

May 3, 1918.

Dear Miss Corbett:

On Wednesday morning about eleven o'clock Miss Cleveland called me on the telephone at my home and told me that she understood President McVea, of Sweetbriar College, would come on the B. & O. train that morning--which I presume had already come/was soon to come--to be your guest at the school. I ~~immediately~~ ~~ix~~ came over to the office as soon as I could, which I think was certainly not later than 11:30 o'clock, if that late. I remained in the office until 12:30, hurried home to dinner and back again, getting here about 2 p. m. and remaining for the rest of the afternoon until 6 o'clock.

My understanding has always been that the head of one institution visiting another institution either writes beforehand and gives notice of his visit or else makes it a point to call immediately upon arrival at the office or home of the head of the institution. Since President McVea failed to do this, I presumed that she considered her call a purely personal one relating to you and not to the institution. However, I had hoped you would come with her to the office to speak to me and permit me to welcome her to our school. For this reason I made it a point to be in my office during the above hours, which I understood covered the entire time she was here except the few minutes from the arrival of the train ~~at~~ 11:30 and during the dinner hour.

My inclination was to hunt her up and speak to her anyhow, to welcome her here, as she had never been here before, but I felt that institutional courtesy demanded that I remain in my office and await her call. I felt that if I did otherwise she might think I was interfering where I had no business or was not wanted. I naturally felt the same about you, that if you had wanted me to see your guest you would have brought her to my office, or asked me to call upon her somewhere else. Since you did not bring her to me or ask me to come to her, I felt that the matter upon which she came must be a purely personal one, and I refrained from imposing myself upon you.

I greatly regret that I did not ~~have~~ opportunity to see President McVea while at our school, but I am sure she was treated cordially and hospitably by those whom she did see. I presume you did not think the occasion demanded that I see her. It has, however, given me some surprise that you have not mentioned the visit of President McVea to me, but I presume we have both been so busy that you have not had the opportunity to do so.

Very sincerely yours,