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In determining the history of Dyche Museum, it is possible to refer to the architects plans, materials used in construction, periods and ~~personnel~~ that contributed to its annals. But long before the first architects plans or the first shovels broke ground, there was an idea, a concept of the Museum held by a man that can be said to be the foremost factor in the Museum's history. This idea laid the real foundation for a Museum of Natural History to be built at the University of Kansas.

Along these lines there are other important developments that occurred before actual construction. Support of that man's idea for a museum by the Chancellor of the University, and the board of Regents was vital. Their willingness to support and back the museum was essential for the concept to materialize.

This paper will attempt to show through letters, documents and other historical aides how the Museum of Natural History was transformed from the notions of one man, Lindsay Lewis Dyche and certain other people, into the building and displays that it holds today. Some may argue that this is not the history of the building as a structure, which is not intended here. But the inspiration of these certain factors and ideas make up the original premises in which the building was conceived.

The first section of this paper will deal with original writings of Dyche, some of his letters that show his feelings and thoughts on creating a house for his collection. Along with