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DEC 24 1912

By A. C. H.

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THE PHILADELPHIAN SOCIETY

THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION
OF PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
FOUNDED 1825

MAXWELL CHAPLIN, PRESIDENT
BURNHAM N. DELL, GENERAL SECRETARY

MURRAY-DODGE HALL, PRINCETON, N. J. Dec. 23, 1912.

Pres. Alexander Humphries,

165 Broadway,

New York City.

Dear Sir:-

I am writing you regarding my classmate Wilder Penfield, who is an applicant for the Rhodes appointment. I have known Penfield intimately from the beginning of Freshman year. He came to Princeton very green from a small school in Wisconsin without an acquaintance in college. When I came to know him early in the year he told me of his determination to get the Oxford appointment. The way he has applied himself to that supreme end throughout his four years has been an inspiration to those who have known him well.

Penfield has shown a large capacity for all-around growth. In spite of the fact that he has been under the necessity of working part of his way, and has taken a leading part in student life and athletics, he has never lost sight of the real object for which he came to college. He ^{has} been President of his class, and has been one of the men who is willing to

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take responsibility. I can speak from personal knowledge of his fine spirit and excellent work for the Student Christian Association. He has had the difficult and delicate task of organizing Bible Study groups in the exclusive Upperclass clubs, and then getting Professors to lead them. This was a job which took infinite tact and determination of a high order.

In spite of these various activities, Penfield's clear sense of proportion has caused him to keep his work first in his attention and effort. I have worked with Penfield a great deal. He is not brilliant; but throughout the past four years he has been the most consistent hard worker I have ever known. It has ^{been his} indomitable determination to overcome his difficulties which has kept him in the high groups; he has had to work hard for all he has attained. I have been his co-worker in the Biology Laboratory this year and can speak for the high order of work which he has done in that subject.

Penfield has been an inspiring friend because of the indomitable spirit with which he goes into his work, and for those mature qualities of firmness which are so rare among undergraduates. I am sending this tribute as one who has known him well and who believes in his ability to make good.

Very truly yours

Maxwell Chaplin