

1909

B052/F07: Correspondence July 1909-December 1909 G (357-363)

Edward Miner Gallaudet

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Gallaudet, E.M. Correspondence -

July 1909 Folder 7
December 1909 "G"
=357-363=

Box 52

GALLAUDET COLLEGE,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

I have written
Mr. Garo asking
him whether there
pamphlets are.
If he answers,
please send
2 copies as
below.

A.F.D.

July 23rd

Branford 1909

Dear Anne: Yours of the 21st recd. Thanks for the statistics. The report in which Miss Herring's name appears is dated Oct 1908 & contains the names of all the new students of that fall.

This has been our custom for years. I am surprised you do not find copies of the Prinli Monograph in the closet,

Mr. Garo found some for me not very long ago. I thought they came from the closet. They must be in the Document Room. If you find them there please mail 2 copies to Mr. J. C. Schwab, Yale University Library, New Haven, Conn.

I return Mrs. Ferrabee's letter, to be answered as you suggest. I had a satisfactory

letter from Mr. Allison yesterday.
Herbert & I are off
for Saratoga tomorrow —

I have given you my
address there for next week,
& Hurricane N.Y. for the following
week. I suppose you will
be off for Haven soon.

Let me hear from
you when you get there.
Yours as always

A&D,

I am doing very well in all
respects. We had a lovely
sail yesterday the prospect
of which I think I mentioned
in my last.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON

Hendersonville, N. C.,
September 10, 1909

Dr. E. M. Gallaudet,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Dr. Gallaudet:

There is a young man, William Oscar Hunter, of McDowell County, N. C., a constituent of mine, who is deaf and is a graduate of the North Carolina School for the Deaf and Dumb at Morganton, N. C. I have a letter from Dr. Goodwin, the superintendent of that institution, stating that Mr. Hunter is ready to enter Gallaudet College. I understand that, with my endorsement, he will be admitted free, and I take pleasure in endorsing his application for admission, and respectfully request that he be allowed to enter free.

Respectfully,

John G. Grant

De adm.
Hunters
nc.

WASHINGTON

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

=3597

North Carolina School  for the Deaf and Dumb

Morganton, North Carolina Sept. 11, 1909.

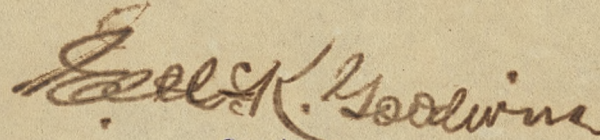
Dr. E. M. Gallaudet,
Kendall Green,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Gallaudet:--

William Oscar Hunter, who has passed his college examination, will apply for admission at your opening. I enclose endorsement of Representative John G. Grant, for his admission free. Mr. Hunter is a boy of fine character, and I trust will do well. My only fears concerning him is his lack of physical strength.

Yours truly,

Dist.


Supt.

Jacksonville, Ill., Sept. 12, 1909
 Dr. E. M. Gallaudet,
 Washington D. C.,

Dear Friend:

Last May one of the descendants of my grandfather, Dudley Webster, made the curious discovery that the latter, before he emigrated to Richmond, Ky. in 1819 and married a second time in 1822, had already been married in New Hampshire, and had had a son named George Webster who was deaf. None of those connected with my grandfather's second marriage were ever cognizant of this previous marriage. My grandfather lived in Richmond until his death ^{in 1861} and had nine children. He lived a perfectly honorable life, was a consistent church member, and was universally respected by his fellow-townsmen, but for some unaccountable reason he wrapped his early family history in impenetrable mystery. One of his grandsons above alluded to, in an effort to trace his lineage, got into correspondence with one Mr. Sharples of Boston, Mass., who has been making extensive inquiries concerning the various branches of the Webster families ^{in New England}, and who has recorded a list of 10,000 individuals of that name, and from him he learned the above facts concerning my grandfather. My grandfather was born in 1787 near Laconia, N. H., within 10 miles of the birthplace of Daniel Webster, who was born at Franklin N. H. (formerly Salisbury)

on Jan 18, 1782. My grandfather always returned evasive replies to his children's inquiries as to whether he were related to Daniel or not, but it is known that a close intimacy existed between the two, and that they corresponded ^{many years} with each other, and that one of my grandfather's children was named Daniel Webster. According to data furnished by Mr. Sharples, however, there is no evidence of close consanguinity between the two. My grandfather was a son of Nathaniel Webster of Gilmanton N. H. That is the sum total of my information concerning my grandfather, and my information is not entirely trust-worthy at that. I am feeling interested in my cousin's efforts to wrest his family antecedents from the obscurity which enshrouds them, and I have commenced a campaign of tracing down the descendants of this deaf son, George Webster.

I first applied to Supt Job Williams, and he wrote me that the records of the American School show that one George Webster was admitted from Warner N. H. in 1833 and ^{he} had three sisters and no brothers. In the list of pupils of this school given in Vol. IV of the Annals his age at admission is given as 22. According to data furnished by ^{Mr.} Sharples, he was born at Warner N. H. Dec 26, 1810. His mother was Deborah Ordway of Warner N. H. When she died George was placed in care of her relations ^{at Warner}.

