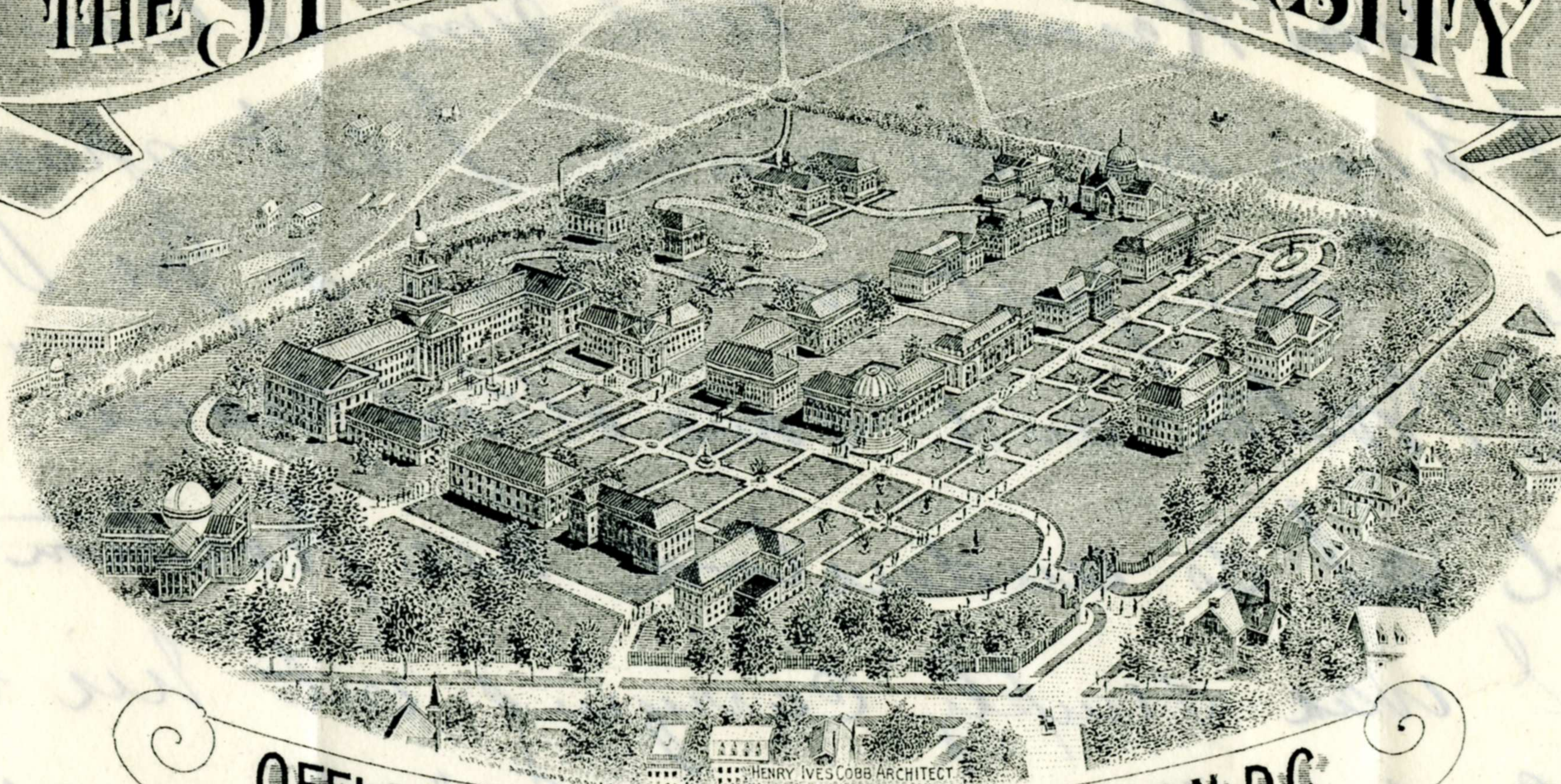


(J. P. Morgan) - Seed

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Rev. W. L. Davidson, D.D.
Dear Dr. Davidson

