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handwritten letter from George Barker of the University of Pennsylvania to John Stockwell, first professor of math and astronomy at Case School of Applied Sciences

University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia May 5, 1881

My dear Prof. Stockwell:-

I am in receipt of a letter from Prof. Michelson dated at Heidelberg April 19th announcing the arrival of my telegram and also of a letter from the secretary of your board of Trustees informing him of his election. He says he has sent his acceptance of the position. So this matter has now been successfully arranged and I believe to the satisfaction of all concerned. I am sure the Case School will never regret this step and hope they will provide for him the amplest means of experiment and illustration. Physical apparatus is more costly at the outset than chemical, but then the wear and tear is less and the renewals are less frequent. I should not think, to judge from my own experience that it would be worth while to start with less than \$10,000 worth, with the intention of doubling it after 4 or 5 years.

As to the expense of cabling, I suppose Mr. Michelson will be quite willing to pay it. But as it was done also for the Case School, I think it would be a gracious thing for them to assume the whole of it. The first telegram cost \$4.96; the second \$3.72. Unless you feel perfectly willing to pay both, I would prefer to collect both from him.

Cordially yours
George F. Barker.