

386 Commonwealth Avenue,
Boston.

Copy

Letter sent to each Trustee of
Constantinople College
By Miss Caroline Borden
Honorary Vice-President.

The declaration made by Dr. Plimpton at the Trustee meeting of April 25, 1918, of the fine standing of Constantinople College in the Levant involves a beautiful co-working of Jehovah with human thought and activity. The college stands before the divinely appointed tribunal - "Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's." Constantinople College was ordained by God more than one hundred years ago in the prayers of an aged woman who rose every night at the hour of midnight and prayed to Jehovah that He would appoint among her descendants a messenger to carry gospel light to women in foreign lands sitting in darkness. Her prayer was answered in Mrs. Albert Bowker, who in the prayer-tower of her home listened to the divine oracle, and in obedience laid the foundation of this College in 1871. Jehovah in His supreme authority has builded the College in the splendid identity of independence by the charter of 1908 with a Board of Trustees of men and women of large intellectual vision and Christian purpose and determined activities. Jehovah decreed the Faculty of administration to be of highest ability and of supreme consecration to Christian womanhood. Jehovah's ordaining and decree have constantly advanced the College and have brought it to the magnificent standing declared by Dr. Plimpton.

Render unto Jehovah the tribute of divine command.

American Christian philanthropy placed the Institution in its own property at Scutari on the Asiatic Shore of the Bosphorus at a cost of fifty-eight thousand dollars in 1876, with Mrs. Kate Pond Williams the Principal, who laid the foundation of its intellectual life broad and deep, adequate for all subsequent requirements. Miss Mary Mills Patrick was associated with Mrs. Williams, and when failing health compelled the resignation of Mrs. Williams, she succeeded her as Principal. Miss Patrick has been the anchor and inspiration and dynamo of the School through all the succeeding years. With rare endowment and keen mental acumen and high spiritual conception, enriched by student life in several European universities and with the acquisition of many languages, Mary Mills Patrick, Ph.D., maintains Constantinople College the beacon light of the Levant. President Patrick's philosophy of education is to give to students equipment of heart and mind and body adequate to serve the demands of humanity with intelligent acumen and with principles of love and faith. The Faculty are in full accord with her, one of whom writes, "The splendid idealism of President Patrick energizes and uplifts everything and everybody about her." American supporters of the College have contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars and constant thought and time. Render unto humanity the tribute due.

In this co-working of Jehovah with human activities we behold Constantinople College on Arnacutkey Heights beautiful for situation with splendid buildings finely equipped for academic

work, in a delightful home life of refinement and cultivation.

Through all the years of this institution it has enjoyed the protection of the Ottoman government. Encompassed and embarrassed by years of war the College holds in majesty its way. Its beneficent power is giving light and strength and joy throughout the Levant and beyond.

At the meeting of the Trustees with President Patrick in the midst, entertained by Dr. Plimpton in his home on April 24, 1917, the following resolution was voted to be spread upon the records.

"The trustees of the American College for Girls and Women at Constantinople hereby inscribe on their records their deep realization of the sacred commission which they hold from Jehovah in this Constantinople College and with devout thanksgiving for all that Jehovah has done for and in this College they pledge themselves to the faith in Jehovah which will add this College to the Bible record of the eleventh chapter of Hebrews."

In the raging of the European war Dr. Plimpton and Dr. Dutton were appointed at this meeting a committee to conduct the affairs of the College in any emergency. President Patrick's return to the College made a strenuous demand of emergency which diplomats and men of affairs declared could not be done. Dr. Plimpton and Dr. Dutton with keen discretion and with acute activities of a few days decided otherwise, in which

President Patrick sailed from New York on September 4, 1917, equipped with credentials from the State Department of the United States of America and adequate money. Journeying courageously through five countries of diplomatic exigency, she was received at Constantinople with high favor by the Ottoman Government, and the thermometer of the College made a leap of one hundred degrees. The Shekinah of Jehovah guided and guarded her way according to the divine promise - "Commit thy way unto the Lord, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass. Through the enshrouding clouds of delay came the voice of Jehovah in clear tones - "Trust Me." In obedience the pledge of the Trustee meeting was fulfilled. The presence of sixteen trustees with earnest purpose around the Council Table entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Plimpton on April 25, 1918, the anniversary of the pledge of faith, affixed the seal to the pledge and Constantinople College has its place in the divine enrollment of faith.

In this fellowship let us trustees of Constantinople College "press forward toward the goal unto the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" for this College.

Very sincerely yours,

Chid. Proline V. J. J. J.

May 1, 1918

Boğaziçi Üniversitesi

Arşiv ve Dokümantasyon Merkezi

Kişisel Arşivlerle İstanbul'da Bilim, Kültür ve Eğitim Tanıtı

Scott Ailesi Koleksiyonu



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