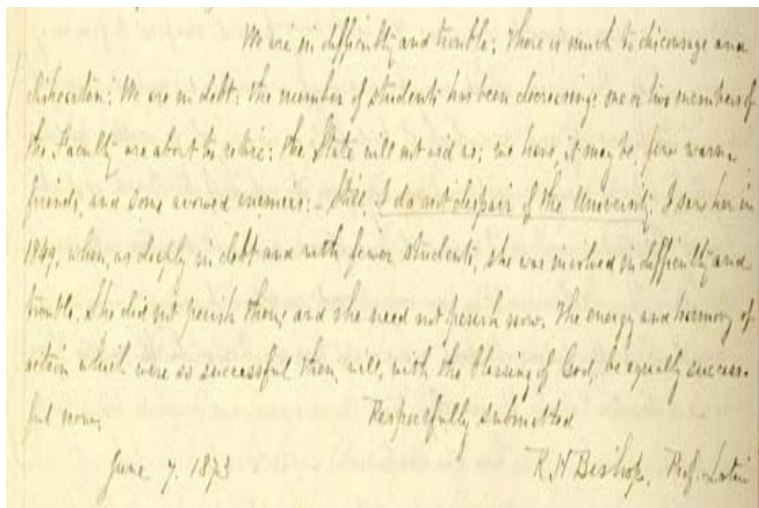


*"There Can Never Come
A Second Home Half So
Sacred:"*

*Selected Documents of Miami
University, 1873-1931*
Edited by Betsy Butler
Foreword by Kate Rousmaniere



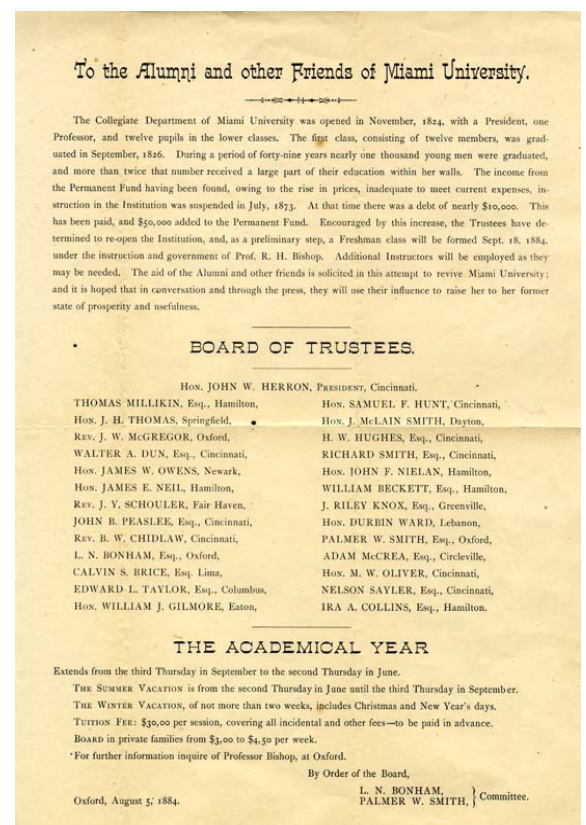
In April 1872, Miami University Professor Robert Hamilton Bishop, Jr. observed that everything was undergoing change – the State, the church, ways of doing business, of living, of teaching and governing, and especially at colleges like Miami University.

The Civil War and the years immediately following this historic conflict had a significant impact on Miami. Student enrollment had declined, so

without the support of tuition, paying operational expenses was a hardship. Debts, faculty resignations, and lack of financial support from the state of Ohio were facts about this struggling institution that the board of trustees couldn't ignore. On June 11, 1873, the trustees voted to close Miami's doors until further notice.

The next twelve years were spent soliciting donations from alumni and former students. Income from the college township in which the campus was located, a considerable amount of money had been accumulated as an endowment, and the state of Ohio made an appropriation to put the buildings and grounds into proper condition. Encouraged by all these events, the trustees decided to reopen the university in 1885. "New Miami" had arrived.

