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William J. Kerr

4-25-1901

Letter from Frances B. Hatcher, as well as letters of recommendation from Luther M. Defoe, A. Ross Hill, J. C. Jones, and Sam Frank Taylor

Frances B. Hatcher

Luther M. Defoe
University of Missouri

A. Ross Hill
University of Missouri

J. C. Jones
University of Missouri

Sam Frank Taylor
Stephens College

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1201 Paquin St., Columbia, Mo.
July 25, 1904.

President W. V. Kerr,
Logan, Utah.

Dear Sir:-

I understand from your letter of the twenty-first that while the position of assistant in mathematics is a small and temporary one, this assistant would have excellent opportunity to work into a better and permanent position. In this case, I am willing to accept a very small salary and to take a position where only three-fifths of the usual work is required. I do not know enough of living expenses in Utah to name a salary, but will say that I must have enough to cover necessary expenses next year.

I graduated from Girls' High School, of Atlanta, in 1893. After some further study under private teachers, I went to University of Chicago, where I was a special student for the two years 1897-99. As my work was largely in Mathematics, it was almost altogether graduate work for the second year. I then became the teacher of Mathematics in Stephens College, in Columbia. The salary was small and I wished a degree, so entered University of Missouri the following year and received the A. B. Degree in 1901. During 1901-02, I held a fellowship in

University of Missouri, and taught two large freshman classes, besides doing the work which entitled me to the A. M. degree. The next year, I went to Radcliffe College, and took full graduate work in Harvard. During the past year, I have been Assistant in Mathematics in the University of Missouri. I am now teaching in the summer school of the University.

I refer you to Prof. E. R. Hedrick, Professor of Mathematics, Prof. L. M. DeFee, Professor of Mechanics, and Prof. A. Ross Hill, Dean of Teachers College, all of University of Missouri and now in Columbia. Also, I shall be glad to answer any questions or give you any information you may desire in regard to my work.

I should like very much to have a catalogue of the Agricultural College of Utah. Hoping to hear from you favorably soon, I am,
Very truly yours,
Francis B. Hatcher.

Columbia, Mo., June 28, 1904.

Dear Sir:-

Miss Frances B. Hatcher tells me that she will be an applicant for a position as substitute in the Department of Mathematics in the Illinois State Normal and I want to speak a word for her.

Miss Hatcher graduated from the girls' High School of Atlanta, Ga., and studied Mathematics in the University of Chicago two years. She then came to this town as teacher of Mathematics in Stephens Female College. She taught in the College one year and at the same time continued her study of Mathematics in the University of Missouri. At the end of the year she resigned her position and entered this University. She received the Degree of A. B. in 1901. During the session of 1901-02 she held a teaching fellowship here and received the Degree of A. M. in June 1902. The year 1902-03 she spent in Radcliffe College, attending lectures in the Harvard Graduate School. During the past year she has been an instructor here.

The range of her reading in Mathematics has been extensive--embracing both pure and applied Mathematics and her work has been of a very high order.

As a teacher and class manager I can recommend her without any reservation whatever. During the present year she has taught three classes of engineering students and her work has been equal to that of anyone here. She was respected by all her students.

In Stephens College she was regarded as the strongest teacher and the best disciplinarian in the Faculty.

I heartily commend her to you and shall be glad to write to you in detail about her work and teaching if you should care to know more of her work.

Very respectfully,
LUTHER M. DEFOE,
Prof. of Mechanics and Prof. of Math.,
Teachers College, University of Mo.

Copy of personal letter.

Missouri Teachers College,
University of Missouri.

Office of the Dean

Albert Ross Hill.

Columbia, Mo., May 24, 1904.

Dear Sir:-

Miss Frances B. Hatcher tells me that she is an applicant for the position of head of the mathematics department in the East Aurora High School, and wishes me to state her qualifications for the position.

Miss Hatcher holds the degree of Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts from this University, her special work having been in mathematics. She has held the fellowship in mathematics here and in addition has studied the subject at the University of Chicago and at Radcliffe College. At Radcliffe, also, she took the Degree of Bachelor of Arts. She has taught mathematics in the University here and also in Stephens College, Columbia, a College that does some High School and some College work in that subject. She has been a successful teacher and is in every way a person that I can recommend to you with a good deal of confidence.

She is a lady of sufficient maturity to win the confidence of High School pupils, and she has the knowledge of her subject and experience in teaching that will enable her to do very efficient work. She is pleasing in personal appearance and address, and I know of nothing about her that would interfere with her success as a teacher. I believe that you will be thoroughly safe in appointing Miss Hatcher.

Very truly yours,

A. ROSS HILL,

Chairman Committee on Recommendation of Teachers.

Copy of personal letter.

University of Missouri.
Columbia.

June 5th, 1903.

My dear Sir:

I understand that Miss Frances B. Hatcher of Cambridge, Mass., is an applicant for an instructorship in Mathematics in Wilson College. Miss Hatcher is a graduate of the University of Missouri and while a student made a fine reputation both as a scholar and as a teacher. On account of her superior scholarship she was chosen as teaching fellow in Mathematics for two years and for two summers she had charge of some of the work in mathematics in our summer session. All of this work she did in a highly satisfactory manner and I take pleasure in recommending her to you as a very competent instructor.

In addition to this she is a young woman of fine character who exercises a good influence over all with whom she is associated. I am sure that you will make no mistake if you employ Miss Hatcher as a member of your faculty.

I shall be very glad to answer any specific questions in regard to her.

Very truly yours,

J. C. JONES,

Dean of the Academic Department.

Copy of personal letter.

Stephens College,
Columbia, Mo., April 25, 1901.

To Whom It May Concern:-

This certifies that last year Miss Frances B. Hatcher was the teacher of Mathematics in our College; and, in every respect, as teacher, as disciplinarian, and as a member of our College family, she gave entire satisfaction. She resigned her place in our faculty, and for the past year has been doing special work in Mathematics in the Missouri State University.

Miss Hatcher is a young woman of first class family, strong character, excellent preparation for her chosen work, a fine disciplinarian, indomitable energy and ambitious to succeed.

She went from us with the highest regard and best wishes of all who were associated with her in her work here; and I, with great pleasure and most heartily, commend her to any School or College in need of a teacher. Scholarly and thoroughly conscientious, Miss Hatcher will do well whatever she engages to do.

Given the day and date above written.

SAM FRANK TAYLOR,

President of Stephens College.

Copy.