

Dec. 23rd, 1901.

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(Mr. A. Carnegie.)

than in Oberlin. There is a spirit of democracy and liberality about the whole place which I know would commend itself to you.

Oberlin is already the largest school between Cornell College on the east and Michigan University on the west and receives more students from outside the state of Ohio than all the other Ohio colleges combined. It is a desirable location - for an important university, and if better equipped with funds, it would at once rank among the very first schools of this country.

The special need of the college is a better equipped library. The library now plays a much more important place in college education than it did thirty-five years ago when I was educated. The professors make a special point of instructing their pupils how to use books, and many studies are almost entirely conducted by methods which require the students to make very liberal use of the books of the library. This makes it necessary that the library should be well equipped, and especially that it should be supplied with all of the latest works on historical scientific and philosophical subjects, and that it should be provided with several copies of some of these works.

At present, the library is located in a building quite insufficient for its use, as it is crowded to its fullest capacity, and the funds at the disposal of the library committee only yield a little over \$1,000.00 a year for the purchase of new books. The library ought to be