Miami may have recovered enough from its recent struggles to reopen, but one significant, but divisive, question of the day



remained: whether Miami should continue to be an all-men's college. In June 1887, the board of trustees decided to admit women.

In the first few years following the board's decision, the number of female students at Miami remained small; with student enrollment of about 200, no more than sixteen were women. However, in March 1902, the General Assembly enacted a bill authored by Representative Charles Seese of Akron that authorized Miami and other Ohio universities to establish new divisions for the professional preparation of teachers. These divisions were to be called Ohio State Normal Colleges. This led significant numbers of women to enroll.

By 1904, a third of Miami's students were women, so a new residence hall was necessary. When state funds were available for a new building, construction of Hepburn Hall began.



Miami's trustees chose to name the residence hall in honor of Andrew Hepburn, president of Miami University from 1871 to 1873, a professor in Miami's English department for many years, and the son-in-law of William Holmes McGuffey.

McGuffey's daughter, Henrietta McGuffey Hepburn, kept a journal which provides details of her life in Oxford. In her journal entry for June 14, 1905, Mrs. Hepburn documents the new residence hall's dedication, which was attended by future United States President William Howard Taft.

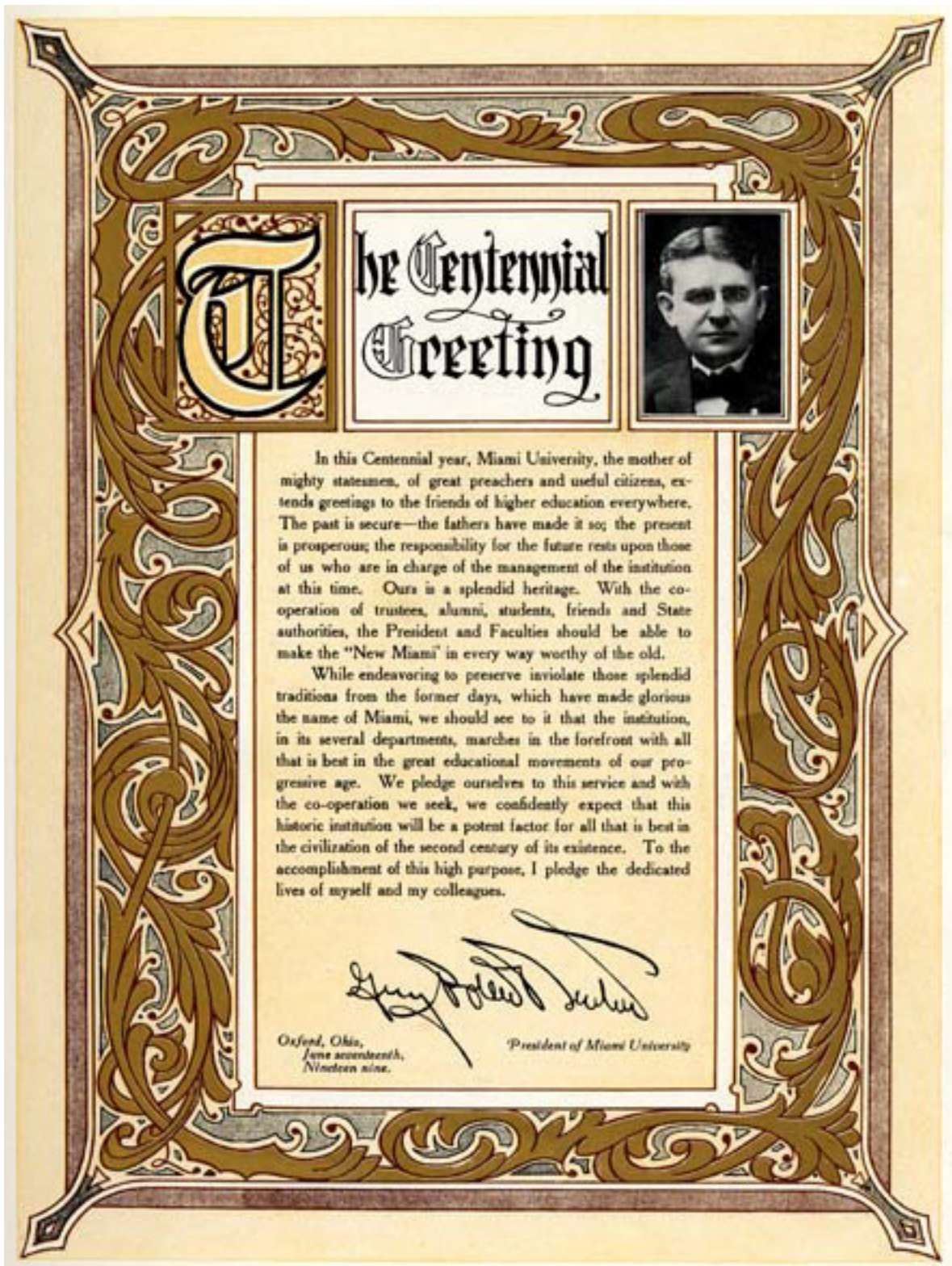
In the July 1909 Miami Bulletin, President Guy Putter Benton offered this greeting for the university's centennial:

