

cultures; a 1984 concert series emphasized world music, and new courses illustrated contemporary developments. Tom Ross, ethnomusicologist, student of Mbira, had come to Union in 1966; he introduced a course on the music of India and also extended the electronic studio. Students were once again encouraged to study composition and to use student ensembles as laboratories—reassuring omens for the decade leading to the College's 200th birthday.

—Edgar Curtis

**Musical Concerts.** Union's student musical groups, active since at least 1854, gave many concerts on campus; these groups are chronicled in the article STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS: PERFORMING ARTS. The present article discusses non-student concerts on campus.

For many decades, most concerts depended on the patronage of the president and his wife. The earliest known is a "parlour concert and reading" sponsored on February 6, 1879, by Eliphalet Nott's widow, URANIA NOTT, at her house; some students were present by invitation. President ELIPHALET NOTT POTTER's wife, Helen, played the piano; JULIA BENEDICT sang; Lt. Best, the professor of military science, played the violin; "Mr. Pierson" (probably William L. Pearson '68) played the zither; and Professor WENDELL LAMOROUX gave a reading. Three months later the Baseball Association sponsored another concert and reading with some of the same performers.

President CHARLES ALEXANDER RICHMOND's wife, Sarah, took the initiative in organizing the first concerts at Union by distinguished musicians, beginning with a series of three in the winter of 1909/10. In that period even the most famous of America's musicians frequently performed in provincial halls.

The Flonzaley String Quartet, one of the country's first chamber music groups to gain an international reputation, performed at that time in Old Chapel, and returned at least twice. Other performers during Richmond's administration included the Dolmetsch Trio, Efrem Zimbalist, the Adamowski Trio, Alma Gluck (she returned to sing "Home, Sweet Home" at the dedications of Payne Gate and of the Alumni Gymnasium), Ignaz Paderewski (in the gymnasium!), and Julia Culp. The First World War ended the concerts for a while, but Mrs. Richmond revived them in 1925 with a performance by Sophie Breslau of the Metropolitan Opera, followed the next year by violinist Max Rosen, harpsichordist Wanda Landowska and the Russian Symphonic Choir.

President Richmond retired in 1928, and the wife of his successor was more interested in art than in music, but the Civic Music Association sponsored a concert series in 1931, mostly in Memorial Chapel. The following year, trustee WALTER C. BAKER '15 and his wife, May, underwrote the first of several concerts

over a period of years, an appearance by Metropolitan Opera baritone Friedrich Schorr. Ticket sales benefited the student loan fund.

The 1930s also saw several series of "Capehorn concerts" in Memorial Chapel and in the Mountbanks theatre—i.e., records played on a phonograph.

Julius Huehn of the Metropolitan Opera sang in Memorial Chapel on the 1940 spring prom weekend, and the following year President DIXON RYAN FOX launched a series of concerts which succeeded remarkably well in their purpose of raising money for scholarships: the first year's performers included Paul Robeson, Helen Jepson and violinist Albert Spalding. The 1943 schedule included the Trapp Family Choir, Yehudi Menuhin and pianist William Kapell. Walter Baker made a gift of five concerts in 1946/47; these included the Gordon String Quartet. The first College-sponsored jazz concert was held in Memorial Chapel in April 1952.

Since 1953, the SCHENECTADY MUSEUM—UNION COLLEGE CONCERT SERIES, held in Memorial Chapel, has been the principal sponsor of classical music performances.

**National Youth Administration.** A New Deal program created in 1935 as a part of the Works Projects Administration, the NYA provided work for unemployed young people between sixteen and twenty-five, including those who would not otherwise be able to remain in college.

FRANCES TRAVIS, in charge of the program at Union, reported in June 1936 that an average of 133 students a month, or almost sixteen percent of the student body, had earned a total of more than \$13,000 during the past year. Work ranged from manual labor about the College to laboratory computations.

The allotment gradually decreased, to 105 students in 1936/37 and 82 in 1937/38, but the College was still receiving \$10,395 in 1940/41, which may have been the program's last year at Union (it ended nationally in January 1944).

**Newman, John** (Nov. 28, 1813–Jan. 27, 1896). Class of 1838. Professor of Latin, 1852–63.

Born in Amsterdam, N.Y., the son of Elias and Elizabeth Hopkins Newman, John Newman taught in a district school before entering the sophomore class at Union, aged twenty-two, in 1836. He joined Psi Upsilon and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. On graduating in 1838 he became assistant mathematics and English teacher at the newly-founded Troy Conference Academy in Poultney, Vermont.

The Academy was a coeducational school sponsored by the Methodist Church. Newman was ordained a Methodist clergyman, but he was never pastor of a church; rather, over the next fourteen years he served the school as teacher, vice-principal, principal,

financial agent, trustee, secretary and treasurer of the board of trustees. In 1841 he married Maria Ester Dorr, a music teacher at the academy. Two of their four children died in infancy.

Newman stepped down as principal in 1851, and the following year he replaced THOMAS REED as professor of Latin at Union. One of Newman's qualifications was apparently that he was a Methodist; the College in those days tried always to include one person of that denomination on its faculty.

From 1854 the Newmans lived in the south faculty apartment in North College. In 1858 he helped found the Schenectady YMCA. He apparently declined a call in 1859 to the presidency of Lawrence University, in Wisconsin. Wesleyan University awarded him an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree in 1861.

Newman's time at Union was not very successful, and after eleven years he felt compelled to leave. All we know of the reasons is summed up in the diary of Jonathan Pearson, who seems to have been uncertain that he had all the facts:

When he first came, he perhaps was not over and above fitted for the post; this was well enough known at the time and a better scholar (Methodist) was recommended, but Dr. Nott chose N[ewman] because he heard he was an easy, good-natured man, a qualification always first with the Dr. Some dissatisfaction after a time was expressed by some of the fac. that N[ewman] did not study in his profession and was not prepared in his lessons. This was told N[ewman] and spurred him on to do better and, as is said by Dr. [Taylor] Lewis, he latterly taught well. However this may be, the reputation first acquired never left him.

