To J. L. Fabrikski, of the Class that graduated at Union College, in the year 1797

(or, if deceased, to the friend or relatives who knew him best.)

Sir,—

It is the wish of the subscriber, in collecting the information asked for by the following questions, to obtain materials for a concise Biographical Catalogue of the Trustees, Presidents, Professors and Tutors of Union College;—of those who have received Honorary Degrees from it, and of all who have ever entered that Institution, whether Graduates or not.

That such a work would be interesting and useful to the Alumni, will not be denied; but whether it be practicable, will depend chiefly upon the zeal and spirit which they shall impart. This circular will be sent to every Graduate whose residence is known, (or, if deceased, to some near connection,) and it is confidently expected that no one will neglect to return it in due time, with as full information as circumstances will allow,—some of the questions, indeed, it may not be possible to answer with certainty; others not at all; still, it is hoped that no important facts will be withheld because of their frequency.

Death has removed the twenty-four original Trustees, the first three Presidents, the early Professors and Tutors, and from eight hundred to one thousand of the Alumni of the College. Doubtless their friends and descendants will cheerfully contribute such information as may be necessary to illustrate the lives and services of the departed.

The subscriber desires every aid that may help to throw light upon the personal history of those concerned:—Obituary Notices; Biographical Sketches, Epitaphs, Funeral Sermons, Newspaper Notices of election to important offices, &c.; Business Cards and Advertisements; also, copies of their Literary Works, Addresses, Sermons, Essays, Newspapers, engraved Portraits, &c.; all of which will be deposited and preserved in an Archive of the College Library, to be set apart for the “Graduates’ Works.”

He also requests that all future changes affecting the answers which shall be given, be made known to him from time to time;—especially the deaths of Graduates, and that the usual obituary notices of funeral sermons published on such occasions, be sent with the announcements, as it is his purpose to publish these deaths biennially once a year.

JONATHAN PEARSON, Librarian.

Union College.
Schenectady, N. Y.

Sketches of Biographical Sketches for the Proposed Catalogue.

John Gildin Brown was born in Quinnipiac, N. Y., May 2, 1800; parents, James and Elizabeth (Gildin) Brown, who moved to Epsom, N. Y., in 1806. He was prepared for College at Holderness High School, under the instruction of Rev. Moses Johnson, and entered Union College Jan. 31, 1817. He studied law with Hon. Septimus H. Smith, of Great Falls; was admitted to the bar in 1821; and commenced the practice of law in Albany, with James E. Van Rensselaer, Esq. In 1830 he moved to New-York City, which, thereafter, became his residence. He was Member of N. Y. Assembly 1832-3; State Senator 1835-: Member of Congress 1838-41; and Judge of the Superior Court 1842-6. He died June 30, 1849, of cholera, aged 49 years. Besides ordinary speeches, orations and opinions, he wrote a work on constitutional law, and edited the N. Y. State Papers. He received the Degree of L. L. D. from Hamilton College in 1846.

Joseph Henshaw Luther was born in Hanover, Mass., June 1, 1798; parents, Joseph and Madeline (Henshaw) Luther; prepared for College at Yorkville Academy, John Alay, Esq., Principal; and entered Union College Sept. 1814. He taught, 1818-20, in East Philadelphia, (Penn.) High School; graduated at Princeton Theological Seminary in 1823; and was ordained Sept. 5, 1828, at Marlboro, N. Y.; and was Pastor of the Presbyterian Church till 1829. He was Pastor of the 1st Congregational Church of Hasleton, Conn., 1825-30; Professor of Rhetoric in Erie College 1831-40; retired on account of ill health, and now resides in Philadelphia, Pa. He has published six sermons on various occasions: a series of Lectures on Rhetoric and Belles Lettres, and the “Communian’s Companion.” He received the Degree of D. D. from the Hudson University in 1842.

Thomas Pennington Radway was born Feb. 25, 1778, in Benton, N. Y.; parents, John Harmon and Mary (Pennington) Radway; was prepared for College at High Holme School, Rev. Hanover Kelton, Principal; entered Union College Sept. 1795; taught a few months in Suncook, Mass., in 1799; studied medicine with Dr. Jonas Philer and Dr. Abram Pottoe, of Camembert; attended medical lectures at the College of Surgeons and Physicians, and was admitted to, and commenced the practice of medicine in La Ringe, in 1800. He was Surgeon in the Army 1813-15; and returned to practice at Oldbury in 1816, where he has since resided. He lectured in the Fairhaven Medical School on Anatomy and Physiology, 1830-5, and has published several articles in the New-York Medical Review, and two larger works on the “Functions of the Brain,” and on “Gnathic Weights.”

