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Alice Cunningham Fletcher Papers- Correspondence Box: 1, 1894-95

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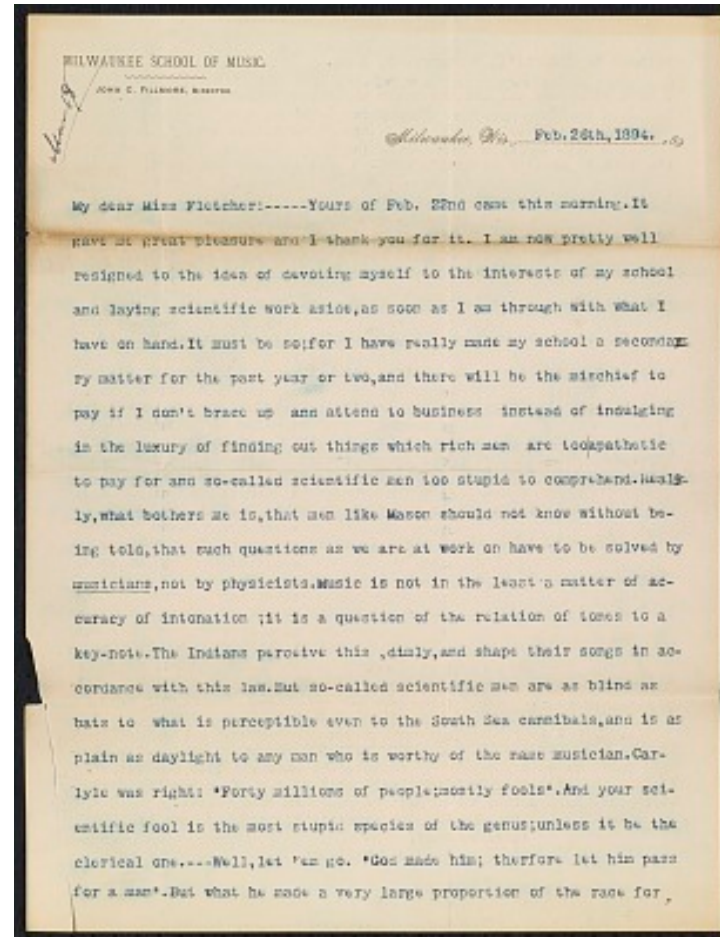
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[[preprinted]]
MILWAUKEE SCHOOL OF MUSIC,
JOHN C. FILLMORE, DIRECTOR.

Milwaukee, Wis., ^[[Feb.26th, 1894.]], 89
[[/preprinted]]

My dear Miss Fletcher:-----Yours of Feb. 22nd came this morning. It gave me great pleasure and I thank you for it. I am not pretty well resigned to the idea of devoting myself to the interests of my school and laying scientific work aside, as soon as I am through with what I have on hand. It must be so; for I have really made my school a secondary matter for the past year or two, and there will be the mischief to pay if I don't brace up and attend to business instead of indulging in the luxury of finding out things which rich men are too apathetic to pay for and so-called scientific men too stupid to comprehend. Really, what bothers me is, that men like Mason should not know without being told, that such questions as we are at work on have to be solved by musicians not by physicists. Music is not in the least a matter of accuracy of intonation; it is a question of the relation of tones to a key-note. The Indians perceive this, dimly, and shape their songs in accordance with this law. But so-called scientific men are as blind as bats to what is perceptible even to the South Sea cannibals, and is as plain as daylight to any man who is worthy of the name musician. Carlyle was right: "Forty millions of people; mostly fools". And your scientific fool is the most stupid species of the genus; unless it be the clerical one.---Well, let 'em go. "God made him; therefore let him pass for a man". But what he made a very large proportion of the race for



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