

Opdyke, Howard (Nov. 5, 1872–June 14, 1928). Professor of Physics, 1894–1928.

A New York City native, the son of Henry Beach Opdyke and Miriam Blagden Whiton Opdyke, Howard Opdyke graduated from Williams College in 1893 (AB). After a year at the Columbia University School of Mines, he joined the Union College faculty in 1894 as Instructor in Mathematics and Physics.

In 1899 the College divided physics and mathematics into separate departments, placing Opdyke in the former. He was apparently not well prepared for this responsibility—Charles Waldron wrote several years after Opdyke's death that he had been "a bit inadequate as a physicist"—and in 1901 the College gave him two years leave to study for a PhD in physics at the University of Zurich. Although he returned without a degree, he was appointed to the chair of physics.

Opdyke's principal importance in the College derived from his concern with ATHLETICS. He long devoted himself to service on the ATHLETIC ADVISORY BOARD, working, in a quiet, gentlemanly way, both to encourage college sports and to preserve their integrity and the spirit of amateurism. As the *Concordiensis* put it in 1908:

Officially, Prof. Opdyke is Assistant Treasurer of the Athletic Board. Practically, he is the mentor of college athletics, the authority on all questions athletic, pertaining to the college and its relationship with other colleges. Moreover, he has the handling of the athletic funds.

Later he became the board's secretary.

In 1919, Opdyke was moved to the position of Professor of Theoretical Mechanics, with a reduced teaching load; thereafter he gave most of his attention to supervising student activities, serving as chairman of the faculty's Undergraduate Affairs Committee, of the Publications Board, and of the Mountebanks. He also helped run Commencement exercises, and was very active in Union's chapter of Sigma Phi, his Williams fraternity.

Outside the College, he ran unsuccessfully for First Ward alderman in 1899, and served from 1912 to 1916 on the first city parks and planning commission. He was credited with a role in the eventual development of Schenectady's parks and of the Western Gateway bridge to Scotia. He served as a vestryman of St. George's Episcopal Church. Williams College awarded him an honorary MA in 1923.

At the time of his death of a heart attack, though only fifty-five, Opdyke was the senior Union professor in years of service. He never married.

Paige, Alonzo Christopher (July 31, 1797–March 31, 1868). Lawyer, judge, trustee of Union College.

Born in Schaghticoke, New York, to the Rev. Winslow Paige, a Presbyterian clergyman, and Clarissa Keyes Paige, Alonzo Paige attended Williams College with the intention of following his father's vocation. Though only twelve at matriculation, he graduated second in his class of twenty-four, but after studying theology for a while with a Montgomery County clergyman, he decided to become a lawyer instead.

Removing to Schenectady to study law, he was admitted to the bar about 1819 and formed a law partnership with Abraham Van Ingen. Throughout most of his legal career, Paige held public offices—sometimes more than one at a time—in addition to his private practice. He served as District Attorney of Schenectady County (1823–39), State Assemblyman for three terms (1827–30), State Senator from the Third District for two terms (1838–42), and Justice of the New York State Supreme Court (1847–51; 1855–57). Paige was also the court reporter for the Court of Chancery from 1828 to 1846; his eleven volume *Reports of cases argued and determined in the Court of Chancery of the State of New York*, covering the years 1828–45, earned him a high reputation as a legal analyst.

His first important connection with Union College came when the Board of Trustees engaged him in 1835 as counsel in litigation arising out of the LOTTERIES. Elected a trustee in 1838, Paige eventually became chairman of the Finance Committee and a key member of the board in its dealings with President ELIPHALET NOTT.

Judge Paige (who also served as a director of railroad companies) was able to see more clearly than those many board members who had once been Nott's students that the trustees were responsible to the institution, not to its president. Accordingly, when it became necessary about 1860 to defend, against the claims of Nott's personal creditors, the assets Nott had transferred to the College under the Nott Trust, Paige induced the board to take a legal position embarrassing to the president but ultimately advantageous to the College. Although he had helped draft the Nott Trust Deed in 1854 (see NOTT TRUST FUND), in 1860 Paige called that document "a magnificent humbug," and the board's lawyers argued that the assets of the trust were not, as John Spencer '06 had earlier claimed in extricating Nott from a perilous legislative investigation, a voluntary gift by Nott to Union, but rather a necessary repayment of money the president owed to the College. The case outlived both Nott and Paige, but Paige's argument eventually prevailed.

Judge Paige's independence from Nott again manifested itself in December 1865, about five weeks before the latter's death, when Paige favored replacing the entirely incapacitated president without further delay.

Because several trustees opposed Vice President LAURENS PERSEUS HICKOK, the heir-apparent, the motion to hold an immediate election failed (4–6). Hickok continued to enjoy Paige's support after becoming president, even though the judge, like Hickok's firmest opponents, was an old-school Presbyterian. It may be that Paige's death on March 31, 1868—closely following that of another Hickok supporter, Chancellor Walworth—influenced Hickok's decision, a month later, to abandon his struggle with the board and submit his resignation, citing the lack of harmony among the trustees.

Paige married Harriet Bowers Mumford in 1832; she became an ardent botanist and an antiquarian, recording lore about Schenectady history and collecting old newspapers and coins. Four of their six children survived infancy, including EDWARD WINSLOW PAIGE '64. Trustee Platt Potter married Paige's sister Antoinette in 1836.

Paige, Edward Winslow (July 11, 1844–Oct. 13, 1918). Class of 1864. Trustee, 1878–1918. Corporation lawyer.

Born in Schenectady, the only son of trustee ALONZO CHRISTOPHER PAIGE and Harriet Bowers Mumford Paige, Edward attended the Union School before matriculating at Union College in 1860. He joined Sigma Phi and the Philomathean Society, and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. A few months after graduating with an AB, he published a forty-eight-page *Catalogue of the flowering plants of Schenectady County*, apparently inspired by his botanical work with professor JONATHAN PEARSON '35 and probably also by his mother's botanical studies.

Paige graduated from the Harvard Law School in July 1866 and then briefly attended the Albany Law School to earn a second law degree from that institution in December of the same year.

After practicing in Schenectady with Judge Alonzo Paige Strong '64 until 1878, Paige moved to New York City where he entered into partnership with his brother-in-law, Douglas Campbell '60. He became an eminent corporation lawyer, arguing several cases before the U.S. Supreme Court on behalf of the Boston-Hoosick Tunnel Railroad (later the Boston and Maine). Active in Democratic politics and a friend of Gov. Samuel Tilden, Paige served as Deputy Attorney General of New York State, 1876–79.

Ten years after the death of his father, who had been a Union College trustee for thirty years, Edward Winslow Paige was elected to the board in 1878. Early in his forty years of service he supported the beleaguered President ELIPHALET NOTT POTTER; in 1887, as president of Hobart College, Potter rewarded him with an LLD degree.

Although he lived in New York City, Paige retained the family house and garden at 46 Washington Avenue in Schenectady. He never married.

Palermo, Anthony James (May 16, 1899–May 29, 1984). Class of 1922. Instructor in Electrical Engineering, 1922–36.

A Schenectady native, the seventh of nine children of Vincenzo Palermo, an Italian-born farmer, and his wife Maria Christine, Anthony Palermo entered Union College in 1918. He joined the Mountebanks, the Musical Clubs, and Delta Chi, and earned election to Sigma Xi. After graduating with a BS in electrical engineering, he remained at Union as an instructor in that field, subsequently earning a master's degree (1924) and a PhD (1931) in electrical engineering from the College. He was probably the first Italian-American on the Union faculty.

Palermo's teaching field shifted in 1930 to applied mechanics, and in 1933 to surveying. Eased out of Union in 1936 as a Depression-era austerity measure, he served for a year as head of the mathematics and physics departments of St. Francis College in Brooklyn, then worked as an engineer in the research department of the Westinghouse Co. He married Trigona E. D'Jimas of Albany in 1938, and in 1941 he joined her family's firm, D'Jimas Furs, retiring in 1962 as Vice President in charge of the Syracuse office. He and his wife had two children.

While at the College, Palermo published several technical papers related to radio. In 1957 he published *The Law of balance; better life through better thought*. His mystery novel, *Who?*, appeared in 1964; it embodied, according to the publisher, "certain new ideas and theories that the author is convinced will be a matter of scientific data in the future... [including] a reconciliation between Newtonian and sub-atomic physics, a sure cure for cancer, and a key to the fifth dimension."

Pan-Hellenic Council. In late 1977, after Union's first sorority had been established, the INTERFRATERNITY COUNCIL renamed itself the Pan-Hellenic Council and became open to sororities. In February 1979, as the College prepared to establish a third sorority, the Council reverted to the name Interfraternity Council; the following academic year a new Pan-Hellenic Council was formed as a sorority governing body.

Parents Association. A Parents Association organized by the College in 1963 made annual financial contributions to the College, most notably to construct library plaza in 1968/69. It eventually fizzled out, but was revived in 1979 under the auspices of the Office of College Resources.

Parents' Weekend. From 1950 through the end of the period covered by this book, except for 1972, Union held a Parents' Weekend late in spring term.

Early programs included visits to classes (until Saturday classes ended in 1966), PRIZE DAY (from 1964 to 1990), athletic events, concerts, dances, and play performances. Around 1961 the program began to include a faculty lecture, at first always on JACKSON'S GARDEN. During the years 1964 to 1971, when the Delphic Society served as hosts for the weekend, three faculty members lectured on topics of their own choice as part of the Delphic Lecture Series.

Parents' Weekend was cancelled in 1972 owing to fear that parents might be exposed to campus unrest; when the event resumed the following year faculty lectures had been dropped, although visitors were occasionally invited to attend seminars.

Starting in 1983, the College tried to put more intellectual content in the weekend as several departments scheduled Saturday class sessions and panel discussions. From 1984 until 1992, departments held open house.

Parents' Weekends have been numbered as if the 1972 event had been held.

Parietal Rules. The College has always tried to regulate the behavior of its students, and the older rules have long been an object of fascination for the window they seem to open on student life at its most "real." There are good reasons, however, to doubt that the rules give us much reliable information about student life or, indeed, about the rule-makers. Although we usually know what the rules were, we can know none of the other factors that would enable us to assess their significance: whether the rules were enacted in response to actual or to feared behavior, and if to actual behavior, whether it was widespread or isolated; whether the rules were generally violated or observed at any given time, and whether a serious attempt was made at any given time to punish violations. These questions are on the whole unanswerable because disciplinary records have seldom been preserved at Union College.

Some insight into the nature of early enforcement may be provided by a passage in the inaugural address (1796) of first president JOHN BLAIR SMITH (the original is in Latin):

Wisdom and justice demand a disciplinary system that is neither indulgent nor harsh and truculent; for young men, whose maturing depends on discipline, can learn democratic citizenship only through freedom. As time advances they will be colleagues and peers of their teachers, perhaps superior to them in the performance of duty. Therefore, under no circumstances should they be cast down from the rank of men and reduced to the level of mere beasts through proud and arrogant handling. It is not advisable for anyone to be held in line by fear—young men least of all, for their

spirits should be stirred to seek honor and should be fired with a love of glory and of manly excellence.

The 1802 laws, issued under third president JONATHAN MAXCY, reiterate the message:

The officers of college are to be considered as invested with a discretionary parental authority; and it is expected by the trustees that they will constantly treat the students with mildness and moderation, governing them by applying the more honorable and generous excitements to good conduct; and that they will not, except in cases of great enormities, proceed to inflict the higher punishments, until the discipline of advisory and lenient measures shall have proved ineffectual

Fourth president ELIPHALET NOTT (1804–66) held (and is often credited with inventing) views on discipline that were entirely consonant with these statements by his predecessors.

We also know some of the characteristics of rule-makers; for example, that when they meet, they frequently neglect to concern themselves greatly with the question of whether proposed rules are necessary or enforceable, and that, if moral issues have been invoked, not all who doubt the wisdom of a proposal will take the risk of dissenting. Likewise, it does not usually seem urgent to remove dead letters when revising the code.

To state the problem more concisely: What could a historian legitimately conclude from the fact that Union's student conduct code from 1979/80 through 1982/83 explicitly proscribed blackmail?

Codifications of the Rules. In 1795, 1802 (supplement, 1805), 1807, 1815, and 1821, the College published editions of its "laws." These detailed both required and prohibited behavior, often specifying the punishment for violations. President Nott was ambivalent about a legalistic approach; rather than encourage the notion that any behavior not specifically outlawed was allowed, he preferred employing "moral suasion" to persuade students to be guided by their own better nature. At the same time, undergraduate culture was very legalistic, as shown by the premium STUDENT POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT placed on exploiting loopholes, and Nott himself several times showed his mastery of that art in crafting legislation, especially in connection with the LOTTERIES.

After the 1821 laws, Nott published only a much shorter *Abstract of the laws*, which went through at least nine revised editions. None bear printed dates, but some can be provisionally dated on the basis of internal evidence or contemporary inscriptions; they appear to range from 1833 to sometime in the 1860s. Generally stated in one short sentence, the rules in the *Abstracts* seldom specify punishments.

In 1871, President CHARLES AIKEN, a sterner and more rigid man than his immediate predecessors, published a new code of laws. Although it relied much

more heavily than the earlier codes on broad strictures that manifestly meant whatever the administration wanted them to mean, all students admitted to full standing were required to sign a promise to obey these laws.

From 1871 until 1965, the College published no gatherings of student rules, except possibly for ephemeral lists of dormitory regulations. The doctrine "in loco parentis," which described Eliphalet Nott's stance *vis à vis* students, was finally fully applied: as the ad hoc arbiter of acceptable behavior, the "parent" was not obliged to announce the rules in advance.

Elaborate written rules returned in the second half of the twentieth century for two related reasons: students began to insist on consistent and equitable treatment by the College and by other students, and the courts began to require a measure of due process in student disciplinary proceedings. The result has been increasingly detailed, frequently revised, attorney-vetted statements of all regulations.

The *Student handbook*, published in 1965, 1974, and from 1979 through the end of the period covered by this book, and a smaller pamphlet, entitled *Student life, a guide for students at Union College*, of which 1966, 1968 and 1969 printings are extant, record the rules of recent decades.

Although the rules tell us little about more important matters, they have their own history of change. The major parietal rules, historically, have concerned morals (especially gambling, drinking, and sexual behavior) or the practical exigencies of communal living (peace, safety, and preservation of property), or decorum and civility. In practice, the three categories overlap.

