

# THE CONCORDIENSIS.

VOL. XVII.

UNION COLLEGE, JANUARY 17, 1894.

No. 7.

## ORIGIN OF OUR HIGHER EDUCATION.

### Errors in Fostering Religious Colleges to the Neglect of Secular Institutions—A Plea for Continued Support to Union College.

[The following article appeared in the last issue of the *Schenectady Gazette*, and should be read with interest by all our alumni and undergraduates, as it unmistakably favors such institutions as "Old Union."—ED.]

The prime object, recognized in the foundation of the earliest colleges in the United States, such as Harvard and Yale, was to provide general education for candidates for the university. No professors of Divinity were appointed, nor were theological topics introduced into the course of study; but the presidents of the colleges were usually ministers of distinguished ability, by their presence and their preaching, exerting a wholesome religious influence upon their students generally, and were able to give timely and special counsel to any young men among them who might contemplate devoting themselves to the work of the ministry—Dr. Dwight of Yale college, taught theology in his Sunday sermons, which were so prepared and arranged as to form, when completed, a body of divinity—. Some candidates went directly from the college into ministerial service.

As society became more settled, and the wants of the older churches became better defined, the necessity of schools specially devoted to theological instruction began to be felt, almost simultaneously, in several religious denominations. As a result, theological seminaries were organized; first by the Congregationalists, at Andover, Mass., in 1808, then by the Presbyterians, at Princeton, N. J., in 1812; and by the Protestant Episcopalians, New York, in 1817. Other denominations soon after established colleges after their own faith.

While these measures were being taken for elevating and ennobling the profession of the ministry, the need of a higher culture was felt in other callings and professions. To meet this want the course of instruction in the colleges was extended; and by the increase of population, new institutions for higher education were demanded. How these were to be secured, maintained and conducted were questions that received the serious attention and closest criticism of the wisest philanthropists and philosophers of the time. With the past as a criterion for the future, in securing means and devising measures for the promotion of the cause of education, many obstacles presented themselves. The main study was, how to build up a system of education that would best subserve the welfare of the people and not antagonize the church against the state, to formulate one that would work separately, but in harmony with the other.

The extent to which a system of education affects character varies with the kind of education imparted. Should it be liberal and of the magnanimous kind, a spirit of activity prevails and all the active powers of the mind are awakened, and strengthened unity of purpose and effort is the result. In education, should the government and instruction be of a narrow, illiberal character, bigotry in the ascendancy, disorder and confusion would prevail.

Our early educators were alive to every means that would produce the greatest good to the masses. They scorned every measure that was narrow and bigoted. Hence they feared lest the basis of instruction in our colleges would become entirely of a religious and sectarian character. They sought to avoid this. Imbued with this idea, the

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founders of Union College organized and established an institution that would not be subservient to the tenets of any religious denomination, but would open its doors to all who desired its instruction in the higher studies preparatory to any professional course.

There was a just cause for the fear indulged by the founders of Union College, and which is of late years, growing more and more apparent in the religious bodies, that are fast establishing their denominational colleges. During the past fifty years, twenty-one of the twenty-five colleges in this state have been organized and are supported by religious denominations. For popularizing these institutions strenuous efforts are made to increase the number of students. In them, attention is given to secular education at reduced rates of tuition, which, with other inducements, are presented to draw men to the college. With a large attendance, thus derived, they are enabled to magnify the work of their institution, and draw towards it the approbation and support of those who are of that denomination. Allusion is not made to professional seminaries for the education of the ministry, as being deleterious in their influence—for they have a specific work—but attention is called to the error committed in some of the theological schools where preparation is made for other professions, under church authority and assistance, which should come openly from the public instead of originating in any particular sect.

Union College was established so as to avoid these disturbing influences. It was founded and has been conducted as the Peoples' college, deriving its influence and support from the spontaneous offerings of all classes of our citizens. It became popular and received the united efforts of the most influential men of the state. So that when Dr. Nott became its leader and counsellor, he had a power behind him that gave means for the support of the college, that is felt even

to this late date, and is the source from which it derives its principal revenue.

The rapid rise and continued progress of church colleges in our state demands serious consideration by the people. It is not for the interest of the state, that a large portion of the population should, in a demonstrative manner, express its want of confidence in institutions of learning that are not strictly in accordance with their religious belief, and patronize and support colleges which have been organized for the express purpose of neutralizing the effect aimed at by the legislature of the state.

Union College is in every respect The Peoples' College. It co-operates with the state in every one of its distinctive educational features, beginning with a charge over all the preparatory departments in our city schools—the City Superintendent and Principal of the Classical Institute being recognized as a part of the Faculty of the College—thus giving public instruction, from the lowest primary and continuing to a full collegiate and a professional course of education:—in law; in pharmacy; in engineering and in medicine; and awarding its diplomas to all who graduate from these different courses. The college does not have a department in theology, but leaves its graduates to pursue a professional training in theological seminaries of their own choice. Thus recognizing and not interfering with institutions preparing students for the ministry.

