Being desirous to retire from my/office in the University with the /
* that I have done / all in my power to remove (?)/
anything in my actions as Principal / which may have been distasteful /
to any of my colleagues I beg / leave to state that if in the /
differences of opinion which have arisen / between Dr. Clark Murray and
myself / in regard to the education of women / there has been anything
on my part which ap/peared to him or to this Board/in any way unjust or
disgusting (?) to / him I desire fully to withdraw / the same and also
to express/ my belief that Dr. Murray has/ endeavoured (?) loyally (?)
to carry (?) out the / desires (?) of the University in that matter /
even when they were not in acc/ ordance with his own views, / I would
also desire to say that (?)/ if in the urgency of work or / the
difficulties which have beset / my path I have at any time /
been impatient or thoughtless / of the feelings or welfare of any /
member of the University I sincerely (?) / regret this and trust I may be/
forgiven, as having done what seemed at / the moment (?) but (?) in the
interests of the University and/its students./

[I shall be (crossed out)] / No one feels more deeply than/I the
extremely imperfect way in / which I have been able to fulfil /
the important duties entrusted / to me by this Board, and the /
imperfect results attained. My only / * is that I have
acted * / **
but * to the / light (?) and strength given me in the /
interest of education in its higher/ * and of them entrusted to/
my care.

(?) reading uncertain.
* word omitted
** 2 or more words omitted.
/ end of line

/91

McGill College,
12th Jan., 1891

My dear Sir William,

I expected that you would have been able, ere this, to look over my correspondence with the Board. As I fear that you will find it inconvenient to hunt up the original documents, I leave my copies with you, and hope to hear from you as soon as you find time to read them.

Very truly yours,

J. Clark Murray

Murray
Jan/91

McGILL UNIVERSITY MONTREAL

Jany 13./91

Dear Dr Murray,

I beg to acknowledge your favor of yesterday, I endeavour ~~and shall endeavour to attend~~ ~~to~~ I have not yet your report though I have little hope of being able to amply avail you of it in the matter. The truth is I have ~~[illegible]~~ been to dinner

and its great expansion
in the present and
immediate future. I am well

In some months with
College
existing system ~~of policy~~
matters cannot ~~with their changes~~
~~the prospects of near & ultimate~~
~~success & immediate prospects~~
~~But I can connect~~
~~with the College~~
that I have been
asked to develop
I have numerous
solicitations with
some prospects
that would run
my mind for the
time from the

well the ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ & Stuff

Many curiosities of the
Hunter, ~~or as they~~
~~We do like them up~~
~~Calling & with a right~~
~~Spirit~~

Yours

C. J. Murray
Jan 1/91

Murray
Jan/91

Montreal, 17th Jan., 1891.

My dear Sir William,

The Bar Examinations this week have prevented me from acknowledging your letter of the 13th inst. sooner.

I confess I feel disappointed by the tone of that letter, as I had believed from our recent conversations, that you were at last prepared to repair, as far as you can, the injury done to me by the slanderous report which you carried before the Board of Governors, and by you and the Board refusing to record the simple truth, that the report was proved to be absolutely destitute of foundation.

In reference to a remark

in your letter I must say that I have never asked you to meet any peculiar views of mine on this subject. You took the responsibility of officially laying before the Board a slander which you knew to be cruelly injurious to my professional honour; and you and the Board have had every satisfaction that honourable men can claim, to convince you that that slander is without foundation in fact. I ask you merely to contradict that slander in the same official way in which you laid it before the Board, and to do what lies in your power to repair all the injury done to me by your official action. I do not ask you to apologise or even to express any regret for the injury done to me by that slander; but it is surely your view as well as

mine, that the official contradiction of the slander is the very scantiest measure of justice that can be offered to me.

I feel assured that you have in store for you the happiest day of your life, when you go frankly to the Board of Governors, and say, "Gentlemen, I regret that, acting on inaccurate information, I was led unintentionally to injure Professor Murray by representing him as having violated the Statutes and Regulations of the University in an address delivered by him to some students on the first of May, 1888. I have now to state that I know of no evidence to substantiate such a report. I therefore withdraw that report in the same official way in which I laid it before your Board, and I

officially beg Your Board to do everything in Your power to repair the injury done to Professor Murray by the transactions arising out of that report."