"In this Centennial year, Miami University, the mother of mighty statesmen, of great preachers and useful citizens, extends greetings to the friends of higher education everywhere. The past is secure – the fathers have made it so; the present is prosperous; the responsibility for the future rests upon

June 14 05.

We had breakfast about 10 o'clock I had the three children dressed in their best clothes before breakfast. Charley and Julia came on the 12 past seven & the train. We all went to the Campus about nine o'clock so as to be there in time for the dedication of Hepburn Hall. which was to take place at 12 past nine. Train was late. Dedication did not take place until about ten. After that we went to the Tent to attend the Commencement Exercises. There were a number of speeches. Lect. Taft, was of course the important one. We took dinner in Hepburn Hall. Had a fine dinner. Charley, Julia and Janet returned to college. Nellie in the five P.M. train. Henrietta and Sam did not go.

those of us who are in charge of the management of the institution at this time. Ours is a splendid heritage. With the cooperation of trustees, alumni, students, friends and State authorities, the President and Faculties should be able to make the "New Miami" in every way worthy of the old."



The Centennial Greeting

In this Centennial year, Miami University, the mother of mighty statesmen, of great preachers and useful citizens, extends greetings to the friends of higher education everywhere. The past is secure—the fathers have made it so; the present is prosperous; the responsibility for the future rests upon those of us who are in charge of the management of the institution at this time. Ours is a splendid heritage. With the co-operation of trustees, alumni, students, friends and State authorities, the President and Faculties should be able to make the "New Miami" in every way worthy of the old.

While endeavoring to preserve inviolate those splendid traditions from the former days, which have made glorious the name of Miami, we should see to it that the institution, in its several departments, marches in the forefront with all that is best in the great educational movements of our progressive age. We pledge ourselves to this service and with the co-operation we seek, we confidently expect that this historic institution will be a potent factor for all that is best in the civilization of the second century of its existence. To the accomplishment of this high purpose, I pledge the dedicated lives of myself and my colleagues.

Lynd F. Schuler

Oxford, Ohio,
June seventeenth,
Nineteen nine.

President of Miami University



From a photograph album of Delta Kappa Epsilon members offers some insight into Miami student life from 1888 to 1891.