Shall such an institution be dwarfed in its influence through religious organizations, or shall it receive, as it justly deserves, the earnest support of the people? Union College though now efficient and progressive is, we learn, struggling to sustain itself, and maintain its enviable record and needs the sympathy and encouragement of our liberal minded citizens and with them the cordial support of its alumni. Before it be too late, let our churches realize what they are doing, in giving their support and influence solely

to the aid of their church colleges, and neglecting other institutions in need and worthy of recognition. We can foresee the effects of fostering these church colleges, to the injury of those which are non-sectarian. All public institutions intended for instruction in letters and philosophy, should be freed from all ecclesiastical authority, government or interference and should be fully subject to the civil and political power, in conformity with the will of the rulers and the prevalent opinions of the age.

D.

#### POSTAL PROGRESS.

The lecture on the 15th of December was to have been given by Surgeon-General William A. Hammond, on "Brains and Muscle;" but owing to sickness, it was necessary to supply another man, so General Thomas L. James, ex-Postmaster of New York City and ex-Postmaster General, consented to deliver his lecture instead. General James took for his subject "Postal Progress or Postal Reform." He treated the subject thoroughly, from the first postal system ever established up to the present day. His lecture was full of information and was one of the most instructive and interesting yet given in the course. It showed a large amount of original investigation of the subject.

Among other things, General James said: "Of all the public departments the post office is nearest the masses. It is the popular department, and its value is understood by all. It does more for every kind of people than any other department.

In addition to its other work it is the greatest express office in the world. It is also the most valuable banking concern on this side of the Atlantic. Its notes are gilt edged, and one was never known to go to protest.

The post is one of the oldest institutions in the world. The first letter carrier we read of was Uriah, whose duty it was to bear mess-

ages. Letter carriers were known as early as the first century.

The Assyrians and Persians in olden times sent their letters by relays with horses, but the Romans were the first to establish a regular postal service. When the Spanish reached Peru they found that the natives had a well regulated system. The message was carried by carriers in relays five miles apart, and it went at the surprising rate of 150 miles a day. In the fourteenth century France and also England established a postal service copied after the Roman system. Then, the post was for the use of the government only.

Until 1635, there was no postoffice in Great Britain. In 1672 the first one was established in the colonies at New York. However, the postoffice did not pay here till Benjamin Franklin was appointed postmaster at Philadelphia. He did so well, and the office brought in such a good revenue, that the king sent a commissioner to see into the affair. The commissioner reported that Franklin was upright and honest and that his accounts were all right; but he was opposing King George, so he was removed. By this we can see that the spoils system is not a modern invention.

One of the first acts of Congress was to appoint Franklin postmaster general, and under him the service flourished. During the revolution the postoffice was lost sight of. In April, 1789, the postoffice department was reorganized with Samuel Osgood, of Massachusetts, postmaster general.

The history of the postal system in this country divides itself into two periods—the stage coach period, lasting from 1784 to 1834; and the other lasting from 1834 to 1884, in which time the railroad was the great medium.

One of the greatest achievements during the stage coach period was the establishment of an overland mail by tri-weekly stage coaches between St. Louis and Memphis, in the east, to San Francisco. John Butterfield,



of Utica, father of General Butterfield, was given the task, and it was not an easy one. However, he succeeded ; and his work stands as the greatest record ever known in any country. So well was it done that the stages from the west were more regular than the trains from the east.

The railway mail system did not begin here. Col. George B. Armstrong, in 1864, postmaster at Chicago, arranged for the first railway service ; and Col. George Bangs, of Louisiana, improved it. Armstrong built the frame ; Bangs clothed it with flesh and breath. Since then it has advanced rapidly, and now we have the best of any in the world.

In less than a century the postal system has grown most wonderfully. It has given the privilege of the mail to all ; and it has made accessible to the people good literature. In no other country have such advantages for knowledge been given.

No public office is such a public trust as the postoffice, and there is no dishonesty to be compared with that in a postoffice. The interest of the people must be regarded, and there should be a total extermination of all political prejudices. Civil service reform has done much for this, and will do more in the future."

#### A COACH SECURED.

Manager Day of the foot ball team has secured the services of Mr. James MacN. Thompson, Princeton '94, as coach for next season. Mr. Thompson is an Albanian, having been prepared for college at the Albany Academy. He played for two years on the Academy eleven, captaining the team one season. His interest and proficiency in the game gave him a high standing in athletic circles at Princeton, and he was consequently elected president of the University foot ball association and manager of the team which on last Thanksgiving Day trailed the blue in the dust, and waved the orange and black triumphantly over Manhattan Field.

Mr. Thompson was also captain of the second eleven ; and it was while acting as such that his knowledge of the game was shown to best effect. His experience and enthusiasm render him invaluable as a coach, and he comes to us highly recommended by Phil. King, the veteran Princeton player. His engagement begins early in September and lasts until Thanksgiving.

With the excellent foot ball material in college at the present time ; with Day to look after the business interests of the team ; with Brown to manage the men on the field, and with Thompson to coach, Union will turn out a team next season that will cope successfully with any of our smaller colleges.