The Regulation of Morals. Respectable Americans of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries usually viewed as immoral many kinds of behavior, including drinking, smoking, swearing, and gambling, which have more recently been either widely accepted or else condemned only on grounds of prudence or "appropriateness." The scope of the College's regulations has narrowed to reflect the fact that the field of morals, to many, is now largely restricted to questions of honesty, integrity, and respect for the rights of others.

Two other premises held by the authors of Union's early rules have also long been abandoned: that the College is responsible for the development of character, and that students must not only be forbidden to sin, but protected from temptations and opportunities to sin.

Fully committed to those premises, President Eliphalet Nott planned Union's present campus, occupied in 1814, as a residential college, with students and faculty living in the same buildings. By contrast, many other American colleges at that time followed

the European model, allowing students to live in the surrounding community. One of Nott's favorite adages held that "it is better to prevent evil than to correct it."

Etymologically, "parietal rules" concern the behavior of students within the College walls, but from the time old West College was completed in 1804 until late in the nineteenth century, Union's protective stance also engendered many rules designed to keep students out of mischief and away from the corrupting influences in the outside world. Unless they had permission or were accompanied by a faculty member, students were prohibited from leaving town (1802–60s); going into town in the evening (1807–60s) or on Sunday (1807–21); taking any meals out of college (1807–21); attending balls or the like (1807–60s), or horse races or parades (1807–21); or going anywhere a billiard table was kept or to any "place of amusement" (1807–21). From 1802, students were not allowed to visit taverns, and even groceries "or other places where intoxicating liquors are sold" were off limits from 1833 through the '60s.

Attending any "entertainment" (sometimes, "festival entertainment" or "convivial entertainment") in the College or in the town, or even attending dancing school, was forbidden without permission (1802–71). From the beginning until 1821, the laws tried to prevent students from "associating with persons of known bad character" (who could presumably be found only outside the College). The popular diversion of going down to the station to watch the trains arrive and depart was permitted only outside of study hours, but students had to get permission to go down to the post office at any hour (1833–circa 1859).

In 1830, Davis McFarland, newly transferred from Yale, wrote to a friend still there. Comparing the two institutions, he claimed:

For morality and freedom from dissipation your college cannot compare with this...yours is in reality what this is nominally—"Botany Bay"... We are permitted on no occasion to visit public places of resort this saves dissipation from drink. We are not permitted to be out of our rooms at night after seven this saves dissipation from whoring....

To supplement College regulations of student behavior, Nott obtained passage of several state laws, from 1813 onward, designed to reduce the opportunities for sin in Schenectady. It became unlawful

for any persons to entice the students of Union College...into the vice of gaming, by keeping within the City of Schenectady any billiard table, or by keeping any other of those instruments or devices...contrived or used for gaming.... [or to] furnish any student...with any wine or with any other spirituous liquor...or to furnish them...with a festival entertainment, or entertainment of any sort...[or] with a room or other place of resort." [Further], "it shall not be lawful for any person [to enter the college grounds without permission] or to act as a pimp or pander, or to afford in any other way, facilities to dissipation or debauchery.

It was also made illegal for

any theatrical exhibition, or any puppet-show, or any feats of horsemanship, or horserace, or any other idle sport or shows of any sort, to be performed or exhibited within [the City of Schenectady]. And it shall not be lawful for any owner or occupant of any house, out-house or enclosure, to furnish any accommodation therefore, or to furnish any accommodation for any suspicious & vagrant females or for any females of ill-fame, or any disorderly person.

No one supposed, of course, that sin necessarily originated off-campus, and many regulations concerned behavior without regard to location. From 1795 through 1833, the laws even tried to suppress lying.

Drinking per se was apparently not proscribed in the beginning; from 1795 to 1821, the regulations only forbade "getting drunk." Students could not bring "any spiritous liquor into College" *without permission*, 1802–21, but the actual use of "ardent spirits" was not forbidden until 1833. The ban mentioned above on giving or attending "festival entertainments" was intended in part to control drinking, and "joining any society having a supper or entertainment during term time" was prohibited in the 1850s and '60s for the same reason.

Gambling—"playing at cards, dice or any unlawful game"—was forbidden from 1795 through the 1860s; billiards was specifically added to the list in 1833. For good measure, the 1795 laws also forbade being present at such games, or keeping "instruments of gambling."

Using tobacco in any form without parental permission was proscribed from 1833 to 1859, but that widely-ignored ban dropped from the last edition of the *Abstract*.

The 1795 laws forbade "cursing, swearing or any unbecoming language." From the next edition through the 1860s, the wording was sharpened to "blasphemy, profane or obscene language," with "or lewd conduct" added from about 1850. Beginning in 1802, students were also prohibited from "avowing or propagating principles subversive of religion or morals." Shortened to "infidel principles" in 1833, this remained unlawful through 1871.

Regulations forbade "frequenting houses of ill repute" in 1795, and fornication in any circumstances from 1802 to 1821, but thereafter sexual matters were not explicitly mentioned; Nott preferred to deal with them privately. On at least one occasion, in 1831, he appealed to parents to forbid their sons' attendance at a planned post-graduation party in Troy: "There are reasons for this request which, if communicated, would, it is believed, be entirely satisfactory." The unmentionable reasons doubtless concerned "houses of ill-repute" in that city.

Fraud was prohibited in 1795, and dueling, forgery and robbery from 1802 through 1821.

From 1854 through the 1860s, the College laws tried to hold students responsible for "moral conduct during vacations."

Little is known about the College's regulation of morals during the nine decades between the last edition of the *Laws* in 1871 and the return of detailed regulations to the *Student handbook* in 1965. Sometime in that period, the administration essentially gave up trying to protect students from the corruption of the outside world and stopped trying to suppress such behavior as smoking, cursing, card-playing and avowing infidel principles. The influx of veterans following the two world wars was only the most pressing of many societal factors forcing change.

During those nine decades, the only surviving printed statements reflecting parietal rules were brief warnings in the College catalogue. From 1873 to 1879, the statement began with wording straight from Eliphalet Nott:

The discipline of the institution is moral and parental. Disgraceful punishments are not inflicted; but no young man who indulges in gaming, intemperance or other vice, who is absent from his room at night or who habitually neglects his studies, can be allowed to remain.

New language added to this statement in 1880 then stood alone from 1881 to 1950 as a threat accompanied by no rules at all:

Evidence that a student's continuance in College is resulting in no advantage to himself, or in harm to others, will occasion his separation from the institution.

During the 1950s, the College assumed even greater autonomy in disciplinary matters, while casting its expectations in a positive mode:

All students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner becoming scholars and gentlemen. The College reserves the right to dismiss or suspend at any time a student whose conduct is in its judgment unsatisfactory.

By 1960, the phrase "a scholar and a gentleman" had become a facetious cliché and the statement had to be recast; oddly, the concept of moral corruption then made a brief return in inhospitable times:

All students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that will reflect only credit upon themselves and the College. The College reserves the right to dismiss or suspend at any time a student whose influence is found to be injurious to the standard of morals of the student body, or whose conduct is in its judgment unsatisfactory.

After 1965, the College catalogue made no statement concerning parietal rules, but in that year the *Student handbook* began to carry increasingly detailed regulations.

A ban on alcohol was included in the leases of early fraternity houses built on campus. In 1939, the trustees ruled that the dean could give permission for beer parties (as he had in fact been doing for several

years). In the spring of 1954, the College sanctioned the service of liquor at a prom weekend, probably for the first time.

State law has dictated College alcohol policy since the legal age for drinking in New York State was raised from eighteen to twenty-one at the end of 1985. Alcohol use was eventually seen as a health and safety issue rather than a moral one, and the regulations since 1986 have prohibited "Behavior stemming from excessive use of alcohol."

Use of marijuana at Union began to be noticed in the early 1960s, though student pot-smokers were quick to point out that they had an illustrious predecessor in Fitzhugh Ludlow of the Class of 1856. The author of the *alma mater* had recorded his drug-induced visions of Tartars marching across the College Pasture in his book *The hashish eater*, published the year after he graduated.

In modern times, College policy on "controlled substances" has reflected state law, and the student handbooks have warned since 1968 that the College cannot protect students from enforcement of the law. Since 1984 they have added, "Students who are found guilty of selling controlled substances will most likely be permanently dismissed from the College." No data exists from which one could compare either the extent of drug use or the diligence of College enforcement in various periods, particularly as concerns marijuana.

Gambling was apparently less appealing to most students in the twentieth century than it had been in the nineteenth, but it was explicitly prohibited in the dormitories from 1965 and anywhere on campus from 1984.

Sexual behavior within the College continued to be strictly regulated after 1871, but the arrival of fraternity houses, starting in 1892, made enforcement of all parietal rules more uneven.

It is not known what policy, if any, existed before President Day suggested in early 1932 that unchaperoned women not be allowed in fraternity houses. In February 1939, Dean Garis asked the Interfraternity Council to act on the issue, and when they refused, he forced them to approve a rule permitting women to be entertained in fraternity houses only in public rooms and only when chaperoned. Women were not allowed in any building where beer was being served.

In the fall of 1946, as veterans of the Second World War began to arrive in large numbers, Garis refined the rules: no chaperones were required for lunch or dinner, but women had to leave by nine. All parties required the dean's permission, nothing stronger than beer could be served, and if women were present, the parties had to have chaperones approved by the dean.

In early 1948, the administration called for closer supervision of fraternity parties. For the first time a concern about sexual behavior was made explicit, as

the president of the Christian Association contributed to the debate a *Concordiensis* article deploring "sexual intercourse outside the marriage bond."

A *Concordiensis* editorial in April 1958 complained that Union's social rules were archaic by comparison to those of Amherst, RPI, Tufts and Hamilton, and that the rule against women venturing above the first floor was commonly violated and "loosely enforced." A month later, the newspaper proposed that women be allowed in student rooms during limited hours, provided two couples were present. Nothing came of this proposal.

The alumni still had a major voice in fraternity house rules as late as 1960, when the Interfraternity Alumni Council asked the trustees to enact a set of rules to which many students took strong exception.

In the spring of 1962, the Student Council asked the trustees to lift the ban on alcohol in the dormitories, lengthen visiting hours for women, and allow them to be in dormitory and fraternity rooms with the door open. The board took no action on the request.

By the mid 1960s it had become common for fraternities to turn their houses over to their members' dates on prom weekend, while the members were expected to find other places to sleep. One fraternity was punished in 1963, and another in 1965, for failure to vacate the houses for the night while women were there; this action was decried as selective enforcement.

In response to increasing demands for liberalized social rules, President Martin declared in early 1966 that though a revision of the rules was long overdue, "The College will not condone premarital sexual intercourse, or deviant sexual behavior, within its precincts. As for other breaches of the community welfare, offenders will be subject to discipline up to and including suspension." A few months later, the *Concordiensis* editor denied that the community welfare was at issue: "This newspaper neither advocates nor condemns fornication. We merely state that the decision on whether or not to engage in such behavior is highly a personal matter."

The first action of the newly formed All-College Council, in the spring of 1966, was to approve, with some amendments, a proposal of the Student Council to liberalize the rules concerning the presence of women in fraternities and dormitories. Students were permitted to entertain guests in their own rooms from 7–12 on Friday nights, from 12–5 and 7–12 on Saturdays, and 1–6 on Sundays. One lounge in each dorm was reserved for men. Students over eighteen could possess and serve alcoholic beverages in their rooms, subject to certain conditions. Approving these rules, the board gave the Administration permission to make future changes.

A year later, the Council allowed longer hours: Student rooms were open to female guests from 12

noon until 2 AM, on all Fridays and Saturdays and from noon until 8 PM on other days. Each living unit could request four 3 AM weekend curfews per term.

In January 1969 the trustees and the president agreed to an All-College Council proposal that each living unit (including fraternity houses) be allowed, by a three-fourths majority, to increase its own parietal hours, or by a simple majority to decrease its parietal hours. Most units immediately voted for unlimited hours.

By the fall of 1969, the *Concordiensis* reported that the campus police, on their regular patrols through the dorms, had been reporting to the dean of students the names of students whose dates had been observed in nightdress in the dorms after 2 AM. The dean pointed out that "visitation rights are...not lodging rights."

Regulations since that time have been concerned primarily with protecting the privacy rights of roommates.

Union became co-educational in 1970, and by 1973 some dormitory floors were choosing to house both male and female students.

Condom dispensers were first installed in the dormitories in the fall of 1987, one in a men's room in Davidson House, the other in a women's room in Fox House.

Communal Living. By contrast with moral rules, the other rules concerning communal living have changed little. Supervision of the dormitories was long the responsibility of the faculty, who were originally expected to make frequent inspections. From 1795 onward, the *Laws* required the faculty members responsible for dormitory sections to visit rooms whenever they thought it "necessary and proper...entering by force if necessary." Although routine inspections of rooms eventually ceased, faculty members continued to live in the houses at the ends of North and South Colleges until the late twentieth century. Student dormitory proctors were tried in 1932; it is not known how long the system continued. West College (1950) and Richmond House (1960) were built with quarters for faculty proctors. A new system of student resident assistants (at first called "dormitory counselors") was established about 1960 and continues in use.

Dormitory residents were required to be in their rooms during study hours (1802–60s) and were even forbidden to lie down (1805–21 and again circa 1856–60s).

Until 1950 all the College's dormitories were built partly of wood, and until about 1903 each room had a stove. Although the dormitories escaped any serious fire damage, other institutions, such as Princeton, were less fortunate, and a concern about the danger of fire was a constant of the regulations from 1802 to the present (see also: FIRES AND FIRE-PROTECTION). In addition to being warned "to be peculiarly careful respecting fire" (1802–60s), students were forbidden to

carry oil lamps into the literary society meeting halls at night (1833–60s) and from using Camphene (a kerosene-like liquid) "or any burning fluid" (circa 1850–60s).

Keeping guns or gunpowder has likewise been forbidden since 1802; other "deadly weapons" have been proscribed since 1832.

From 1807 to 1821, the *Laws* tried to prevent students from throwing snowballs.

