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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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Inlar. may 22 1803 Latrobe the austilect is decisively for Home as the materials of the college building Brish with rust as with as brish and I have the appearance of age But this in either is with him no tobretion. The fays Painten in their armings Sie even hew levilling, five the rust of antiquity Care buildings and ega finkluna ture it is especially becoming. But as to materials, to prefers Storie, as proper for a large Sofine giving it the affectione of thought. you will see his plan which is many Commien an improvement of hat suggested by ourselves, and mi reasons prevail with me as to throwing the entry to the North In that the main front will be turned aneny from the man theet, and the muchonies two well be in a range with the center of the building respectible of one find had thory The

May may be placed at the Distance of so or 75 feel the 1/2 or you the length of the Now on at least 60 sured by a Chump of The has convinced me that a basement story es le feel above from is necessary to frice propertion to the elevation of the limiteding and to five a proper elevation. In the lave with the advantue y y or & feel unde pour to devoits Capartoned during room de will be in the Casament Hory and Superiode the necessity of Other Cuitoning. The Defect of the Orinielou Carinent Mony is the not being more tran a or I ful whove found. It is too much a feller, which freduces Dany. Ho is in favour of sheet vior for a cooff the expense of whit is 1/2 more than Shirtley. Is the building need hot be Completed but proof first, There ought to be offer first consideration, and leave the enfance of the whole Out of the grantion Thust to future Buarion for the wholes.

Inputed with a strong Louis of the infolame of No felow whill recen con be melided, I have taken alepains to Tence the vistatution in this particular. A Hoplan of M Lohobe is adopted he will furnit working plans to the utmost this water wife which will be a fred acreant get be at home by he Che June and assist with any In about may be in my horses bywice yours. Am Bankon Bo

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[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 1/3 or 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 rooff the expense of which is 1/3 more than Shingles.

As the building need not be completed but gradually, the outward walls & the rooff 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