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Letter from Elizabeth Farnsworth to President Rhodes

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FARNSWORTH BUILDING COMPANY

THREE SIXTHS BUILDING
MEMPHIS 3, TENNESSEE

November 30, 1953

Dr. Peyton N. Rhodes, President
Southwestern at Memphis
Memphis, Tennessee

Dear Dr. Rhodes:

Replying to your letter I think we might have a nice human interest story both for the Southwestern News and the paper.

As to value of the Shakespearean Prints, it seems best to me to say perhaps very valuable, and we do not know how valuable. (Change what you want to, of course).

My Grandfather, William Appleton Drown, was born January 16, 1836, in Philadelphia, died December 21, 1890. He had a very successful Umbrella and Parasol factory, and spent part of every year in Europe buying the most fashionable silks in Lyons and Paris, also fine handles of ivory, porcelaine, and carved wood from Switzerland. His hobby was a great interest in Shakespeare. He loved the words, the great thoughts and transmitted this into a study of the Actors and Actresses of the Great Bard. In his somewhat lonely hours during his travels, he searched for volumes which contained prints of his loved subject. And so, during many years, he acquired a very unusual collection of Shakespearean Engravings.

It was his desire to present them in folio form, and while they are not in the fine leather he dreamed of, I am glad to present them to Southwestern as a most unusual and interesting collection, with love and affection for his memory.

Yours sincerely,

Elizabeth P. Farnsworth

EPF:p

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