N. B. 1. Let the names to the following questions be as full and authentic as possible; but when doubtful let them be marked thus (1).

2. When the person is deceased let some near relative or friend fill out the blanks to the best of his knowledge; if he have been dead for ten that he sent.

3. Let as much time be taken as may be found necessary for this purpose, and as much.

4. In case this sheet be not sufficient to exhaust all the facts to be sent, add another of the same size, if possible, having an inner margin of not less than one inch bordering.

5. In cases where no answers to this circular shall be returned, the editor will be obliged to publish such names without any biographical notices, or to rely upon information, gathered from other sources, and, therefore, not always authentic.
INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR THE FOREGOING SKETCHES.

I. Name. John Landing Lardaska

[Let this be written plainly and the middle names in full.]

II. Names of both Parents; thus:—

[John and Elizabeth (Smith) Johnson.]

John Lardaska and Helena (Landing) Lardaska

III. Birth Place. Albany

Birth Day and Year. March 4, 1797

IV. Various residences and dates; thus:

[Pittsfield, Mass., 1814-5; Albany, N. Y., 1815-20; New York City, 1820-54.]

Hackettstown, N. J., 1788 to 1792. Schenectady, N. Y.,

1792 to 1802. Poughkeepsie, N. Y., 1802 to 1811. Schenectady,

N. Y., 1811 to his death in 1856.

V. At what Academy or Academies prepared for College, with Principals and dates; thus:—

[Albany Academy, Benjamin Allen, L. L. D., 1812-15.]

Hackettstown Academy, under Alexander Chalmers

1789 to 1793.

VI. At what College he graduated, and when. Union College in 1797.

VII. The occupation he followed after leaving college before studying his profession; thus:—

[Teaching, Washington, D. C., 1818-51, or Merchant's Clerk, New York City, 1849-51.]

He immediately commenced the business of

VIII. The profession he studied; where; with whom; when; thus:—

[Theology at Princeton Theological Seminary, 1825-6; or Law in Albany, N. Y., with Hon. Harmanus Bloeker, 1830-2.]

Theology at Schenectady with Rev. Dr. Conklin

1792 to 1794.

IX. Where he has practised his profession, with dates; and in case he be a clergyman, mention the denomination to which he belongs; thus:—

[Saratoga, N. Y., 1822-25; Poughkeepsie, N. Y., 1826-50; New York City, 1850-54.]

Saratoga, Rev. Richard, N. Y., 1802 to 1811. Schenectady, N. Y.

1811 to 1850

X. The other occupations he has followed; when and where; thus:—

[Merchant, Hackensack, N. J., 1829-35; or Farmer, Genesee, N. Y., 1835-38; or Manufacturer, Schoharie, N. Y., 1841-44; or Professor, teacher, banker, editor, etc.]

No other
XI. The important offices he has held, with dates; thus:
[Surrogate of Jefferson Co., N.Y., 1840-41 and 1843-7; Member of Congress, 21st District, N.Y., 1841-43; Member of Assembly, of N.Y., 1851-4, &c., &c.]

None

XII. The Literary or Scientific Works he has written or edited.
[Copies are solicited for the "Graduate Alcove" in College Library.]

None

XIII. The names of his relatives who graduated at Union College.

His son, 2nd Anan. B. Ladd, of Saltmarsh, Mass. graduated at Union College, 1823.

XIV. The literary, professional, or honorary titles he received; from whence, with dates; thus:
[M.D., from Albany Medical College, 1845; or LL.D., Amherst College, 1820, &c.]

None

XV. Is there an engraved portrait of him?
[One or two copies, together with his autograph, are solicited for College Library.]

No

XVI. The date, circumstances, and place of his death.
[Read any printed notice, biographical sketch, funeral sermon, &c. In many instances more space will be required to answer this and the three following questions, in which case add an additional sheet.]

He died at his residence at Hillsborough on the 15th day of August, 1850, of an attack of pneumonia to which he had been subjected for six weeks. He retained his mental and bodily vigor until his death, and continued in the performance of his duties; his last instructions were to advise him to call on colleague (the Rev. Allan Schuyl) who accordingly to the express arrangement was installed in the Tabernacle after the death of the deceased.
XVII. General information respecting character, services, success, interesting passages and events in his life, &c.

XVIII. Some account of his pedigree and family; its original seat in this or the old country, &c., &c.

The first of his family in this country was Albert Labrowitz, a native of Poland, a descendant of a family of that name who for many years had borne an active part in the political troubles of their country. He landed at New Amsterdam from the Fox in August 1662. He purchased of the Indians large tracts of land near Hackensack, New Jersey, which he continued to hold by the proprietary government after the Declaration of Independence. Many of his descendants still reside.

