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Date: May 16, 1862

Description: Dr. Thomas Hunt, wrote to Col. George F. Shepley to plead that the troops leave his medical school alone.

University of Louisiana
Medical Department
May 16th 1862.

To Colonel Shepley, Commander of the forces
of the United States at New Orleans.

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose with this communication a copy of a report, dated May 4th 1862, and addressed by me, as Dean of the Medical Department of the University of Louisiana, to Major General Butler, Commander of the forces of the United States in the Department of the Gulf, together with the documents which were transmitted with the report.

I respectfully desire that my report and the documents may be read by you, and that you will determine, whether the military necessity of your command indispensably requires, that the lot which is walled in, and upon which the Medical College is built, should be made a thoroughfare to gain access to the Eastwing from the Mechanics Institute.

The Eastwing building which is attached to the and Medical College ^ is confided by the State of Louisiana to the Medical Department of the University for the benefit of Medical education has been [crossed out] taken possession of by Colonel Thomas of the United States forces now in New Orleans without any premonition, notwithstanding, as Dean of the Medical Faculty, I had made a full report to the Commander of the forces of the United States in the Department of the Gulf, and thought the buildings under my charge were protected by Major General Butler

my as he acquiesced, tacitly, after having received my report, in ^ continuing to control them.

The lot upon which the Mechanics Institute is built has its terminus within eight feet of the Eastwing lot; and the two lots may be united by connecting them by means of a long passage eight feet ^ through a vacant portion of a lot that adjoins these lots. There is, then, no absolute necessity for a communication

between the Eastwing building and the Mechanics
Institute through the College yard.

It is impossible that the study of anatomy which
requires the obtaining and dissecting human bodies can be
prosecuted except in perfect privacy and seclusion.

All civilized nations, in peace and in war have held
in respect the temples of Medical Science.

In Conclusion, I have the honor to express the hopes
that I confidently entertain, that you will, as Commander
of the United States forces in this City, cause the breach that
has been erroneously made in the wall of the Medical
College to be repaired; and, if you think a military necessity
requires you to occupy the Eastwing which belongs to the
Medical Department, that ~~open~~ you will ^{have} a different
communication established according to the plan which
I have submitted.

I have the honor to remain,

very respectfully,

Thomas Hunt M.D.
Dean.

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