Dictated March 10, 1976

Mrs. Jeanette Skinner, Secretary
Alumni Office
Union College
Schenectady, New York 12308

Dear Mrs. Skinner:

Thank you for your note of January 15th and its enclosures concerning Simeon DeWitt Bloodgood, Class of 1818. The information you sent was exactly what I needed to fill in some serious gaps and correct some misimpressions, so I am most grateful to you for sending it. I am writing some further inquiries to Mrs. Cahill, but since she may not reply promptly, do you have any reason to believe she is no longer living and do you have any way of knowing whether the Bloodgood genealogy she mentions was ever published?

Thank you very much for your help.

Sincerely,

Alice P. Kenney
Acting Chairman
Department of History

APK:hw
January 15, 1976

Ms. Alice P. Kenney  
Acting Chairman  
Department of History  
Cedar Crest College  
Allentown, Pa. 18104

Dear Ms. Kenney:

I am enclosing xerox copies of information we have in the file of Simeon DeWitt Bloodgood, Class of 1818. I do not believe this information covers the areas of your interest, however this is all we have to offer.

He received an AB from Union but we do not have records of the curriculum during his undergraduate days.

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) Jeanette Skinner  
Secretary in the Alumni Office

enclosures
December 18, 1975

Alumni Office
Union College
Schenectady, New York

Gentlemen:

For a paper concerning early literary activity in Albany, I am seeking information on Simeon DeWitt Bloodgood, whom I am informed graduated from Union about 1820. Although my primary interest is in his literary, as opposed to his political and scientific activities, for the purposes of context I would appreciate any information about him which may be available in your records, as well as references to any published or unpublished accounts of him of which you may be aware. I would also appreciate whatever information is easily available about the curriculum at Union College at the time he attended it.

Thank you very much for your help.

Sincerely,

Alice P. Kenney
Acting Chairman
Department of History

APK: hw
SIMEON DE WITT BLOODGOOD

Son of Francis A. Bloodgood of Utica, N. Y.

Graduated at Union College, studied law, and settled in Albany. He acquired some reputation as a man of letters.

FROM The Pioneers of Utica p. 66
M. M. Bagg
Curtiss & Childs
Utica 1877

CLASS OF 1818--Simeon De Witt Bloodgood.

May 30, 1824. At the term of the Supreme Court, Simeon De Witt Bloodgood was admitted to the degree of counselor at law.

Munsell's Annals of Albany v. 8 p. 105

1818

SIMEON DEWITT BLOODGOOD

Died:--At Albany, Joanna Frances, infant daughter of S. DeWitt Bolldgood, Esq., 1 year.00 The Statesman, N. Y. City, Aug.11, 1826

2. Simeon D. W Bloodgood A.B. 1818 Union

Attended two sessions at Fairfield last in 1812 from Utica.
For the past twenty-five years I have been compiling records of the Bloodgood family in America, attempting to trace all male descendants and the genealogical and historical data connected with them, from 1658 when the progenitor, Captain Frans Janse Bloetgoet came from Holland and settled first in New Amsterdam, and in 1659 in Flushing, L.I. He had two sons, William born 1607, and John born 1702. Two grandsons—(Abraham and James) of William, came to Albany, and became prominent citizens. Abraham was the first waarfinger, and the first to sail trading vessels from Albany to the West Indies. His sons, Francis, James, and Lynott Bloodgood, came to Utica from Albany in 1798 or 1800. Francis was the first county clerk in 1802 of Oneida County. He was also the first town treasurer.

Oneida County Histories, and "Pioneers of Utica" by M.M. Bagg, show that he came first in 1797 to deliver an address before a Fort Schuyler audience on the anniversary of the nation's independence. The histories claim that he was a graduate of Union College and Hamilton College. He is given as an Attorney admitted to practice before the Supreme Court in 1798, and also found is the date Aug. 5, 1790 when he was admitted as an attorney of the Supreme Court. I have checked with the Alumni Records department of Hamilton College, and they have no record of his having been graduated from Hamilton College, and since the office had the alumni book of Union, the librarian looked for his name but reported that it was not listed in the book of graduates. Since I am now retyping all the huge amount of material on the Bloodgood family, hoping to have it published in some form for the many descendants who have asked that it be made available, I am rechecking all dates and historical material. It seems that Francis A. Bloodgood could hardly be old enough in 1790 to have been admitted to the Bar, since he was born June 12, 1775, in Albany and baptised in the Dutch Church there. (Ref. Records of the Penn. Gen. Soc., Vol. VI, pp 235-236-239).

Francis A. Bloodgood, son of Abraham and Elizabeth V.V. Lynott, may be confused in the records with his cousin, Francis Bloodgood, son of James and Lydia Van Valkenburg Bloodgood. Their fathers were brother who married Van Valkenburg sisters, Francis, son of James was born July 18, 1768. He remained in Albany. He held the following positions:- Clerk of the Supreme Court, 2nd President of the New York State Band, Mayor of Albany 1831-1833, State Senator in 1833, Sec. of Board of Regents 1798-1813, and was a prominent man of affairs. He is given in Albany Records as a graduate of Yale University in 1787. He would then have been 21. He is not given as a graduate of Union College, but he may have attended there.