XIX. List of such graduates as may not be widely known; their residences, professions, dates of deaths, &c.; the name and residence, also, of some near friend of the deceased, that further information may be sought for; thus:—


[Handwritten notes]
JOHN L. ZABRISKIE

The Rev. John L. Zabriskie preached at Milestone for the first time in February, 1810, and took charge of the church (Reformed Dutch), moving his family into the village in May, 1811. He was installed by Dr. Cannon, and remained with the church as one of her most faithful pastors until he died, August 15, 1850, 39 years and 3 months.

Shortly after Mr. Zabriskie's settlement here, early in 1812, the Consistory again provided a parsonage property for themselves, on the plot now occupied by Dr. Fred. Blackwell, bought from Dan. Diborough, at a cost of $2232. But this place was occupied only three or four years, when Mr. Zabriskie purchased a property of his own on the hill, where he resided until his death.

During the first eighteen years of his ministry here he preached in the old church, but it had long been felt that the building was too small for the growing congregation, and repeated efforts had been made to remedy the evil. Therefore, in 1837, a new church edifice was erected, in size, 70 by 55 feet. The cornerstone was laid June 8, 1828; the church was dedicated on Christmas Sabbath, 1828.

Mr. Zabriskie's ministry was very successful. There was one remarkable revival at which he received 108 on profession at a single communion. He received nearly 500 on profession and 162 by certificate during his ministry. His last report to Classis, in the spring of 1850, makes the church membership to be then 291, and 176 families. The congregation was indeed built up to great strength in members during his long pastorate here. The membership had nearly trebled.

Father Zabriskie died August 15, 1850 at the age of seventy-one. His dust lies in the adjoining church-yard, where his memorial monument reminds the passer-by of the venerable "Minister of God" of more than half a century's service.

Dr. Messler says of him,—"He was one of the most laborious and successful pastors in Somerset County. He preached and lectured more, visited more families, and attended more carefully to all his public duties than almost any other minister of his time. He was considered by all an example not only, but a mentor in his official life."

FROM History of Hunterdon & Somerset Counties, N.J. pp 291-2
James P. Snell, Compiler
Everts & Peck
Philadelphia
1861.
When Dr. Schureman left Millstone the church seemed to be almost in despair. It was a great loss indeed; but that kind Providence which watched over the interests of the yet feeble congregation interposed and gave relief. The attention of the people was directed to the Rev. John L. Zabriskie, settled over the united churches of Greenbush and Winantskill, near Albany. He preached at Millstone for the first time in the month of February, 1810, and took charge of the church, moving his family in the month of May, 1811. He was installed by Dr. Cannon, and he remained with the church as one of her most faithful pastors until he died Aug. 15th, 1850—39 years and three months.

John L. Zabriskie was, it is said, of Polish extraction, a descendant of Albert Saborowski, who arrived in this country in the Fox, in 1662, and of the fourth generation; born March 4th, 1779. He graduated at Union College, Schenectady, in the very first class, in 1798; studied theology with Dr. Derick Romeyn, and was licensed by the Classis of Rensselaer in 1801. He settled as successor to the Rev. J. V. C. Romeyn almost immediately at Greenbush and Winantskill, and continued to serve these churches faithfully and acceptably for eight years. The church at Millstone was comparatively weak, having only about 70 members in its communion and 84 families, when he consented to take charge of it. After preaching eighteen years in the old church, he succeeded finally in inducing his people to build a new one, the present building—sufficiently commodious and convenient for all who desire to attend the services in it, at least at the present time.

The present writer preached his funeral sermon, and afterward gave in Corwin's Manual the following as his conception of what the man was, what he deserved to be esteemed, and how he had labored in the Gospel for so many years.

(See Corwin's Manual)

He sleeps in view of the front door of his church, and his children have inscribed upon his monument these words: "In memory of John Lansing Zabriskie, born March 4th, 1779; died, August 15th, 1850. For more than 50 years a minister of God: from 1811 until his death, pastor of the Reformed Dutch Church of Millstone. Pure in life, sincere of purpose, with zeal, perseverance, and prudence, devoted to the service of his Master. Here amid the loved people of his charge, his earthly remains await the resurrection of the just." On his wife's monument is written: "Sarah Barrea, wife of Rev. J. L. Zabriskie, born May 11th, 1786; died December 21st, 1856."

Eight Memorial Sermons pp. 281-283
(Forty Years at Raritan)
Abraham Messler (Class of 1821)
New York 1873.
1797

JOHN LANSING ZABRISKIE was born in Albany, March 4, 1779.

