, but there is a general understanding that the salaries of all professors will be raised to \$1800 in a year or two.

I do not know whether I made a favorable impression on you or not, but I suppose you have by this time quite decided whom you will recommend to the Executive Committee. If your choice has fallen on me, and if you think that this would practically decide the question, would you be so kind as to let me know this? It is not curiosity which prompts me to ask this question.

Should both places be open to me, it would seem but natural to select the one apparently most favorable.

To be able to decide which of the two positions is the better, I should know more about your place than I do now. By reading your catalogue I get the impression as if you were better prepared to do good work in elect. engineering than other states in the South, and I suppose such good work is actually being done, too. I do, however, think that the course in elect. engin. does not occupy that place in your catalogue which it deserves and which it should, if any patronage is to be expected. It should be named as an independent course like those in C.E. and M.E.—even if it is subordinate to the latter—and not under the general head of M.E. which makes it appear to those, who do not closely inquire into this matter as though it received but secondary attention. The elect. engineer is now considered a great factor in civilization. Colleges, where this course is taught, make it a point to bring this fact conspicuously before the people. This they should do, if they expect any patronage. And small institutions can do as good work

as the larger ones, because in the former the greatest part of teaching is done by the professor himself while in the latter young instructors often do the work.

You say in your letter that the course in E.E. will be made an independent study when sufficient interest is developed and sufficient patronage is obtained. By what will this sufficiency be decided?

I see there are now in your Freshmen Class 23 students, who take the course in M.E. How many of these are supposed to be electrical engineers? What is the ratio of all the students in E.E. to all those, who are now classified under M.E.?

The financial support of the elect. dept. is to a great measure essential to its success. The equipment of the elect. laboratory is the most expensive one in a college with the exception perhaps of the physical laboratory, to which it is so closely related. Electrical Engineering cannot be taught successfully without such a laboratory, and I think a college should ^{not} turn out students as elect. engineers if it cannot give them a thorough drill in electrical testing.

What yearly appropriation do you make to the elect. dep't or to the mech. dep't.? Do you intend to do more in this direction in the next two or three years in order to secure a greater patronage? Do you look favorably upon original research work of your professors and instructors and do you give them, in case this is desirable, financial support to carry out such work?

In case the elect. dep't. should not be made an independent one in a year from now, do you think the Trustees would be willing to increase the salary somewhat in the second year and give to the teacher the title of Assist. Professor or Associate Professor, or something similar? This title would secure to the elect. dep't. a more prominent place among the courses offered in your institution.

I should like to add a few more questions referring to other matters.

Is Lexington an expensive place to live in? Is it considered a healthy location? How is the climate?

I have written this letter with the "assumption" that you had intended to recommend me to the Committee. In case this is not so, it will, of course, not be

(over)

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necessary for you to answer any of these questions.

Please consider what I have said in connection with my election in N.C. as strictly confidential.

Hoping to receive from you an early answer, I
am

Very respectfully yours,
F. A. Weihe.

Torrington Conn.

July, 24, 1897.

James K. Patterson L. S. W.

Dear Sir:-

Since my interview with you in New York on July 20, and with Prof. White in New Haven on July 21, I have decided to renew my application for the vacant position in your Department of Civil Engineering.

I believe that I have either written or told you of my qualifications and can only add that if I am chosen by your Board I shall do my best to fill the position with credit to your College and myself.

I would respectfully refer you to the following men in this section with whom I have either done business or who know of my career.

Orasmus R. Fyler, R.R. Commissioner, Torrington Ct

Chas F. Brooks, Pres. Coe Brass Co. Director of
New York, New Haven and Hartford R.R. Ansonia Ct.

S. E. Merwin Formerly Genl Governor of
Connecticut. New Haven. Ct.

Edwin H. Forbes. Supt. of Schools, Torrington Ct.

W. H. Wrayton, Supt. Public Works Torrington Ct.

W. A. Quaback Borough Clerk Torrington Ct.

A. O. Huie, Supt. Coe Brass Mfg Co. Torrington Ct.

S. E. Barney, Asst. Prof. in Civil Engineering
New Haven Conn.

J. C. Tracy Instructor in Civil Engineering
New Haven Conn.

Thanking you for the kindness and
courtesy of both yourself and Mr. White
I am,

Yours respectfully,
S. B. Patterson C. E.