Tis charged that one or two of the fac. and one or two of the Trustees continued to urge his removal and talked about him outside of College, creating a public opinion prejudicial to his good name. However this may be, it was at last resolved by some of the Trustees to bring his case before the Board and ask for his removal. As this would have been a still farther blow to his reputation, some of his friends were forced to say to him plainly: you had better resign to save a worse fate and so he did but with no good feeling to those who forced him to it.

Pearson elsewhere identified Newman's faculty adversaries as ISAAC JACKSON and JOHN FOSTER. Newman left Union at the end of 1862/63.

The Troy Conference Academy had already fallen on hard times before Newman left, and in 1855 the Conference sold a 999-year lease on the building and land to a former trustee, who became the school's proprietor. By 1863, with enrollments depressed by the Civil War, the proprietor was ready to give up, and he sold the lease to John Newman and Seaman Knapp. They obtained financial backing from a wealthy Rutland resident, William Ripley, and opened the Ripley Female College.

Knapp, who had been Newman's student at the academy and then again at Union College (Class of

1856), would eventually become a trailblazer in agricultural education, but he was compelled by an injury to withdraw from the Ripley Female College after about one year. Newman carried on for a decade as principal of the first college in Vermont to grant degrees to women, but he was then forced by the institution's worsening finances to withdraw, selling it back to the Troy Conference. The school survived and is now Green Mountain College.

Newman lived for a time in Troy, then spent his later years in the West, engaging in unspecified business in Iowa, Colorado and Nebraska, and frequently preaching in Methodist churches. He died in Lincoln, Nebraska.

**Nistiquona Hill.** Presumably another spelling of "Niskayuna," Nistiquona Hill was an old name for the rise on which Union's present campus is situated.

**North College and South College.** North and South Colleges have served as dormitories since they opened in the fall of 1814. For the first year or two, until the colonnades were built, they also contained all classrooms and administrative offices; until recently, a faculty residence flanked each dormitory on each end.

Work on the foundations began in November 1812, before ELIPHALET NOTT met JOSEPH RAMÉE; later, Nott couldn't remember who was responsible for the original plan, but JONATHAN PEARSON speculated that it was David Burt, a local builder.

Work recommenced using Ramée's plans by May 1813; roofed over by the end of the year, the buildings were first used in the fall of 1814, when the College moved to the present campus. Eliphalet Nott later said that he had personally supervised construction of South College, while THOMAS MCAULEY was in charge of the building of North.

It was common at that time to call individual college buildings "colleges" and to name them for compass points; many other institutions, including Hamilton and Williams, had North and South Colleges. At Union, the terms "North College" and "South College" were long used ambiguously, referring sometimes to those buildings as a whole, sometimes to the dormitory sections in the middle of them, and sometimes to the colonnades or even to the terminating buildings at the east ends of the colonnades.

The present article deals with the physical buildings and the succession of their occupants. Student dormitory life is treated in the article DORMITORIES.

No early interior plans of the buildings are extant, and little is known of their layout. Each of the three dormitory sections of each building originally had its own exterior entrance and was independent, with no connecting north-south hallway. The dormitories had hallways paved with brick, and stairways of heavy timber. In 1857, Jonathan Pearson called them "our dirty,

repulsive old barracks," but there would not be a major renovation until 1902. In 1872, however, some of the South College rooms were remodeled by cutting a door through the wall separating the front from the rear room, and dividing the rear rooms into two bedrooms, thus apparently creating a precursor of the suite system which became popular a century later.

Exterior changes were few. North and South Colleges and Colonnades were newly stuccoed with a thin coat of mortar in 1873, and given a rough-cast stuccoing in 1886. New limestone steps were added in front of the section doors in that year; in 1925 granite replaced the limestone and iron railings were added. Both buildings were reroofed in 1888/89 and acquired slate roofs the summer of 1907; at the same time, a fire escape was attached to each section. In the summer of 1948, the chimneys were replaced.

Several fraternities began in one or the other of the dormitories; it was common for the College to assign blocks of rooms to a fraternity, and (in the nineteenth century, at least), to assign meeting rooms to fraternities and other organizations.

Faculty residences at each end continuously served that purpose until late in the twentieth century. By then, both the size of the College and the conception of a college community had changed greatly from Eliphalet Nott's time, and when the north house in North College became vacant in 1966, it was converted to other purposes. Although President Martin announced in 1973 that the remaining tenants of faculty residences would be moved out and the space converted to student rooms, the change occurred gradually. Only two of the four houses became dormitory units; the others were needed for offices.

On October 17, 1914, the College formally celebrated the centennial of the building of North and South Colleges. On November 22, 1938, a 21-cent postage stamp was issued to honor President Chester Arthur. North College, where Arthur had lived, appears in the background.

**North College.** Because administrative offices were confined to the south side of the campus until recently, the history of North College has been somewhat simpler than that of South. There were doubtless classrooms in North College in the early years; later we know only of the large recitation room adjacent to the south faculty apartment dating from 1862: it extended from the front to the rear of the building and later became famous as the domain of Professor WILLIAM WELLS.

In 1833, and perhaps from 1814, the College library was in North College, at the end of a long, narrow passage, probably on the third floor above the south faculty apartment. The library moved to West College in 1840.

The Adelpic Society had a room in North College (probably above the north faculty house) from 1814

until it moved to the newly-opened Silliman Hall in 1900. From 1837 until its demise in the early 1850s, the Delphian Institute had a room at the top of the south faculty house; in 1856, the Theological Society took that space.

