June 19, 1919.

Dr. Charles W. Eliot, Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Dr. Eliot: -

This story is among the traditions of Stanford. I should be under obligations to you if you would tell me how much of it is Literally true.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanford visited Dr. Eliot at Harvard, telling him of their intention to found a University. Dr. Eliot warned them that a University was a costly enterprise and that they should never think of starting on an endowment of less than five millions of dollars. Stanford smiled and turning to his wife said, "Jane, I think we can afford that."

Very truly yours,

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Dear Dr. Jorian:

The laterview that I and ith ar. and are. Stanford me neveral projects. One was a university to we classif at Pale Alto as lear as possible to a tree under thick their son had once caten innoncen. Another was a large institution to le situated at San Francisco and to combine a museum with a large half in which free public loctures in conditorable variety should be gives. The third wis a troinical school which should cover civil, mechanical, and mining engineering at a clace which they not legical on the where water-poses was a talusale. Then acred which of these projects seemed to me meet ledirable as a nominat. I saiwered a university. The stanford then delted how much a university would could them in contition to family and brildings. It was then that I replied that a free university. that is, a university which should not so charge for twitten. million dellers. a blismes fellowed, and are stanford lookof grave; but after an appreciable interval Mr. Ltanford said with a smile, "well, Jame, we could manage that couldn't we?" And the Stanford notices. There follow a some discussion as to the cost of the other to projects they had in mind. dering by to the most or ensive of the three to maintain morning. one increasion left on my mind at the time was that in attendera

really had two objects in vi w. As wanted to the constitute months to his dead boy; but he also wanted to de comething which would interest his wife for the rest of her life, and give her solid satisfaction. The latter motive comed to he the strongest in him. I thought, too, that she had done much more thinking on the subject then he had.

view. I never has a subsequent conversation with either of them; but some correspondence passed between Ira. Stanford and me, chiefly, I think, about the selection of the first Joard of Trustees.

This is in master to yours of June 19th.
Sincerely yours

Charles M. Shor

Dr. David Starr Jordan

Dear Dr. Jordan:

The interview that I had with Mr. and Mrs. Stanford occurred before they had apparently made up their minds as to the nature of the monument to their son. They discussed with me several projects. One was a university to be placed at Palo Alto as near as possible to a tree under which their son had once eaten luncheon. Another was a large institution to be situated at San Francisco and to combine a museum with a large hall in which free public lectures in considerable variety should be given. The third was a technical school which should cover civil, mechanical, and mining engineering at a place which they had not decided on, but where water-power was obtainable. They asked which of these projects seemed to me most desirable as a monument. I answered a university. Mrs. Stanford then asked how much a university would cost them in addition to land and buildings. It was then that I replied that a free university, that is, a university which should make no charge for tuition, ought not to be attempted with an endowment smaller than five million dollars. A silence followed, and Mrs. Stanford looked grave; but after an appreciable interval Mr. Stanford said with a smile, "Well, Jane, we could manage that, couldn't we?" And Mrs. Stanford nodded. There followed some discussion as to the cost of the other two projects they had in mind, during which I expressed the opinion that the university would prove to be the most expensive of the three to maintain properly. One impression left on my mind at the time was that Mr. Stanford really had two objects in view. He wanted to build a monument to his dead boy; but he also wanted to do something which would interest his wife for the rest of her life, and give her solid satisfaction. The latter motive seemed to me the strongest in him. I thought, too, that she had done much more thinking on the subject than he had.

Altogether it was for me a very interesting interview. I never had a subsequent conversation with either of them; but some correspondence passed between Mrs. Stanford and me, chiefly, I think, about the selection of the first Board of Trustees.

This is in answer to yours of June 19th.

Sincerely yours

[signed Charles W. Eliot]

Dr. David Starr Jordan