First-twenty acres in Canton which the undersigned have purchased and secured. These undersigned were four of the towns leading business men. There names are to be found in Mrs. Whitman's papers, of which there is a copy in the St. Lawrence envelope.

Second - a building not to cost over $11,500 and to be complete in the autumn of 1856. The "denomination of Christians generally known as Universalists" signed this document in October 24, 1855. And the Theological School was assured if they could get the money. One of the most interesting things in the box of papers are the reports of the contributions made - scores of names from all over the State - a rare $50.00 - a rare $25.00 - but usually it is $5.00 a year for five years. Agents of the college must have gone far and wide to get the money.

Of course much of it was never paid. You find as you run over the hurried and crudely kept statements a note saying that this or that subscriber has died, moved, cannot be found, or that perhaps that he is in such a hard situation himself that you cannot expect him to give anything to you. The "insolvent" school of course was sadly crippled by the coming on of the war. Then, too, all of the agents that began to raise money did not hold out. There was what seems to be one serious defalcation and there are tangled accounts. A man collects money, puts it in his pocket, forgets to enter it on the books, the donor is told that he has not paid his subscription, he is indignant. The agent is called to account and probably quite frankly says, "Well I must have forgotten it." Going over these old papers gives one a certain respect for careful bookkeeping. I should judge that the

Digital Image, 2011, The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library.

reputation of more than one good Unit~~arian~~versalist, possibly even the Clergyman, was injured by his inability to account for money which he probably received.

It is a fascinating story that the old papers, so long hidden away, on the top floor of a factory which came down in less than a fortnight after they were rescued by Mr. Ellsworth, have to tell.

Nothing is more touching, dramatic than the story of the founding and the raising of the money of St. Lawrence, ~~is~~ college the story as you get it from these old papers of the devotion and sacrifice of the first President, of what is now the College of St. Lawrence.

~~There is~~ The Theological School of which the people of Canton, or rather the Unitarian Church of Canton, secured in 1855, was quickly supported by an academic institution. The Church realized that the candidates ~~were~~ for its ministry - few of them ~~got~~ properly educated. Therefore, they decided that they must have in connection with their Seminary a school preparing them with ~~something with~~ as good a college education as they could obtain.

A charter was secured from the State of New York with an appropriation of $25,000, ~~that~~ the building which was to ~~have been~~ be built by the town, for the Theological School ~~should~~ housed also the new college. And so in 1859 a college was opened. The first President of the new University was a young man who for several years had ~~lived~~ sent tangent in what was known as the Green Mountain Liberal ~~Academy~~ Institute in So. Woodstock, Vermont. Among the papers there is a small page announcement of what the ~~college~~ academy had to offer and the names of the faculty. It announces that the Green Mountain Liberal Institute was "conducted on the principles

Digital Image, 2011. The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library.

of social and religious equality." And here is its ideal of government, "Moderation and decision characterize the government of the institution." Lee came at a salary of $700.00 a year - not always paid, unhappily. The story of their coming is in the paper read by Mrs. Whitman. (A copy of this is in the St. Lawrence envelope.)

One colorful incident in connecting with the founding of the institution was furnished by the Rev. J.R.Hale, the Pastor of the Presbyterian Church, of Canton. Apparently a number of the Rev. Hale's parishoners had contributed to the new enterprise on the theory that it was a good thing for Canton. But he knew the dangers in an institution devoted to the unholy doctrine of the Unitarian Church. It meant the downfall of the town. So he preached a sermon. It must have been at least three hours long - began in the morning and continued in the afternoon - against the whole enterprise, beseeching those of his congregation who had already contributed to cancel or refuse to pay the sum pledged. Reasons for deploring the coming of the Thelogical School was first - that Canton was to become known as the home of the Universalist College. That it stood on a hill and could not be overlooked. Second - that it would bring Professors into the town, more or less distinguished visitors. The residents of the town would be interested in hearing them. You can see that the Reverend gentleman saw his congregation dwindling, because of the superior attraction of new men. Third - the young people would attend the college. They would be inoculated with the evil doctrines. Four - their daughters would marry students, they would become interested in the principles of those students, and would be lost to heaven.

Digital Image, 2011, The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library.

This sermon, a copy of which is in Mr. Ellsworth's files is a remarkable document, which ought to have a prominent place in the historical records of St. Lawrence. Of course evertyhing that Dr. Hale prosphesied came true. People did go to hear the distinguished visitors and the Professors. They did invite them to their house - their young peopbe did attend college - their daughters did marry the students.

Moreover, the whole Presbyterian Church gradually came to be an ally of the school. In 1880 when Dr. Hervey was inaugurated the college auditorium was either out of commission or considered not large enough and the Presbyterian Church was used by the invitation of its board people.

Moreover, two of Dr. Hale's own nephews graducated later from at St. Lawrence - and the man who now holds the pulpit in the town is a graduate of the institution. I forgot to note in proper order that Dr. Hale refused to go to the laying of the cornerstone of the new buildings.

Digital Image, 2011, The Ida M. Tarbell Collection, 1890-1944, Allegheny College Pelletier Library.