

The Oaks

Lebanon, = Ills.

March 22nd, 1909

President L. C. Lord

Charleston, Ill.

My dear Sir:

From the daily papers my husband and I have learned of the uprising at Charleston. While we know nothing of the circumstances, yet, on general principles, <sup>we think</sup> it is probable that the proposed treatment of yourself deserves the condemnation of educators and of law-abiding citizens. For special reasons we have been studying some phases of the educational situation in the last few years; and we would like a full account of this affair at Charleston. We would especially like to know (1) to what religious denomination the evangelist belonged; (2) of what religious persuasion were most of the persons making the attack; (3) to what extent did dancing prevail in the college; (4) of what religious faith you are.

Physical violence to a teacher is certainly a coarse and low method of attack; but I am sorry to say that in my long experience in teaching, I have a few times known teachers, innocent of any real offense, to receive far worse treatment than a "ducking." I have seen the evangelist, the stranger, the irresponsible party, come into a college town and pray publicly that every member of a Christian faculty might be "converted," and in the most adroit manner put division between faculty and students. But I must not weary you with my experience.

Thanking you now for any information you are disposed to impart, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Eda Ashborn Weeks.