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1757 K Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C., January 24, 1916.

My dear Miss Tarbell:

When you gave your delightful paper before the American Historical Association, I questioned the date which you assigned to the closing of the High School for Girls in Boston.

I had occasion to look this matter up hastily in early December, and I consulted the only book then at hand, Dr. R. G. Boone's "Education in the United States". On pages 362-363 of this work, in a foot-note, Boone says, "Mayor Quincy in closing the Girls' High School, Boston, (1822) after ^a years' trial said, 'It is just as impossible to give classical education to all the girls of a city whose parents would wish them to be thus educated at the expense of the city as to give such a one to all the boys at the city's expense; no funds of any city could endure the expense of it'."

I have been interested to ^{go} ~~give~~ back ^{of} ~~all~~ Dr. Boone's dates, and send you some material which you ^{may} ~~probably~~ already have. Josiah Quincy was silent under criticism which was evoked by closing the school until he came to ^{take} ~~his~~ leave of the ^{office} ~~office~~ of the Mayor. Dr. Boone has quoted a portion of his address, and has not given, it seems to me, a fair quotation.

In the report of the Boston school committee, ¹⁸⁶⁵ page 54, I find this statement, "On the 10th of May, 1825, the School

Board appointed a committee to consider the expediency and practicability ^{to} ~~to~~ ^{re}establish a High School for Girls. This committee on the 22nd of June, made a report in favor of the plan, mentioning among its advantages that it would furnish accomplished teachers for the primary schools. An appropriation of \$2,000 was obtained from City Governments and the school went into operation. It encountered great opposition and continued but a short time. It was said to take away the best scholars and to lower the standards of scholarship. On the 17th of November, 1826, the School Committee voted not to reestablish the High School for Girls on the original plan. The effect of this movement" (and this is my reason for quoting this report to you) " was to extend the time during which girls were ~~allowed~~ ^{admitted} to attend school and to add to the list of their studies. In 1825, they were permitted to attend school during the whole year" (eight months attendance in a year at primary school had been held as sufficient for girls up to this time) "and in 1830 separate schools for girls were established".

The Normal School for girls was opened in 1852 and in 1853 this came to be known as the Girls' High and Normal School.

It should be borne in mind that the standard of grammar schools or "common schools" as Josiah Quincy calls them was very high in Boston, so that the committee report declares that Boston should be credited with having twelve high schools.

I really must apologize for sending this material to you, but I find it vastly interesting and have renewed respect for versatile old Josiah Quincy.

With most sincere regards,

Faithfully yours,

Alice H. George

(Mrs. A. J. George.)