LETTERS FROM A FATHER TO HIS DAUGHTER ENTERING COLLEGE

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649347209

Letters from a Father to His Daughter Entering College by Charles Franklin Thwing

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BY

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> New York THE PLATT & PECK CO.

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PREFATORY NOTE.

Parts of these letters, like parts of the corresponding "Letters to a Son," were read to my own college girls at the beginning of a college year. In them I have tried to write both as a parent and as a president. For each relation is full of infinite meanings, and each relation easily flows into the other. I am glad, at the wish of the publisher, to give these letters, paternal and academic, a wider hearing than either the individual home or college chapel can offer.

R.

C. F. T.

College for Women, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, September, 1913. 2

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LETTERS FROM A FATHER TO HIS DAUGHTER EN-TERING COLLEGE

My dear Daughter:

THERE has never been any question about your going to college. Your mother's life at Vassar had given her a special eagerness to send her daughter to that or some other good college. But now, that the college is decided upon, I can easily see that there were three, among other reasons, which have led us to make our choice.

One reason is that the college is not too big. A very big college for boys is bad, but a very big college

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Letters from a Father to

for girls is worse. For do not girls have peculiar need of individual care? There should be, I believe, specially careful oversight of each and every one. When I think, too, of how large a part of your life and work will be individual, I am the more eager that you in your education should not be one of a mass. A big college, of course, you may say, should give as careful care to the individual as the small. It should: but it does not, and, certainly, it is more difficult, and these difficulties the colleges do not seem to have the machinery for overcoming. So I am glad you are going to a college big enough for you to find

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