March 30, 2018

Mary-Carol Lindbloom, Executive Director  
South Central Regional Library Council  
Clinton Hall, 108 North Cayuga Street  
Ithaca, New York 14850

Dear Mary-Carol,

Please accept this letter as Wells College’s final report for the 2017 RBDB grant, “Wells Digitization Center and Book Arts Access.” The main emphasis of this project has been fully accomplished: purchasing an overhead cradle scanner capable of safely handling rare and fragile materials, and establishing a workspace to support its use. Digitization and metadata has been completed for all of the Frances Folsom Cleveland Collection and the Victor Hammer Collection, and for most items from the Albert Leffingwell Collection. Unfortunately, the scanner, which had been performing beautifully, suffered a breakdown of the hard drive near the end of the project, and downtime for repairs has prevented us from completing the scanning of remaining materials before the deadline for this final report. We have continued working on other elements of the project, including transcription of many volumes of hand-written personal diaries of great interest to scholars and researchers. The vendor has been most cooperative in assisting us, and we anticipate having the scanner repaired and fully operational again very soon.

All grant funds provided were fully expended, covering the majority of purchase costs for the new Zeutschel Zeta scanner. In-kind contribution goals were also fully met, including more than $1850 in hourly wages for student interns, purchase of an iPad Pro to support the project, and $3220 for ancillary costs for the scanner, such as installation, training, shipping, and software support. SCRLC staff member Julia Corrice once again provided exceptional support, teaching, and coaching; her contributions have been essential to the success of this project.

Although the grant period has now ended, our archivist and student interns will be working to complete the scanning and metadata for all of the remaining items from the targeted collections. We have already received requests for the newly-digitized items from scholars and researchers, and it has been a delight to provide them with the resources they need. We look forward to continuing our digitization efforts, and to making more of our archival and rare book materials available to a wider population. Wells College has now established our own highly functional digitization space, and we very much appreciate SCRLC’s support in making this service possible.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Carol C. Henderson  
Library Director