Dear President Budd:

I was delighted to hear from you and your suggestion that the new dormitory for women possibly be named for father brought great joy to me. I think I can safely speak for all the members of our family in saying that we would be delighted to have it so named.

Unfortunately I am away from all the family records which I keep at my home in St. Cloud, but I have written to my older sister in Los Angeles who has her records there and she will soon send either direct to you, or thru me, some of the facts you may want in presenting this idea.

Recently I gave to Helen Hill for her office a document signed by the Governor of Minnesota at that time, appointing father as Resident Director, that would have a date on it.

Father came to Minnesota when he was a young boy and living there all his life, his chief interest was in building up the city and The St. Cloud Normal School (which it was called in those early days) was a main interest. In those early days, it required not only father's constant work but also mother's gracious entertaining to get the appropriations necessary to carry on. As a child I can recall the many important people entertained at the house, not only the legislators, etc., but always the speakers or entertainers who were appearing at the school.
Even in the latter years when father was no longer resident director, faculty and students from the college were constantly entertained at the house. Often people I no longer know, will speak of the fact that their first Sunday dinner was at our house, or their first party in St. Cloud or some such memory.

Of course, having a dormitory for women on that property where our house stood is most appropriate, since seven girls were raised there, only one brother.

I have always liked to realize that the very last time father ever did anything away from the house—was an occasion in connection with the college. He placed the papers in the cornerstone of a new building— I think it was Stewart Hall. He was almost too weak to attempt to do it, but his desire was so strong that he made it.

Forgive this rambling personal letter but not having the facts and figures here to give you— I couldn't resist sending you these personal memories of his connection with the college.

I am still looking forward to meeting you—Helen Hill often said she was bringing you to Grandmother's Garden so we could meet, but it didn't happen. Next time I return home I shall look and hope for better luck.

Sincerely,

Patte H. Mitchell

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