Electric lighting came to the lower hallways of North College in 1902. The next year all sections enjoyed electric lighting, steam heat and renovated bathrooms (though one section still lacked running water.)

During the summers of 1929 and 1930, North College was gutted and rebuilt, and the entire foundation repaired and resilled where necessary. Steel stairways replaced the original wood.

Upon the opening of Davidson House in early 1967, the residents of North College were moved there, and it was planned to renovate the building in the near future. Larger than anticipated enrollments in each of the next few years, however, made it necessary to continue using part of North College, and it was not until 1971 that the interior was completely rebuilt, at a cost of \$852,000, by the Hanson Construction Co. During the interim, the portion of North College not being used as a dormitory was made available to house women guests on weekends, and was unofficially called "North College Hotel." Some of the rooms were also used during this period as temporary offices—e.g., of the Capital District Library Council and of the UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM.

After the 1971 renovation, North College opened as a women's dormitory; it became a co-ed dormitory sometime after 1990.

Because Eliphalet Nott believed in close, quasi-parental supervision of students, he had the dormitories designed with a faculty residence at each end. As far as can now be determined, these residences have been occupied as follows:

**North Faculty House (Bronner House).** The first occupant of the north faculty house was Thomas McAuley, who began the nearby garden made famous by ISAAC JACKSON. On McAuley's departure from Union in 1822, Eliphalet Nott's daughter Sarah and her husband, Professor ALONZO POTTER, were probably the next occupants. After they left in 1826, the house probably quartered the president's son, JOEL NOTT, who left the College in 1831. He was succeeded in the residence by Isaac Jackson, who remained until his death in 1877. CADY STALEY, assigned the house in the spring of 1878, remained until his departure in 1886. The next occupant was JAMES TRUAX, who, when he left the College in 1903, was succeeded by Frank Blair Williams. HORACE MCKEAN occupied the house from the spring of 1907 until his retirement in 1926, and it was then assigned to PETER WOLD. When Wold left in the summer of 1944, JAMES CLINE moved in for a brief one-year residency; for the next twenty-one years it was the home of FREDERICK BRONNER.

On Bronner's retirement in 1966, the house ceased to be a faculty residence. It was named Bronner House, and after brief service as a dormitory unit in the fall of 1967 it became a kind of precursor to the student union, with a Freshman Recreation Center on the first floor, and offices for the *CONCORDIENSIS* and rooms for student organization meetings on the second. In January 1968, the first floor was home to the "North End Coffeehouse," separate from the Freshman Recreation Center.

In 1971, the Coffeehouse moved to Old Chapel, the *Concordiensis* and student organization rooms moved to the student union (the future CAMPUS CENTER), and following the general renovation of North College in 1971 Bronner House became a co-operative dormitory. In 1987/88 it was assigned to the Cultural Unity Center, "a theme house that highlights the Afro-American and Hispanic cultures."

**South Faculty House.** The south faculty house was first occupied by ANDREW YATES, probably until he left the College in 1825. He was succeeded by BENJAMIN JOSLIN, who left in 1837, and then by THOMAS REED. After Reed left in 1851, the house remained vacant until it was assigned to JOHN NEWMAN in 1854. Newman was succeeded in the summer of 1863 by Nathaniel G. Clarke, who left in 1866.

William Wells moved in and remained until his death in December 1907, at eighty-seven. His daughter stayed on during the construction of WELLS HOUSE, and was then succeeded in the spring of 1909 by JOHN IRA BENNETT. Following Bennett's death in 1920, it was the residence of CHARLES GARIS, who had become dean of students the previous year and would later become dean of the faculty.

When Garis retired in 1946/47, the house was assigned to his successor, Dean C. William Huntley, who remained until the end of 1985/6. After being remodeled, the residence was occupied from 1985 until 1989 by Vice President for Academic Affairs Thomas D'Andrea; it was then converted to offices.

**South College.** Because there were no separate administrative buildings on the early campus, offices were necessarily in the dormitory buildings. From about 1817 until 1856, the registrar's office was on the first floor rear of North Section, South College. From 1833 the room was also the treasurer's office, as JONAS HOLLAND held both positions. About 1837 or 1838 the front room was added to the office, and the rear room was used also for the post office. In 1856 the registrar/treasurer's office moved to the two lower east rooms in GEOLOGICAL HALL. The rear room in South College continued to be the post office, now kept by a student.

From 1814 until it moved to South Colonnade about 1842, the College chapel was on the top floor of the north faculty house, President Nott's residence). It was a peculiar room, "dirty, rough and uninviting," ac-

ording to Jonathan Pearson; though used as a chapel for about twenty-eight years, it was always regarded as temporary.

Because the dormitory had four floors while the faculty house—with the same roofline—had only three, student access to the chapel was up three flights of stairs within the dormitory, then down one short flight and through a narrow doorway. The president had his own internal stairway. A north-south partition divided the room; in the east half sat the juniors and sophomores; in the west, the seniors and freshmen. The divider stopped short of the north wall, against which the faculty sat on a rostrum. The officiating officer stood in a wide opening between the two rooms. To provide sufficient seating space for the entire student body, galleries were constructed along the west, south and east walls. The freshmen and sophomores occupied the galleries of their respective rooms.

After the two rooms ceased to function as a chapel, at least one was used for many years as a lecture hall. About 1856, Nott offered one room to the Anti-Secret Society. By 1893 the former chapel space had been separated from the dormitory and joined to the faculty residence below. About 1925, it was returned to the dormitory, and in 1937 it was again joined to the faculty residence.

The classics recitation room adjoined the south faculty house, long occupied by the classics professor. There may have been other classrooms in the dormitory part of the building. The Philomathean Society had two rooms in South College from 1814 until the opening of Silliman Hall in 1900. President Webster (1888–94) had his office on the first floor of middle section, but his successors located elsewhere.