#### ORATIONS AND ESSAYS.

The requirements of the English Department for this term in orations and essays are given below.

Senior oration of 500 words is due Jan. 25 at noon. Subject optional.

Senior essay to be announced later.

Junior oration. Subject optional with student ; biography or mere description will not be acceptable. Length, 500 words. Manuscript due Jan. 19 at noon.

Junior formal essay (argumentative). Subject, "The Income Tax." Length, 700 words. Due Feb. 16 at noon.

Sophomore oration. Subject optional with student ; biography or mere description not acceptable. Length, 500 words. Manuscript due Jan. 19 at noon.

Sophomore essay (expository). Subject, "The Knight's Tale" of Geoffrey Chaucer. Length, 700 words. Due Feb. 16 at noon.

Freshman essay (extemporaneous) will be written Jan. 18 at 2:15 P. M., in the Chapel. To be written on Harvard essay paper furnished by the student.

### THE ANNUAL DINNER OF THE UNION ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.

Speeches By General Butterfield, Seth Low, Joseph H. Choate and Others — A Souvenir That Recalls Old Tricks.

The Union College Alumni Association of New York held its sixth annual dinner at the Waldorf, Thursday evening, December 14. About 125 alumni gathered around the pretty round tables which were tastefully laid in the ball-room, and feasted and sang and toasted their Alma Mater until a late hour. President Low, of Columbia, one of the guests, struck the key-note of the gathering when he said that time did not run against colleges — that colleges were always young.

The dinner cards were unique affairs. The regular card contained references to passages in Scripture and the works of classical authors, and cuffs containing the passages were given to each one. This recalled to many the old trick by which examinations were made less formidable. Favors were distributed with the punch, little mortar-board caps in garnet, the college color. A model of the college campus and buildings was on exhibition and many a gray-haired alumnus pointed out the place where his room used to be and the spot where he and his chums had played a sophomore prank. A portrait of Dr. Eliphalet Nott, for many years president of Union, hung over the balcony. An orchestra added much to the enjoyment of the evening.

General Daniel Butterfield, of the class of '49, presided. Among the toasts and speakers were the following: "Our Flag," General O. O. Howard; "Alma Mater," the Rev. Dr. George Alexander; "Universities and Their Progress," President Seth Low, of Columbia; "College Associations and Clubs," Joseph H. Choate; "College Men in Public Life," Senator Carey, of Wyoming; "The College Man in the Councils of the Nation," responded to by a telegram from Secretary Daniel S. Lamont; "Our Sister Colleges," ex-Judge War-

ren Higley; "The Press, a Disseminator of Knowledge," Eli Perkins; "Mathematics and Athletics, Brain and Muscle," ex-Surgeon-General Hammond.

General Butterfield said that in two years more Union would celebrate its century of existence. He read letters of regret from Charles Emory Smith, Governor McKinley, Andrew Carnegie, Charles A. Dana, Governor Flower and the presidents of several colleges.

General Howard took advantage of his patriotic theme to make a plea for American institutions, especially the public schools, which must be defended, he said, to the last. Senator Carey, who was the only Senator representing a silver State to vote for the repeal of the Sherman act, spoke on the obligation which rests upon public men to vote according to their convictions. President Low gave a brief history of the founding of Columbia. Mr. Choate spoke in his usual happy vein of college associations.

The following officers were elected for 1893-94: General Daniel Butterfield, president; Dr. George Alexander and Silas B. Brownell, vice-president; E. S. Barney, secretary; W. C. Roberson, treasurer.

The menu cards contained the names of those present, which were as follows: Hon. Seth Low, Gen. W. A. Hammond, Hon. Warren Higley, Mr. Amasa Richard Angell, Hon. Jos. H. Choate, Hon. H. E. Howland, Mr. Gilbert K. Harroun, Mr. Chas. E. Miller, Hon. W. C. Breckenridge, Gen. Thos. L. James, Mr. Walter E. Frew, Mr. Harold S. Rankin, Gen. O. O. Howard, Hon. Henry W. Cannon, Dr. Harrison E. Webster, Dr. Wm. Wells, Prof. Sidney G. Ashmore. '32—Wm. P. Maulsby. '34—Augustus L. Allen, Horatio P. Allen. '37—Stephen K. Williams. '40—Geo. W. Clark, Geo. E. Danforth. '44—Alex. P. Berthoud, W. H. H. Moore. '46—Courtland W. Anable, Samuel B. Hard, Andrew J. Perry. '49—Clarence Buel, Daniel Butterfield, Albon Man. '50—Wm. E. McCormick. '51—David W. Fenton, Wm. H. Woodruff.