I am confident that this is the course which will be urged upon You by a candid collation of my letters with the transactions of the Board, and I shall hope to hear from You in a few days that You are prepared with a proposal which will bury this unpleasant business for ever.

Very truly yours,

J. Clark Murray

Private

W. D. Murray

McGill College.
Montreal.

Feb 4, 1891

Dear Dr Murray

I beg to return herewith the papers which you were so kind as to leave with me, and which, as desired by you, I have carefully examined.

It seems to me that it is your interest and duty ~~in the matter~~, to accept cordially the Resolution of the governors of Nov 6th 1888, which I am sure they passed in the most conciliatory spirit and as a final settlement of the matters in question.

In this case I have no doubt the Governors would have no objection to return to you your letters subsequent to that date, and to cancel the resolutions on these.

I may explain, as this that the Secretary informs me that, by order of the Board, your letter of Oct 26, 1888, which very completely explains your views and intentions, was entered in full in the minutes immediately before the resolution, so that the

Reference in the letter to "assurances" on your part, can ~~refer~~ apply only to what you yourself stated, and cannot be construed into any reflection on you.

In the mean time the dangers which arose from the unfortunate defeat of May 1888 have passed away, though they have delayed the establishment of the College for Women, and the further endowment of chairs in Arts, and have prevented my intended retirement from the University

in 1889 on occasion of my 70th year. My most cherished object at present is to secure these ends as early as possible, and this in connection with the strengthening and improvement of the Faculty of Arts and of the system of its General Professors and Lecturers.

Truly Yours
J. W. Dawson

Should be glad to give any further explanation may be desired
J. W. D.

Montreal, 10th May, 1891

Tel

My dear Sir William,

I have to acknowledge your letter of the 4th inst, and I am pleased to know that you have read through the correspondence.

I regret, however, that you make no reference to the essential feature and origin of the correspondence, — the baseless slander with which you took the responsibility of staining my good name. It cannot be, that you are resolved neither to clear me from that slander yourself, nor to let me obtain from the Board any official evidence

to show that the slander was proved to be absolutely destitute of foundation. I must assume that it is your wish to repair, as far as you can, the injury done to me by that slander. I trust, therefore, that at the first meeting of the Board you will be ready to make an official statement in the line which I suggested in my last letter; and I beg to submit a minute which, I think, should meet the views of all parties, as it is a bare statement

of facts, and there is of course no one who wishes the truth suppressed.

It should not be difficult for you and the Board to go a great deal further in the way of generous language, after all the suffering you have inflicted upon me; but I should accept this record as closing the affair.

I shall be glad to wait upon you at any convenient hour.

Very truly yours,

J. Clark Murray

Sir W. Dawson.

Memo notes alleged
false accusations and
challenge to unknown &
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and proof exemplar
for it in all against of
Complaint!

McGill College.
Montreal.

July 16. 1891

Dear Dr Murray,

I beg to acknowledge your favour of 10th inst and enclosed Memorandum which I return herewith.

I can only express my deep regret that you have not accepted the friendly suggestion made in my reply to your letter, and that you make it the occasion to revive an accusation against myself which I had believed to have been made in haste

+ added in my Embossing this memorandum already put in at the end of the letter

and practically withdrawn
by you, and which I
must ~~[illegible]~~ emphatically deny, being
conscious of no other
motives ~~than~~ the purest + a sense
of duty to the University
and a desire to connect
your interests and
feelings rather than
my own. In these
circumstances and
after your direct appeals
to the Board of
Governors, and then

+ (note) and from the time when I put
wrote on these subjects (not in letter)

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just and considerate action therein (in my judgment & Cont) as well as in view of their resolutions declining to reopen the matter, I trust you will excuse me from ~~any attempt to provoke~~ asking such action as that contemplated in your memorandum.