IRVINE, KY. JULY 25th 1897.

Dr. Jas. K. Patterson ,

PRESIDENT, STATE COLLEGE, Lexington, Ky.

DEAR SIR:---

In the matter of the existing vacancy in the chair of CIVIL ENGINEERING, at the State College, I desire to present for your favorable consideration , the name of a very worthy gentleman of scholarly attainments , and one, who I think is in every way fitted for the position.

My friend Mr. Chas. C. Breed, has been a practical Civil Engineer for the past sixteen (16) years in the different branches of the profession , including ,railroad, water-supply, and municipal work; In addition to being a very practical man and one of fine executive ability ; he is a close student , and so combines his theory and practice , as to make him , a very suitable person to fill this vacant chair.

It is my earnest desire that you give the matter of Mr. Breed's application ,for this place ,careful consideration.

Yours very truly,

Robt. H. Adell

SHEFFIELD SCIENTIFIC SCHOOL OF YALE UNIVERSITY.

New Haven, Conn., July 30 1897

JOHN C. TRACY, C. E.
55 A DWIGHT PLACE.

Mr. J. H. Patterson,
State College of Kentucky
Lexington,
Ky.

Dear Sir:

Mr. S. B. Patterson, a former student of mine, stopped at New Haven on his way from New York, a few days ago, and informed me that he had met you by appointment to talk concerning a position in the department of civil engineering in the State College of Kentucky. Without any suggestion from Mr. Patterson and without his knowledge I take the liberty of writing you to set forth as frankly and as honestly as I can the qualifications which in my judgment seem to fit Mr. Patterson for the position.

I have known Mr. Patterson as an excellent student, he having taken the prize here in civil-engineering upon graduation three years ago. I have known him better however as a post-graduate and assistant instructor during the past two years. He has been my assistant in teaching mechanical drawing, surveying and

[Letter to James K. Patterson, July 30, 1897]

SHEFFIELD SCIENTIFIC SCHOOL OF YALE UNIVERSITY.

New Haven, Conn.,

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JOHN C. TRACY, C. E.

55 A DWIGHT PLACE.

bridge designing. I have been a bridge engineer myself and Mr Patterson, with two others, has been doing special work in this line under my direction. He has worked side by side with me until I can speak from a more personal knowledge of him than can any other instructor or professor in the University.

I should not class Mr. Patterson as a brilliant man, nor on the other hand the opposite. He has ability enough to win prizes - not by a sky-rocket flight but by a steady climbing. What he does he does well, and I never knew him to slight a thing.

I should give as qualifications:

- (1) Modesty: A quiet unassuming man he perhaps does not press his own claims enough.
- (2) Faithfulness: A hard and faithful worker.
- (3) Manliness. Every inch a man and of irreproachable character.
- (4) Knowledge. He is a thorough student and will, I think, continue to be.
- (5) Ability to impart knowledge to others. He has this ability, and with it tact. I never knew a student to dislike him.

JOHN C. TRACY, C. E.
55 A DWIGHT PLACE.

- (6) Experience: For a man of his age he has had an unusual amount of practical experience, and theory and practice have been combined in his past training to an unusual extent. In addition he has had considerable experience in teaching, I never hesitated to leave classes in his charge.
- (7) Ambition. He has enough of this to progress in his work - whatever it may be.

I do not care to weary you with a rehearsal of other qualifications - for others could be named. I have given the above concise and conservative estimate of the man in the hopes that it may have some weight with you when you make your decision. If it does I shall be doing something for the college if Mr. Patterson becomes one of its instructors, and also paying in some degree the debt I owe Mr. Patterson for the valuable assistance he has rendered me in teaching during his post-graduate course.

Sincerely yours,

J. C. Tracy.

Instructor in
Drawing and
Civil Engineering

47-M-64

August 2nd, 97.

Pres. J. K. Patterson,
Lexington, Ky.