Physical and verbal assaults have been linked since the *Laws* forbade "striking or insulting any person" (1832–60s). In the 1871 *Laws* President Aiken tried to expand this provision to suppress HAZING AND CLASS FIGHTS: "All violent, injurious and offensive treatment of student by student [including] all attacks by class upon class" were outlawed. Later administrations generally ignored hazing of all kinds through the first half of the twentieth century. Class fights became benign by the late 1940s and ended in 1960, while class hazing died out in 1970. Fraternity hazing, however, has been a continuing problem, despite being addressed by stern College regulations since 1980 and by state law since 1985.

The effort to keep the dormitories quiet resulted in rules against playing musical instruments in hours of study (1802–71), conversing from windows and doors in study hours or in the evening (1807–21), noisy gatherings inside or outside the dormitories (1832–71), and making "indecent noise" in rooms (1802–7).

Students were enjoined to keep the rooms clean (1821–1860s), and warned against throwing things out windows (1807–71). From 1802 to the 1860s, they were required to buy a pail for use as a chamber pot, but only in 1871 were they specifically warned against urinating ("creating a nuisance") in the hallways, out windows or around the doorways.

A fear of insurrection surfaced several times in the rules; in 1821 students were required "to help officers [i.e., faculty and administration] maintain order on request, and to give evidence." "Entering into combinations to oppose the authority of the College" was forbidden from 1821 to 1846, and in 1871. The 1871 *Laws* went so far as to outlaw "all public expression of dissatisfaction with the discipline of fellow students."

Appraising the enforcement of dormitory regulations in his diary, Jonathan Pearson wrote in 1854:

Our regulations are thus: the three Halls in each building contain 16 rooms, each of which contains 2 lodgers; this suite of rooms, called a "section," is presided over by a tutor or Prof. whose duty is to keep good order and studious habits in his little dominion—to visit each room at least once a day and night to look to the cleanliness of it as well as to its occupants and take a general supervision of the studies of the young men of the "section."

Our laws and customs are such as might be called "common law" that is unwritten, but sanctioned by long usage and precedent. The student is expected to obey them, yet I

think they have but little binding effect on his conscience and conduct. They are bound to attend church, they go when they please. They are expected to be in their rooms at study at certain hours, to keep quiet and behave like gentlemen, they do as they please in all such cases and the penalties are seldom if ever imposed. Experience teaches that Professors will not make good Police officers and scavengers; they despise the business and think it a lowering of their dignity to watch and spy upon young men who ought to regulate their own conduct and manners. I say then, upon a moral view of the question, the old plan of lodging students in Colleges with the intention of improving or preserving their virtue and manners is a bad failure, and that no young man who cannot take care of himself ought ever to go to a College away from parental influence. Another reason may be urged for the same opinion. Great bodies of young men clustered together corrupt each other, they become clannish and exclusive, boorish and rough; their correct habits and manners deteriorate, and their rooms are the abodes of disorder and filth.

Since they began again to be printed in 1965 in the *Student handbook*, dormitory regulations have grown steadily more detailed, in part because modern dormitories present more potential for mischief and for other problems, and in part because it has seemed legally necessary to spell out all prohibited behavior. The only fundamental innovation has been the provision for dormitory residents to establish certain kinds of rules, such as additional quiet hours, by vote of those affected.

Decorum and Civility. Students were prohibited in 1802 from "appearing in indecent dress or women's apparel," and from wearing a hat in college buildings (1802–21). A separate law (1807–21) required them to remove their hats when meeting or speaking to professors. Although the College soon abandoned such laws, they returned in more elaborate form as a part of sophomore hazing of freshmen.

From 1802, the laws tried to compel a minimum standard of civility: "If any student shall insult or abuse another, by reproachful language or disrespectful behavior, he shall be fined, admonished, or obliged to confess his fault, and promise good behavior for the future." With the addition of a prohibition on striking other students, insults continued to be prohibited through 1854.

Similar language returned in 1979, guaranteeing: "Freedom from blatantly obscene or offensive behavior (including malicious harassment or persecution.)" This was expanded in 1983 to a ban on: "Abusive or offensive behavior which includes but is not limited to malicious harassment and/or persecution, stemming from sexism, racism, ethnic, or religious prejudice."

The *Student handbook* has included the College's policy on sexual harassment since 1983.

Rules concerning pets and automobiles are described in the article on CAMPUS.

See also: BOTANY BAY; COURTS AND JUDICIAL BOARDS

Parshelsky, Isaac (d. March 18, 1935). An impoverished Jewish immigrant, Isaac Parshelsky was befriended as a young man by Union treasurer FRANK BAILEY '85. In gratitude to Bailey, Parshelsky gave Union \$20,000 in 1927 to establish a scholarship for students from Brooklyn, available alternately to a Jew, a Catholic and a Protestant. At Dean Garis's request, the fund was changed to a student loan fund in 1930, and the religious stipulations were later dropped. The donor's brother, Moses Parshelsky, added \$5,000 to the fund in 1954.

Parthenon (The). One of the College's earliest substantial undergraduate periodicals (following the *FLORIAD*, 1811, and the *STUDENTS' ALBUM*, 1827), the *Parthenon* was first published 1832–34, and subsequently revived three times.

Near the end of their junior year, Samuel D. Tillman '33 and Henry Sanford '33 announced plans to start a magazine the next year. Sanford died soon afterward in the cholera epidemic of 1832, but in November, Tillman, finding that he had received ample literary contributions, issued the sixty-four-page first number on his own. It initially bore the sub-title "...and Academian's Magazine.") Tillman published the magazine monthly until graduation, and later claimed, "It was ranked only third among all published at that time in this country...and was soon followed by one at Yale and another at Williams." A rival literary magazine titled the *CENSOR* was published monthly at Union, November 1832–May 1834.

Several students vied to succeed Tillman, including John Jay Hyde '34, who bought the subscription list. Interested members of the Class of 1834 formed a Parthenon Society, agreeing that Hyde would be the first editor. The society was intended to be self-perpetuating, electing a group of juniors shortly before Commencement, but by the time it met for this purpose on the day before the 1834 Commencement, the society was wracked by dissension. When, in the heat of dispute, John Woodward '34 accused Hyde of having gotten someone else to write his Commencement oration, Hyde hit him on the head with a cane, drawing blood. The meeting broke up without arranging for a transfer of editorship, and the magazine died.

Revived May 15, 1847, by an unknown editor, the *Parthenon* appeared twice a month until July 15, 1847. Again, it published a mixture of poetry, fiction and non-fiction, and again it failed to survive commencement.

The magazine's next revival, four years later, was foredoomed to failure by a political stunt. With promises to publish nothing of a partisan nature, senior A. Firman Carman persuaded his classmates to allow him to bring out the *Parthenon*, third series, as a Class of 1851 publication. When the first issue appeared on March 12, 1851, it was discovered that Carman had printed on the cover of some copies, evidently for cir-

culuation among his friends, his name as Commencement marshall—the highest class honor. Carman had already been defeated in an election for that position, and his classmates reacted with outrage. No further issues appeared. This stunt brought about the revival of the *SCROLL*.

When the *CONCORDIENSIS* changed in the fall of 1896 from a monthly literary and news magazine to a weekly newspaper, the *Parthenon* was revived as a literary monthly managed by the *Concordiensis* board. The *Parthenon* published frequent articles by faculty and alumni, but the student contributions were disappointing, and at the end of three years the editors concluded that “here at Union under present conditions there is no field for a separate literary magazine.” The magazine then died for the last time.

Pastime (The). Sometimes incorrectly called Union’s first undergraduate magazine, the *Pastime* was edited, published and largely written by JOHN HOWARD PAYNE from February 21, 1807, to June 1808.

Before coming to Union, the precocious Payne had already published a literary journal, the *Thespian Mirror*, in New York City from December 1805 to May 1806. A few months after arriving at Union, still only fifteen, he issued a prospectus in December 1806: “On suitable encouragement, it is proposed to issue a weekly paper in this city, to be called the *Pastime*.”

Payne hoped to pay personal debts by getting subscribers from the general public as well as from his fellow students. The new journal, very similar to the *Thespian Mirror*, began in February and appeared weekly during term; it contained his poems, theatre reviews, miscellaneous essays and humorous stories, and a few pieces reprinted from other journals.

Although Payne mentions a “board of editors,” the magazine was entirely his own enterprise; no other Union students are known to have contributed. When he left College in the fall of 1808 to make money as an actor, he announced the merger of the *Pastime* with the *Boston Mirror*.

R. Packard printed the first eighteen numbers of the *Pastime* in Albany. For issues nineteen through thirty, Payne switched to the Schenectady printer Ryer Schermerhorn, but issues thirty-one through thirty-seven were again printed in Albany, this time by E. & E. Hosford.

The earliest true student publication issued at Union was the *FLORIAD*, jointly published in 1811 by the Philomathean and the Adelpic societies.

Pasture. From 1814 until WEST COLLEGE closed it off in 1953, the campus faced west. The foreground of its outlook, the part of the campus lying west of the TERRACE WALL, was called first the College Park, and later the Pasture. For much of that period, it was a bu-

colic pasture in fact; early engravings view the College buildings from the west, with the Pasture and its animals forming an integral part of the scene.

Throughout the nineteenth century, the College Park extended from the Terrace Wall westward to Park Place; Seward Place did not exist until 1902. Except for three locust groves planted about 1830, a central group of elms and pine trees which existed in 1865, and two College wells, the “Park” was unimproved; cows and horses sometimes grazed in it.

A low fence notwithstanding, townspeople often entered the College grounds via the Park—so often that in 1857 Eliphalet Nott ordered a higher fence built along Union Street to keep them out. In 1910 the first part of the present spiked iron fence was built to prevent ALCO workers from cutting across the Pasture (see FENCES).

Professors long had the right to keep a cow in the Pasture, a benefit which has received attention proportionate only to its quaintness. The disadvantages of owning a cow, especially in a Schenectady winter, and especially for the dignified, were manifold; most faculty members must have found it simpler to buy the dairy products they needed. Only professors Nott, Lewis, Jackson and Pearson availed themselves of the grazing privilege in 1852; Pearson gave it up by 1854 and Lewis by 1857.

There were times when no cows grazed in the Pasture, but most of the “large number of cattle” an 1865 visitor saw there must have belonged to townspeople who had paid a grazing fee; twenty years later, all the cattle fell into this category.

The cows’ various owners had to expect them to be the targets of nocturnal raids by students, who milked them, painted them with zebra-stripes, and sometimes led them into classrooms or even second-floor dormitory rooms.

Circa 1898–1901 the pasture served as a primitive golf links. In 1903 the trustees spurned a \$10,000 offer from the Schenectady Railway Co. “for a [trolley line] right of way across the college grounds parallel with and adjacent to the college terrace.” The departure of the last faculty cow was probably ensured in June 1907 when the Board of Trustees’ Instruction Committee authorized the president to “offer to Professor Landreth an increase of \$250 in his annual salary with the understanding that Professor Landreth’s cow shall disappear from the college campus.”

About 1910, both College and local high school teams used the Pasture as a baseball field, but during the First World War, President Richmond had the land sown with oats. A tree nursery started at the north end in 1926 remained until 1941.

From 1937 until 1941, the Pasture reverted for the last time to its former function: at the suggestion of MARIAN OSGOOD FOX, the trustees bought five Shropshire sheep, which grew to a flock of about eight-

een. When not harried by dogs or teased by students, the animals picturesquely cropped the grass; they wintered on a farm in Rexford.

The College's unused land was one of its few disposable assets. In hard times, from the mid-nineteenth century onward, the trustees sold lots at the edge of the Pasture, and in 1885 they mortgaged the entire parcel for \$40,000 to pay faculty salaries. Deciding to sell land in a systematic way, in 1899 the board disposed of the GENERAL ELECTRIC REALTY PLOT on the other side of the campus, while a group of alumni tried to persuade the City, which had no park, to lease the Pasture from the College for \$5,000 a year and create a park there. Opponents successfully argued that the Pasture hadn't enough trees and that the City couldn't afford the proposition.

In 1901, the College put on the market forty-four lots of the Pasture fronting on Park Place. In the same year the City, ready to build a public library, bought the lot on which WEBSTER HOUSE now stands. Following creation of Seward Place in 1902, the College offered the building lots on its east side for sale. With those sales, the shrinkage of the Pasture ended.

During the Second World War, the American Locomotive Co. manufactured tanks. To provide additional parking for employees in 1941, the company leased the Pasture for the duration, at \$10,000 a year, banishing nurseries and sheep. At one time ALCO parked rows of tanks on the south pasture, and until at least 1953 the company continued to rent the pasture north of the creek (which the City had used as a dump around 1909).

In the two decades after the War, the Pasture filled up. Temporary VETERANS' HOUSING arose south of the present RICHMOND HOUSE in 1947 and remained until 1953. When the College built West College (1953), its first new dormitory in 139 years, the architects sited it in the center of the Pasture, a major aesthetic departure from the RAMÉE campus plan, which had been open to the west. Richmond House was erected to the northeast in 1960, and in 1967 FOX and DAVIDSON dormitories were built to the southeast, on the location from 1954 to 1965 of Achilles Field.

The south end of the Pasture had been a source of anxiety to the College since 1944, when first the City and then the State proposed a road through the southwest corner of the campus (see THRUWAY). The trustees had responded in 1950 by commissioning from the College architects an elaborate plan for the future campus, showing a Fine Arts building facing Union Street between the Terrace Wall and Webster House, and several new buildings along Seward Place. Although those buildings were never built, and perhaps never seriously projected, the desire to block the proposed road, or at least limit its incursion, was a major reason for siting the West College, Fox and Davidson dormitories in the Pasture.

After the period covered by this book, the College launched in 1998 a major initiative, with substantial investments, to reverse the deterioration of the neighborhood on Seward Place and westward.

Payne, John Howard (June 9, 1791–April 9, 1852). Actor, playwright, diplomat.

John Howard Payne, who attended Union from July 1806 to November 1808, enjoyed transitory fame for his theatrical and literary accomplishments but is remembered primarily as the author of the song, "Home Sweet Home."

Born in New York City (or possibly in East Hampton, Long Island), the son of William and Sarah Isaacs Payne, John Howard was raised in both places until the family moved to Boston when he was five.

