

Middlebury, Vermont, Nov. 19, 1923

Doctor Vincent Ravi-Booth,
Bennington, Vermont

My dear Doctor Ravi-Booth:-

I have been greatly interested in the project for a college at Bennington, and while I know nothing as to the present status of this letter may possibly prove helpful.

I became acquainted this fall with a young woman of exceptional attractiveness and ability. She is Miss Florence Angell, a Smith College graduate of (I think) the Class of 1911, and for some six years after her graduation an assistant to the Dean of Smith, Miss Ada Comstock, now President of Radcliffe. She went from Smith to war service in France, and now has just returned from two years in Hawaii and China. Her age, I believe, is thirty-four.

I felt so strongly that her abilities and experience should be turned again into academic channels that, with your project at college in my mind, I wrote to three people, whose judgments would be weighty, asking for their estimates of Miss Angell's fitness for an executive position in a college for women. (I made no reference to any particular institution, though I have

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since told President Comstock the one I had in mind.) These three people are President Comstock, President Wilson, who was at Smith for one year before Miss Angell went to France, and Miss Cornelia Reese, a co-worker with Miss Angell at Smith and now connected with the Provost's office at Yale. Their replies are most interesting, and confirm to the full the estimate that I had made.

As I said at the outset, I do not know just where your project stands, but I do know that when a certain stage of development has been reached you will in all probability have a very large number of applicants for each position to be filled. I have thought, therefore, that it might be of great service to you - and at the same time give myself pleasure - by bringing Miss Angell to your notice thus early. I feel sure that she would prove of great value, from the initial stages of an enterprise such as yours right through to its completion, and a personal, first-hand knowledge of all that had gone before would of course increase her effectiveness when once the institution was actually in operation.

If you wish, then, to have me do so, I shall be most happy to send you copies of the letters of which I have told you.

With best wishes, and with pleasant memories of your Middlebury visits, I am
Sincerely yours, Charles B. Wright