Allow me ~~to add~~ that I remain ~~always~~ Yours truly ~~to you~~ ~~Not~~ a time when ~~some~~ members of the Board are

Dr Munro
& Gunder
Dr Fleming

unable to attend meetings
as I always observe a careful
public appearance and when
others as well as myself
are concerned with details
of additions improvements in
financial matters of the
School important to the
Students and all concerned and
it is not of pecuniary importance
very ~~[illegible]~~ merely a short
~~the members of the Board~~
~~report or letter~~ a permit work
and attention have always
been given and
which are regarded
as settled

Sir William Dawson

Montreal

909A
bundle 3

Montreal, 21st Feb., 1891.

My dear Sir William,

Before replying to anything else in your letter of the 16th inst. there are two points on which it is necessary that we should come to an understanding.

In the first place, you say that I have revived an accusation against yourself which you believed that I had practically withdrawn; and then you go on to deny it emphatically, and to declare what your motives have been. Now, though you have before referred to some offensive accusation which you complained of me making against you, you have never (so far as I have observed)

stated what this accusation is. I have therefore to request that you will give me a perfectly explicit statement of the accusation which you are prepared to prove that I have made against you, and that you will at the same time cite the precise passages in my letters, upon which you depend for the proof of your complaint. So far as your motives are concerned, I must remind you that, though you have more than once referred to your own motives or the motives of the Board, I have in a former letter most explicitly declined to bring these into discussion.

And this leads me to the second point on which I desire explanation. You assure me again that your action and that of the Board were dictated by a friendly consideration of my interests and feelings. Now, without referring to your motives, which I do not question, it might help us to understand each other if you would state precisely how your action or that of the Board has shown any consideration either for my interests or for my feelings.

While requesting these explanations, I repeat the offer of my last letter to accept a final settlement of the whole affair on the

principle of making a simple record of the facts. If you can suggest a record, fuller or more accurate in any way than that which I suggested, I shall be glad to confer with in regard to any amendment. I enclose again the copy of my suggestion which you returned, that you may reconsider it. You will observe that it makes no reference to you.

Yours very truly,

J. Clark Murray

Apl 6/91

I should have acknowledged receipt of yours of Feb 21, but ~~I've been~~ have been much in arrears with ~~reading~~ work & correspondence. I shall as you desire retain your memo in view of any opportunity that may arise to meet in any degree your wishes.

With reference to the points you mention may say (1) that I supposed the words "baseless slanders" in yr of Feb 10 to refer to my action in May 1888, but I may ~~have mistaken your meaning~~ Glad to find myself mistaken. (2) I have referred the ~~dealings~~ of the Governors ~~from their~~ ~~actions on the matter~~ in so far as concerns me, and referring you then to the minutes with your letter of Oct 1888 in their regulating ~~your~~ of acceptance ~~this~~ a ~~consistency~~ to ~~suffice for this opinion to you I have of course tried checked my own judgment in the hope that it might commend itself to you also.~~ and I have ventured to refer to them in hope ~~that~~ your judgment might coincide with my own.

Dear Dr Murray

I beg to return herewith the papers Nos 1 to 21 which you were kind enough to leave with me and which I have since then as directed by you.

It seems to me that this your interest and duty in the matter to accept cordially the resolution of the Governors of Nov 6th 1888 which I am sure they ~~[illegible]~~ passed in the most conciliatory spirit and ~~which I thought at the time you might be have accepted as a proper settlement of the matter~~ in the interim. In this case I have no doubt the Governors would have no objection to return to you your letters subsequent ~~to that date~~ and to cancel their resolutions on these.

I may further explain that the delay in going on

Gadsby's Mr Bmd

which explains my purpose, your views and intentions ~~on the whole matter~~ wrong

That your letter of October 26 1888 ~~is~~ entered in full on the Minutes ~~and~~ ~~it may~~ summarily expunge Minutes ~~fully explains your views and intentions respecting the whole matter, whole~~ ~~Gadsby's the Board~~ ~~Summary~~ so that the reason in the resolution & assurance for the future cum refux ~~this~~ ~~way~~ to what you yourself stated in that letter, so that it cannot be construed into any reflection on you.