Mr. Swing
Dear Friend,
In one or two weeks I hope to see you Monday night. I know of no engagements or arrangements at that time and I hope to have a pleasant & homelike week from you. Monday as you say, is usually a pick-up dinner. But we now have to be ready for any emergency or we are picked up not the dinner.
I heard of Lot Clark through

Benjamin Harrison graduated from Miami University in 1852. The next year, he married Caroline Lavinia Scott Harrison, an Oxford native who was the second daughter of John Witherspoon Scott, a teacher and Presbyterian minister who founded the Oxford Female Institute. With Carrie at his side, Harrison became a lawyer, a Civil War veteran, and a United States Senator from Indiana.

Two months before her husband's inauguration as our 23rd president on March 4, 1889, Carrie confided her feelings about the changes ahead

to her friend, Miami alumnus David Swing. She wrote, "I hardly yet realize this changes that - I am going to make - I feel a good deal like the Doge of Venice on being carried a hostage to Paris and was asked what surprised him most replied - 'Myself in this place.'"

a luminous lady who was here - & had visited her in the Hospital. She is in a pretty bad state of health & much worried over her business affairs & her son for you know is studying for the Ministry at the Episcopal Seminary at Alexandria. He is going as a missionary to Brazil. & as his sweet heart won't go with him Lot feels as if she must. He expects to graduate & leave in June. She is not able to walk across the floor now but thanks by that time she will be fully recovered. I will tell you more fully of her when you come down. It will give us great pleasure to see you & have you here in our home, although I do expect to see you in Washington & hardly yet realize this change that I am going to make. I feel a good deal like the Doge of Venice on being carried a hostage to Paris. & was asked what surprised him most replied - "Myself in this place." Hoping to see you next Monday I am truly
Carrie! Harrison
Indianapolis
Jan 8/89

Inspired by Miami's impending centennial in 1909, university leaders and a building committee successfully sought a grant from benefactor Andrew Carnegie to construct a main library on its campus.

THE ALUMNI LIBRARY

Library made possible by initial gift from Mr. Andrew Carnegie of forty thousand dollars.

One hundred and fifty eight alumni, students, teachers and friends subscribed in amounts ranging from five thousand to five dollars.

Subscription of eighty thousand completed June, 1908.

Special building committee appointed June, 1908.

Ground broken December 2, 1908.

Corner stone laid by class of 1909, April, 1909.

The building is 95 by 97 feet and 70 feet high.

Occupied March 29, 1910.

Stack capacity 150,000 volumes.

Reading rooms seat 192 readers.

Six seminar rooms accommodate 84 readers.

Seven rooms are named in honor of the following alumni:
Patterson, '58; Reid, '56; Schenck, '64; Sayler, '52; Hunt, '64;
Smith, '58; Moore, '70.

SPECIAL BUILDING COMMITTEE

WALTER L. TOBEY
JAMES R. PATTERSON
JOHN R. SAYLER
OKEY V. PARISH
HORACE A. IRVIN
ELAM FISHER
WILLIAM F. ELTZROTH
GUY POTTER BENTON

ARCHITECT

FRANK L. PACKARD

CONTRACTORS

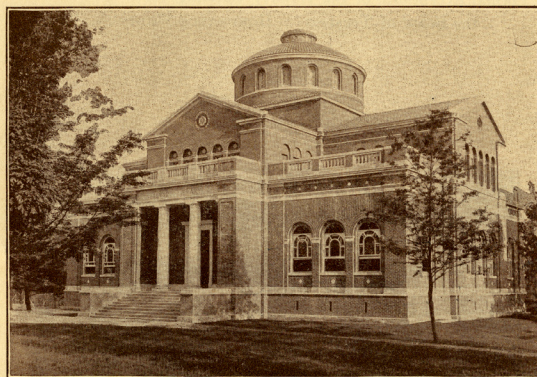
LUYSTER AND LOWES

1809

1910

One Hundred and First Year

MIAMI UNIVERSITY



DEDICATION OF THE ALUMNI LIBRARY

THE CAMPUS

THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE SIXTEENTH, 9:30

Designed by Columbus, Ohio architect Frank Packard, the Alumni Memorial Library was the most lavish building on campus. During its June 16, 1910 dedication, Miami's acting president, Raymond Hughes, pronounced the center of intellectual activity on the campus as "the greatest blessing and the most valuable asset of the University." This commemorative program documents remarks made by Professor Andrew D. Hepburn, facts about the building, members of the building committee, and photographs of some of its features.



