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5-10-1853

Letter to Rev. S.J.P. Anderson from Mary Sibley, May 10, 1853

Mary Easton Sibley

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Lindenwood May 10th, 1853

Al (Mary E. Sibley)

To: Rev. (S.J.P.) Anderson

Dear Brother,

I enclose a circular of the Linden Wood school which we used when the school was in operation. I send it with the view of making you acquainted with some facts to which you can refer if you think proper to draw up a brief address to Presbyterians and other Christian denominations in behalf of the Linden Wood Female College. It appears to me something of the kind should be presented when asking for subscriptions either conditional or unconditional. Our school had to struggle through much opposition, abuse and slander owing to the fact that it was strictly a Presbyterian school, at the time when such schools were not the fashion and when Protestants were so much afraid of being considered sectarian they would not sustain their own schools. I consider our school the first that lifted up the standard of opposition to convent education in the west. It was a feeble attempt, but of sufficient importance in the eyes of the arch enemy, to make the Jesuits its traducers. With the determination of putting it down they circulated through the community here and in the state at large the most ridiculous stories and accusations but those times are past. It is no longer in their power to destroy our schools as what we have been teaching for years that it was the duty of protestants to do, they are now doing. And I trust will continue to do vis taking care of their own and their childrens interests spiritually as well as temporally.