To Charles Rogers of the Class that graduated at Union College, in the year 1815
(or, if deceased, to the friend or relative who knew him best)

Sir,—

It is the aim 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 ready aid 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 farness.

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 or stations, 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 Alcove of the College Library, to be set apart for "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 or funeral sermons published on such occasions, be sent with the announcements, as it is his purpose to publish these deaths hereafter once a year.

JONATHAN PEARSON, Librarian.

UNION COLLEGE.
SCHENECTADY, N.Y.

SPECIMENS OF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES FOR THE PROPOSED CATALOGUE.

John Gildden Brown was born in Quinnepeck, N. Y., May 2, 1800; parents, James and Elizabeth (Gildden) Brown, who moved to Epsom, N. Y., in 1806. He was prepared for College at Helderbergh High School, under the instruction of Rev. Moses Johnson, and entered Union College Jan. 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 S. Van Hoezen, Esq. In 1830 he moved to New York City, which, thereafter, became his residence. He was Member of N. Y. Assembly 1832-5; State Senator 1836-8; Member of Congress 1839-41; and Judge of the Superior Court 1842-6. He died June 30, 1849, of cholera, aged 49 years. Besides occasional 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 Madeleine (Henshaw) Luther; prepared for College at Yorkville Academy, John Almy, 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. 25, 1823, at Marbletown, N. Y.; and was Pastor of the Presbyterian Church till 1825. He was Pastor of the 1st Congregational Church of Hasbom, 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 "Communicant’s Companion." He received the Degree of D. D. from the Hudson University in 1842.

Thomas Pennington Radway was born Feb. 23, 1778, in Benton, N. Y.; parents, John Harmony 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 Physic and Dr. Abram Potcar, of Camermile; attended medical lectures at the College of Surgeons and Physicians, and was admitted to, and commenced the practice of medicine in La Rhone, in 1805. He was Surgeon in the Army 1815-15, and returned to practice at Oldbury in 1815, 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 "Gunshot Wounds."

N. B. 1. Let the answers to the following questions be as full and authentic as possible; but when doubtful let them be marked thus (?)
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 but one foot, let that be sent.
3. Let as much time be taken as may be found necessary for this purpose, and no more.
4. In case this sheet be not sufficient to contain all the facts to be sent, add another of the same size, if possible, leaving an inner margin of not less than one inch for binding.
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.
XI. The important offices he has held, with dates; thus:

[Baronet of Jefferson Co., N.Y., 1839-41 and 1845-57; Member of Congress, 1st District, N.Y., 1841-43; Member of Assembly, N.Y., 1823-24, &c., &c.]

Member of Assembly of N.Y. in 1833. His speech on the employment of Legislative Chaplains - on Gen. Jackson's Proclamation of Nullification - was delivered that session.

XII. The literary or scientific works he has written or edited. A member again in 1827.

[Copies are available in the "Graduate Alumni" section of the Library.]

His speech on Mr. Herkell's bill for the admission of emigrants without a belief in a future state of existence, and against the same. On the General Policies of the State. On the dis-

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

[His son Charles James Rogers.]

XIV. The literary, professional, or honorary titles he received; from whence, with dates; thus:

[M.D., from Albany Medical College, 1846; &c., &c.]

XV. Is there an engraved portrait of him?

[One or two copies, together with his name, are selected for College Library.]

XVI. The date, circumstances, and place of his death.

[Provide any printed notice, biographical sketch, funeral services, &c. In many instances more space will be required to answer this and the three following questions, in which case add an additional sheet.]
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.

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:—

CHARLES ROGERS, 1818, was a resident of Caldwell, N.Y., was a member of the Philomathean Society. (Died: 1874)

Philomathean Catalogue 1830
CHARLES ROGERS

A Representative from New York.
Born in Northumberland, Saratoga County, New York, April 30, 1800.
Completed his preparatory studies at Sandy Hill, served in the State house of representatives in 1833-1837; elected as a Whig to the Twenty-Eighth Congress (March 4, 1843—March 3, 1845).