Dear Sir:

In addition to
other testimonials sent you
recently, I respectfully
submit the enclosed
from Prof. Aldrich.

To ask a testimonial
from my present employ-
ers, Vice-President Percival
Roberts, Jr., or Supt. James
Christie, would place me
in an embarrassing position,
but I do not hesitate to
refer you to either, in
case you wish to

enquire about my
present position, or the
manner in which I
have discharged my
duties. I am,

Respectfully Yours,
T. M. Lowell,

#136 Sumac St.,
Philada., Penna.

35 Hazen Str., Ithaca, N.Y., August 3,

1897.

Pres. Jas. K. Patterson, Ph.D.,
Lexington, Ky.

Dear Sir,

I have accepted the position in North Carolina. It will, therefore, not be necessary to answer that letter I sent you a week or so ago.

I had another offer to teach electrical engineering in a college in the State of New York. After some consideration I decided to accept a position where I could teach physics as well as electrical engineering.

Please have my photograph returned to me. If you think that it will be to your or my advantage to file my papers, please do so.

Very respectfully yours,
F. A. Weihe.

#515 South St. W. Lafayette, Ind.

July. 14. 1897.

To Pres. James K. Patterson and the Board of
Directors State College of Kentucky:-

Gentlemen:- I hereby file my application
for the position of Professor of Civil Engineering
in the State College of Kentucky.

I received the degree of B. C. E. from
Purdue University in 1891, and have been
employed as Instructor in that institution
since that time. During the summer vacation
of '91 I was employed as designer and
draughtsman by the Detroit Bridge and Iron Works.

In '92 I traveled in Europe and in
'93, '94, and '95. was with the Lafayette Bridge
Co. I enclose letters from Prof. Goss and
the Lafayette Bridge Co. and you are already
in possession of one from Pres. Smart.

Trusting my application may be acted
upon favorably, I am

Very respectfully

Chas. B. Peterson.

#515 South St. W. Lafayette, Ind.
Aug 6th 1897

Pres. James K. Patterson
Lexington, Ky.

Dear Sir:— In reply to yours of
the 3rd inst. I wish to say that owing to
various reasons, mainly my wife's illness, I
beg leave to withdraw my application for
the vacancy in the Department of Civil Engineering.
Trusting my action will cause no
inconvenience or embarrassment, I am.

Yours very respectfully,
C. B. Peterson.

35 Hazen Str., Ithaca, N. Y., Aug. 8, '97.

Pres. James K. Patterson,
Lexington, Ky.

Dear Sir,

Yours of the 6th inst. received. Before I continue I want to express to you my sincere thanks for having considered me the best qualified candidate for the vacant position in your college. But, since I have already sent letters of acceptance to the president of the N. C. State College as well as to the chairman of the Executive Committee of that institution, and as I do not care to change my decision for reasons given below, I want you to withdraw my name from the list of applicants.

Though it is very gratifying to me to know that you had intended to nominate me, I almost wish that you had selected another man, for I am now placed in a position where it is very difficult to say what is the best thing to do. Perhaps I have made a mistake, as you say, by accepting the N. C. offer, but if this is so I will have to bear the consequences.

I have decided to go to Raleigh for two reasons: Firstly, because I will have a chance to teach and to keep in touch with physics, to which I paid the most

attention while studying in Berlin.

Secondly, the professor of mathematics in that institution is a class-mate and a personal friend of mine, and his description of the college is very favorable.

Perhaps you would like to know what I would have to say in favor of the position you offer.

You must not look upon it as an attempt to flatter if I say that my short personal acquaintance with you has given me the impression that I would be working under the management of a perfect gentleman. I believe to have expressed to you how much importance I attach to the personality of the president of an educational institution where young men and women should not only be taught knowledge but, what is much more important for their future welfare, character, also.

In your college I would have to teach but one subject. As you seem to be quite well equipped, I think I would have had a chance to do good and thorough work in this line.