'52—Silas B. Brownell. '54—John H. Burtis, Reuben B. Burton, Chas. D. Nott. '56—Edward W. Crittenden, Alex. Hadden, Edward P. North, Earl L. Stimson. '57—John A. DeRemer, George La Monte. '58—Geo. C. Hazelton, L. F. Olney, Andrew H. Smith, Josiah R. Sypher. '59—Wilson M. Powell, John M. Scribner. '60—Andrew W. Gleason, Charles E. Sprague, Frank Loomis, Warner Miller. '61—Wm. Hildreth Field, John L. Hill, Chester Holcombe, Henry Parsons, "Eli Perkins," Chas. Emory Smith, Thaddeus R. White, Edwin Einstein. '62—J. Irving Burns. '63—John H. Serviss, G. D. Van Vranken. '64—Walter N. Gourlay, Samuel T. Prentiss, Warren Schoonover, Daniel M. Stimson, Henry Ward. '65—Clark Brooks, George F. Brown, Howard Cornell, Stealy B. Rossiter, George H. Sutton, John Wallace. '66—George Alexander, Henry C. Copeland, Wright Holcomb, Thos. J. Sanson, G. J. Schermerhorn, E. W. Van Vranken. '67—Joseph M. Carey, Henry M. Cox, Teunis S. Hamlin, Edward D. Ronan. '68—Fred. P. Bellamy, Louis P. Evans, Harrison W. Nanny, Theodore R. Shear. '69—John H. Clapp. '70—S. L. F. Deyo, John F. Genung, James B. Lockwood. '71—Asa L. Rogers. '72—Howard Thornton. '73—J. Howard Hoyt. '74—Walter R. Benjamin, J. Bayard Backus, James F. Barker, James T. Hoyt, John F. Schlosser. '75—Chas. C. Bowman, Louis Oppenheim, A. V. V. Raymond. '76—Homer Green, Craig A. Marsh. '77—W. A. A. Brown, J. A. Delehanty, Frank A. De Puy, Franklin H. Giddings, Wm. B. Rankin, Wm. Cleveland Roberson. '78—Eliphalet Nott Anable. '79—George E. Marks, Edward Payson White. '80—Robert C. Alexander, Richard D. Anable, Frank S. Ely, J. V. L. Pruyn, Talcott Van Santvoord. '81—Courtland V. Anable, Alexander V. Campbell, Geo. T. Stevens. '82—Lewis A. Coffin. '83—Wm. K. Gilchrist, James B. W. Lansing. '84—George F. Allison, Edgar S. Barney, Chas. A. Cockroft, Harry Van Ness

Philip. '85—Frank Bailey. '87—Wm. A. Jaycox. '88—Wm. Logan Kennedy. '89—Chas. L. Barstow, Chas. H. Flanigan. '93—George T. Hughes, John C. McAlpine.

#### HON. THOMAS L. JAMES.

The Hon. Thomas L. James who delivered the last lecture in the Butterfield course on the afternoon of Dec. 15, is a graduate of Madison University, Hamilton, N. Y. For a time he conducted a local journal with the skill and ability which foretold in his early life his brilliant future. He was appointed, under the administration preceding Gen. Garfield's, as Postmaster of New York City. His administration of that office was marked with much ability and success and gave so much satisfaction to the general public, irrespective of party, for its efficiency and thoroughness and the great advances made, that he became widely known throughout the country for his ability. General Garfield named him as Postmaster-General in his cabinet and again he won universal commendation in the discharge of that duty not only for his great administrative ability but also for his wisdom and excellent judgment as a counsellor in a cabinet in which James G. Blaine, Robert T. Lincoln and others of renown were his associates. He subsequently accepted the position of president of the Lincoln National Bank at its organization, now a large and very successful banking institution in New York City.

#### OUR NEW CIVIL ENGINEER.

Prof. William Olin Landreth, of Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn., has been called to the chair of civil engineering made vacant by the resignation of Prof. Charles C. Brown. Prof. Landreth graduated from Union in 1876 and is a man in every way qualified to fill the position. Mr. Landreth will not be able to come to Union until some time in the spring. The chair is being temporarily filled in an admirable manner by Prof. Kirkpatrick, of Nashville, Tenn.



**THE SHAKESPEARE CLUB TO MEET.**

The Shakespeare Club will meet on Friday evening, January 26, for the discussion of King Henry IV. As preparatory work the following books should be read: 1. The play itself; Deighton's annotated edition, Mac Millan & Co., is recommended. 2. Gervinus' Commentaries, Bennett's translation; the article on this play. 3. Ward's English Dramatic Literature, pages 396-399.

**QUESTIONS.**

1. Time embraced in Henry IV?
2. Whom does Shakespeare follow? What deviations from historical truth occur?
3. Effect of the production of the play? Why did Shakespeare change Oldcastle to Falstaff?
4. How does this drama compare in interest with Romeo and Juliet?
5. What is the chief characteristic of the play?
6. What is the leading idea of the play?
7. What is the climax of the play?
8. What historical retribution is contained in the play?
9. What striking example of character development in the play?
10. Discuss the character of the King, and show how he differs from Richard II. and Richard III.
11. What is the King's motive in his contemplated crusade to the Holy Land?
12. Show the contrast between Percy and Prince Henry, in point of honor, valor, intellect and self-mastery.
13. Point out the one-sidedness of Percy and the versatility of the Prince.
14. Is there poetical justice in having the Prince victorious?
15. What is the leading trait in Falstaff's character?
16. Contrast Falstaff with Percy—also with Prince Henry.
17. Is Falstaff's wit natural or artificial?
18. Is there any morality in Falstaff's nature?
19. Why do we not abhor the character of Falstaff?
20. Quote some of the finest passages.