Ocean Grove N.J.
Dec 2nd 1904

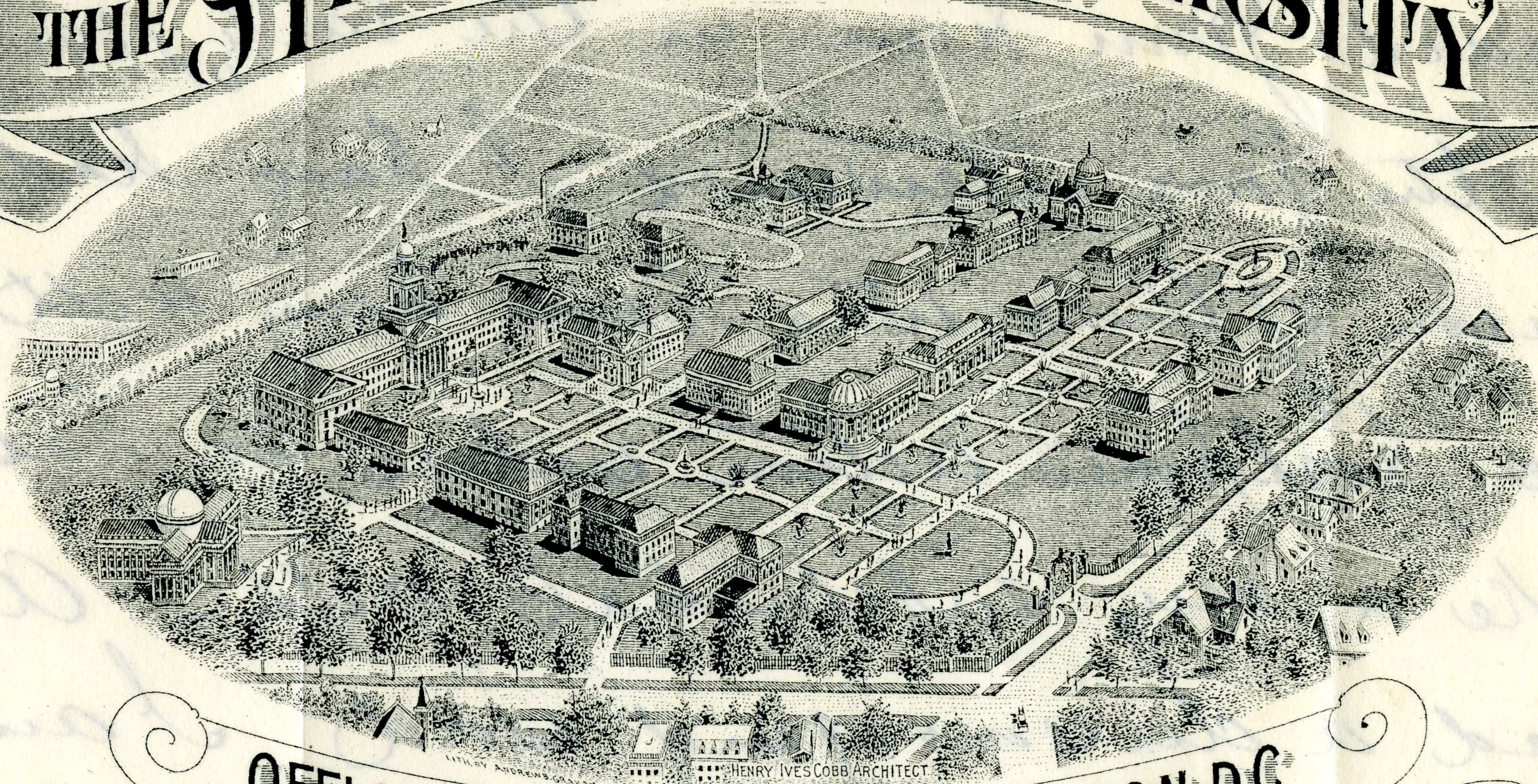
Yesterday I had a very interesting and I trust profitable interview with Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan. I expect to see you and will then relate the details more fully. The following memorandum of principal points will suffice for record in Office -

I called at Mr. Morgan's office in New York. Sent in my card to Mr. Morgan and was at once invited to an interview with him in his private office. I was well received and given full opportunity to state the case from our present standpoint. I did this briefly because Mr. Morgan said that he recalled the main features as laid down by me in previous conversations & that he had preserved the papers and documents I had given him when he had ready access to them. I therefore confined my remarks chiefly to the approaching Trustees' Meeting and the probable matters that would come up for consideration. Mr. Morgan said "I am giving favorable consideration to the case and will very likely conclude to help you as soon as I

have gotten some other Educational projects out of the way,"
He continued "You know I told you I could not do it
before then, I have only so much I set apart for Educational
purposes and I am just now paying for buildings at
New York and Boston and some other places." I gave him
to understand that I so understood his position and in coming
to him now I was simply carrying out his suggestion made
to me at our last interview, namely "to wait a year and
then call upon him when he would take the matter up." I said
"I have waited a year and my chief object in calling to-day
is to let you know that our Trustees are about to hold an
important meeting and make plans for the future and any
encouragement you will permit me to give them will be
much appreciated and will have its influence," and ^{I said} that I had
not come to ask him for money at this time. He then said,
"While I do not wish to be committed to the Trustees to
anything definite as yet, you have my permission to say
to them that I am giving favorable consideration to the
matter and I shall very likely help them when I get
ready. I thanked him for his encouraging words assured
him there was no desire to unduly hurry him; I would simply
call his attention to the fact that we were very anxious to
make all proper progress as rapidly as possible within the lines
of safety, that we had a great National undertaking on our
hands and that it was something he would be proud of
for it would be very far reaching in its influence and a
great blessing to the Country. He said "He fully believed that."
I then said "I gather from your remarks, Mr. Morgan that
to call upon you again in the near future would be too soon
for you and possibly your work would want to see me again much

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under a year" He said "I would not say that, use your discretion" and then he added pleasantly "You won't get your money any quicker however. By coming after it I'll send it to you just as soon as I get ready. I haven't much time for talking. I would rather act than talk." I smiled and said "That's very satisfactory, Mr Morgan then the understanding is that you will correspond with us when you get ready." He said "Yes." I said "Have you the correct address Mr Morgan?" He said "Oh yes! I have all your papers filed away where I can get at them any moment" and picking up my card, which the Secretary had laid on his desk, he said "I'll put this along with them."

After a few minutes chat about the outcome of the election & the business outlook and a brief reference to some of our Trustees, I took a very pleasant leave of him feeling very much encouraged with the interview. There is nothing more to be done so far as I am concerned until we hear from him. I am unable to form an opinion

as to when that will be but it would not surprise
me if we heard from him in the early part of next year.
Judging from the four interviews I have had with him
and the opinion of those who know him well, he would
scarcely have postponed action unless he has it in his
mind to make a very substantial gift. At no time
has he uttered a discouraging word. I am satisfied he
is well disposed towards our University, and I am
told by those who know him well "that he never
gives encouragement unless he intends to give, that is
he does not hold out any false hopes & when he does
give he gives in a manner that is worthy of him.
Let us hope & pray for the best -

Very Truly Yours
John A. Gutteridge