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Des Moines, Iowa, June 13, 1902.

Mrs. A. B. Bowen,

Maquoketa, Iowa.

My dear Mrs. Bowen,---Your letters of recent date are received,
and I have ^{also} been greatly interested in learning through Miss Dunham and
Dr. Loose of the progress of library affairs in Maquoketa. I am glad to
hear from you as Secretary of the new board and trust I may be able to
be of service to you from time to time. I have mailed you a pamphlet
regarding library buildings and also a booklet of library buildings
erected by Patton & Miller of Chicago. These are for you to retain.
I send you to-day as a loan the January number of the Architectural
Review. This is devoted entirely to library buildings and which you
will find suggestive though many very poor library plans are contained
in it. I also send a copy of the annual report of the Carnegie Library
which has some interesting matter regarding their branch libraries which
probably cost in the neighbor-hood of \$10,000. I have mailed you a copy
of the Commission Bulletin of last July with an article entitled "Sugges-
tions Regarding Library Buildings", which I prepared some time ago as a
brief introduction to the subject. If this were read aloud at your board
meeting, or if each of your board members would read it, it might give
a more de-finite form to your consideration of the question in regard to
the selecting of an architect. Referring to your letter of the 10th inst.
would say that I think you are correct in taking time to choose a good

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190

Have him
architect first, and then ~~with meeting~~ your board and working out the plans which seem to suit your conditions after studying the subject as much as the trustees find it possible.

The Newton Library board of which Mr. W. O. McElroy is President has just let the contract for their \$10,000 building and he might probably be able to give you some helpful information as to ^{his experiences} ~~expenses~~ in this line.

Very truly yours,

Alice S. Tyler

Sec'y.