**SELECTIONS FOR READING.**

- Act I. Sc. II. Enter Pointz to end of scene.  
 Act I. Sc. III. As far as exeunt King Henry, Blunt and train.  
 Act II. Sc. II. Enter Bardolph to end.  
 Act II. Sc. IV. Enter Falstaff, etc. to enter Hostess,  
 Act III. Sc. II. To enter Blunt.  
 Act V. Sc. I. Falstaff's soliloquy end of the scene.  
 Act V. Sc. IV. Enter Hotspur to end of scene.

Questions 1 to 20 will be discussed by Messrs. Lynes, '94; Van Beusekom, '94;

Sloat, '94; Pemberton, '95, and Potter, '95. The following Sophomores will render the readings: Messrs. Pollock, Young, Derby, Dann, Huggins, Guernsey and Twiford. It is earnestly requested that every member be present.

**COLLEGE MINSTRELS.****The Students to Give a Minstrel Performance—The Proceeds to be Given to the Poor of the City.**

On the evenings of February 5th and 6th the undergraduates, assisted by the young ladies of the city, will give minstrel entertainments in the Van Curler opera house. Eugene Sanger, of New York, an actor of ability, has been engaged to conduct the rehearsals and train the participants. The glee club will assist in the choruses. Mr. Sanger was in charge of those who participated in a similar entertainment given by the students two years ago and the success of that entertainment attests the ability of the gentleman to choose the participants and train them for a second performance. The affair is in charge of Daley, Auchampaugh, Campbell and Schermerhorn.

**ALUMNI DINNER.**

The sixth annual reunion and dinner of the Union College Alumni association will take place at the Delavan House, Tuesday, January 23, at eight P. M. The preliminary business meeting will be held at seven P. M.

The executive committee announces that it has the promise of the presence of very distinguished speakers, not only from the alumni of Union, but from those of other colleges.

J. Newton Fiero, '67, is president of the association; Alonzo P. Strong, '64, vice-president, and Charles F. Bridge, '87, secretary and treasurer. The executive committee consists of: Edward D. Roman, '67; Dr. James F. Barker, '74; W. Scott Hunter, '67; Dr. James F. Featherstonhaugh, '67; Albert Smith, '70; Edward P. White, '79; Rev. Lee W. Beattie, '79; Ernest A. Corbin, '71; Frederick W. Cameron, '81; Dow Beekman, '83, and George C. Baker, '88.

## THE CONCORDIENSIS.

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THE GAZETTE PRINT, SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

Looking over our subscription books during vacation, we found a large number of unpaid subscriptions. This should not have been the case. Every subscription ought to have been paid last term, but since the fact remains, each and every subscriber who has not balanced his account with THE CONCORDIENSIS, should do so immediately. Our printer is continually calling upon us for money, and we cannot expect a regular appearance of THE CONCORDIENSIS unless he is paid promptly.

The present foot ball rules should be radically changed. Plays are allowed under the existing rules which not only make foot ball a brutal game, but one which even imperils the life of the participant. A few years ago there was more individual playing and less team work, but of late team work has become paramount and very little attention given to personal work. This change in foot ball tactics is what has made the game so dangerous for the contestant. Only this year, the flying wedge, a most fiendish play made its appearance. This is strictly a mass play and Dr. St. John Rosa is correct in his summation

of this upstart, when he says that the flying wedge—the forcing of a solid triangle of vigorous men upon one or two isolated, but sternly resisting players is a modern innovation that ought at once to be abolished. There are other mass plays, such as the tandem, which perhaps are not quite so cruel that should be modified. What we want is more open individual work. Kicking and passing the pigs skin over long distances is that which lends excitement to foot ball. Long runs around the ends always create the greatest enthusiasm. Mass plays are not only harsh in their results, but tedious to the spectators. Individual playing is more exciting and less dangerous.

## DEATH OF MRS. HOFFMAN.

On Monday afternoon, December 18, Jessie D. Lathrop, wife of Professor Frank Hoffman, died after a long and painful illness. She was the daughter of Henry Lathrop, of New York, and is survived by two children, both girls, under five years of age.

The funeral services were held from her late home, Friday morning, December 22, and were conducted by the Rev. Mr. Sewall, of the First Reformed church, this city. The services were very impressive and many friends gathered to pay their last loving tribute to the departed. The casket was covered with floral tributes from college and other friends.

The following is an extract taken from an obituary which appeared in the Schenectady Union of December 22:

Six years ago Prof. Hoffman brought his young wife to his Schenectady home on college hill. It seems but yesterday since as a stranger she came among us, but so identified had she become with the social life of the college, so loving and kind had been her attitude toward all whose pleasure it had been to know her, that her death falls like a personal loss upon many.

She was a woman of unusual graces of person and of mind; education and extensive

travel had made her a delightful social companion. Her Schenectady home, from her entrance into it, was a hospitable home, and many a student of Union will recall her generous table and her hearty welcome. She entered at once into the social life, the church life and the charities of the city. Her purse was always easily opened at the call of need.