In the mean time the dangers which arose from the unfortunate ~~affair~~ of May 1888 have passed away, Mgr. ~~they have delayed the establishment~~ of the College for Women × and have prevented my intended retirement from the Mission in 1889 ~~etc~~ on account of my ill health, ~~and~~ ~~they~~ unfortunately ~~into~~ at present is so serious ~~this~~ evils as any as yourself. ~~My faith is that it is~~ and they ~~by such~~ in connection with ~~them~~

× with the further endorsement of change in obs

Object

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of all ~~of the~~ its powers, ~~and that~~

~~all conclusion of that and~~

~~by my humble endeavour~~

to which ~~Such I doubt all my have~~

~~of which~~ ~~Powers of these and~~

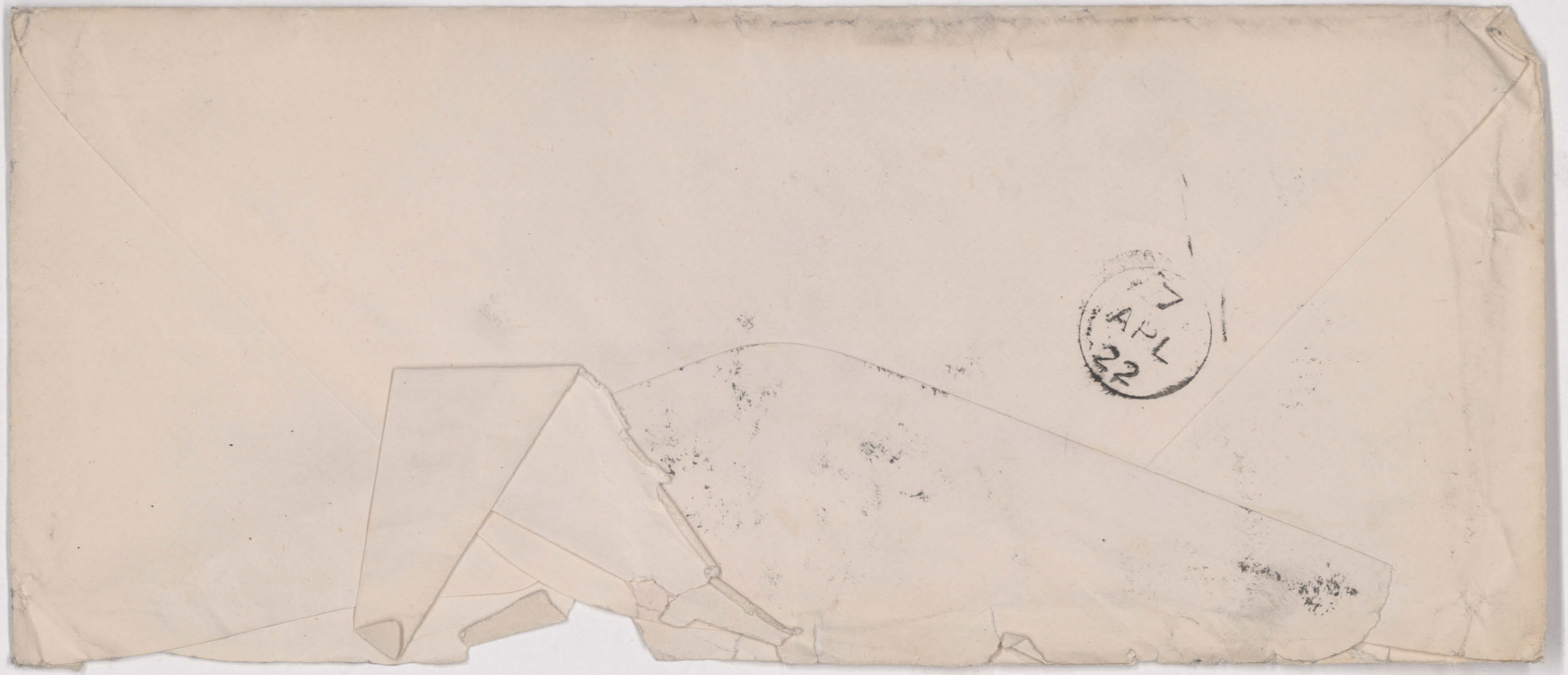
and the subjects

which the represents

Rough copy
to Dr Munro
Sep/91

Sir William Dawson,
McGill College,
City.

