

47-M-67

Leffington, July 8<sup>th</sup>, 1886.

President Jas. R. Patterson,

Dear Sir:

Your letter, which was received yesterday, greatly surprised me. We have just passed through one of the most quiet & pleasant sessions we have had since I have been connected with the institution. I will now answer the charges brought against the management of the College Home.

1<sup>st</sup> I have fulfilled the duties of a Matron, as far as I knew what they were, faithfully, & conscientiously.

2<sup>d</sup> I did not visit the sick owing to advice given by Col Phelps & on one occasion by Dr. Poyar. They thought my presence in the sick room would be embarrassing to the patient & not needed. The food sent them was

sent according to written orders from Col Phelps & he received them in most cases from the Dr.

3<sup>d</sup> The preparation of the food for the mess hall was supervised by myself & I consider that both kitchen, & dining room, were kept clean, at any rate as clean as my force of servants would allow.

4<sup>th</sup> I am not aware that there was any lack of interest on my part in the management of the College House. It is true I was not working for glory. The salary had its influence but I feel I was conscientious in my duties, & on looking back I feel I did the best I knew how.

5<sup>th</sup> I did not eat with the students. Very few housekeepers with much fewer guests than I had have time to eat with their boarders. While the students ate I was busy attending to their wants. But my husband

daughter & myself ate at the same table later, & partook of the same food with the students. If occasionally, there were extra dishes we paid for them. The boys had the same privilege.

Hoping to hear from you soon  
I remain

Respectfully  
Mrs B. P. Ryland

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and arduous and that the most dutiful and the most conscientious must sometimes feel to give the satisfaction required. They believe however that your former experience enables you to bring to the discharge of your delicate and responsible <sup>duties</sup> qualifications which many do not possess. They beg also to assure you that in the discharge of these duties they will give you a cheerful and generous support.

Yours truly  
Geo. K. Patterson

State College of  
Kentucky.  
President's Room.

Lexington, Ky., July 10 1886

Mrs. B. P. Payland  
Madison College Home.

Dear Madam,

Your favor of the 7<sup>th</sup> inst. was received and submitted to Judge Kincaid and Capt. Nicholas.

In view of your answer and explanations they do not think that sufficient ground exists to warrant any further investigation. They are of opinion that under economic management excellent plain board can be provided at \$2.25, well cooked and properly served.

They believe also that no reasonable effort should be spared to make the students feel that the Department over which your management and control should be indeed a College Home. How this can best be effected must be left very largely to you.

one discontinue. They would advise however that the matron visit frequently the rooms of students who are sick, in order that her presence may manifest the sympathy which goes for so much with young people away from home. They are of opinion that the frequent presence of the matron in the sick room must have an undoubtedly happy effect not only upon the patient but upon those who are well. The original intention was that the family of the matron should take their meals with the students. The humanizing and refining influences of a family and of family associations is much needed upon young men isolated as the occupants of the dormitory largely must be from the companionship of the gilder set and emancipated from the ordinary restraints of social life. By the means resorted to the morals and the manners of the young men would no doubt be greatly benefited.

They know that your duties are manifold

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State College of  
Kentucky,  
President's Room.

Lexington, Ky., July 10 1886

discharge of the duties allotted to you. They will at  
all times give you a cheerful and generous  
support.

Yours truly,  
James R. Patterson

Mrs B. P. Ryland,

Dear Madam,

Your favor of the 7<sup>th</sup> inst. was received, and  
was at once submitted to Judge Kimbark and  
Capt. Nicholas.

In view of your explanation and answer they  
do not consider it expedient to direct or advise  
any investigation. They see no reason to question  
the truth of your statement that you have  
endeavored to discharge your duties conscien-  
tiously.

They are of opinion that under economic man-  
agement excellent plans board can be provided  
at \$2.25 per week well cooked and  
properly served.

They believe also that in reasonable effort  
should be spared to make the students feel  
that the Department of the Institution committed  
to your management is a College Home.

Holding this view they cannot concur in the advice that the Matron should not visit the rooms of those students who are sick. On the contrary they believe that the frequent presence of the Matron in the sick room must have an undoubtedly happy effect not only on the patient but upon those who are well. A proper sense of propriety will always enable the Matron to determine when her visits to the rooms of the sick would be inappropriate.

The original intention was that the family of the Matron should eat with the students, the humanizing and refining influence of a family and of family associations is much needed upon boys away from home, and the morals and manners of the occupants of the dormitory would be greatly improved by the means contemplated. They know that your duties are arduous and that the most diligent and conscientious administration will sometimes fail to please all. They believe however that your former experience enables you to bring qualifications which many do not possess to the