If I had fully made up my mind to teach only electrical engineering, I should not hesitate one moment to give preference to your offer, no matter whether you

paid me a little more or less than I could get somewhere else, and without regard whether I was only an assistance or a professor. I care much more for the opportunity of doing good work with my students than for the honor of being at the head of a department, whose management often requires a good deal of time and work. However, for the better development of a dept., it would seem to me preferable to place it on an independent basis as soon as this can be done.

A year from now I will be in better shape to say whether I prefer pure physics to electrical engineering, or vice versa, or whether a combination of the two subjects is an advantage.

I have been asked to apply for a position as professor of pure physics in a university in the New England States with the assurance of having a good chance to be successful. This place will be vacant next spring. If I by that time should think pure physics a better field to work in, and, if the place in N.C. does not meet my expectations, or if I find that I do not give satisfaction, I would avail myself of this opportunity to secure a desirable position.

I hope you will find a man for your position

who will suit you in every respect and who will bring that important department of your institution to a high degree of development, so that those living in the South need not go far away from their homes to become electrical engineers. The young men, instead of crowding the laboratories of the older colleges, could just as well patronize their own institutions and help to support and develop them.

Should you for any reason whatever be looking for a man next year to teach electrical engineering, I wish you would write to me again.

I hope you understand my position and see the reason why I prefer to go to N.C.

I wish to you and your college success and prosperity.

Very respectfully yours,

F. A. Weihe.

All communications should be forwarded under cover to the "Director College of Civil Engineering, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y."

A GENERAL FOUR YEAR COURSE IN
CIVIL ENGINEERING,

WITH SPECIAL SCHOOLS
OF

Topographical Engineering,
Geodetic Engineering,
Municipal Engineering,
Bridge Engineering,
Railroad Engineering,
Sanitary Engineering,
Hydraulic Engineering,
Engineering Biology,
Engineering Investigation.

PROFESSOR E. A. FUERTES,

DIRECTOR AND DEAN.

DIRECTOR'S ROOMS,
College of Civil Engineering
OF
CORNELL UNIVERSITY.

CABLE ADDRESS,

"BORINQUEN, NEW YORK."

Ithaca, N. Y., Aug. 9 1897

President Jas. F. Patterson

State College -

Lehigh
Ky.

Dear Sir -

I am in receipt of a letter
from Gilbert P. Ritter who is a
candidate for some position in your
Faculty, within upon gift.

Mr. Ritter was graduated
from this University last year
and throughout his course proved
himself to be an honest, in-
dustrious bright man of unusual
talent. His scholarship was pre-
markably accurate proving that
he is possessed of rare mental
gifts. He obtained various prizes

47-M-64

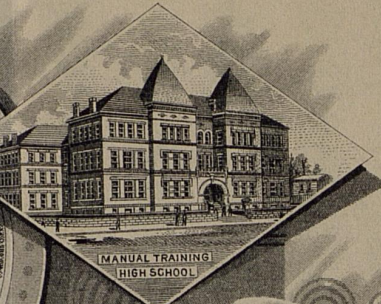
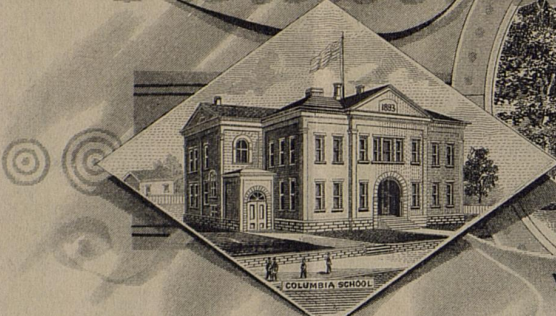
for superior work and I believe
him to be a very promising
young man.

I am

Very Respectfully Yours

E. A. Fuertes Director -

Louisville



PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Louisville, Ky. Aug. 16 1897
2008 Filroyel St.

Pres. James K. Patterson,
Kentucky State College,
Lexington, Ky.

My dear Sir:-

Having learned that a course in electrical engineering will be established as soon as practicable and that at present Prof. Anderson wishes an assistant in this department, I desire to present myself as an applicant for the position.

As to my fitness for the place I would refer you by permission to Prof. Brownell or to Prof. Marks of this place. Also to certain letters of recommendation which you already possess.