Alumni
April 21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APL
22

Copy

Apl 27/98

Dear Dr Murray

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your communication of the 21st inst but regret that I have my conviction always expressed to you that it fails to ~~convince me~~ ~~the~~ ~~no~~ obligation exists either on my part or that of the Government to reopen the matter referred to. While it appears to me in the highest degree inexpedient both in your interest and that of the Government to attempt to close.

Yours truly

J W D

111 Mackay Street, 23d Sept., 1891.

My dear Sir William,

I hope that by this time you have come to regret as much as I do, that you did not, before the close of last session, adopt the generous proposal, which I made, to settle the difficulty, which you raised between the Board and myself, by making a simple record of the facts in the minutes of the Board. It is true, that by a vague phrase about not reopening a question you avoid giving any direct reply to my proposal; but, as your letter is intended as a reply to mine, it must be interpreted in the light of that intention, and reflection must surely have impressed on you the serious meaning imparted to your letter when collated with mine.

For, notwithstanding your previous assertions, you give up all pretence of showing that you promoted my interests or considered my feelings by your action or the action of the Board. You make no pretence of denying that the accusation, which you brought against me, was proved to be absolutely destitute of foundation, by the only method of

proof which honourable men can require. You make no pretence of denying, for you yourself informed me, that the very committee, which was appointed at your own instance to confer with me on the subject of your accusation, reported that they were perfectly satisfied with my explanations. You make no pretence of denying that this report was suppressed, and that you and the Board have never uttered a single word, or taken a single step, to counteract the effect of your accusation, or to repair the injury which you know that it has inflicted upon me. You make no pretence of denying that, while the Board omitted from its ~~records~~ minutes the one truth of which justice demanded imperatively a record, it entered a resolution representing me as a man who required to be warned against offences, of which I had proved myself innocent; and you make no pretence of denying that you know that representation to be an inexcusable falsehood.

Your letter therefore can only

mean, that it does not matter to you that your accusation has inflicted a cruel injury upon me, and has been proved to be a baseless calumny, — that it does not matter to you, that the records of the Board suppress the one fact which ought to have been recorded, and contain in its stead a gross misrepresentation; — you are determined that you will not make any statement of the truth, or do the slightest act of justice, to redress the wrong of which I have been made the victim.

Now, I cannot believe that that is your fixed determination; and therefore, before I take any further steps to obtain justice, I give you one more opportunity of yourself doing me the justice which you have so long delayed. You make no pretence of maintaining that the minutes of the Board on this subject serve any honourable purpose, or of denying that their correction would do good to yourself and the university as well as to me. You know well

that the minutes would be corrected at once if you would make a full statement of the truth, or ask the Board to give me an opportunity of making such a statement myself. I trust therefore that you will be prepared to have this matter settled at the first meeting of the Board.

Yours very truly,

J. Clark Murray

Sir J. Dawson

Ottawa
Oct 19
8 a.m.

McGill College.
Montreal.

Sept 28/91

Dear Dr Murray,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23d inst; and can only reply that while I deeply regret that you should continue to entertain the feelings expressed in that letter, I must ~~be perfectly~~ for reasons already stated, decline to be a party to reopening the discussion of the matters referred to. ~~I shall still more regret if, in consequence of any~~

"further steps" which you may take I shall be obliged publicly to explain and defend my own action in the case, which as you know, notwithstanding your provocations, I have hitherto refrained from doing.

Truly Yours

J Wm Dawson

111 Mackay Street, 14th Oct., 1891.

My dear Sir William,

I have to express very deep regret at the resolution of your letter of the 28th ult.

It would have been so pleasant for me and, I believe, also for you, to have been able to announce to the university and its friends, that you were going to do everything that justice and generosity could suggest to redress the wrong done to me by your baseless accusation. It is therefore a shock, such as I have never known in life, to find that you not only will not show the very slight generosity of expressing regret for the injury done to me by that accusation, but that you absolutely refuse even the scanty justice of withdrawing it, or of contradicting it where you know that it has been believed, or of doing anything whatever to repair the injury which you know that it has inflicted.

You tell me that you have already stated your reasons for this refusal. Where are they? I certainly have never seen them; and you know well that there can be no reason

for refusing to withdraw an accusation which has been proved to be baseless, or for refusing to make every atonement for it that justice demands.

