

# IU gets early support from Muncie

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people of Bloomington by the influence which has been thrown about them by the University, have become cultured and reflect the learning of the College. They are kind and hospitable. Neither money nor style is the basis of classification in their society, but culture and education make their distinctions."

The plea of Cromer and others may have influenced the 1883 legislature to give IU the tax-based endowment so desperately needed, but the school's financial situation worsened later in the year. In 1881 the IU catalog boasted that the university's library had a collection of "over eight thousand books," but the fire the following July destroyed not only the library but university records and the facilities of the science departments.