Miami University presidents have been fortunate to receive correspondence from some significant figures in American history.

For example, Miami University President Guy Potter Benton received this May 2, 1904 letter from Warren G. Harding.

THE MARION STAR,
BY W. G. HARDING,
MARION, OHIO.

May 2/04

Dr. Guy Potter Benton
Oxford, Ohio.

My Dear Sir:

For my kind letter of the 26th ult. is upon me. I much appreciate the kind things you say, and thank you. I certainly wish you distinguished success, and noting your achievement will be glad to have known you.

Sincerely yours
W. G. Harding

MIAMI UNIVERSITY
OXFORD, OHIO

PERCY MACKAYE
FELLOW IN DRAMATIC LITERATURE

— 25 Dec. 1900 —

My dear Raymond Hughes

I think I must take this freshly arrived sheet of letter-head paper and dedicate it to you,

telling it tell you (if it can) how happy I find myself in this Fellowship at Miami, which came to me at your invitation, and how glad I am of your comradeship and counsel.

To Mrs. Hughes, personally and all yours
a very "Merry Christmas" from Percy MacKaye
and me and all of us!

Percy MacKaye

Miami University holds the distinction of being the first university in the United States to offer a fellowship in creative art. With the help of Miami President Raymond Hughes, Percy Wallace MacKaye (1875-1956) lived and worked at Miami from 1920 to 1924. A graduate of Harvard University, MacKaye was a writer of poetry and drama. MacKaye did not have any teaching or formal duties at Miami, but it was hoped that he would come into close contact with students. While at Miami, MacKaye wrote "America Untamed" and "This Fine, Pretty World."

MacKaye became a spokesman for his appointment at Miami. In his essay, "University Fellowships in Creative Art" (The Forum, June 1921), MacKaye asked, "If it be worth while for a university to provide opportunity to study living author's work, may it not be equally worth while to provide opportunity for the author to create it?"

These selections show us just how much Miami was changing during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Whether the issue involved the curriculum, the student body, the faculty, social or academic concerns, these writings by Miami's administrators, alumni and friends demonstrate a deep loyalty and

respect for Miami University's past, present and future. As Miami alumnus David Swing wrote on May 15, 1886, for all of those who have passed time in Oxford during "life's most susceptible period," "there can never come a second home half so sacred."



403 Superior Street
Chicago.

Dear friend Professor Bishop
Last summer Mr
McSurdy told me that the
committee on addresses
would nominate me for
speaker, himself for alternate.
I never heard of the
matter again, until early
in March, Miles Johnson
of Cincinnati asked me if
I were to address the Alumni.
I told him, No. He said
he would inform you

of my inability - you or
McSurdy - I forget which.
I cannot attend the
Commencement services.
I hope to visit the
new Oxford a little later
in the summer. On that
week of June 23. I have
duties at home that will
keep me here.
—
I am inwardly
quite happy over the
new touches the
college buildings and

grounds have received. To
one who passed eighteen
years and thirty summers
in Oxford in life's most
susceptible period, there can
never come a second
home half so sacred.
With love to everybody
yours
David Swing
May 15-1886 -

Copies of "There Can Never Come a Second Home Half So Sacred": Selected Documents of Miami University, 1873-1931 may be purchased for \$12.50 + \$5.00 shipping and handling. Make checks payable to: Miami University Libraries. Send check and shipping information to: Janet Stuckey, The Walter Havighurst Special Collections, Miami University Libraries, 321 King Library, Oxford, OH 45056.