His father, a schoolmaster, drilled the child in the art of elocution, and Payne soon found his talents brought him public attention. Precocity was much admired in that era, and young Payne strove to impress his elders. As a fourteen-year-old, he had already edited and published the *Thespian Mirror* (Dec. 28, 1805–May 31, 1806), a respected journal of theatrical criticism; seen his original play, *Julia*, produced at the Park Theatre in New York (Feb. 7, 1806); and enjoyed hobnobbing with worldly men twice his age. His worried father tried apprenticing him to business, and when that failed shipped him off to college after a wealthy patron, John Seaman, agreed to cover the expense. Spurning Columbia's offer of a full scholarship, and rejecting Princeton as too near New York, Seaman selected the eleven-year-old Union College for its "detached situation," and entrusted ELIPHALET NOTT with the job of reclaiming a youth devoted to the "love of pleasure." Payne's journey to Schenectady in the summer of 1806 indicated the magnitude of the task; he idled along the way and managed to run up over ninety dollars in "tavern debt" before he even arrived at school.

When he enrolled at Union, which was then in "Stone College" on lower Union Street, Payne was a headstrong fifteen-year-old who regarded college attendance as equivalent to a term in state prison. He chafed at the college regimen and complained about bad food and cold rooms, but he came to admire Dr. Nott. He wrote his father a few weeks after arriving, "I am his companion at college, his chum (as they call it), and even share his bed." Doubling up in bed, a common practice in the days before central heating, probably enabled Nott, then a widower, to prevent the youth from sneaking out at night. Subsequently Payne lived with the other students. For his part, Nott recalled much later that he had thought Payne a remarkable conversationalist who talked like a mature man of the world and not like a boy.

Payne made the best of things at Union by writing and publishing *THE PASTIME* (February 1807–June

1808), a journal apparently aimed at a general as well as a student readership. Hoping to earn money through subscriptions, Payne filled *The Pastime* with his poetry, opinions on philosophical questions, biography, orations, critical reviews, puns, and humorous stories. "Home, Dear Home," a poem he wrote at this time but did not publish, bears a notable resemblance to his similarly titled later ballad.

Payne also joined the Adelphic literary society. He was quite a hit playing the female lead in the Adelphic production of *Pulaski*, by Henry W. Warner '09, emerging from behind the curtain to deliver a witty epilogue of his own authorship. "Tell me, ye beaux," he demanded, "are all your hearts still free, Or are ye dying for the love of me?"

Because he had to be tutored for a year before entering the freshman class, Payne was considered a member of the Class of 1812, but his student career lasted little more than two years. His mother died in July 1807, and by November 1808 his father's financial embarrassments furnished unanswerable arguments in favor of dropping out to pursue profits on the stage.

Payne's professional acting career started well with a triumphal debut in New York City in February 1809. He went on to a long career in the theatre, first as an actor, then, when the passing years robbed him of the novelty of youth, as a theatre-manager and playwright. He went to Europe in search of better opportunities and spent nearly twenty years there, from 1813 to 1832. The experience of competing with legendary talents like Edmund Kean and Charles Kemble convinced Payne to turn to theatre management, and then to writing plays.

His most notable play was *Brutus, or the fall of Tarquin* (1818), a historical tragedy. He wrote or adapted from the French at least sixty-four plays, including several of the most popular dramas of the nineteenth century, but owing to the inadequacies of the copyright laws he enjoyed little profit from them. He earned lasting fame, but no royalties, when he composed new lyrics to an old melody and inserted the sentimental ballad "Home Sweet Home" into his 1823 operetta, *Clari, or the maid of Milan*.

An incorrigible spendthrift, Payne was driven on from one theatrical project to the next in vain efforts to achieve solvency, or even to escape debtor's prison. He continually devised schemes to make money by writing, editing, bookselling, and publishing.

Although he never seemed to fulfill his early promise, Payne enjoyed the friendship and good opinion of many of the famous and talented men of his era, including Charles Brockden Brown and Washington Irving. He may at one point have fallen in love with Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley, but he remained a life-long bachelor.

Back in the United States in 1835, he was in search of material for a new magazine when he fell into a re-

markable adventure. Payne was sympathetic to the Cherokee nation's efforts to retain tribal lands in Georgia, and that sympathy deepened when he ventured into Tennessee and was kidnapped by Georgia guardsmen eager to find some pretext to execute this Indian-loving Northerner. After his release, Payne published two essays publicizing the injustices suffered by the Cherokees. (White society nevertheless proved indifferent, and the Cherokees were forced onto the "Trail of Tears.") These simple calls for justice, so quixotic when first published, have stood the test of time better than many of Payne's other writings, which now seem excessively sentimental and florid.

In the last chapter of Payne's life, his friends helped him obtain political sinecures: he served as U.S. consul at Tunis in 1842-43, and again from 1851 until his death the next year.

There is no evidence that Payne had any further contact with Union after he left, but the College has of course long been aware of its most famous man of letters, and dedicated its principal gateway to his memory in 1911 (see PAYNE GATE).

By 1848, "Home, Sweet Home" was sung at the College on formal occasions. Union celebrated the hundredth anniversary of the song in the spring of 1923; contralto Marta Wittkowska sang and President Richmond, James Cline and E.E. Hale gave talks on Payne. The Mountebanks produced *Charles the Second* (written by Payne and Washington Irving) in 1936 and in 1994, and sponsored a Columbia Laboratory Players production of *Clari, or the maid of Milan* at Union in 1935. Professor Codman Hislop '31 edited three of Payne's unpublished plays for *America's lost plays* (1940-42).

—Faye Dudden

Payne Gate. The principal entrance to the campus since it was built in 1911, Payne Gate, at the intersection of Library Lane and Union Street, honors JOHN HOWARD PAYNE.

Some kind of gate occupied the site by 1886, and perhaps much earlier, but Library Lane was a minor back road until late in the nineteenth century. As the campus expanded eastward—John Blair Smith House was completed in 1896, followed by the Alpha Delta Phi (1898) and Sigma Phi (1905) houses—BLUE GATE ceased to be the most convenient entrance.

Cornelius E. Franklin '83 suggested erection of Payne Gate, and President Richmond, eager to make the campus more attractive and to define its boundaries more sharply, supported the idea. Designed by George B. Post & Sons, later the architect of Alumni Gymnasium, the gate was dedicated at the 1911 Commencement. Harvard professor George Pierce Baker spoke on Payne, and Metropolitan Opera soprano Alma Gluck sang "Home, Sweet Home."

On a bronze tablet affixed in 1913 to the inner face of the central pylon are inscribed all four stanzas of "Home, Sweet Home." A bracket below a concave niche on the front was intended to hold a head of Payne; it was never installed.

In the spring of 1975, the stone benches outside the gate were removed and yews planted in their place. Other plantings behind and adjacent to the gate made it less stark.

Pearson, Jonathan (Feb. 23, 1813–June 20, 1887). Class of 1835. Tutor, 1836–39; Professor of Chemistry and Natural History, 1839–57; Professor of Natural History, 1857–73; Professor of Agriculture and Botany, 1873–87. Librarian, circa 1839–1886; Acting Treasurer, 1851–54; Treasurer, 1854–83.

Born in Chichester, New Hampshire, a farming hamlet a few miles northeast of Concord, the state capital, Jonathan Pearson was the first of two children of Caleb and Hetty Libby Pearson, the mother a pious and affectionate woman, the father by inheritance a miller but in the main a "simple mechanic," as his son later described him, more tinkerer than inventor, constantly hopeful but rarely successful. At age fourteen, after two years as a boarding student in Pembroke Academy, Jonathan was apprenticed to the owner of a general store in Concord. He worked there fifteen months before enrolling at the New Hampton Institute, a five-year-old Baptist boarding school in New Hampshire lake country, to which he returned in the fall to "fit" for college.

The experience of the Institute had a profound effect on Pearson, less for its classes than for the fervor of its religious climate, its program being fully as much intended to "convert" its impressionable students as to increase their learning. Pearson took with exhausting seriousness the insistent pressure on students to "find a hope" of salvation. After weeks of deepening anxiety, he returned one night from an "inquiry meeting" with his "burden" lifted, and intermittently for the remainder of his stay he felt something close to joy. In the fall of 1830 he entered Waterville (now Colby) College in Maine, itself like the Institute a Baptist foundation.

At the end of his first term, lonely and again anxious about his beliefs, he returned to Chichester and for the ensuing year lived at home, too ill to work or study. Local doctoring was ineffectual; even a two-week cure for "dyspepsia" (the current term for nervous disorder) yielded nothing more than a brief and partial resuscitation of spirits. In the whole year he bestirred himself only twice, once to start and then drop some classes in nearby Pittsfield Academy and once to try his skill and fail at selling grain and butter to residents of Newburyport, sixty miles and fourteen hours by horse cart distant.

It was a second setback that revived Pearson, now eighteen. Pressed by creditors, his father left Chich-

ester, surreptitiously fleeing the sheriff, to hunt for work in New York State. A few weeks later he returned to report a possibility of employment and immediately left, both times secretly, the family remaining behind to dispose of household goods by auction (their house and mill already having been seized) and to make their way as best they could in his wake. The father's choice of Schenectady, a rough canal-town with an entrenched Dutch population, had virtues: it offered an unencumbered new start for the father, cheap housing for the family, and a well-established college in which the son could resume his education.

The move was tonic for young Pearson. He was admitted without condition to Union College on December 28, 1831, by President Nott himself, to the term beginning in January. Thereupon he moved into a dormitory and, except for vacation periods, hardly stirred from it until the final term before graduation, each year standing first among the fifty to eighty men who constituted the class enrollment.

Though Pearson was an exemplary student, never missing a class or failing to prepare an assignment, the psychological cause and consequences of his "lost year" destroyed his peace of mind. The diary he had begun keeping more than a decade earlier (see PEARSON DIARY) is filled in these years with self-castigation, lament, and scorn for the behavior of fellows and activities around him. At least some of this plaintiveness is a posture, like his claim to the role of "philosopher" viewing others from a mountaintop, for he became a member of Kappa Alpha, the first of the "secret societies," was elected to the Philomathean debating club, named to Phi Beta Kappa in his junior year, an honor requiring more than academic achievement (all matters unmentioned in the diary), and was desolate when dormitories were closed during recesses. Yet he is correct when he characterizes himself as "not a happy man" and not likely ever to become one.

Even as he despised himself for backsliding, for laziness, for "secret sins," he burned with ambition, an "itch for fame." Acknowledging to his diary his consuming conceit, he wrote "I am sick of egotism, I am sick of self." To relieve his obsession he made heroes of the men he read and read about—philosophers, scientists, men above all of original mind. Measuring himself against them he finally came to the conclusion that he lacked genius, had no discernible talents, and would never be anything but "ordinary"; that all he could ever achieve would come as the result of "industry," unflagging effort. His analysis was accurate and, to his credit, prophetic.

Effort, then, but at what? For almost his entire college career, Pearson asked himself that question. One by one he ruled out the learned professions—medicine, law, the ministry—saying he lacked enough social ease and aggressiveness for them. He considered engineering or, in low moments, even being a mechanic

like his father. And he backed away from teaching because it meant daily association with "inferior minds." Nevertheless, before the end of his senior year (he did not attend Commencement), desperate to begin making a living and with a debt of \$117.83, more than a year's college costs, standing against him, he accepted an offer to teach in a Baptist-sponsored day school on the outskirts of Philadelphia. Though disconsolate to have been trapped by penury into pedagogy, he was surprised to find himself successful and popular with students and faculty alike. Word of his success soon filtered back to Schenectady and the offer of a tutorship at Union followed. Critical of the College as he had been during his student years, Pearson leaped at the opportunity to return.

He thus began, in the fall of 1836, his career as a college teacher, one that would run without interruption for almost fifty years. His assignment in the first year included teaching botany (though he declared that he could not name a dozen plants), a fortuitous channeling of his romantic attachment to untamed nature nursed throughout college by his reading in the English poets and by his visits to caves and his walking tours in the mountains of New England. Starting almost from scratch, he developed a considerable reputation for his collection of over six hundred carefully studied specimens of local flora, later the basis for a book by one of his students, EDWARD WINSLOW PAIGE '64. In the course of his first decade on the faculty he taught eleven different courses, ranging from arithmetic to hydrology to natural theology. Botany and chemistry, he later noted, were "most to my taste," and though he had never studied chemistry either, from the death in 1837 of Edward Savage until the appointment nearly two decades later of CHARLES JOY, Pearson served as Union's only teacher of that subject. The years after 1840 defined what Pearson had earlier predicted for himself, a course of life patiently and laboriously developed in both its personal and its professional aspects. After years of inveighing against marriage and declaring himself in any case unfit for so taxing a relationship (though he had prudently borrowed money two years earlier to build a house), Pearson fell giddily in love with Mary Lord Hosford, teacher in a Utica academy for young women, and in time became the tender-hearted father of three sons and for five decades the caring husband of a woman for long periods unwell who yet preceded him in death by only four years.

Over this stretch of time Pearson slowly consolidated his role as an unostentatious man-of-all-parts for the College. About 1839, he was appointed librarian and keeper of the museum, positions that added \$100 each to his annual salary. He took his teaching seriously, gaining the respect and amused affection of his students (who referred to him as "Pinky," perhaps for his rubicund complexion, perhaps for his habit of

wearing a "button" in his lapel). He strove against financial odds and the president's indifference to protect and enlarge the library, eventually producing, in 1859, a 1,410-page manuscript catalogue of its holdings. On his own initiative he became unofficial historian and archivist, preserving scattered documents and pasting random notices and newspaper reports into big scrapbooks. And what he did for the College he did for its alumni as well. In his senior year as undergraduate he had begun a thoughtful series of character sketches of his classmates, and this impulse he revived in another self-assumed responsibility, creating a comprehensive catalogue of Union men, carefully correcting the slipshod record-keeping of earlier years, publishing it at his own expense and twice expanding the original volume until 1884. That edition became the basis for the alumni catalogue printed at the time of the Centennial Anniversary in 1895 and still in everyday use.

In 1852 the trustees of the College appointed Pearson to succeed ALEXANDER HOLLAND as TREASURER, a recognition of his known reliability and concern about College affairs. The appointment was a tribute but at the same time an act of necessity, there being no other member of the faculty or member of the board remotely as well equipped for a post which had become critical in the wake of public charges that Union's management was at the least "improper" (as a legislative report had called it) and quite possibly riddled with fraud and self-dealing by its chief officers, the trustees themselves and the president. Temporary at first, because Holland was expected to return to his post, the appointment became permanent in 1854. Three years later, Pearson was able to turn over his responsibilities in chemistry—a field he had come to regard as dangerous to his health—to the professionally-trained Charles Joy, and for the remainder of his career he taught only his spring-term course in botany.