In June 1899, the trustees accepted a proposal of the Class of 1899 to assume responsibility for the complete interior renovation of South College. Architect A.W. Fuller drew the plans. A campaign to raise money from alumni for this purpose was apparently only partly successful, but the dormitory sections were remodeled and furnished with steam heat, electric lights and a bathroom at the east end of each of the hallways on all but the first floor.

Renovation of Middle Section in 1928 brought removal of the ornamental corrugated iron ceilings which had been added in the 1880s, replacement of the wooden staircases with steel, and paving of the hallways with tile laid in concrete. The College could not afford to renovate the other sections at that time, and North Section was in such poor condition that it had to be closed. It was finally renovated in the summer of 1937, at which time the layout underwent radical change: fifteen rooms, each seventeen feet square, were replaced with twenty-three smaller rooms intended for single occupancy (but later used by two people). Addition of a north-south hallway providing

access to the Middle Section stairway permitted removal of the North Section stairwell.

Students in South Section petitioned the administration in December 1936 for improvement of "deplorable living conditions"; their section was finally remodeled in 1944, with the addition of nine rooms. The College's hand had been forced: the Navy refused to allow their V-12 men to use the rooms in their existing condition.

In 1961/62, the interior of South College was gutted and entirely rebuilt, at a cost of \$325,000. The rooms were enlarged and four lounges were added. The former entrances to North and South Sections, closed for some time, disappeared entirely, and the building was restuccoed. It re-opened in April 1962.

The yard behind the south end of South College at one time accommodated a series of sheds, including Tayler Lewis's shed, a carpenter shop, and a blacksmith shop. Sometime before 1899, the yard was the site of a washroom for the dormitory, and in 1936 faculty garages were erected and the yard, long a mud hole, was first paved.

Apparently a bakery later existed in these structures, perhaps in connection with the HALE HOUSE Annex during the Second World War. The Union College Locker Association, a faculty food cooperative, maintained a freezer there when the association was founded in 1952. Two new garages were built behind South College that year. The entire cluster of small buildings behind South College was razed in 1980 in conjunction with the renovation of BECKER HALL and the construction of a new road from Library Lane entering the South College yard from the south.

The South College faculty residences have been occupied as follows:

**North Faculty House.** Eliphalet Nott was undoubtedly the first resident of the house on the north end of South College, which is said to account for the fact that it has a larger portico than the other faculty houses. Sometime before 1837, Nott moved around the corner to the faculty apartment in South Colonnade, allowing his son-in-law and heir-apparent, Professor Alonzo Potter, to occupy the north end house. Potter's family was growing—his sixth child was born in 1836—while Nott's children had all left home.

When Potter left Union in 1845, Nott returned to the house, then went back again to the South Colonnade residence and turned the house over to Vice-President LAURENS PERSEUS HICKOK, probably in 1853 but certainly by the fall of 1855. Hickok remained until he retired, as president, in 1868.

The next known resident was Nathan Hale, Acting Professor of Mental and Moral Philosophy, who remained at Union only from 1869 to 1871.

It is not known who occupied the house during the next few years, but it was assigned to Professor HARRISON WEBSTER in 1878. After his departure in 1883, the

next occupant was mathematics professor Winfield S. Chaplin, who left Union in 1885. Mathematics professor THOMAS W. WRIGHT then occupied the house from 1885 until 1891. After the two-year tenancy of German professor Arthur Silas Wright, in the fall of 1893 Professor JAMES STOLLER began the longest period of residency, which ended on his retirement in 1925.

Thereafter, only administrators occupied the house; first, until 1944, Graduate Secretary CHARLES WALDRON, then, for a few months, Navy V-12 Executive Director Lt. Crawford Brubaker (and perhaps his successors in that position after Brubaker left in October 1944). From 1948 until he left in the fall of 1951, the house reverted to Alumni Director Waldron's successor, Frederic Wyatt.

After the brief residence of the College Chaplain, Robert B. Fulton, from the fall of 1953 the house was occupied by Business Manager THEODORE MCILWAINE until his death in 1970. When its last administrative occupant, Dean Martin Lichterman, left in 1977, the house was converted to student dormitory rooms, assigned at first to SIGMA DELTA TAU. It now bears the name Chester Arthur House.

**South Faculty House (Whitaker House).** Following initial occupancy by Professor THOMAS CHURCH BROWNELL, the house on the south end of South College was for a long period assigned to the professor of classics; the classics recitation room adjoined it. The house was occupied by Professor ROBERT PROUDFIT from 1818 until 1830, when it became the home of Professor JOHN AUSTIN YATES. On Yates' departure in 1849, the house was assigned to Professor TAYLER LEWIS. After Professor ELIAS PEISSNER married Lewis's daughter, Margaret, in 1856, the couple took up residence in the Lewis house for about five years. In 1865 the trustees compelled the deaf and frail Lewis to vacate the house because they wanted all the faculty houses occupied by professors able to keep order in the dormitories. The next resident was probably BENJAMIN STANTON; he may have been succeeded by CHARLES AIKEN, during his presidency (1869–71). Professor HENRY WHITEHORNE, living there in 1873, remained until his death in 1901.

The residence then ceased to be reserved for the professor of classics; chemistry professor Richard S. Curtis was the next tenant. It is not known who occupied the house between Curtiss's departure from the College in 1904, and 1909, when Professor (later, Dean) EDWARD ELLERY moved in. Ellery remained until his retirement in 1940; Professor BENJAMIN WHITAKER then occupied the house until his own retirement in 1965.

The next tenant was Provost Theodore Lockwood. After Lockwood's departure from campus in June 1968, the house was occupied by three deans of students: Edward Malloy (1968–73), Mark Smith (1973–77), and Robert Kellett (1978–80). It was

named Whitaker House by 1979. For a few months in 1980–81, it housed the Admissions Department while Old Gym Hall was being transformed into Becker Hall. Whitaker House was then used for the last time as a faculty residence, by Vice President for Academic Affairs Thomas D'Andrea, 1981–85.