But I take your refusal as a final determination on your part, and I shall act accordingly.

Yours truly,

J. Clark Murray

Murray
Oct 1890

Montreal, 21st April, 1891.

My dear Sir William,

The ordinary pressure of work at this part of the session has prevented me from answering sooner your letter of the 6th ult. I was also led to delay in expectation of your possibly taking some such action as is indicated in your "hope of any opportunity that may occur to meet in any degree ~~your~~ my wishes." I regret that you have not found such an opportunity.

I must also regret that you give such indefinite answers to the two very definite requests of my previous letter. I had requested you, in the first place, to state precisely what was the offensive accusation which you had charged me with making, and what was the evidence by which you were prepared to substantiate your charge. The only satisfaction you give me in reply is a vague reference to the expression, "baseless slander," which I had used in my last letter, and about the application of which you now believe that you were mistaken. With regard to this expression there need be no misunderstanding. What I called a slander is the accusation which you officially summoned me to answer in your letter of May 2nd, 1888, which you officially laid before the Board on the 5th of May following, and which I was again officially summoned by the Board to answer in the communication of May 7th. That accusation I called a slander, because, in the ordinary use of the term, a slander is any statement or report injurious to the reputation of the person to whom it refers; and I presume that a report, which represented me as subverting discipline and morals in the university, as violating Chapter X., Section 1, of the University Statutes, could only have been laid before the Board with the full knowledge, that it would inflict on me one of the most serious injuries to which an

honourable man can be subjected.

This slander I have called baseless, because that is a mere statement of a fact of which you are as perfectly aware as I am. You know that I have done everything that you and the Board can demand to prove that your accusation is, what I have called it, utterly baseless. From the first I have challenged the fullest inquiry into your accusation, and no obstacle has ever been placed in your way to prevent you from proving the very worst that could be proved against me; but you know that neither you nor any other man has ever made the faintest attempt to substantiate your accusation. You may persist in refusing to withdraw your accusation, and the Board may refuse to acquit me; but neither ~~the~~ you nor the Board can alter the fact, that the accusation was proved to be utterly destitute of foundation by the only method of proof which scientific or judicial procedure recognises as necessary or even, for many cases, possible.

There must be no misunderstanding on this subject, especially as ~~you threatened~~ in our last conversation you threatened to publish some document which professes to be a report of that address of mine, to which your accusation referred. If you believed that that document would be received as evidence by any body of intelligent and honourable men, it ought to have been brought forward when I challenged inquiry into your accusation; your reporter could then have been summoned to undergo cross-examination, and her testimony could have been corrected and amplified by that of others, who are prepared to give a very different representation of the tendency of my address from the one which you conveyed to the Board. But if you still believe that that document has any value as evidence, or if you

believe that you can procure from any other source evidence to prove that I have been guilty of violating any statute or regulation of the university, or any recognised obligation of professional life, then once more I solemnly call upon you to prosecute your accusation in the way that justice prescribes, by instituting a thorough official inquiry into the subject. If this renewed challenge is not accepted, then I repeat my request, — and what I ask is surely a very scanty measure of justice, — that you should withdraw your accusation in the same official way in which you brought it against me, and that you should adopt every reasonable means to repair the injury which the accusation has done.

There are injuries inflicted by such an accusation, which no generosity on your part can ever repair; but there is a slight reparation which the stingiest conception of justice must surely demand, and that is, that the record on this subject shall be so framed as to leave no doubt of the fact, that your accusation was proved to be utterly without foundation. Now, you are perfectly well aware, that the records of the Board, as they have been drawn up, omit the vaguest reference to this fact. This was surely a great enough wrong, but you are aware that the ~~records of the Board do not~~ wrong done to me by the records of the Board does not stop at this omission. While omitting to make the one record which justice required, the Board proceeded to pass a resolution which represents me as requiring to be warned against obstructing, or failing to support, you in carrying out the regulations of the university, against sending improper communications to newspapers on university subjects, against exciting disaffection among the students, or showing sympathy with disaf-