After his graduation from Union College in 1797, he studied theology under Rev. Romcyn, pastor of the First Reformed Church in Schenectady. Mr. Zabriskie was licensed by the classis of Albany. He served as pastor at Greenbush and Wynantskill, 1801, 1811; and at Millstone, 1811-50. His influence in this region was profound and powerful. He died August 15, 1850. He was a trustee of Rutgers College, elected in R 11.
Married:—Last evening, by the Rev. Dr. Livingston, the Rev. John L. Zabriskie, of Greenbush, to Miss Sarah Barrea, of this city.—The Spectator (N.Y.City) May 25, 1803. (Published under column dated May 23, Monday).
These pictures and sketches are in the family
Genalogical Records of the Zabriskie family

Also Engraving of J. A. Steel Engraving of John L.

Class 1827 - Zabriskie John L.

Excellent steel engraving of John L.

Union College Biography

Class 1827 - Zabriskie John L.

Exxellent steel engraving of John L.


Also Engraving of John L. Zabriskie.

Philtomistan College.

The Philomistan College.

Rev. John L. Zabriskie, 1879. A resident of Sparta, Ind., R. I., was a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

During his long residence at Millis's, he maintained his influence and stations.

The following extracts from his private correspondence briefly indicate his character:

"During his long stay on this continent, he remained a member of Phi Beta Kappa. He was a man of many excellences; kind, affectionate, and generous; and his friends were numerous,

His talents were considered by all as equal not only, but a model in his official life.

His death was felt by those who knew him best, and no one could


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During his long pastorate at Millstone he maintained his influence and his standing unto the end. He was a man of many excellences; kind, social, unaffected, and sincerely and zealously pious; a gentleman of the old school, simple in his tastes, unostentatious in his life, and unsophisticated in his daily conduct. All who knew him loved him, and those who knew him best esteemed him most.

He was one of the most laborious and successful pastors in Somerset County. He preached and lectured more, visited more families, and attended more carefully to all his public duties than almost any other minister of his time. He was considered by all an example not only, but a monitor in his official life.

His talents were good. His mind was more judicious, solid, and safe than brilliant, or endowed with genius. He was a wise man, a sensible man, a man to be depended upon. His counsel was judicious, and no one ever erred much in following it. Hence he himself made no mistakes of importance, had no controversies, and while his friends were numerous, his enemies belonged to those whom his principles and his holy life necessarily brought in opposition to him.

He was an excellent preacher; and though he seldom wrote his sermons, they were solid, sensible, full of evangelical thought, and listened to with profit by all the earnest-hearted and godly in his congregation. His knowledge of the gospel was full, distinctive, and clear; and when he had discussed any one of its doctrines, his hearers felt that they had had very important matters brought to their consideration, in a way which was calculated to impress their minds and edify their hearts. Few men could speak more judiciously and appropriately, from the impulse of the moment, on any given theme. Often there was a neatness, terseness, and directness which could not fail to be highly pleasing.

Then he was a genial man, and in his social intercourse would astonish and excite you by his wit, his sarcasm, and even drollery; but this was only occasionally, and when he seemed to be carried out of his ordinary sphere. Habitually he was grave, thoughtful, and though not reserved, by no means a facetious or light man.

His life was unstained even by a breath of evil. No one doubted his piety, or the sincerity of his admonitions, when he reproved vice or re-proved iniquity.
Zabriskie (Rev) John Transcend-
Union College, Class 1797 - (Age 18) -
Born, Albany Nov. 4, 1779 -
Died, Millbrook, N. Y. Pastor Ref. Dutch Church at Millbrook for 40 yr. W.
Descendants of Albertus Zabriskie, a Pole who came to Manhattan on
the Fox in 1662 and had large
land patent near Hackensack, N.J.
The son of Albertus (John) Barree,
wife last married was in the Clear
of 1823 at Union College
- the Zabriskie Library had an egg
- the Zabriskie Library - and a
- the Zabriskie Estate of Rev.
- photo following the estate of Rev.
- John L. Zabriskie,
- a grandson of John Z. Zabriskie was
- Rev. Transcend Zabriskie was
- a Ref. Dutch Church minister (1836-1932)
Reverend John Lansing Zabriskie of the class of 1797 at Union, graduated at the Seminary in 1800. The record of him seems to be complete except for the place of his death.
Trustee appointed in
1811 REV. JOHN LANSING ZABRISKIE, Millstone, N. J....Died 1850

Born at Albany, N. Y., Mch. 4, 1779. A. B. (Union, 1797).
Studied theology under D. Romeyn, 1800. Dutch Reformed clergy-,
man. Died, Aug. 15, 1850.

Rutgers College Catalogue
1766-1916
p. 13