She was a comforter in the hour of trouble, an adviser in times of perplexity — thoughtful for the lonely — charitable toward all.

Often upon her sick bed she would wonder why God had thus afflicted her, but with a succeeding breath, would recount her many mercies, and beg to be forgiven for even a passing doubt of the loving care of heaven.

Her memory was a rich storehouse of sacred poetry and Scripture verse, and in the silences of night, or to the friend who was permitted to sit occasionally by her bedside, she would repeat in glowing tones, these treasures of her mind, dwelling often upon some rich truth that underlay the cadence of the verse.

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#### REV. WILLIAM P. DAVIS.

One of the oldest of the alumni of Union has passed away in the person of Rev. William P. Davis, who died at his residence, 722 Union street, at five o'clock Sunday afternoon, January 7. His sickness was short but severe and was due to an organic disorder.

Rev. Mr. Davis was born in Ware, Massachusetts, September 6, 1806, and was therefore in his 88th year. He was graduated from Union in 1833, and shortly afterward entered the ministry of the Reformed church, in which he was actively engaged for over fifty years. During this time he served charges as follows: Bethlehem, Princetown, Guilderland, Rotterdam, Coeymans and Lawyersville, Schoharie county. At the age of 80 Mr. Davis with his family, came to this city to reside, and during his last years was very active, often supplying pulpits in the city and vicinity. He often addressed religious assemblies, and last summer preached several

sermons in Crescent park on Sunday afternoons. Mr. Davis was a great reader and took great interest in the affairs and questions of the day. He took marked interest in college gatherings and was a regular attendant at the college commencements. At the last commencement Mr. Davis responded for his class in a very pleasing manner, calling forth bursts of applause from his listeners by his witty expressions.

The wife of the Rev. Mr. Davis, Elizabeth Bullock, died two years ago. He is survived by one son and five daughters, Rev. William E. Davis, pastor of the Reformed church, of Lebanon, N. J.; Mrs. Grant, of Albany; Mrs. Ward, of Closter, N. J.; Mrs. Odell, of Poughkeepsie, and Misses Susan and Mary Davis, of this city.

The funeral of this venerable and esteemed man was held from his late residence Thursday, January 11th, at eleven o'clock. By request of deceased the remains were taken to Hamilton Union, in the town of Guilderland, where they were laid away among the people of his first charge in the ministry.

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#### Local and Personal.

Several men have not returned to college.

The first minstrel rehearsal was held Tuesday night.

The advisory board held a meeting last Thursday.

The glee club held a rehearsal Saturday afternoon.

Dr. Webster has charge of the Juniors in Physiology.

C. Kilpatrick, of Albany, has entered the Freshman class.

Howard, '94, who has been ill, is again making recitations.

The Christian Association has resumed its regular weekly meetings.

A large number of men are now taking regular gymnasium work.

Candidates for the athletic team are practicing daily in the "gym."

Prof. Pepper is occupying Dr. Linhart's office as a recitation room.

The students are just now very busy "grinding out" orations and essays.

Prof. C. C. Brown and family are domiciled in the new home in Indianapolis.

W. H. Sinclair, '97, spent part of his vacation with friends at Kingston, N. Y.

C. P. Crumb, '97, spent part of his vacation with his sisters at Wellesley and Boston.

The Seniors had their first examination with Professor Hoffman Tuesday morning.

Prof. Mosher has a class in reading French at sight. They meet three times each week.

A. J. Braman, '94, was the guest of Bissell, '95, at his home in Le Roy, during the holiday vacation.

The last Junior hop before the Lenten season will be given in the usual place next Friday evening.

The Philomathean society is soliciting funds from the alumni for the refurnishing of the society rooms.

B. Van Dusen, '96, who was compelled on account of sickness to leave college early last term has returned.

A teachers' normal class in gymnasium work has been formed and a plan of work for the winter laid out.

Charles Sullivan, of Amsterdam, N. Y., the catcher on the 'varsity base ball team last season, is back again in college.

William Allen, '95, has been nominated by the advisory board for the position of scorer of the base ball team the coming season.

The Wilson bill will occupy the attention of the Juniors in their orations. The income tax will be the subject of the term essays.

Prof. Truax recently delivered the third lecture in the course on English Literature, before the University Extension Centre at Salem.

The fifteenth lecture in the Butterfield course will be given Friday afternoon by ex-Gov. A. B. Cornell. Subject, "The Electric Telegraph."

There is a very decided increase in the number of regular chapel attendants, due to the action taken by the faculty last term, making chapel attendance compulsory.

The new topic cards of the College Y. M.

C. A., have just been issued. They are very neat and attractive. Many good speakers have been obtained for this term and an interesting and instructive program is assured to all.

The Philomathean's have elected the following officers for the winter term: President, N. Beckwith; vice-president, R. Van Busekom; treasurer, W. J. Sanderson; secretary, G. E. Pollock; curator, Pershing; judicial committee, Sloat, Payne and West.