In his new role of treasurer, Pearson became for the next two-and-a-half decades officially empowered to carry out the orders of the governing board, to act on its behalf as its financial conscience.

In Pearson's account of the actions rising from this appointment one must be cautious about the language of the Diary. Pearson had from early years shown a tendency to exaggerate, to see black where only gray existed. Now, caught between the bidding of his duty as treasurer and the impatience and defensive tactics of the beleaguered president, he poured into his diary the venom of his outrage at the flaws he found in the records opened to his scrutiny—the omissions, calculated obscurities, misrepresentations, post-hoc alterations and the like. Even allowing for exaggeration, the account appalls. The situation became for Pearson not simply a matter for reproof but an obligation to reform both a system of obfuscations and its principal perpetrator as well.

Even before he became treasurer, Pearson had found himself with increasing frequency at odds with President Nott on many matters, ranging from discipline to property to scholarship. The reason is not hard to understand. In temperament and style of action no two men could have been more unlike: the president imperious and outspoken, a "manager" (synonym at the time for "manipulator") and daring entrepreneur, but also a man of generous instincts, great optimism, and a broad perspective; the professor a man of particulars, attentive to the near prospect, more tactician than strategist, almost ceremoniously dutiful but privately rebellious and an exacting moralist. The two clashed again and again as Pearson exercised his authority, and even the formal exculpation of the president by the legislature did not abate the treasurer's ardor for setting matters straight and keeping them in that course. The death of Nott in 1866 provided a respite lasting through the brief tenure of his two immediate successors, each of whom left after two years.

With the election of Nott's grandson, ELIPHALET NOTT POTTER, to the presidency in 1871, Pearson soon found reason to sound a new alarm. His first charge of wrongful conduct was made alone and to the Finance Committee of the trustees. It resulted in an admission of "error" by the president and at least a moral victory for his critic. The confrontation and the backing down did not, however, correct or even slow Potter's willful behavior and by 1882 a complaint from seven members of the faculty, Pearson among them, informed trustees that they had found the president incompetent, untrustworthy and "unfit for the position he holds." The story of the ensuing trial is told elsewhere, but it is relevant here to note that Pearson was the first witness to be called and that his testimony, like that of the other protesting faculty, was not quite enough to convince a majority of the trustees that it warranted dismissing the president though it proved strong enough to stimulate his resignation two years later. Pearson himself resigned as treasurer at a meeting of the Finance Committee following announcement of the trustees' decision but accepted continuance in what the trustees described as "the important office of librarian with such exercise of his professorship as may be desirable," a shamefaced compromise on both sides.

Posterity has reason to be kinder to Pearson than the outcome of the episode would warrant, whatever the justice or injustice of the action: in part for the long-term benefits to the College of his time-and-energy-consuming work to regulate its financial affairs and to create the ground for the necessary development of alumni support in the coming century, but in even greater part for the use to which he put his spare time on behalf of his fellow citizens. Setting himself the task of learning a language entirely unfamiliar to him and, in its available form, unfamiliar as well to the Dutch descendants in Schenectady and Albany of the

burgers who once spoke and wrote it, he undertook the job of searching out and translating as necessary those data most valuable to the history of the early settlement of the region.

Between the year of Nott's death and that of his resignation from the treasurership, Pearson published five works on the subject, all of them still available in reprint: *Early records of the city and county of Albany, and colony of Rensselaerwyck*... translated from the original Dutch by Jonathan Pearson (four volumes, 1869); *Contributions for the genealogies of the descendants of the first settlers of the patent and city of Schenectady, from 1662 to 1800* (1872); *Two hundredth anniversary of the First Reformed Protestant Dutch church, of Schenectady, N.Y.* [a rare instance of a serious church history by a non-communicant] (1880); and *A history of the Schenectady patent in the Dutch and English times, being contributions toward a history of the lower Mohawk Valley* by Professor Jonathan Pearson and others (1883).

This impressive output behind him, Pearson lived on until June 20, 1887, in the house near the College which he had owned, sold and bought back, partially paralyzed and enfeebled by an 1886 stroke. He was buried in the College plot which he had created many years before by setting aside a portion of College land which he sold to extend the city's principal cemetery.

Pearson's eldest son, Henry, drowned in 1858, aged fifteen. His youngest son, Dr. William L. Pearson '68, served as College Physician circa 1882. His second son, John Magoun Pearson '66, fathered Dr. Jonathan Pearson '09, who served as College Physician, 1920-23; the latter's son, Jonathan Pearson III, '42, served as Director of Admissions (1950-70) and Director of Alumni Relations (1970-75).

—Harold C. Martin

Pearson Diary. JONATHAN PEARSON '35 made his "first attempt at a diary" on February 18, 1828, five days before his fifteenth birthday. The last entry in the fifteen volumes now preserved in the Union College Archives bears the date June 5, 1875. The Diary therefore covers forty-seven years which were as critical for the development of the United States as for that of higher education as exemplified by Union College, from which the diarist was graduated in 1835 and which, except for one year, he served in various capacities for the remainder of his life.

Though conscientiously kept, the Diary volumes are not fully continuous. In all there are twenty gaps of several weeks or months, about half of them reflecting holidays on the academic calendar. Two of the longer ones provoke speculation: one of four months in 1830-31 when Pearson's first try at college aborted; and one of eight years, from 1846 to 1854, during which a scandal about Union's financial affairs was widely publicized. For the years between 1865 and 1875, moreover, there are only four entries, the first re-

porting President ELIPHALET NOTT's death on January 19, 1866, the second the two-year tenure of his successor, LAURENS PERSEUS HICKOK, and the third the equally brief tenure of CHARLES AIKEN. The fourth, dated 1871 but obviously written later, announces the election of ELIPHALET NOTT POTTER and describes his performance until Commencement in June, 1875.

No memoranda exist to account for the lacunae, but however incomplete the Diary may be, the extant text runs to more than 900,000 words, enough to have filled several thousand pages of manuscript and, projectively, perhaps two thousand pages of book print.

The first seven volumes constitute a sort of Yankee *Bildungsroman*, a recital of the years of "becoming." Starting from fifteen months of Pearson's apprenticeship as dog's body in a Concord retail-wholesale general store, they record a resumption of schooling in a Baptist institute where, as the result of its proselytizing zeal and in spite of halting progress, he "finds a hope" of salvation as he "fits" for college. Once enrolled in Waterville, another Baptist foundation, he loses heart and before a term's end returns home ill, despondent and aimless for more than a year.

The curve of those two-and-a-half years, from discomfort through exaltation to despair, is conveyed in language surprisingly adult in vocabulary but naive in sentiment and, in judgment, imitative of the premises and postures of a conservative agricultural climate. The style is simple and unselfconscious even at the peak of its emotional content. Despite some evidence of priggishness and too great eagerness to please, the text of this period has both poignancy and charm.

For the second stage of this growing-up, the four years at Union College, the Diary becomes a "sentimental journey for recording ideas and feelings rather than everyday events." Its brief spiritual ecstasy stilled by the year of illness, the voice in hundreds of entries is that of a wanderer in the wilderness, where the satisfactions of successful study are all but annulled by the coarseness of indolent and overbearing company and a persistent sense of personal corruption. Histrionic and in some measure masochistic, this aspect of the Diary wearies more than it persuades.

Fortunately the voice is also that of a seeker—for renewal of faith, to be sure, but equally for experience beyond the small compass of school and self. Pearson speaks of the Diary in this respect as his "best friend...a source of amusement and fund of instruction"—then, more earnestly, as a display of "the progressive attainments of the intellect within me."

This triple service—to delight, to instruct, to treasure—gives the Diary its vitality, especially in the detailed accounts of treks into underground caverns; in "tours," mainly solitary and mainly afoot, to the battlefields of New York State, the mountains and waterways of New Hampshire and Vermont; to "the West" as far as Niagara by canal-boat; and earliest of all, Pear-

son's visit in the company of his father to St. Johns Island, Canada, an episode as bizarre as anything in *Huckleberry Finn*.

These travel accounts tell of a side of Pearson's nature almost obscured by the inwardness of the rest: avid curiosity, admiration for mechanical achievements, a quick perception for value and waste. These are matched by a delight in the beautiful and the sublime coupled with the disposition to find evidence of "design" wherever the eye alighted.

The Diary matures with the man. Youth behind him and responsibility before, Pearson consciously becomes, to use his term, a "citizen of the world"—actually, a citizen of two worlds: that of the fenced and gated Union campus and that of civil life extending from Schenectady to state, nation, and hemispheres to the east. To public issues Pearson brings a Christian perspective on issues of the day: epidemics and natural disasters, religious sectarianism, political misconduct, speculation, national and foreign imperialism, slavery, secession, war. Strong as his convictions may be, his judgments are in the main reasonable, without distemper.

About affairs in the College, however, the Diary is almost savagely critical, of policy and of practice, and as the years go on of persons as well. A lover's quarrel though it be, it grows rather than declines with familiarity. Union's reputation as a tradition-breaker barely gets acknowledgment. Its inadequacies and faults are exposed and condemned: examinations a farce, discipline a mockery, library and classrooms shameful, dormitories and their supervision scandalous.

The shrillness of attack culminates in the wake of the legislative inquiry into college finances when Pearson is appointed Treasurer by the trustees of the College. (How that appointment came about is one of the matters cloaked in the mystery of the missing volumes, 1846 to 1854.) Freedom to investigate and a duty to report findings turns unsystematic carping into a campaign of denunciation and reform. In the invective and complaint of these years, even when it is concealed in the role of Boswell to a magisterial Nott, it is all but impossible to discern Pearson's public figure as a mediating interlocutor, a "somewhat diffident man," as he described himself in his last long entry, let alone the "grave and kindly man" affectionately remembered by an alumnus speaking in 1895 to celebrants of the Union College centennial.

"To write of oneself is a delicate subject," Pearson observed early in the Diary. For a man of his volatile yet retiring temperament it must also have been difficult, even baffling, as well. The reader sees him and his world in it, but as through a glass, darkly.

Pearson's son, John Magoun Pearson '66, gave the College the bulk of the Diary, the ten volumes spanning the years 1835–1875, in 1934. Five additional volumes—the two attendant "tour" volumes and the

three earliest volumes—followed in 1953, the gift of Jonathan Pearson III '42.

The Diary's value was immediately recognized. Professor Codman Hislop '31 read a paper on it to the Schenectady County Historical Society in 1935, and another, in 1937, at a meeting of the New York State Historical Association. As an aid to his work on the biography of Eliphalet Nott, in 1936 he began a thorough analytical card index to the volumes. Reporting in January 1936 that the Diary constituted "by all odds the most important source we have of the history of the College," *Union Alumni Monthly* editor CHARLES WALDRON '06 began publishing excerpts from it, a process that has continued intermittently in the College's alumni magazines ever since. Hislop's biography of Nott, published in 1971, calls the Diary "the single most intimate view we have of Eliphalet Nott and Union College for those critical years," and the editor of the present volume reports that he found it invaluable in the preparation of many articles on the nineteenth-century College.

—Harold C. Martin

Peissner, Elias (Sept. 5, 1825–May 2, 1863). Instructor in German and Latin, 1851–54; Professor of German Language and Literature, Instructor in Latin, 1854–57; Professor of German Language and Literature, Lecturer in Political Economy, 1857–63.

Born in Vilseck, a small walled town in northern Bavaria, Elias Peissner was the second child and eldest son of nine children of Jakob Peissner, a city musician (also described as city tower keeper), and Barbara Kotzbauer Peissner, a butcher's daughter.

At the age of nine he was sent to the Gymnasium at Amberg, where he remained for eight years before entering the University of Munich to study law. After two years of pre-law education he was admitted to the study of jurisprudence, but three years later, shortly before he would have graduated, he left the university without taking a degree. The dramatic circumstances of his departure are unrivalled in the biography of any other Union College faculty member.

In October 1846, the Irish-born dancer and adventuress Lola Montez arrived in Munich. She became the flagrantly avaricious and unfaithful mistress of King Ludwig, but she also exerted a powerful political influence on him for the next two years, pushing him toward liberal reforms in the government and in the university. The actions to which Lola goaded him aroused the strongest opposition from the Jesuits and other reactionaries who controlled those institutions, while newspapers stirred up violent public opposition to the foreigner who had the king in thrall and who flaunted the fact in public.

Most university students were anti-Lola, and when "Fritz" Peissner and some of his friends were seen with her, they came into conflict with their fraternity, of

which Peissner had been the highest officer. Under the king's patronage, Peissner and his friends then formed a new fraternity, the Alemannia, to serve as Lola's guard of honor. The Alemannen were harassed by other students, and the rival corps clashed in street fighting.

In the fall of 1847, Lola and Peissner became lovers. She convinced him that her relations with the sixty-one year-old Ludwig were platonic, and that the king approved of her desire to marry Peissner (Lola was then about twenty-seven and Peissner twenty-one). By early January 1848, however, the king suspected the affair, though Lola assured him her relations with Peissner were platonic. Opposition to Lola and to the Alemannen had become more violent than ever, and on February 8, Ludwig briefly closed the university, both to eliminate a center of opposition and to force Peissner from Munich. Three days later, Lola had to flee as well, and Peissner traveled with her to Lindau. He soon broke with her, suspecting—correctly—that she was also carrying on an affair with another member of the Alemannen.

On March 19, Ludwig was forced to abdicate in favor of his son, but public indignation still ran so high that he dared not join Lola for fear of bringing down his son's regime. Ten days later, Lola summoned Peissner to Switzerland, but after three weeks with her he concluded that there was no place for him in her future and he departed for Giessen, where he hoped to enroll in the university. Although the university has no record of it, he probably did, as he later claimed, study there briefly.

Peissner rejoined Lola one more time, in Geneva for about a week in mid-September 1848. He hoped she would pay his debts, but she could not, and they parted for the last time. In early January 1849, Peissner went to Ludwig to ask for financial assistance to continue his education. After forcing him to confess his affair with Lola, Ludwig apparently did give Peissner money.