Mr. Sharples was unable to ascertain what became of my grandfather after his first wife's death until my cousin informed him of his career at Richmond Ky. He conducted a tailoring establishment there many years and subsequently became hotel proprietor. According to Mr. Sharples, George Webster married Caroline Danforth in 1841. This is presumably a hearing woman. She died in 1869. In 1870 he was married again to Lydia Macomber who was admitted to the American School in 1832 from Westport, Mass. George Webster died at Panacook (or Penacook) N.H. in 1891, aged 81 years. His second wife died in 1892, aged 81 years.

The names of George Webster's sisters were Lucy, Jane and Maria. The names of his parents do not appear on the records of the American school, but there is a memorandum instructing the authorities at Hartford to write to the chairman of the selectmen at Warner, N.H. for his clothing, showing that those who had the care of him were in dependent circumstances. The Annals in Vol. 4 mentions that he was married and was a mechanic (probably in the iron works in the vicinity of his home.) The records at Hartford show that the father of Lydia Macomber, George Webster's ~~first~~ second wife was named John; she had three brothers, Alva, Clarkson, Leonard and three sisters Elizabeth, Hannah and Olive. Olive was also deaf and she entered school in 1840. Most of these persons,

if living today would be nearly 100 years old, and I presume they are all dead now, but, as George Webster and his wife lived as late as 1891 and 1892, there ought to be some deaf people living somewhere in New England who were acquainted with them and to whom I might apply for information concerning them and their descendants with the ultimate object of gaining further information concerning my grandfather. They left school in 1837 and 1836 respectively, and you must have seen them but you were a mere child and I can not expect you to have any recollection of them as pupils at Hartford I have made an enumeration and I find that I am related by blood or marriage with no less than ten deaf persons. I am astonished! It was a long time before I knew that there were any more than my father, my mother and myself so situated. It happens that W. L. Hill of Athol Mass is the only deaf person in all New England whose address I have at hand. Mr. Williams referred me to Mr. W. E. White of Nashua ^{N.H.} I wrote to ~~of~~ him but I have been a long time awaiting reply. Now I wish to ask of you the favor of making inquiries of Prof. Hotchkiss, Prof. Draper Mr. Denison Mr. Ballard and of the students from New England for the names and addresses of deaf persons in New England who are likely to give me information that will result in my getting in touch with the descendants of George

Webster or any of the Maccombers.

George Webster was the half uncle of Webster George.

Thanking you in advance for any assistance
you may render in my inquiries I am

Very truly yours

Dudley Webster George

H. L. GODWIN,
SIXTH DIST. NORTH CAROLINA.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON

Dunn, N. C., Sept. 18th, 1909.

Dr. E. M. Gallaudet, President
Gallaudet College,
Washington, D. C.,

Dear Sir:-

I beg to address you in behalf of Miss Orpha Prevatt, a mute daughter of Rev. F. A. Prevatt of my Congressional district.

I understand Miss Prevatt has completed the course at Morganton, N. C., and now desires to enter your college to continue her studies. Her father, while a man of the highest character, is not financially able to pay her tuition, and I have been informed that on my recommendation she can obtain a free scholarship from you. In this connection I desire to state that she enjoys the confidence and esteem of all the people who know her, and I cheerfully recommend that you grant her a free scholarship in your College. If you desire further information I shall be glad to furnish it.

Very truly yours,

H. L. Godwin
M. C. 6th N. C. District.

3612

Miss Prescott

3627



WILLIAM E. GLASSCOCK
GOVERNOR

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
GOVERNOR'S OFFICES
CHARLESTON

October 1, 1909.

Prof. E. M. Gallaudet,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Professor,-

I have yours of September 24th recommending Mr. S. T. Walker of Portland, Oregon as principal for the Deaf and Blind Schools at Romney in this State, and shall be very glad to consider the same before making an appointment.

Yours very truly,

W. E. Glasscock



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
GOVERNOR'S OFFICES
CHARLESTON

WILLIAM E. GLASSCOCK
GOVERNOR

October 27, 1909.

Dr. E. M. Gallaudet,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Doctor,-

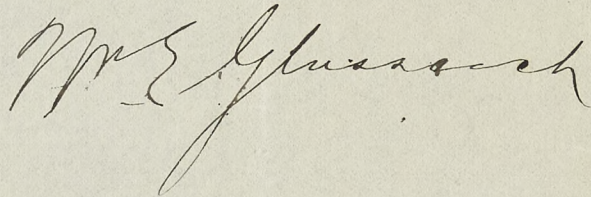
I have read with interest your favor of October 25th in regard to the application of Mr. S. T. Walker of Portland, Oregon for appointment as Principal of the Schools for the Deaf and Blind at Romney in this State, and am glad to know that you feel a special interest in this West Virginia School.

Mr. Walker is doubtless all that you think he is but one of the questions which I have to decide is whether or not it would be wise to bring a man into this State as Principal of this School knowing as I do that there would be more or less prejudice against him, and he would have an up-hill fight for a while at least, and in the second place I must have at the head of this institution a man of more or less business capacity. The Principal can employ teachers qualified to do their work but unless the man at the head of the institution has business qualifications I fear that his work could not be very successful.

You probably know that there has been a great deal of trouble at the Romney institution and I am extremely anxious to get a man who can allay the feeling that has existed there for some

time against the head of the institution and at the same time
render efficient services to the inmates or to the boys and
girls who attend the same.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "W. E. Glasscock". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed closing "Yours very truly,".