The Adelphics at their regular meeting last Saturday morning, debated the following question: Resolved, That congress should levy an income tax on all incomes exceeding \$5,000. The affirmative was represented by L. C. Guernsey, '95; Eldridge, '95, and Wright, '95. West, '95; Pollock, '95, and Sawyer, '95, supported the negative. The affirmative won.

### Alumni Allusions.

'93. Clowe has an addition to his family. It's a boy.

'93. George T. Hughes, of New York, was in town during the holidays.

'93. Herbert W. Fox is taking a post graduate course at the University of Chicago.

'92. Louis Sebring has passed the State civil service examination for assistant engineer.

'81. Dr. Willard C. Marselius, died Monday morning, December 25, at his home No. 144 State street, Albany.

'63. Senator Parker on Thursday evening, January 10th, gave a dinner to the newly elected state officers.

'73. Dr. W. T. Clute, has been chosen by the Schenectady County Medical Society as a delegate to the New York State Medical Convention.

'92. Hon. Charles T. Saxton, of Clyde, N. Y., Honorary Chancellor of Union at the '92 commencement, has been elected president of the the New York State senate.

'72. Hon. Howard Thornton, recently elected a trustee of the college, has been appointed chairman of the Judiciary Committee and second on Committee on Cities in the legislature.

'63. Senator Amasa J. Parker introduced a bill in the senate January 2, amending the act



authorizing the incorporation of the Union College alumni, in regard to officers and elections.

'90. The *Philosophical Magazine* of December, 1893, contained an article by Sidney J. Lochner, on "The Elongation Produced in Soft Iron by Magnetism." Mr. Lochner was for some time after leaving college connected with the Albany Observatory, and is now a fellow at Clark University, Worcester, Mass.

'61. Charles Emory Smith, ex-minister to Russia, editor of the *Philadelphia Press*, was entertained by General Butterfield, '49, at his home in New York during the convention of the Republican Editorial Association, which was held in that city January 10 and 11. General Butterfield gave an evening reception at his home to the members of the association in honor of his guest.

The December *University Magazine* contained excellent portraits and biographies of Alfred L. Loomis, M. D., L.L. D., '50, and Warren G. Brown, '47, both residents of New York city. Dr. Loomis stands at the head of the world's specialists in diseases of the lungs and respiratory organs. Mr. Brown is a lawyer of note in New York, and is held in very high esteem by his fellow barristers.

'48. William Lyman Akin, died at his home in Watertown, Mass., December 29. Mr. Akin was born in Rotterdam and received his entire common school and college education in

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Schenectady. After his graduation Prof. Akin spent a year at the college as a tutor, at the end of which time he was made the Vice-Principal of the Mount Washington Collegiate Institute in New York city, which position he ably filled for twenty-seven years. Deceased was a member of the Union Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, and was a classmate of the late ex-President Arthur.

The New England Society, of Philadelphia, the president of which is Charles Emory Smith, Union, '60, ex-minister to Russia, at its thirteenth annual dinner given recently, entertained ex-President Harrison. The members of the society and their invited guests to the number of about three hundred and fifty, greeted General Harrison in parlor C, of the Continental hotel, before the dinner hour arrived. Many distinguished men were present. General Harrison, at the opening of his speech, made the following remark, concerning our noted alumnus, ex-Minister Smith: "When my good friend and your good neighbor and president Mr. Charles Emory Smith, invited me to be present to-night, I felt a special demand upon me to yield to his request. I thought I owed him

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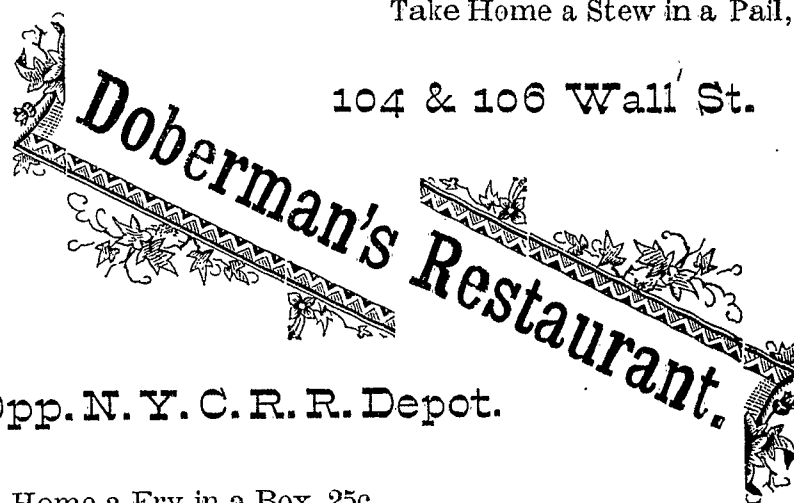
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some reparation for appointing him to office, the emoluments of which did not pay his expenses." (Laughter).