Peissner's activities for the next six months are unknown; possibly he returned to Giessen. Like many Germans uprooted by the revolutions of 1848, however, he decided to emigrate to America. On July 3, 1849, Peissner and his younger brother Francis ("Franz") arrived in New York on a ship from Ghent. According to a family legend, before leaving they kidnapped their young sister Anna from a convent where she was being held against her will; she did not, however, accompany them to America.

On his arrival, Peissner found tutoring work for a year in a Philadelphia family. In the summer of 1850 he set out with two friends on a walking trip to Niagara Falls. Stopping to visit some Germans in Schenectady, he was introduced, probably by Alphonse Schoppe, to Professor JOHN FOSTER of Union College. Foster wanted to learn German, and the two became friends

and started teaching each other their native languages. Presumably Peissner completed his trip to Niagara Falls and then returned to Schenectady; in any case, the wanderer had found his unlikely home.

In the fall, he formed a class of Union students and others who wanted to learn fencing and broadsword. An unexpected vacancy in the winter term gave him the opportunity to teach a Latin class, and by the next spring he was listed in the College catalogue as instructor in German and Latin. Not long afterward he took on the class in political economy, a subject in which he had a strong interest and to which he devoted a good deal of work.

His principal role, however, was to teach modern language courses, limited at that time to one year and often to one term. He taught not only German, but also French, Spanish and Italian, and he published, originally for the use of his own course, a *Comparative English-German grammar based on the affinity of the two languages* (1853), which was adopted at other institutions and went through seven editions, the last in 1875. The "comparative" approach consisted mainly in starting with a German vocabulary that was cognate with English, but the textbook was notable for its use of lively sample sentences of some literary interest.

In 1858 Peissner issued the less successful *Elements of the Romance languages; French, Italian and Spanish; founded on their affinities with the Latin and English. Accompanied by reading exercises*. A third textbook, essentially a reader with generous selections of the Romantic authors to whom Peissner was attracted, was entitled *A course of German literature, arranged chronologically, with an historical sketch* (1861). According to Tayler Lewis, Peissner also published, in 1860, "a small work in pamphlet form calculated to assist the German in acquiring the English language." This has not been identified.

Lola's dalliance with Peissner had been the subject of scurrilous contemporary cartoons in Munich, but there is no evidence that anything was known of the affair at Union College during Peissner's lifetime. It apparently was known, however, that Peissner and King Ludwig were acquainted, and this fact, combined with the physical resemblance of the two men, gave rise to rumors that Peissner was the king's illegitimate son. The German-American leader Carl Schurz, who knew Peissner and was doubtless aware of some scandal in his past, believed the rumor and mentioned it in his memoirs. There is no other evidence for it, however, and there are strong reasons, set forth in a 1940 article by Professor GEORGE DANTON, to doubt it.

Peissner was well liked both by his colleagues and—though he always spoke English with a heavy accent and an imperfect command of grammar—by his students. Phi Beta Kappa (1853) and Sigma Phi (1861) elected him to honorary memberships. In July 1854, after he had been teaching German for several

years, the trustees formally made him Professor of German Language and Literature and Instructor in Latin. (The instructorship in Latin was changed in 1857 to a lectureship in political economy.)

In the spring of 1855 he returned to Bavaria, at least in part to gather transcripts of his academic records; his position as a teacher with no degrees may have been troublesome. His listing in Union's catalogues as "MA Munich" was presumably based on the assumption that he would shortly have received that degree but for the political turmoil.

On April 2, 1856, Peissner married Professor TAYLER LEWIS's daughter Margaret (see PEISSNER, MARGARET) in a ceremony conducted by President Eliphalet Nott. She had been raised a Protestant, while Peissner had been a Catholic, but, though he still considered himself a Christian, he confided to his diary in an undated entry: "I am indifferent as to form. Alas, tossed as I have been on the waves of Catholicism, Rationalism, despairing Materialism, how can I find a form suited to my needs."

The Peissners lived in the faculty house at the south end of South College, with the Tayler Lewises. Peissner had a small pipe organ installed in his second floor rear study and could often be heard playing it late on Saturday nights. Three children were born to the couple: Keziah Lewis (April 1857), Babette (December 1858), and Tayler Lewis (June 1861). Keziah died in February 1860.

Peissner's position in the College was apparently initially anomalous in that Nott hired him without seeking trustee authorization, and for several years the president had to find his salary outside the regular instructional budget. In 1860, Peissner asked the board to raise him to the level of other faculty members with comparable experience, and after being turned down, he submitted a petition, signed by all the faculty, for reconsideration.

The board referred the matter to the Finance Committee, which eventually granted the raise. In the meantime, Nott explained to Treasurer JONATHAN PEARSON (who recorded the conversation in his diary) that German professors of modern languages were easily found and that "the mem[bers] of the board do not like to encourage a Catholic and Cath[olic] influence here in Coll[ege]." Like most presidents, Nott reported trustee attitudes selectively; although his statement cannot be taken as evidence for the extent or strength of anti-Catholicism, the sentiment doubtless existed and singled out even such an apostate Papist as Elias Peissner.

Peissner was active in Schenectady's German-American community. He gave the English address at the Turner Festival in Albany in 1853, and befriended Alphonse Schoppe's mother, Amalia Schoppe, a once-popular German novelist, after she retired to Schenectady to live with her son. (It is just possible that

Peissner had in fact known her in Germany, and had sought out her son at her suggestion on his first trip to Schenectady.) After her death in 1858, Peissner solicited from her old protégé, Friedrich Hebbel, the verse which appears on her gravestone in Vale Cemetery.

In 1861, Peissner published *The American question in its national aspect. Being also an incidental reply to Mr. H.R. Helper's "Compendium of the impending crisis of the South."* The "American question" was the survival of the Union; Peissner argued for its preservation and for the gradual abolition of slavery. The book had scarcely been published, however, when the Civil War broke out.

In the aftermath of the fall of Fort Sumter in April 1861, students organized the UNION COLLEGE ZOUAVES and elected Peissner its captain. Porter Farley, a senior that year, later recalled him as "a somewhat picturesque figure, tall and slim, somewhat short-sighted and wearing eye-glasses, long hair and Byronic collar with black silk neck-handkerchief tied loosely in sailor fashion.... He was a man of musical taste and a somewhat hasty temper withal."

Peissner led the cadets on hikes, drilled them on the campus, and directed practice skirmishes on the Pasture. An anonymous member of the Class of 1862 later described one episode that elicited Peissner's "hasty temper":

Captain Peissner was thoroughly schooled in the drill. A strict disciplinarian, quick to reward proficiency or scold the laggard, he made a model commander. His bearing was military, his commands sharp and decisive; undoubtedly he had been fully trained in Germany.... We were pretty good boys and obedient soldiers, but once in a while we broke over.... Captain Peissner put us in the pasture for skirmish drill. The Captain, with the Bugler, stood on the terrace; te-ta-te-te-right and left deploy, forward, rally by fours, rally on the centre, rally on the reserve—we did it nicely and on the jump; again came deploy and forward, then the Devil broke loose, and with a yell like wild Arabs, disregarding the bugle sounds, we charged forward, breaking all order of formation and semblance of discipline. Peissner was over the terrace in an instant in a towering rage, and well he might be. He took the bugle, and with his own lips sounded the recall. We sullenly returned, and would not form line for the officers. How he lashed us—English and German commingled. But soon he straightened us out; we made apology and all was serene.

Peissner drilled the corps every night. In June, the Zouaves adopted his newborn son, Tayler Lewis Peissner, as the "Child of the Regiment" and presented the infant with a silver cup. Drill continued in the fall of 1861 until the days became too short. In February 1862 Peissner addressed the combined literary societies on slavery, and in the spring the Zouaves were reformed. Over fifty of its members eventually received commissions.

From the outbreak of the war, Peissner had wanted active service. He turned down one opportunity to

command a regiment and was unsuccessful in his application for another. Then he obtained permission to raise a regiment in the 5th Senatorial District and went to New York City in the summer of 1862 for that purpose. The 119th Regiment of New York State Volunteers, consisting of "500 Americans and 500 Germans"—including his brother Francis—was mustered into service, with Peissner as Colonel, on September 3, and left almost immediately for the south. It was a part of the 11th Corps of the Army of the Potomac. Brigadier General Carl Schurz served as division commander.

Peissner returned to the campus once on leave in the winter or spring of 1863. His father-in-law later described his subsequent fate:

During the winter campaign, his regiment was on the reserve in the first battle of Fredericksburg. From the first, he had displayed an eagerness to get into action. When the second movement took place, he requested to be transferred from the reserve to the advance, and was the first man of the army of the Potomac to cross the Rappahannock at Kelly's ford. We have abundant testimonials that during this march he displayed the most daring bravery—ever going before his men, and exposing his person to the most imminent peril, during the continued firing which harassed their march. On Friday, May 1st, the first day of fighting at Chancellorsville, his regiment was engaged with, and succeeded in driving, a rebel battery some distance. When on the 2d May, 1863, our army at Wilderness Church was so unexpectedly attacked by an overpowering force, Col. Peissner rode along his line formed to meet the approaching enemy, and bade his soldiers be firm and show themselves men. Taking his position on the right of his command, when the shock of battle came on, and surrounding regiments were flying in confusion, he maintained his line, and was seen waving his sword, while shouting, "Stand firm, boys, we'll have 'em yet." He was the most conspicuous of all the officers in the front, and members of other regiments watched to see him fall. His horse becoming unmanageable, he was compelled to dismount, and a few moments thereafter fell, mortally wounded.

In another account, published in 1881, Judge George Lawton '56 reported what Col. William Logie '57 had told him shortly after the event:

[Peissner's] regiment, being raw troops, was placed in rear of what Col. Logie described to me as the "veteran line," and on the right of the main line. When the assault was made upon the veterans, they broke and came pouring back upon Peissner. Every soldier knows how trying it is to withstand the demoralizing effect of such a scene—the triumphant shout of the pursuing army—shot and shell falling thick and fast; and the trusted veterans in rout, all upon the brave Peissner and his men. He was standing at the right and a little in front of his regiment—where all could see him—with bridle rein in hand. Aroused by the tumultuous scene, and especially by the sight of the fleeing troops, drawing himself up in his saddle, stretching forth his arm and pointing his finger as in scorn toward the routed line, his face turned toward [his] troops, burning with rage, he exclaimed with his inimitable German accent, "See, see, the vet-e-rans." The words had scarcely passed his lips when a ball struck him dead.

One of more than 17,000 Union Army men killed, wounded or missing on that day at Chancellorsville, Peissner was buried on the battlefield by his friend, Dr. James D. Hewitt, who exhumed the body a few days later when it had become possible to ship it home.

Peissner's death stunned the campus as no other event of the war. Speaking at the funeral, the student editor of the *Union College Magazine* confessed, "We had talked and read much about the cruelty of war, but we had not realized it." Peissner remains the only Union College faculty member to die in military service.

By all accounts, he was an ardent soldier and an aggressive commander, constantly exposing himself to danger. Carl Schurz called him "more than brave." He was properly eulogized as a hero, a man who gave his life fighting to save his adopted country as he had fought what he saw as oppression in his youth. Yet it is hard to avoid seeing a more complex, though no less poignant, story in the death of a thirty-seven year-old man with a dependent wife and two small children, who deliberately, perhaps recklessly, courted danger in an apparent eagerness finally to prove himself in battle.

Professor Danton touched on this issue briefly in his article on Peissner: "Several traits in Peissner's personality are very puzzling.... There were evidently some *Nachtseiten* [dark sides] to his nature and all through his work one comes on touches of or approaches to a *Todesnähe* [literally, closeness to death, but death's attraction is suggested] which is very reminiscent of his idol, Körner, and which seems to stem from the 'magic idealism' of Novalis." (Theodore Körner was a German poet and dramatist famous largely for having died in battle at twenty-one.)

Elias Peissner has no living descendants. His daughter Babette married Ira N. Hollis, a naval officer who taught civil engineering at Union, 1881–84, but she died without issue, as did her brother.

Lola Montez came to America in December 1851, touring first as a dancer and later as a lecturer. She appeared in Albany at least three times—in May 1852, February 1857 and April 1860—and died January 17, 1861, in New York City. There is no evidence that she and Peissner ever met in America.

In 1880 the Class of 1863 commissioned a bust of Peissner from the sculptor Launt Thompson and presented it to the College. It stood for many years in the library, but in recent decades it has been in the care of Sigma Phi.

In the early twentieth century Peissner and Lola Montez were portrayed very unflatteringly in two German literary works—an historical novel and a play. The nature of their relationship was not finally confirmed, however, until the publication in the late twentieth century of a letter from Peissner to the king which had been discovered in the state archives.

Peissner, Margaret Lewis (March 22, 1836–Feb. 28, 1904). Registrar, 1883–1904.

The daughter of Professor and Mrs. TAYLER LEWIS, Margaret Lewis married Professor ELIAS PEISSNER on April 2, 1856; he was killed at the Battle of Chancellorsville, May 2, 1863.

In 1883, Margaret Peissner was appointed Acting REGISTRAR, succeeding Edgar Jenkins, who had resigned during the controversy over the presidency of Eliphalet Nott Potter. Other people held the position in 1885–86, but Mrs. Peissner returned in the fall of 1886 as "Registrar *ad interim*." She was the first woman to hold an administrative position at Union.

When President RAYMOND came in 1894, he found the operation of the Registrar's office entirely unsatisfactory; Mrs. Peissner kept it open only in the mornings, and she had apparently become quite inefficient. The problem was nearly intractable. Daughter of one honored professor and widow of another, she was well-liked. As faculty wife and as Registrar, she had been a surrogate mother to many students, but her situation had become pathetic. She had outlived her own three children, and although only fifty-eight, was too crippled by rheumatism to work very much, yet she badly wanted to retain some position at Union. "If I lose my work at the old College," she wrote JUDSON LANDON, "the universe, which, of late years has been growing more & more empty to me, will seem larger and more empty than ever."

Compassion is perhaps the least predictable of collegiate qualities, dependent usually on one person swaying the intrinsic neutrality of the institution. The College was too desperately poor to be very generous, but a compromise was found: retaining the title Registrar for the rest of her life, Mrs. Peissner worked when she could, latterly entirely at home, while part of her salary was diverted to pay an Assistant Registrar to do most of the work of the office. Her brother, Charles Lewis '64, moved back to Schenectady in 1897 to make a home for her in her last years.

Perkins, Anne Dunbar Potts (Feb. 7, 1835–July 10, 1922). Creator of Mrs. Perkins' Garden.