fection on their part. Now, at the moment when that resolution was drawn up it had been proved to the Board, that there was not the flimsiest little of evidence to justify ~~such the~~ representation which it contains. At that moment the Board knew that an accusation, which You had brought against me, had been proved to be utterly baseless. At that moment there was lying on the table of the Board my challenge for a full inquiry, not only into the matter of Your particular accusation, but into my whole academic life. If You and the Board believed that You had any reason for picking me out from the whole professoriate to be made the victim of the representation which the resolution in question contains, then You could have taken up my challenge, and proceeded to institute the necessary inquiry; but with my challenge lying unanswered on the table of the Board, there is no conceivable excuse which could justify the association of my name with any academical offence. If there would be an inexcusable falsehood involved in a resolution, warning Mr. Finley that a College Treasurer ought not to embezzle the funds with which he is intrusted, or Mr. Hugh McLennan, that a merchant ought not to swindle his customers, or Mr. Justice Church, that a judge ought not to accept bribes from suitors in his court, then in precisely the same sense there is an inexcusable falsehood involved in a resolution, which not only omits the fact that I had vindicated myself against Your accusation, but warns me not to commit offences of which You and the Board had it proved to Your satisfaction, that I was as innocent as any of Yourselves.

I do not think it necessary to dwell upon the second request of my previous letter. You make

no attempt to show how your own action could in a single instance have been calculated to promote my interests; and for the Board you can only refer to one minute, which accepts and enters in the records a letter of mine. It is surely significant that you say nothing of the previous transactions of the Board, and it is therefore unnecessary for me to say anything further. But with regard to the one minute which you have selected, I shall only ask, whether in your heart of hearts you believe that that minute embodies your highest conception of ~~truth~~ justice and truth, — whether you really ~~believe~~ believe that the Board has taken even the first step to fulfil the conditions on which my letter was accepted by "acting towards me as if I had never been even accused of violating any statute or regulation of the university."

What satisfaction you can find in the treatment which I have received at your hands and the hands of the Board during these three years, I am unable to imagine. But I offer you a nobler satisfaction by far, — the satisfaction of correcting a groundless accusation for which you alone are known to be responsible, — of undoing, to some extent at least, the injury which that accusation has done.

I write in view of the approaching meeting of the Board, and with the hope that you will not allow this matter to drag into another session, when you can close it at once in a manner which would certainly raise you in the esteem of all honourable men. But if you think that a more just or generous solution of this difficulty can be reached than the simple record of facts which I suggested in my last two letters, then I shall repeat the offer which I made informally in our last conversation. I am willing to refer the whole matter to the arbitration of Mr. Justice

Church; or, if you and the Board would rather settle it at once, I shall accept the arbitration of any of our other judges, — say, Mr. Justice Davidson, who, as far as I am aware, knows nothing of the subject at present, and cannot be in any way prejudiced in my favour.

Very truly yours,

Clark Murray

Sir William Dawson

Whereas the minutes of the Board of June 5th, June 27th, September 27th, November 6th in the year 1888, and of 11th May and December 20th in the year 1889, which refer to Professor Murray, have given rise to misapprehension, the Board resolves to record the following facts:—

1. That at a meeting of the Board on the 5th of May, 1888, the attention of the Board was called to a report that Professor Murray had delivered an address to the Delta Sigma Society, which was described as tending to excite the students against the Regulations of the University, and thereby to subvert good discipline and morals, in violation of the Statutes, Chapter X., Section 1;

2. That the Board accordingly summoned Professor Murray to send an answer to this report before its next meeting on the 12th of May;

3. That, at the meeting on the 12th, the Board received an answer from Professor Murray, in which he challenged the fullest inquiry into the ~~alleged~~ said report, even to the extent of examining every person who heard the address complained of, and challenged, moreover, the most searching scrutiny of his whole academic life to see if there could be any ground for ~~any~~ such complaint as had been brought against him;

4. That no person has ever offered to take up Professor Murray's challenge, and that absolutely no evidence has ever been offered to the Board to show that the said report had the slightest foundation in fact;

5. That therefore Professor Murray stands completely exculpated from from the charge brought against him in the said report, and that nothing in the minutes of the Board is to be understood as implying that the Board has ever had the slightest ground of complaint against Professor Murray as an officer of the University.