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Title: Letter from Hugh Henry Brackenridge to James Hamilton

Date: May 22, 1803

Location: RG 1/1 - 5.4.1

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Milwaukee, May 22. 1803.

Sir.

Let me be the architect is decisively for
stone as the materials of the college building.
Brick will rust as well as brick and
have the appearance of age. But this, in
either is with him no objection. He says
Painters in their drawings give even
new buildings, ~~give~~ the rust of Antiquity,
to make them venerable; and in
large buildings, and of a public na-
ture it is especially becoming.

But as to materials, he prefers
stone, as proper for a large edifice
giving it the appearance of strength.

You will see his plan which is
in my opinion an improvement of
that suggested by ourselves, and
his reasons prevail with me as to
throwing the entry to the North. In
that the main front will be turned
away from the main street, and the
necessaries two, will be in a
range with the center of the building
respectively of one and half story. The
upper part may be used for pigeon.

They may be placed at the distance of 50 or 75 feet the $\frac{1}{3}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$ the length of the edifice from it, and covered from the view or at least obscured by a clump of trees.

He has convinced me that a basement story of 6 feet above ground is necessary to give proportion to the elevation of the building and to give a proper elevation. In that case with the advantage of 4 or 5 feet under ground the Stewarts Apartments dining room &c will be in the basement story and supersede the necessity of other buildings.

The defect of the proposed basement story is the not being more than 2 or 3 feet above ground. It is too much a cellar, which judiciously done is in favour of what view for a roof the expense of which is $\frac{1}{3}$ more than it is.

As the building need not be completed but gradually, the outward walls & the roof first, there ought to be of the first consideration, and leave the expense of the whole out of the question. First to future occasion for the whole.

Imposed with a strong sense of the
importance of the plan which would
can be made, I have taken all pains
to secure the institution in this particular.

If the plan of Mr. Locke is adopted,
he will furnish working plans to the
utmost minutiae which will be of
great advantage.

I will be at home by the
6th of June and assist with any
article it may be in my power
to give.

Yours.

W. B. Drake

James

Hampton

At Carlisle

Pennsylvania

Wm. S. Lane

1843
A. H. Bachelder
22 May Phila



[Editor's Note: All strike-throughs and misspellings have been retained.]

Philad. May 22. 1803

Sir. Latrobe the architect is decisively for Stone as the materials of the College building. Bricks will rust as well as brick and have the appearance of age. But this, in either, is with him no objection. He says Painters in their drawings give even new buildings, gives the rust of Antiquity, To make them venerable; and in large buildings, and of a public nature it is especially becoming.

But as to materials, he prefers Stone, as proper for a large Edifice giving it the Appearance of Strength.

You will see his plan which is in my opinion an improvement of that suggested by ourselves, and his reasons prevail with me as to throwing the entry to the North. In that the main front will be turned away from the main street, and the necessaries two, will be in a range with the center of the building respectable of one and half story. The upper part may be used for pigeons.

They may be placed at the distance of 50 or 75 feet the $\frac{1}{3}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$ of the length of the edifice from it, and covered from the View or at least obscured by a clump of trees.

He has convinced me that a basement story of 6 feet above ground is necessary to give proportion to the elevation of the building and to give a proper elevation. In the case with the advantage of 4 or 5 feet under ground, the Stewarts Apartments dining room, etc. will be in the basement story and supersede the necessity of other buildings.

The defect of the Princeton basement story is the not being more than 2 or 3 feet above ground. It is too much a Cellar, which produces Damp. He is in favour of sheet iron for a roof the expense of which is $\frac{1}{3}$ more than Shingles.

As the building need not be completed but gradually, the outward walls & the roof first, These ought to be of the first consideration, and leave the expence of the whole out of the question. Trust to future occasion for the whole.

Impressed with a strong Sense of importance of the plan which never can be mended, I have taken all pains to serve the institution in this particular.

If the plan of Mr. Latrobe is adopted, he will furnish working plans to the utmost minuteness which will be of great advantage.

I will be at home by the 6th of June, and assist with any advice it may be in my power to give.

Yours.

H H Brackenridge