I would greatly appreciate a check of your records to find if either of these two Francis Bloodgoods attended Union.

Francis A. Bloodgood was also a New York State Senator for the Western District of New York State 1809-1816. His son Simeon DeWitt Bloodgood was editor of the "Daily Advertiser" of Albany printed by Webster on the old "Elm Tree Corner". He was secretary to Governor George Clinton, and also edited "True Sun" in New York City.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

March 24, 1963
March 26, 1963

Mrs. William C. Cahill
2309 Dearborn Place
Utica, New York

Dear Mrs. Cahill:

We appreciate your letter of March 24 giving such a complete genealogy of the Bloodgood family. Several students by the name of Bloodgood attended Union College in the early years, but it seems neither Francis Bloodgood from Albany, N.Y., nor Francis A. Bloodgood from Utica, N.Y., attended Union College in Schenectady.

However, for your information, James C. Bloodgood, the eldest son of Francis Bloodgood, Albany, was a non-graduate in the Class of 1810. Also, Simeon DeWitt Bloodgood, son of Francis A. Bloodgood, Utica, did graduate from Union College in the Class of 1818 with an A.B. degree. Maybe somewhere in the records someone confused the fathers' with the sons' attendance at Union College.

We are sorry we cannot be more helpful to you.

Sincerely,

Henry J. Swankel
Director of Alumni Relations.
Died in New York July 14, 1866, aged 66. He resided many years in this city (Albany, having married a daughter of Col. Gosen Van Schaack. He was a descendant of Francis Bloetgoet, "chief of the inhabitants of the Dutch nation residing in the villages of Vlissengen, Heemsteede, Rustdorp, and Middleburg," on Long Island, and was a magistrate and member of the privy council of the governor of the province of New York, about 1683. His father, Francis A. Bloodgood, was a man of note in the western part of the State, having held numerous offices of state during the administrations of Madison and Tompkins. The subject of this notice enjoyed an ample fortune, was a public spirited citizen of this city, and foremost in many important enterprises. He was private secretary of De Witt Clinton; was one of the committee entrusted with the erection of the public school houses of the city, which used the money so honestly that a balance was returned to the public treasury. In connection with the late Richard Varick De Witt, he constructed the Ithaca and Owego railroad, at a great loss, and was a director of the Albany and West Stockbridge rail road. He was for several years a member of the common council, and lost his election as mayor, on one occasion, by a single vote. Much of his time was devoted to literary pursuits; he was some time editor of the Albany Daily Advertiser, and afterwards of the True Son in New York. He was besides either editor or writer for numerous weekly and daily papers, and author of several books, among which were The Sexagenary, The Englishman's Sketch Book, and a work on roads. Sir John Franklin, in his first book of travels to the Arctic region, made honorable mention of his services rendered the expedition, and all the distinguished foreigners who visited Albany, were indebted to him for hospitable attentions. He is mentioned in Hammond's Political History as having played an important part in politics. Gen. Harrison, whose early and staunch friend he was, said of him, that if he owed his election to the presidency to any one man, it was to him, who "had led the front of his battle." He was one of the originators of the Albany Institute, and of the American Statistical and Geographical Society. He was also one of the founders of St. Paul's church in this city, to which he contributed very largely in funds, and of which he was an efficient vestry man for many years. The New York Tribune, noticing his death, said: "Mr. Bloodgood died from sun stroke. On Saturday he came down town, and remaining a short time in the office of the Rail Road Journal in Spruce street, went out and took some refreshments. As he left the restaurant a colored waiter, seeing that he was about to fall, caught him; and he was conveyed, at his own request to the counting room of the New York Tribune, whence he was afterward conveyed to his home No. 29 East Twenty-eighth street. Mr. Bloodgood was a well known and generally respected citizen, and formerly held a prominent place in the public view. In politics he was a whig and exercised a large influence in this city under Mr. Tyler's administration. Latterly he was a republican, earnestly sustaining the war. A few months ago he was appointed consular representative in New York of the United States of Colombia.
1818 SIMEON DE WITT BLOODGOOD

MARRIED: In this city, on Friday evening last (Oct. 24th), by the Rev. John Ludlow, S. DeWitt Bloodgood, Esq., to Miss Eliza, only daughter of the late John Van Schaick, Esq.

Albany Argus
Oct. 28, 1823
Tuesday.

1818 SIMEON DEWITT BLOODGOOD

DIED: - At New York, on Monday, March 29, Eliza, widow of Simron DeWitt Bloodgood, and daughter of the late John Van Schaick, of this city.

Albany Argus
April 1, 1871