Congressional Biographical Directory (in Primer Printing)
P. 964
Washington, D. C.
1913.

ROGERS, Charles, a Representative from New York; born in Northumberland, Saratoga County, N. Y., April 30, 1800; attended Granville Academy, and was graduated from Union College, Schenectady, N. Y., in 1818; studied law, was admitted to the bar, but did not engage in extensive practice; served in the State assembly in 1833 and 1837; unsuccessful candidate for election to the State senate; elected as a Whig to the Twenty-eighth Congress (March 4, 1843—March 3, 1845); was not a candidate for renomination in 1844; retired from public life; affiliated with the Republican Party; died in Sandy Hill (now Hudson Falls), Washington County, N. Y., January 13, 1874; interment in Union Cemetery, near Sandy Hill. (Adapted from the Congressional Directory, 1875-1877.)
Hon. Charles Rogers died at his residence in Sandy Hill, January 13, 1874. In the death of Mr. Rogers our community loses one of its oldest and most conspicuous citizens. He was born in the town of Northumberland, Saratoga County, April 30, 1800, and had nearly reached his 74th year. For over fifty years he had resided at Sandy Hill, where he was universally respected for his fine personal character and strict integrity. His fidelity to principles gave him early in life a position among his neighbors which few men attain. This character he maintained with all its brightness and purity to the hour of his death. Much of his early life, which was one of comparative leisure, was devoted to politics, and many of the older inhabitants of the county will remember him as a young and ardent Whig politician.

In 1832 he was elected to the Legislature of this State, and represented Washington County in Congress in its Fifty-Sixth session. His associates, elected then upon a general ticket, were David Russell and Walter Cornell. He was again returned to the Assembly in 1836. At this session Washington County had but two members, and his associate was Joseph W. Richards. His uncle and former guardian, Hon. Halsey Rogers, represented Saratoga Co., in that Legislature. It was at this session that, while discussing some political question he was tauntingly called a Federalist. He answered him with his assailant with promptness and severity, claiming that although a Whig he was the representative of true Jeffersonian principles—in fact, that he had been "rocked in the cradle of Democracy." His uncle then, and always an unyielding Democrat, with a smile instantly retorted that it was true he had been in the cradle, but was "rocked out."

In 1843 he was elected Representative in Congress from the 14th Congressional District, then composed of the counties of Washington and Essex, and served one term. It was this Twenty-Eighth Congress which voted to restore to General Jackson the fine which had been imposed upon him for acts committed while in command at New Orleans. Mr. Rogers took strong ground in favor of the measure, and often referred to his vote in support of this act of justice to the "Old Hero" as one of the most pleasurable recollections of his life. The right of petition occupied much of the time and attention of Congress while Mr. Rogers was a member. On this question also he made untiring efforts in support of the measure, entering earnestly into the debates, which were spirited and protracted. His arguments and appeals on this vital question were regarded as among the most forcible and eloquent efforts of the session.

Mr. Rogers's social and family relations were of the most agreeable and happy character, and during the later years of his life the allurements of his own pleasant home drew him from
the strife and turmoil of public life. His disease was
an affection of the heart. Although not confined to his
bed, nor suffering scarcely any pain, he has been an invalid
for nearly a year. And at the last death came to him while
reclining in his cushioned chair, surrounded by his wife
and children, so gently and peacefully, that it seemed
indeed as if he had wrapped the drapery of his couch about
him and laid down to pleasant dreams. He leaves a widow,
the only daughter of Dr. Norten G. Clark, six children, three
sons and three daughters, all of whom reside at Sandy Hill,
except Hon. Charles J. Rogers, long a resident of Dubuque,
Iowa.

Washington County Obituaries Vol. 2 p. 430
(A collection of Newspaper clippings)
Volume is in New York State Library.

For other press accounts see pages 448-454.