After D'Andrea moved out, the house was converted to offices. The first floor became, and remains, the undergraduate Registrar's office. The second floor briefly housed the Chaplain's office, and then the WRITING CENTER moved there from Old Chapel. The editorial office of the UNION COLLEGE PRESS was added about 1987. The third floor remains a part of the dormitory.

**North Colonnade.** Built in 1815, immediately after completion of NORTH COLLEGE AND SOUTH COLLEGE, North Colonnade and SOUTH COLONNADE housed most of the College's recitation rooms and laboratories until the erection of Philosophical Hall (1852) and GEOLOGICAL HALL (1856).

There is little direct evidence of the pre-1852 tenancy of North Colonnade. An informed guess, based on the state of the building at mid-century, would be that during its first thirty-seven years North Colonnade contained recitation and other miscellaneous rooms. The College's "philosophical" (i.e., physics) apparatus was located there from 1816 until Philosophical Hall (the present ARTS BUILDING) opened next door in 1852. The chemistry laboratory, no doubt quite rudimentary, was in South Colonnade at that time.

Ramée's surviving drawings for the colonnades show one-storey buildings, but Nott described them in an 1817 letter to his brother as two-storey. It may be that some parts were not yet divided into two stories: Asa Fitch's diary account of an 1830 visit to the College describes an apparatus room, probably (though not certainly) in North Colonnade, as a large room lined with glass-fronted cases. "There are two stories of cases and a gallery leads around to all parts of the upper row."

A storeroom in North Colonnade was large enough to contain the College's crated-up library and mineral collection from 1854 to 1856. After the storeroom was unpacked into Geological Hall in 1856, several changes were made in North Colonnade. Professor WILLIAM GILLESPIE, who had started Union's engineering program in 1845, probably used rooms at the east end of North Colonnade from that time; by 1855 he was agitating for more space. He got it in 1856 when three new rooms were built in the Colonnade, producing the following array on the first floor, from west to east: 1) a kitchen for Professor Newman's faculty house at the south end of North College; 2) a coal room; 3) a new recitation room, for Newman; 3) a new drafting room for Gillespie; 4) an instrument room, probably for the scientific apparatus used for physics

demonstrations; 5) Gillespie's recitation room; 6) Gillespie's model room (he had a collection of civil engineering models).

A second floor recitation room, the third new room created in 1856, was made for Professor ISAAC JACKSON from the room occupied since 1848 by the Theological Society, now moved to North College.

Gillespie wanted still more space; when he acquired Newman's recitation room in 1862, civil engineering had all of the first floor of North Colonnade except Newman's kitchen on the extreme west.

In 1882, Professor MAURICE PERKINS took the initiative in getting three rooms on the second floor of North Colonnade fitted for sick students. This infirmary was used a year later and then disappears from the record (see HEALTH SERVICES).

An "electrical laboratory" was quartered in North Colonnade by 1905, but it presumably moved when the new Electrical Engineering Building (see BIOLOGY BUILDING) opened in 1907. Civil engineering moved to the new General Engineering Building (see CAMPUS CENTER) in 1910, creating a vacancy in North Colonnade; in the summer of 1910, the second floor recitation rooms were converted to eleven single-occupancy dormitory rooms. Probably at this time, but at any rate by 1916, chemistry, which had been confined to Philosophical Hall, occupied the entire first floor of North Colonnade. The Cosmopolitan Club had a room on the second floor in 1912, and other organizations may from time to time have been assigned rooms there.

Chemistry moved to BUTTERFIELD HALL in 1918, and most of its North Colonnade space was taken over by biology, which moved there from Geological Hall. The former chemistry lecture hall in North Colonnade was used by physics until the 1927 expansion of the Physics Building, when the lecture hall was turned over to biology. Two years later, a large portion of the second floor was renovated as classrooms and laboratories for biology.

Biology moved to the former Electrical Engineering Building in 1931, and psychology took over North Colonnade. ERNEST LIGON created a "child testing laboratory" in 1947, and the following year, a gift from FRANK BAILEY built a two-storey addition on the north side of the east end for Ligon's use; it originally contained a "child guidance observation room."

At the end of the period covered by this book, North Colonnade still housed the Psychology Department, and the changes since 1947 had affected only the internal division of the space. In 1996, the department moved to Bailey Hall, and North Colonnade was remodeled.

A belfry surmounted the North Colonnade roof by 1860, if not sooner. The bell was rung by a rope until 1911, when it was electrified and controlled by clockwork; in 1925 it was moved to the top of the Physics Building (see BELLS AND CHIMES).

**North Hall and South Hall.** In 1814 and 1815, immediately after the completion of NORTH COLLEGE AND SOUTH COLLEGE, the College built two boarding halls, called North Hall and South Hall, at opposite ends of the campus. They replaced the College Commons in old WEST COLLEGE. South Hall, erected in November and December, 1814, occupied the present site of the PRESIDENT'S HOUSE, and North Hall (1815) was on the present site of FERRO HOUSE.

The boarding halls reflected Eliphalet Nott's desire to make the campus as self-contained as possible, but eventually, if not immediately, many students preferred to pay a little more for better meals at boarding houses in town. In July 1820, the trustees directed that one of the boarding halls be devoted to "charity scholars," who were to be charged no more than \$1.25 per week for board, and that the other be rented out. Later, both were privately-managed.

In 1848, according to William James Stillman, the North and South boarding halls still charged \$1.25 a week for three meals a day, while much better meals were available in town for \$1.50–1.75. In 1854, and perhaps at other times, a few students also lived in North Hall, and Professor and Mrs. JOHN FOSTER roomed there at the end of the decade.