Born in Natchez, Mississippi, Anne Dunbar Potts moved to New York City when her father, Dr. George Potts, became pastor of the University Place Presbyterian Church. During the Civil War she was active in hospital work, and in 1864 she married MAURICE PERKINS, who shortly afterward became, for a brief period, instructor in chemistry at Harvard.

At beginning of 1865, Perkins was called to Union to fill the vacancy created by the departure of Professor CHARLES CHANDLER. The couple lived in South Colonnade, and Mrs. Perkins soon began the adjacent garden that bears her name.

In 1893, the Perkins' daughter Rose married EDWARD EVERETT HALE, who two years later joined the

Union faculty. After Maurice Perkins's death in 1901, the Hales occupied the apartment and Anne Perkins lived with them, continuing to cultivate her garden—an oasis of beauty in an otherwise often shabby campus—until near her death, at eighty-seven.

Mrs. Perkins resided near the center of the campus for fifty-seven years, a period which rather neatly spanned the College's most troubled decades—she arrived shortly before the death of Eliphalet Nott, and lived to see the College strong and growing again under Charles Richmond. A forthright, opinionated, sometimes imperious woman (students nicknamed her "The Duchess"), well-read and with a wide range of interests, she inevitably became for alumni a rare symbol of continuity.

CHARLES WALDRON, whose poor eyesight required him to seek readers, recalled visiting Mrs. Perkins as a student (writing as editor of the *Union Alumni Monthly*, he used the editorial "we"):

We remember vividly the many evenings we spent as an undergraduate, listening to Mrs. Perkins read Charlotte Brontë. *Jane Eyre* was expurgated with true Victorian modesty, for Mrs. Perkins would have felt at home with Queen Victoria herself, and in fact possessed much of the grand manner. It was something more than mere courtesy which led many seniors to ask Mrs. Perkins to put her name on their diplomas, as we did.

One might imagine that Anne Perkins and JULIA BENEDICT, who tended Jackson's Garden, were bitter rivals, but—except when arguing about religion—they were good friends.

A large-featured woman who customarily wore a lace bonnet and voluminous skirts that touched the ground, Mrs. Perkins became quite heavy in her later years; an elevator was installed in the Hales' house to take her to the second floor.

Perkins, Maurice (March 14, 1836–June 18, 1901). Professor of Chemistry, 1865–1901.

A native of New London, Connecticut, Maurice Perkins was descended on both sides from prominent Connecticut families; his father, Thomas Shaw Perkins, was a successful lawyer; his mother, Marion Griswold, was the daughter of a governor of Connecticut. After three years at Yale, Maurice was forced by an eye injury to leave, and on doctors' orders he embarked on a round-the-world voyage by clipper ship.

Returning home, Perkins briefly tried a business career, becoming ("to please a rich uncle") a member of the New York Stock Exchange, but he soon changed his mind and enrolled at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York City. While there he apparently worked at Columbia under former Union professor CHARLES JOY, and with Wolcott Gibbs at the Free Academy, the precursor of CUNY. Although he continued his study of chemistry at several German universities in 1859–61, unlike earlier and later Union

chemistry professors who followed the same path, Perkins never took a PhD.

Back in New York, he became assistant professor of chemistry at the College of Physicians and Surgeons (1861–62), but when Gibbs left the Free Academy to become Rumford Professor at Harvard's Lawrence Scientific School, Perkins first applied to succeed him, and then accepted a position as Gibbs's assistant in Cambridge, where he served for two years. Harvard awarded Perkins an MA in 1865, and in the same year he came to Union, replacing CHARLES CHANDLER, who had just been called to Columbia.

Perkins' career at Union (1865–1901) spanned the College's long post-Civil War decline and the beginnings of recovery; in that period of often shaky student and faculty morale, his strong character and personality were even greater institutional assets than they would have been in normal times. He was a cheerful, genial man of ready wit and wide interests—"whatever he touched seemed to shine" one contemporary recalled, and another described him as "the life of any gathering." Handsome and distinguished in bearing and manner, he was both careless and flamboyant in dress, wearing a blue military cloak rather than an overcoat even in coldest weather and in later years affecting a large "elephant ear" hat.

Ignoring uninterested students and sometimes ridiculing the efforts of weak ones, Perkins had obvious faults as a teacher, but he took an active interest in most of his charges, who liked and trusted him, and dubbed him "Perk." If FRANK BAILEY's experience of spending two weeks in the attempt to analyze what turned out to be distilled water was typical, Perkins was as concerned to inculcate scientific attitudes as to impart information. For at least thirty years, he annually had his chemistry students engrave their names on the laboratory window panes.

Although his title was Professor of Analytical Chemistry, and his only book, published two years after his arrival at Union, was *An elementary manual of qualitative chemical analysis*, Perkins's interests lay primarily in the medical applications of chemistry. In 1870 he accepted the chair of chemistry and toxicology at the Albany Medical College, which required his presence two days a week from December through March. The medical college awarded him an honorary MD the next year, and what began as a temporary appointment lasted until his death thirty-one years later.

Perkins was apparently temperamentally unsuited to extended research, but one of his few technical papers, "Estimation of urea," delivered in 1878 before the Medical Society of the State of New York, proved widely influential. Appointed to the Schenectady Board of Health in 1880, he also served from 1887 to 1892 on the State Board of Health. He spent part of a term in 1892 in Mexico City as a public health consultant to the Mexican National Board of Health. At

the College, he took the initiative in 1882 in fitting up a three-room "hospital" in North Colonnade for the isolation of students with contagious diseases.

By the 1890s Perkins' expertise in toxicology brought him frequent calls to testify or otherwise assist in cases of poisoning; he was eventually involved in about forty medico-legal cases.

In his first years at Union, Perkins had to teach geology and zoology as well as chemistry, and at various times he briefly taught physiology, German, political economy and American history. In 1873 he instructed the senior engineering students in photography.

Siding with the majority during the faculty's war with President ELIPHALET NOTT POTTER, Perkins openly opposed the president and testified against him, but he also maintained a close friendship with board chairman (later acting president) JUDSON LANDON, sometimes spending vacations with him.

About a year before coming to Union, Perkins married Anne Dunbar Potts, daughter of a prominent New York City clergyman (see ANNE DUNBAR POTTS PERKINS for an account of their residence and their children).

Perkins' (Mrs.) Garden. From 1866 until 1920, ANNE PERKINS, wife of Professor MAURICE PERKINS, cultivated an ambitious garden on the south side of Geological Hall.

Mrs. Perkins started the garden the year after she and her husband arrived at Union and moved into the faculty residence in the present Hale House. Her plantings occupied not only the small plot now designated as the site of Mrs. Perkins Garden, but also the area to the west of it, along most or all of the wall of Geological Hall. Though celebrated as a flower garden, it was also, in the early years at least, a vegetable garden. A photograph taken between 1883 and 1902 shows it surrounded by a picket fence; the masonry wall was built later.

Lying below the south-facing wall of a brick building, the spot was nearly ideal for a garden; Eliphalet Nott had once planted his garden in the adjacent plot now called the Hale House Close.

During the life of Mrs. Perkins' Garden, the much larger floral area of JACKSON'S GARDEN was of course available on the other side of the campus, but Mrs. Perkins' garden had a special role because it was seen by many people each day in the course of their business.

After Mrs. Perkins' death, her daughter erected a new gateway in her memory in 1926, and a commemorative plaque was placed near it. In 1935, the centennial of Mrs. Perkins' birth, the garden was made over as a Federal Emergency Relief Administration project under the supervision of MARIAN OSGOOD FOX. The walks were relaid, the brick terrace straightened and enlarged and the beds replanted. The central

plot was planted with grass instead of flowers, and a green open gate replaced the old solid gate.

A new wall in 1952/53 reduced the space designated as the garden to a small portion of its former size, and it was further reduced during the renovations of Becker Hall and Old Chapel in the 1980s.

Perspective. In January 1973 the Black Student Alliance published the first issue of *Perspective*. Twenty-nine subsequent issues appeared as sections of the *CONCORDIENSIS*, the last in December 1977.

Peschel (Stanley) Computer Center. Named for its donor, a member of the Class of 1952, the Stanley G. Peschel Computer Center was built as a north-east extension on STEINMETZ HALL to accommodate a new Burroughs 5700 computer. Begun in 1974 and completed in early 1975, the addition was constructed by John Duguid & Son, Schenectady.

Phi Alpha Society. A local secret society whose members were selected from fraternities, Phi Alpha existed at Union circa 1904-30. In its earliest years, the society was called the Phi Alpha chapter of Skull and Shield, and members were freshmen and sophomores, but by 1918 members were elected in their junior year. In pursuit of its purpose "to promote good spirit and social activities between the various fraternities," the society held an annual dance.

Union's Phi Alpha was apparently unrelated to a national fraternity of the same name which existed from 1914 until 1959.

Phi Beta Kappa. John Heath, a freshman, took the initiative in founding Phi Beta Kappa at William and Mary College in 1776. That chapter chartered others at Yale (1780) and Harvard (1781) before dying out in 1781. Harvard and Yale jointly chartered the Dartmouth chapter in 1787.

These three surviving chapters, each the first (or "Alpha") chapter in its state, constituted the entire society for the next thirty years. During that period, and for some time afterward, Phi Beta Kappa was essentially a fraternity, although a fraternity which placed special emphasis on learning. Student members (called "brothers") gave explicit consideration to friendship in the election of new members. Initiates took an oath to preserve the society's secrets, which included a hand-clasp, a sign, and the meaning of the initials PBK (they stood for the Greek phrase "Philosophia Biou Kuberbetes"—"Philosophy" [or "love of wisdom"] "the guide of life.")

As explained in the article on FRATERNITIES, secret societies provoked a good deal of animosity in America during the first half of the nineteenth century. In the years immediately after an 1831 book exposed the secrets of Phi Beta Kappa, most chapters abandoned the

oath of secrecy except in regard to the election of new members.

The Beginnings of Alpha of New York. In 1803, Yale's chapter rejected the request of some Union students for a charter, explaining that academic standards at the eight-year-old college were not known to be sufficiently high. In 1813, President Nott encouraged students in the founding of Pi Beta Phi, a non-secret literary society which was understood to be a substitute for a Phi Beta Kappa chapter. At about the same time, Nott endorsed a new application to Yale for a PBK charter. When it was finally granted in 1817, Union became "New York Alpha" of the society.

The chapter promptly elected one hundred thirty-eight members, many of them alumni. Nott, his son Joel, and his two stepsons were elected, as were most members of the faculty. Nott served as the first chapter president.

The society functioned as an honorary literary society, holding frequent meetings to debate and read papers. The election of new members became increasingly political, however, especially after the rise of social fraternities beginning in 1825. Each fraternity tried to maximize the number of its members in Phi Beta Kappa, using the blackball to reject members of other fraternities. When the first three fraternities blocked the election of anyone from the newly founded Psi Upsilon in 1833, Nott asked the faculty to elect some members from that fraternity.

Sometimes, as Jonathan Pearson noted in his diary in 1835, the politicking was at an individual level:

The last meeting of the Phi Beta Kappa Society for this term was held lately and resulted in no election. I do not wholly disapprove of this Society. I see nothing bad in its constitution or object, but the vile manner in which it is perverted in Union College is scandalous. One member has a particular friend whom he wishes to promote to the honor of its membership, and because the other members cannot be unanimous with him he may oppose any man proposed by them and thereby prevent an election until the whole society may be coerced to his private opinions.

These "Secret Societies" are the root of all this evil which will ever prevail so long as these clubs are in operation. They break the members up into little parties with separate interests and hostile feelings. Prejudice blinds them to their own faults and to others' virtues. How then can they judge impartially and with equal judgments upon the merits of men who are proposed for admittance to their fellowship? Oh what bickerings and strifes and scandal I have witnessed in this association! How lasting these lessons of human depravity which I have learnt. It may be an honor in the eyes of many to swing a PBK key at their watch chain. but often it is small business.

To facilitate pre-election deals, students ran on tickets, but the whole process came to a halt in July 1838, when the chapter held ten successive meetings, at one of which seven tickets, bearing a total of seventy-three names, were proposed. Hopelessly deadlocked, the chapter turned responsibility for elections

over to the faculty, which has held it since. The society thus ceased to be in any sense a fraternity, though Nott was still classifying it as a secret society in 1846.

At the same time elections were turned over to the faculty, debating was dropped and meetings were reduced to five or six a year. The society long had its own room in SOUTH COLONNADE; by 1887 it was apparently no longer used, and the *Concordiensis* suggested that some other use be found for it.

As the Alpha chapter of New York, Union chartered other chapters in the state until a new national umbrella organization, called United Chapters, took over that function in 1887. Although they were not entirely consistent in their own practice, the New England Alphas maintained that an Alpha could not grant a charter without the concurrence of all the other Alphas. The Union chapter disagreed, chartering chapters at New York University (1858), City College of New York (1867), Columbia (1869), Hamilton (1870), Hobart (1871), Colgate (1878) and Cornell (1882)—more chapters than any other Alpha.

When the "United Chapters" was created, the name, and the model charter for new chapters, were proposed by Union's John De Remer '57.

In 1914, a committee of Alpha of New York launched an organization of PBK members who live in the Capital District. Now called the Upper Hudson Association, it functions independently of the Union and other chapters. Skidmore College acquired a PBK chapter in 1971, and the State University of New York at Albany in 1974.

Eligibility Rules. Each chapter of Phi Beta Kappa sets its own eligibility rules and election procedures. At Union, electors were free to select any undergraduate, but in practice students in the scientific curriculum (an alternative to the classical curriculum from 1828 onwards) were not chosen. This practice was made policy in 1854; after that date, membership was limited to candidates for a Latin diploma (i.e., students in the classical course; the scientific course led to a French diploma).

The policy was maintained, but with a change in emphasis as the study of Latin and Greek became less common. In 1920, all AB students became eligible, though "students of Greek and Latin exhibiting excellence in literary and linguistic studies" continued to receive preference.

Gradually, the Union chapter has become open to all except engineering majors. In 1942, the chapter opened membership to students in the "general BS" course. Students in the special highly pre-professional BS in Physics and BS in Chemistry courses remained ineligible, as did engineering students. Opening the society to BS majors made many pre-medical students eligible, and resulted in some students holding membership in both Phi Beta Kappa and SIGMA XI.

