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Cecil Johnson to Dr. Silver, 10 September 1958

Cecil Johnson

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THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHAPEL HILL

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

September 10, 1958

Dr. James W. Silver
Box 404
University, Mississippi

My dear Dr. Silver:

The enclosed photostat may be of interest*. The writer you will recognize as Dr. Quinche of the University faculty who later committed suicide as a result of the political upheaval in 1888. The recipient was my grandfather who was Professor of English at the University, 1873-1888. He and Dr. Quinche were dismissed at the same time.

This letter has been included in The Biographical Notes by John Lipscomb Johnson, recently and privately published. If the University has not received a copy of this volume, I will be glad to see that one is made available. I think one has been sent.

Cordially,

Cecil Johnson

Cecil Johnson
Professor of History

CJ:DN

* But not in connection with Mississippi in the Confederacy

Oxford Miss
Feb. 1st 1843

Rev J. L. Johnson,
Danville Va.

My Dear Brother,

"Jam Satis."
You are now endorsed by all the Faculty
of the University. I have received no
communication from Prof. Sells yet,
but I have a testimonial from him which
he gave you shortly after you graduated
which is very satisfactory. Your
testimonials are now what I desired
them to be, ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~all~~ ^{all} ~~mean~~ ^{mean}.

The Board of Trustees meet at
Jackson, next Tuesday Feb. 4th. I
do not think they will go into an
election there.

As to the political situation, I hardly
know what to say.

The majority of the Trustees are Radicals. Thus far the patrons of the University have protected the Faculty from a Radical Legislature and Board. We hope they will continue to do so. Should the Trustees radicalize the Faculty they would destroy the patronage of the University. The Board was reconstituted some three years ago. None of us have yet been molested on account of our political opinions. Of 19 members of the Faculty only two are loyal. The rest of us are Democrats or conservatives. I will not conceal the fact from you that we have some fears for the future. The negroes are in the majority and they are all Republicans. But they have Alcorn University with an annual appropriation of \$50,000, the same as ours. Though the Radicals have had complete control of the State government for 4 years their policy towards the University has been much more conservative than any of us anticipated.

The Professors hold their position during good behavior. I do not think, however, any professor will ever be removed, who faithfully discharges his duty.

I will write you again after the meeting of the Board. Your credentials will be placed in the hands of a member of the Board who will advocate your election, if the Board takes any action with reference to filling the vacant chair. I have shown your testimonials to nearly all the members of the Faculty and they are in favor of your election.

Yours truly,
A. J. Quince