Little else is known of the history or finances of the boarding halls, but they must ultimately have been deemed failures, because both were given up at about the same time. The brick and stone structures, though not very old, were dilapidated by mid-century, and South Hall was razed in 1854; the President's House was later built on the site. In 1862, the College totally renovated North Hall—all interior walls were removed and rebuilt—and made the building into a private residence for Professor and Mrs. Foster.

The house was destroyed on March 17, 1896, by a fire that started when the aged John Foster dropped an oil lamp while ascending the stairs. The new house built on the site is described in the article on Ferro House.

**Nott, Benjamin** (Nov. 20, 1803–Jan. 10, 1881). Class of 1823. The fourth child and third son of ELIPHALET NOTT and SARAH MARIA BENEDICT NOTT, Benjamin Nott was only a few months old when his mother died. He lived elsewhere for three-and-a-half years until his father, who had in the meantime become president of Union, married GERTRUDE PEEBLES TIBBITS NOTT and brought his children to the College.

After graduating from Union, Benjamin studied law in the office of then Senator Martin Van Buren. In 1827 his father established a company in Albany to manufacture the stoves he had invented (see NOTT STOVES), and he put Benjamin and his younger half-brother, HOWARD NOTT, in nominal charge of it. H. Nott & Co., having become very successful, moved to

New York City in 1831. The Notts lost control of the firm in the financial panic of 1836.

In 1832 Benjamin married Elizabeth Cooper (whose sister, Margaret, had married his brother JOEL NOTT); they had ten children. Although he eventually became a judge in the Albany County Court of Common Pleas, it was probably her family's wealth that enabled him to live as a gentleman farmer in Guilderland.

He published an anti-abolitionist tract entitled *Constitutional Ethics, no. 1* (1857), re-issuing it in 1860 as *A remedy for the "Irrepressible conflict."*

Owing, apparently, to the fact that the Nott Trust Deed had effectively disinherited them (see NOTT TRUST FUND), Benjamin and Joel were estranged from their father in his last years.

**Nott, Eliphalet** (June 25, 1773–Jan. 29, 1866). Fourth president of Union College, 1804–66.

Eliphalet Nott's unequalled career of sixty-one years as a college president was marked by public and private enterprise as noteworthy for its variety as for its consequences.

Second son of nine children born to Stephen and Deborah Selden Nott, Eliphalet grew up on a hard-scrabble farm in Ashford, Connecticut, "pious and poor," as he put it. He was largely under the tutelage of his mother, who taught him at three to read and to memorize what he read, and of his brother Samuel, nineteen years his senior, a Congregational minister in whose household he lived and worked off and on for several years.

The mother's practice of child-rearing was marked by a warm, sensitive intelligence. The brother's methods were as harsh as they were thorough. In later years the rebellious cadet remembered not fewer than three or four whippings a week; nonetheless he learned well enough to persuade the Rhode Island College (later Brown) to permit him at age twenty-one to take the examinations required of seniors for the baccalaureate degree. When he passed without difficulty, the faculty, observing a college restriction on awarding the BA to anyone not formally enrolled for study, granted him the degree of Master of Arts instead.

Looking back on the punishments he had endured at the end of his brother's stick, Nott resolved in his first posts as teacher and then principal of an academy in Plainfield, Connecticut, that he would not be like other men in the treatment of children. "I made up my mind," he wrote later in an autobiographical sketch, "to substitute moral motives in the place of the rod." In that decision lay the roots of the "parental discipline" which four decades later doubters and disparagers cited as the ground for their depiction of Union College as an American "BOTANY BAY," an Ultima Thule for the undisciplined and riotous offscouring of other colleges.

Following a period of study under the scholarly Reverend Joel Benedict, exponent of a theology close to that of the New Light Calvinists, who proclaimed salvation open to all who seek it rather than to the by-God-forechosen "elect" of Augustinian doctrine alone, Nott returned to his brother for a final exercise in solid Calvinist orthodoxy. Thus coached, he was examined and then, on June 26, 1796, granted a license to preach in the Congregational Church of Connecticut.

Seven days later, on July 4th, he married Benedict's daughter, Sarah Maria, and, having already learned that the Domestic Missionary Society was sending missionaries westward, on the following day he set out for the raw country of upper New York State. He traveled on horseback across Connecticut, through Albany as far as Cherry Valley where he stopped briefly before riding on into the wilder Oswego region. After two months of scouting prospects there, he returned to Cherry Valley where he found welcome as principal of the local academy and pastor of its Presbyterian, and only, church. Once settled, he brought his wife to join him and there a first child was born.

On the way to Cherry Valley Nott made his first acquaintance with Union College through a chance meeting with its president, JOHN BLAIR SMITH; a friendship developed and Smith eventually recommended to the elders of the First Presbyterian Church of Albany that they consider Nott as a candidate for their then vacant pulpit. At the same time he urged on his young colleague the view that duty required him, like the Apostles, to preach where he could have the greatest influence.

First Presbyterian offered Nott, now twenty-five years old, a prospect commensurate with his ambition and self-confidence. On invitation he moved to this second parish in the summer of 1798 and was ordained in the Presbyterian ministry the following October. Two years later he was appointed co-chaplain of the State Legislature, a sinecure but an important one, as events would show.

Nott did not confine his preaching to Albany. Like a man driven or inspired, he responded to calls from all over the area, his reputation steadily rising. It reached an acme with the request of the City Council that he deliver a eulogy on the death of his friend and parishioner Alexander Hamilton, following a pistol duel with his challenger Aaron Burr. The eulogy itself was generous and moving, but the long address that preceded it shook not only its auditors but the entire nation. It was less a sermon than a formal charge of criminal conspiracy, brought not only against the murderer but against the murdered as well and, most forcefully, against his listeners and all those who in permitting and condoning a deadly "code of honor" violated the most solemn of God's laws and in so doing tore at the root of a nation designed to lead the world to a new and higher state of being.