'56. The Hon. Oscar Craig, president of the State Board of Charities, died at nine o'clock on the evening of January 2, at his home on South Washington street, Rochester. Oscar Craig was born at Medina, Orleans county, on November 15, 1836, of Scottish parentage. Mr. Craig, at an early age entered Union College, from which he graduated with honors in the spring of '56, with the degree of A. B. In 1859 the additional degree of A. M. was conferred upon Mr. Craig, who was at the same time admitted to the bar. Shortly afterward he removed to Rochester, where he opened an office for the practice of his profession. After the lapse of a few years, ill health compelled his removal from the city, to which he returned in 1868 and resumed his temporarily abandoned practice. Among his legal associates Mr. Craig enjoyed the highest of reputations. He was a trustee and member of the counsel for the Monroe County Savings Bank. He was appointed a member of the State Board of Charities in May, 1880, and was elected its president in 1889. He has been seriously ill for the last two months. He leaves a widow and one brother, Commander Joseph E. Craig, U. S. N., now stationed at the naval academy at Annapolis.

#### AMUSEMENTS.

The following attractions will appear at the Van Curler opera house on the dates mentioned:

Thursday, Jan. 18th.—The roaring farce comedy, "O'Dowd's Neighbors," with Mark Murphy, and Mike Kelly the famous \$10,000 base ball player.

Saturday, Jan. 20th.—"Ole Olson," the great favorite of former seasons, with a strong singing cast and many novelties.

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Thursday, Feb. 1st.—Agnes Herndon.

Saturday, Feb. 3rd.—"The Stowaway."

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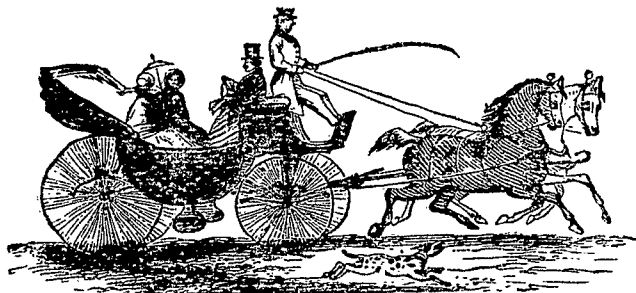
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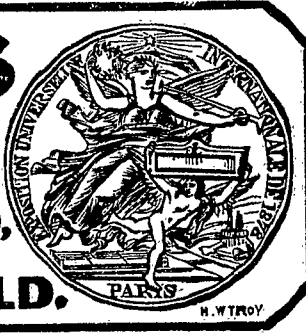
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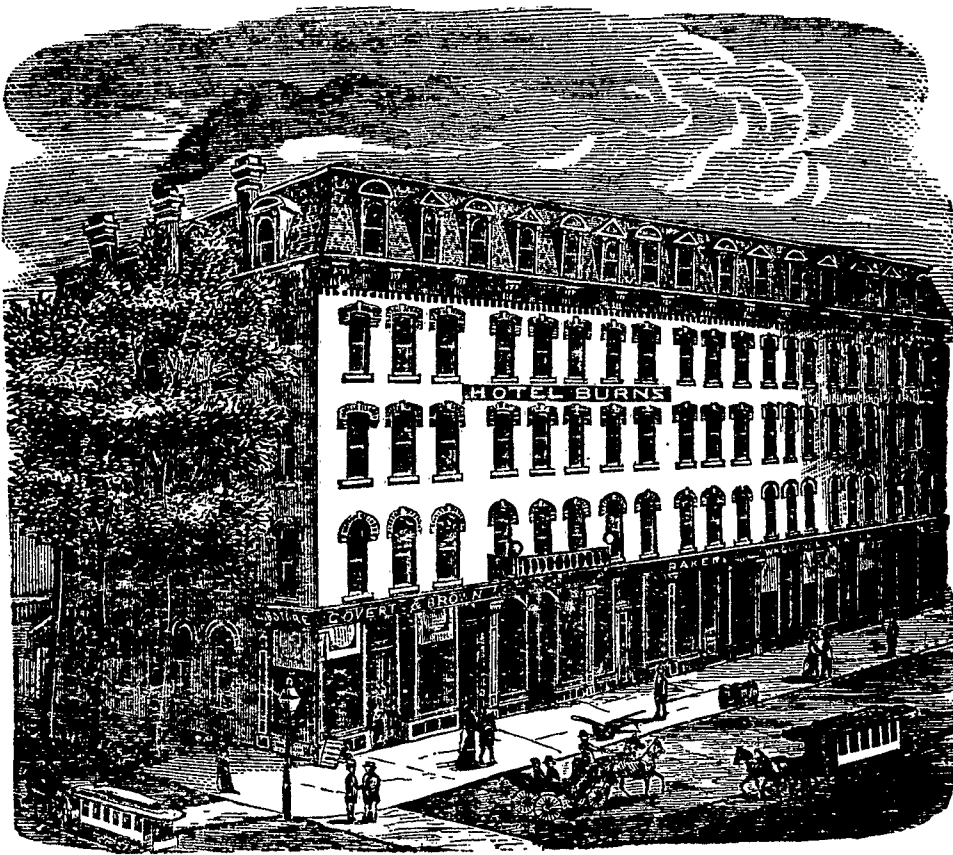
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