Very Truly Yours,
Chas. R. Sturdevant.

The Safe Deposit Vaults in the Equitable Buildings in New York, Boston and St. Louis are the most secure in the World.

THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY

OF THE UNITED STATES,

BRANCH OFFICE: EQUITABLE BUILDING,

HERMAN W. VAN SENDEN,
NOBLE J. DILDAY,

J. T. GATHERGILL
SPECIAL AGENT.

KENTUCKY STATE AGENCY:
VAN SENDEN & DILDAY, General Managers,
W. STEPHEN, Cashier,

WILLIAM F. HIBBERD, Associate Manager.

LOUISVILLE, KY.,

Aug. 13th 1897

Prof. Jas. K. Patterson
State College
Lexington Ky,

My Dear Sir

This will introduce
to your acquaintance Prof. C. R. Sturtevant
of our Manual Training High School
with whom I have had a short talk about
the position in the College of Asst. in Charge
of the Electrical Department.

I have told him you had full authority
to act in the matter, and have told him some-
thing of our rules regarding Salaries. Upon
the recommendation of Prof. Brown and my
own short acquaintance I recommend him as
a gentleman worthy your kindest consideration.
Being a graduate of Cornell and having had some
practical experience you may find him the man
you need.

Very truly yours
J. T. Gathright

WALLACE MARSHALL, President. EVERETT B. VAWTER, Treasurer.
S.T. MURDOCK, Vice Pres. FRANK S. MOORE, Secretary
F.C.H. ARENTZ, Chief Engineer.



WORKS COR. SOUTH ST. & BELT R.W.
TELEPHONE NO 154.

THE
La Fayette Bridge Company
MANUFACTURERS OF
STEEL BRIDGES,
FOR RAILROADS, AND HIGHWAYS.

CITY OFFICES:
48 FERRY STREET, OPPOSITE POST OFFICE.

La Fayette, Indiana, July 12, 1897.

To President James K. Patterson, and the Board of Directors, State College of Kentucky.

Gentlemen:--

This is to certify that Mr. Charles B. Peterson has been in our employ as designer and draughtsman during his summer vacations for three successive years, and his work has always been entirely satisfactory in every respect. He not only possesses a very thorough knowledge of the theoretical part of bridge building, such as the calculations of stresses and proportioning of parts, but is very efficient in the practical details such as shop drawings, shop methods and erection. We have always found him to be industrious, energetic and ambitious; a man of good judgment and sound sense, and withal a perfect gentleman in every sense of the word. We take great pleasure in recommending him to any position in Civil Engineering you may have to offer him, and are confident he will give the highest satisfaction to all concerned.

Very respectfully,

The LaFayette Bridge Co.
Wallace Marshall Prest.

J. K. Patterson, L. L. D.,
Pres. State College of Ky.,

Dear Sir:

Please consider me an applicant for the position now vacant in the Department of Civil Engineering in the State College of Kentucky.

I was born in Wetzel County, West Virginia; am of Irish (remotely French) descent, a member of Catholic Church, & a Democrat.

I was graduated from University of West Virginia, June 1895, with degree of B. S. C. E. (see Catalogue which I send you pp. 62-69-129).

Previous to graduation, I was for a time on Engineers' Corps of Pennsylvania Railroad. After graduation, I was for two months on corps of Washington, Alexandria, & Mt. Vernon Electric Railway, whence I came here to accept a position with Penney's Iron Works. I have charge of construction & maintenance of tracks,

(now about 20 miles), location of machinery
and foundations for same, laying out &
erection of furnaces ect.

My salary at present is \$1200 per
year with prospects for advancement;
but since teaching four years in
public schools of West Virginia, I
believe that teaching is my vocation.

It gives me pleasure to send you
hand-book of Pencoyd Works, from cut
in front of which you may form
some idea of extent of works.

Please note that testimonials, which
I send you, were written immediately
after graduation with a view to
obtaining position as teacher of natural
sciences. Please return testimonials.

I am Respectfully yours,

J. M. Lovelle,

#136 Sumac St.,

Philada., Penna.

July 29-1897.