The discourse, written and memorized down to the least gesture, was immediately reported in major city newspapers throughout the country; many others reproduced it in full and for the next thirty years it would be a staple of the anti-dueling movement. What might have followed for Nott from that powerful oration—a new pastorate, for instance, in Boston or New York or Philadelphia, from two of which offers subsequently came—did not happen because Nott deliberately turned from that triumph to a new career.

Since 1800 Nott had been a trustee of Union College. He was fully aware of its bad financial condition (income running less than half of expenditures), of instability deriving from its disputed location in Schenectady, to which Albany would not become reconciled until the end of the century, the worrisome significance of three presidencies in nine years (one ended by death but two by resignation), the tensions within an unharmonious governing body (conservative Federalists and radical Republicans, professional men and tradesmen and speculators, men of aristocratic culture and men of no culture at all), and not least a Legislature little inclined to add support even for a promising upstate college (Columbia College in New York, chartered in 1784, having already protested legislative grants to Union amounting to \$78,000 in cash and land).

Why, then, did Nott accept his fellow trustees' invitation in 1804 to succeed JONATHAN MAXCY as president of so troubled an institution? An immediate reason was the death of his young wife in March of that year after the birth of their fourth child (see NOTT, SARAH MARIA BENEDICT) and his feeling that he needed to narrow the focus of his work in order to provide properly for their care. He was also discouraged by the failure of his efforts to create a universal free common school system in the City of Albany. And he appears to have developed doubts that the ministry was an adequate base for effecting the changes he believed necessary to realize in America the achievement of its divine mission, the one he had made the subject of an inspiring series of sermons and the final point of his discourse on the death of Hamilton—the creation of a new Zion, the preparation for a millennium to herald the second coming of Christ.

How deeply this chiliastic vision lay in Nott's mind it is hard to say, but there can be no doubting his conviction that man's free will had more to do than an inscrutable destiny with the outcomes of human endeavor. Somehow he reconciled the contradiction, and somehow he saw in the presidency of Union College an opportunity to demonstrate for America that, given leadership, perseverance would conquer all—that phrase being the slogan which he introduced into every Commencement exercise of his long tenure.

At the level of action, getting came first. The College could make no progress, he told the trustees, un-

less it immediately acquired money to support and extend itself. As he had argued in Albany for local responsibility to create public schools, so he argued now for state responsibility to support both common schools and institutions of higher education. The method he proposed for the second was a lottery for the benefit of Union. To make it secure he needed an act of the Legislature, preceded by approval of his Board of Trustees.

The trustees were slow to acquiesce so, displaying for the first time that headstrong persistence which would mark his whole career at Union and at a later date even threaten its existence, Nott avoided a formal vote on the matter and simply went ahead with the initiative, calling for help to frame the necessary bill from men he had cultivated during his years in Albany as co-chaplain of the Legislature. To win he had to compromise away his second bill, for support of a common school system, and to surrender the autonomy of his Board of Trustees. As with the contradiction between his faith in a divine mission for America and his absolute belief in freedom of the will, he found both actions defensible because necessary to the success of his plan. A year after taking office Nott had legislative approval for four successive LOTTERIES totaling \$80,000, nearly half of which was stipulated for buildings. (Eighteen years later he was able, by an ingenious legislative maneuver, to restore the independence of the Board of Trustees.)

Once the lottery was launched Nott's first serious crisis occurred. Having adopted and, in a letter to his brother, boasted of the pattern of "parental discipline" introduced by his predecessor on the model of an eighteenth-century English "public" school, Nott quite suddenly learned its problems. The system—boys moving in class groups under the supervision of a teacher, living in quarters closely supervised, filling all seven days of the week in concerted action apart from the enticements and distractions of the city—depended for its effectiveness on a second system, that of swift and arbitrary punishment for infractions by decision of a faculty court. Both systems were common in colleges at the time, and both almost encouraged rebellion. In 1809, following episodes of forbidden behavior and a faculty court decision to expel one provocateur, Nott intervened and the faculty, led by its head teacher, appealed to the trustees for a reversal. After a formal hearing, Nott was vindicated, the opposition leader, BENJAMIN ALLEN, resigned and "parental discipline" from that time forward took on an entirely different character with Nott as the sole "parent" using what he had called in Plainfield "moral motives" as the means of correction and reform. Cases of discipline were by his order thereafter referred to him and were handled for the most part privately and in the view of some too leniently. It was from that and from Nott's willingness

to admit students expelled by other colleges that the hostile cry of "Botany Bay" arose.

By the end of the decade Nott was certain enough of the success of the lottery to proceed with his plans for a college to match or outdo those well established along the Atlantic coast—Harvard, Yale, Rhode Island (Brown), Queens (Rutgers) and Princeton. Using his own slender assets and the large ones of his second wife, the widow Gertrude Peebles Tibbits (see NOTT, GERTRUDE PEEBLES TIBBITS) whom he had married in 1807, Nott bought more than 250 acres of land on the outskirts of the city, and had a foundation laid for North College. Then in 1812–13 he took advantage of the temporary presence in the area of the distinguished French architect JOSEPH RAMÉE, and engaged him to draw plans for an entire college campus on NIS-TIQUONA HILL.

As construction moved ahead on the hill, the evidence that costs would far outrun even the improved financial resources of the College persuaded Nott to call for a second lottery. This time the stakes were to be higher and they would turn out to be much higher than calculated. What Nott asked of the Legislature in 1814 was approval for a \$274,000 project to benefit four institutions: Hamilton College to the west, in New York City the College of Physicians and Surgeons and the Asbury African Church and, upstate, Union itself—which as initiator was to get the lion's share, \$200,000. Nott moved his residence to Albany for months to prosecute the job of lobbying a bill through both houses of the Legislature, exploiting every connection he had and every argument he could contrive, and again he won.

