

3-13-1890

Stephen D. Lee Papers

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Agricultural and Mechanical College,

OF MISSISSIPPI.

T. F. WATSON, Secretary and Purchasing Agent.

Agricultural College, Miss.,

March 13th 1890

Genl S D Lee

President Col M College

Dear Sir

Please allow me to make the following statement in regard to the matter of Furniture purchased and sold by the Students of this College. It has been the custom since my connection with the Institution to allow the Students to buy and sell this second hand furniture. We have endeavored to protect the Students from any thing like imposition or exorbitant charges. Allow me to remind you that on several occasions, when I learned that overcharges were being made I consulted with you and by your direction had the overcharges returned and you notified the Students that

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unless they were fair and reasonable in these charges you would not allow them to handle this second hand furniture. Of course it is impossible for us to know of each transaction, but the President has always announced to the Students that they could either buy this second hand furniture or buy new furniture in Starkville. He has generally advised them to get new furniture especially new mattresses. Whenever Students have come to me I have always advised them to price first, and unless they could get second hand at reduced rates, to buy new, and to buy new mattresses any way. I have endeavored in

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every way to protect the Students
from imposition of any kind.

Mr
Burkitt in his letter says that Mr
McDowell claims to have come to me
and asked my advice about selling
his furniture. I am sure that Mr
McDowell would not make a state
ment which was incorrect, and I
cant think that his Son claims
to have come to me. I state
positively that Student J S McDowell
did not ask me any question
about selling his furniture or
mention furniture to me in any
way. In conclusion I desire
to state that in no way have I
been connected with this or any

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other matter calculated to speculate or take advantage of any Student or Students at the College. On the other hand I call you to witness that I have always endeavored in every way in my power to protect them. In justice to yourself to the College and to me please investigate thoroughly this matter, and all other matters pertaining to my connection with the College.

Very Respectfully
T. F. Watson