

University of Ala

Oct. 25. 1840

Bolling Hall E.

My Dear Sir.



Yrs. of 18th enclosing
\$14 is duly recd. I regret to
find that your mind is
prejudiced against the present
organization of the University
in two respects.

First, as to Expenses. So
far from increasing the expenses
of a student, the military is
expected to reduce them.
It is true that board is higher,
but this is because we have
no mess-hall, and are yet depen-
-dent upon private boarding
houses, over whose charges
we have no control. On
account of the scarcity & high

prices of provisions in this part
of the State, those houses are
demanding \$16 for Board.
We propose to furnish it at
\$13 after the present scholastic
year, and the \$18 you have
sent are to meet this
except of board until Apr. 1st

The tuition fees have not been
increased. We have relieved
the student from the necessity of
buying or renting furniture,
and repairs for his room
well furnished with every thing
he needs an annual fee of
\$5. We take from him
\$125 for clothes, but return
all that he does not actually
spend of it. His own coat
is about \$18.00 - His dress
coat about \$13 his pants
\$6.50, summer pants \$3.00
I so on - There cannot

You had of as good quality in the market for these prices. The buy articles at wholesale, & furnish them to the Cadets at cost. They receive the benefit of purchase by the large quantity.

We ensure against high medical bills by a fee of \$5 pr. annum.

We recommend to Parents to allow but a dollar or two pr. mo. How is it possible that the expenses of a student can be increased? Yr experience will be different.

Second, The Institution is an experiment. - Is the Military system at West Point - Lexington Va, - Charleston S. C. an experiment? Are not these regarded the first schools in the Country to the extent of their curriculum?

and are not "elite" & most refined
of the County sending their sons
to them? At West Point there
are 50 applicants to every single
vacancy - At Lexington 5 to 1
at Charleston 3 to 1, showing
that these are the most popular
schools of the county.

But these institutions are
purely military. But the Un.^s
of Nashville adopted the Mil.^s
System 6 years ago, - with
what results? Its numbers
have quadrupled; and I have
a statement from the Old
Faculty to the effect, that no
consideration would induce
them to lay aside the Mil.^s
form of gov^t.

I admit that the Mil.^s feature
is an experiment with us -
not as to its suitability to prepare
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- men capable of serving the

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Oct. 25. 1860

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