If anything was needed to show that Nott was fast becoming a powerful figure in the State, the victory and even more its consequences would have settled the matter. The new lottery was soon in trouble. The country was engaged in a second and unpopular war with England, embargoes had deeply injured trade, and rising insolvencies produced a general depression. After eight years so few lottery tickets had been sold that the Legislature discontinued its involvement and threw the project into the arms of the hopeful beneficiaries. Three of them refused to take the responsibility, their share being minor, and Nott borrowed from Albany financier WILLIAM JAMES the money to buy them out, thus making Union the sole but independent beneficiary and adding a debt of \$74,000 to carry on top of debts already incurred. Later, in an 1826 lottery crisis, Nott borrowed \$100,000 from James, putting up the College lands and buildings as collateral.

The intricate story of Nott's role as mover of this second lottery requires more than a third of the text of Professor Codman Hislop's fine biography of the doughty president and represents sleuthing on his part of high order; his findings are summarized in an arti-

cle elsewhere in this book, s.v. LOTTERIES. The story involves a major brokerage house as managing agent and quondam "partner" in side deals, speculation in a variety of uncertain ventures, secret agreements, siphoning of receipts into private pockets, tortuous bookkeeping and none at all, law suits, a case in chancery court, and in the end investigation by a hostile legislative committee which besmeared the president with charges of self-dealing and the trustees with equally serious charges of dereliction of duty. Their exonerated in 1853, forty years after passage of the so-called "Literature Lottery" bill and more than thirty after Union's assumption of its management, was the result of an arduous year-long study of the evidence and a consummate written defense prepared by one of the most highly regarded lawyers of the state, John C. Spencer, an alumnus of Union and both former student and close friend of Nott. From the lottery as enlarged again and again in the course of its exploitation by Nott and others the College indirectly gained the NOTT TRUST FUND, estimated at \$600,000 in the form of land in and near New York City paid for out of lottery receipts (see HUNTER'S POINT, GREENPOINT AND STUYVESANT COVE PROPERTIES OF UNION COLLEGE.) No one has calculated the costs incurred over the years of suits and counter-suits and auditors' conflicting reports and there is no way of calculating the cost in public esteem, but both must have been great. Yet the "devil's contract," as JONATHAN PEARSON and others called the lottery, seems not to have slowed—and may actually have increased—Nott's taste for risking much to gain more, for his own pocket and for the coffers of the College as well.

Throughout the years of the lottery game Nott carried on vigorous public and private careers apart from his administrative and teaching duties at Union. From 1829 to 1845 he served as president of Rensselaer Institute in Troy, an academy-level school for "learning by doing," because he saw it in the germ of a program he had already announced in 1828 in his proposal for an Institute of Science and Industry at Union. He became a leading figure in the temperance movement and active in the anti-slavery cause, lessening his efforts only when prohibitionists came to dominate the first and abolitionists the second. In politics as in College affairs his instincts were for compromise and negotiation rather than conflict, even to claiming, in private conversation at least, that dividing the country into two nations would be preferable to civil war.

Gertrude died in 1841 after many years as an invalid, and eighteen months later the sixty-nine-year-old Nott married Urania Sheldon, the thirty-five-year-old headmistress of the Utica Female Academy (see NOTT, URANIA SHELDON).

Nott's private career was as venturesome as his public career was discreet. Though untrained in the sciences, he plunged into a series of what he called "caloric

experiments," efforts to design safer heating units for homes and public buildings, acquiring thirty patents for them between 1832 and 1839 to protect his investment (said by his manager to exceed \$100,000) and to supplement his College income (see NOTT STOVES). The success of the stoves led him next to design a steam-boiler system different from Fulton's for the passenger boats running between New York and Albany, a project which entailed buying land on the East River in New York City, machines, materials and labor for constructions of a factory, dock and slips to build a steam-boat, the *S.S. Novelty*. His stoves made the use of cheaper and cleaner-burning anthracite coal feasible, so he invested in mines—for coal, then for lime, for copper, and for gold. Ventures that succeeded paid for those that failed, and those that failed encouraged additional ventures. Apparently (the count is apocryphal) hundreds of thousands were invested, the yield from them unknown, perhaps even to Nott himself.

There is so much of the buccaneer in this side of Nott's character that the really important academic achievements of his tenure as president now look tame by comparison. That they were anything but tame is evident from the record of hostility (and imitation) which some of them aroused.

His iconoclastic action on student discipline stirred opposition on two scores: it subordinated faculty control in institutional management and at the same time, in extending students' self-government, it set an example as attractive to young men as fearsome to their elders. Less striking but more significant was Nott's decision, implicit in his concern for development of common schools, to extend the founders' provision for non-degree-seeking students and create at Union a class of "university students," young and not-so-young men with limited entering credentials who might enroll, like today's "extension students," in courses suited to their needs and interests. His term for this was "a wide curriculum, to be as varied or enlarged as circumstances may demand." This democratizing of an historically elite educational system may have been more hopeful than practical at the time, but it unquestionably marked the beginning of a change which would come to national fruition in the Morrill Act of 1862 creating the first of the land-grant colleges.

By 1828, when a stern report from Yale appeared, denouncing heresies and reaffirming as gospel the curriculum inherited from Oxford and Cambridge, Nott had already announced the creation of "parallel courses of study," a traditional "classical course" like that insisted on elsewhere and a "scientific course" to meet the needs and interests of young men looking for a life of action rather than one of scholarship, emphasizing in the two upper years mathematics, natural history and the sciences and requiring no classical languages after the freshman year. The Yale Report heartened conservatives, but the revolution had already been won: in