Until 1924, only students specifically nominated were considered. In that year, a rule change required that all AB students with an average of 90 or above should be voted upon, though character remained a consideration. Others, with grades between 85 and 90, and "proved qualities of ability, leadership and character," could also be considered. By the mid-30s, however, acting Union College president EDWARD ELLERY found it necessary to complain that the society was merely ratifying grades, without making a distinction between easy and difficult courses.

New rules in 1938 established a faculty membership committee and set a minimum grade average of 4 (midway between an A and a B). When the College lowered the value of an A to 4 in 1961, the minimum grade point average for Phi Beta Kappa was reduced. Eligibility was put on a different basis in 1968, when the rule was changed to make seniors in the upper ten percent of the class, and juniors in the upper two percent, eligible for election.

A further refinement of the eligibility rules in June 1974 tried to make allowances for students who, because they were "late bloomers," or for other reasons, were more suitable for election than their class standing would suggest. Under the new rules, all seniors in the upper seven percent of their class would be automatically considered (but not necessarily elected), and other students who had been nominated by two faculty members (or by two chapter members, one of them also a faculty member) would also be considered.

Unlike some chapters, Union has not automatically elected anyone, however high their standing. Since 1974, the other criteria considered have included breadth of educational experience and evidence of intellectual maturity (defined as "broad creativity and/or curiosity"). It has not been uncommon for a student with high standing to be passed over if his or her record revealed a tendency to choose easy courses.

Other Activities. In its early years, New York Alpha sometimes invited such nationally known speakers as William Henry Seward '20 and Charles Sumner to address their meetings; the speeches were often published. From 1818 through 1882, the chapter frequently elected an orator, and sometimes also a poet, to speak at Commencement exercises.

A new Phi Beta Kappa lecture series, given by Union faculty members and open to the public, ran from 1922 until 1925. Since 1971, the Union chapter has regularly sponsored a visiting scholar supplied through the United Chapters; typically these men and women have met with classes and delivered a public lecture.

Anticipating the celebration of its 150th anniversary, the chapter began in 1959 to raise money for a meeting room in the new Shaffer Library, opened in 1961.

Intermittently from 1975 through 1982, the chapter shared with Sigma Xi the sponsorship of an "Intellectual Cabaret" in the Student Center (see STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS: THEATRE). From 1976 through 1984, the chapter annually sponsored "Accepted Candidates Day" (later called "Promising Candidates Day" and "Garnet Group Weekend"). On this occasion, the Admissions Office brought to the campus high school students whom it hoped to persuade to enter Union. PBK participated in an effort to appeal to prospective students with strong intellectual interests, but the chapter eventually withdrew after finding that it could not play what it considered a meaningful role in the program.

From the late 1970s onward, the chapter has also made small grants to fund student research.

The chapter produced several catalogues of all its members, the first of them in 1827, and the latest, in 1922, by Professor MORTON STEWART.

Phi Beta Phi. A sophomore fraternity, Phi Beta Phi was founded at Union in 1879 and died after a year or two.

Phi Delta Theta (New York Beta chapter). A national fraternity founded at Miami University (Ohio), December 26, 1848, Phi Delta Theta established a chapter at Union in November 1883. The founders were Dwight Levi Parsons '84 and nine others.

The chapter took over the former Beta Theta Pi meeting rooms at 101 State Street in the spring of 1887. It met in various downtown locations before moving to 4 University Place about 1899, then to 759 Nott Street about 1901 and to 30 Wendell Avenue, 1902-3.

Members roomed in South College from 1903 until the present house on the campus (1175 Lenox Road) was completed in November 1914 (see PHI DELTA THETA HOUSE). Following a serious fire in December 1948, members lived with other fraternities and then in the VETERANS' HOUSING until the house was rebuilt.

In 1912, national Phi Delta Theta added to its constitution a clause limiting membership to "white persons of full Aryan blood." In the 1950s and 1960s, this restriction caused severe pressure on chapters in some parts of the country; the Dartmouth chapter disaffiliated in 1960 in order to shed the restriction. As late as 1965, the national constitution of Phi Delta Theta apparently still prohibited any chapter from pledging a student who would not be "socially acceptable" to all chapters, but in August 1964, the national began allowing individual chapters to petition for a waiver, and most eastern chapters had already received a waiver by March 1966, when the Union College chapter filed its successful petition.

Phi Delta Theta House. Phi Delta Theta finished building a house on the campus (1175 Lenox Road) in November 1914. Earlier, the members, then living in South College, had announced that they would build a house near Chi Psi in the summer of 1912. The plans changed, and on April 24, 1914, Phi Delta Theta leased the Lenox Road plot from the College for ninety-nine years. It is not known who designed the house, which was built at a cost of \$17,000.

The structure has twice undergone major changes: In the summer of 1929 it was extensively altered and a fourth storey added, but on December 27, 1948, the worst fraternity house fire in Union's history—attributed to a faulty oil furnace—completely gutted the building. Rebuilt with substantial changes following plans by H.D. Fullerton, the house gained a twenty-foot extension and fourth floor dormer on the rear and lost the tall-pillared porch on the front. It re-opened in September 1949.

Phi Epsilon Pi (Kappa Iota chapter). A national fraternity, Phi Epsilon Pi was founded at the College of the City of New York, November 23, 1904, as a nonsectarian but predominately Jewish fraternity.

National Phi Epsilon Pi merged with national Kappa Nu in 1961, making the Union chapter of KAPPA NU a chapter of Phi Epsilon Pi. In March 1970, national ZETA BETA TAU, which had absorbed national PHI SIGMA DELTA the previous year, absorbed national Phi Epsilon Pi, but the Union chapter rejected the merger and in May 1970 (at which time it had 60 active members) voted to disband and become a club called simply "1247." The change was caused by a sharp decline in interest in the fraternity: pledge classes had formerly enrolled thirty to thirty-five students, of whom twenty-five to thirty would be initiated, but the most recent pledge class had started at fourteen and shrank to five.

"1247," the Lenox Road street number of the house, was a club open to any student, staff member or faculty member. It offered several kinds of memberships to accommodate those who wanted to use the house for residential, dining or strictly social purposes, but the venture failed, and in October 1971, the fraternity's Alumni Association, which owned the house, donated it to the College (see EDWARDS HOUSE).

In 1960/61, 1962/63, 1963/64, and 1964/65, the National Interfraternity Council designated the Union chapter of Phi Epsilon Pi a "Summa Cum Laude Chapter," signifying that it had achieved average grades at least thirty percent higher than Union's all-college average. In 1962/63, the fraternity captured the BROWN MEMORIAL TROPHY for the third consecutive year, thus retiring it for the second time.

Phi Gamma Delta (Chi chapter). A national fraternity founded at Jefferson College, April 22, 1848, Phi Gamma Delta formed a chapter at Union December 8, 1893, with the initiation of thirteen men. Emmet Sloat '94 and Nathan Beckwith '94, the prime movers, were encouraged by Professor FRANK HOFFMAN, already a member.

The first chapter rooms were on the third floor of a building at the corner of State and Jay Streets. By 1896, Phi Gamma Delta rented a house "on college hill" at which dances were held; the following June the fraternity briefly leased and moved into a house at 407 Union Street, and then moved to 134 Nott Terrace, but by November of 1899 it had become a co-tenant with Professor Hoffman of the present ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.

The fraternity occupied the north half; the Hoffman family, the south. When the administration informed Phi Gamma Delta in 1906 that their space would be needed for faculty housing at the end of 1906/7, the fraternity began to build a house on campus (see PHI GAMMA DELTA HOUSE). After the house was razed in 1967, Phi Gamma Delta moved to Fox House (see DAVIDSON HOUSE AND FOX HOUSE).

In 1960, the national constitution of Phi Gamma Delta still limited membership to men "who are of such moral, intellectual and social worth, gentlemanly deportment, high sense of honor, congenial disposition and compatibility as to make them acceptable members of the fraternity as a whole." The Amherst chapter was expelled from the national in 1958 for pledging a Negro in disregard of this provision; it is not known when the national constitution was altered or re-interpreted to meet the demand of many institutions for chapter autonomy in pledge selection.

Phi Gamma Delta House. The Phi Gamma Delta fraternity house was built on the campus near Union Avenue, between the CLASS OF 1884 GATE and BETA THETA PI, in the fall of 1907; it was razed in the spring of 1967.

Phi Gamma Delta had asked the trustees for a building site in 1895, but either it was not granted, or the fraternity was unable to build at that time. Immediately before the house was built, members were living in part of the present ADMINISTRATION BUILDING; when they were told the space was needed for faculty housing, some difficult negotiations followed. President RAYMOND, though at first unwilling to give the fraternity the building site it wanted, yielded after fraternity member David Grant '08 persuaded CHARLES STEINMETZ, an honorary Phi Gamma Delta member, to sanction a threat—albeit false—that Steinmetz would leave the faculty unless the request were granted.

After groundbreaking in June, the house was occupied in October 1907. Used as officers' quarters

during the First World War, it was expanded in 1920. By the mid-1960s, both Phi Gamma Delta and its neighbor, Beta Theta Pi, unable to maintain their aging houses, turned them over to the College, which razed them in the fall of 1967. Phi Gamma Delta members have since lived in Fox House.

Phi Nu Theta (Alpha chapter). Founded at Union in 1919, Phi Nu Theta was one of four local fraternities established with the encouragement of the administration to accommodate the swollen enrollments following the First World War.

Founded by Lewis S. Uphoff '18, the society began with nineteen members, and had an unusually good scholastic record during its seven years of independent existence. On April 24, 1926, it was installed as the Gamma chapter of THETA NU EPSILON, a national fraternity which had been dormant at Union since 1912.

Phi Nu Theta occupied all of North Section, North College in 1920; in 1921 the fraternity bought the house at 16 Gillespie Street.

Phi Sigma Delta (Epsilon chapter). A predominately Jewish national fraternity founded at Columbia University, November 10, 1910, Phi Sigma Delta established a joint chapter at the Albany Law School and the Albany Medical College on April 5, 1914. The chapter transferred to Union College in the fall of 1925.

During the early years of the Second World War, the Union chapter of Phi Sigma Delta distinguished itself by taking in refugee students. Like other Union fraternities, it was dormant in 1943–45.

When chartered in 1925, Phi Sigma Delta bought a house at 854 Union Street. In 1932 the chapter moved to 1307 Union Street, then, about 1936, to 1035 Park Avenue. The fraternity rented the former SIGMA CHI house at 701 Union Street in 1942; that house was taken over by the government during the Second World War and converted to apartments. In 1947 Phi Sigma Delta bought the former Phi Sigma Kappa house at 201 Seward Place. The chapter built a house on the campus in 1957, the last fraternity to do so (See HICKOK HOUSE).

On April 19, 1969, national Phi Sigma Delta merged with ZETA BETA TAU, under the latter name. The Union chapter disbanded in 1971.

Phi Sigma Kappa (Beta chapter). A national fraternity, Phi Sigma Kappa was founded March 15, 1873, at Massachusetts Agricultural College (now University of Massachusetts).

The "Alden March" chapter was formed at Albany Medical College on February 2, 1888; it also drew members from Albany Law School. Designated the Beta chapter in 1891, the chapter transferred to the

TERRACE CLUB at Union College in 1922; installation ceremonies were held May 13, 1922.

Phi Sigma Kappa occupied the Terrace Club's house at 201 Seward Place (the northwest corner of South Avenue) until forced to sell it in 1943, as Union fraternities became dormant during the Second World War. After the war, members lived in the dormitories until the spring of 1953, when the chapter moved into 107 Seward Place (the southwest corner of South Avenue).

In the fall of 1964, the fraternity moved into Potter House, and in early 1978 it moved to the south wing of Fox House, where it has remained.

Philosophy Department. Union has taught philosophy continuously since its founding. This article uses "philosophy" in its contemporary sense, to include at least logic, metaphysics, epistemology, ethics and political philosophy, but the word has had other meanings. In the eighteenth century, the term "moral philosophy" distinguished the study of human nature and human society from "natural philosophy" (the physical sciences). Logic, with roots in antiquity, was treated as a separate area, and metaphysics, also ancient, was similarly distinct from moral philosophy. Thus, the earliest by-laws of the College stipulate that BA candidates "shall be acquainted with natural philosophy and astronomy, moral philosophy, ... logic, metaphysics...."

The nineteenth century saw the introduction of other, often imprecise, distinctions between branches of philosophy, such as "mental philosophy" and "intellectual philosophy." Focused on epistemology—the theory of knowledge—these subjects included large measures of what would by the end of the century be termed psychology. In 1855 LAURENS PERSEUS HICKOK was given the title "Professor of Mental and Moral Philosophy"; the College catalogue listed "Mental Science" as a department of instruction in 1881, and in 1909 the "Department of Mental and Moral Philosophy" became the "Department of Philosophy," adopting the contemporary sense of "philosophy" and leaving PSYCHOLOGY as a separate domain with its own professors. POLITICAL SCIENCE and ECONOMICS can also trace their origins in part to moral philosophy.

For the first half-century, philosophy at Union, as at nearly all nineteenth-century American colleges, was dominated by the British tradition, particularly the Scottish "common sense" philosophers, whose views were regarded as safe defenses against the scepticism of such philosophers as George Berkeley and David Hume. Among the first books purchased for Union's library were: Lord Kames's *Elements of criticism* (the favorite foil of Eliphalet Nott; see KAMES [NOTT'S COURSE IN]), Dugald Stewart's *Philosophy of the human mind*, Adam Smith's *Theory of the moral sentiments*,

Adam Ferguson's *Civil society*, and of course the works of John Locke—all commonly used as textbooks in American colleges.

In 1808 sophomores studied logic, juniors studied moral philosophy and “such parts of Locke as the President shall direct,” and seniors read Kames's *Elements* and parts of Stewart. Moral philosophy was a Sunday recitation, perhaps reflecting the contemporary identification of ethics with religion.

Like the clergyman-presidents of many American colleges, Eliphalet Nott took primary responsibility for instruction in philosophy. During most of his long tenure, his course on Kames was the culminating senior year experience for his “boys.” Nott used the reading of *Elements of criticism* in two unusual ways: in the lecture sessions it provided an opportunity for Nott to transmit his own rather homely and sometimes casuistic views to generations of Union students. Here one might learn that “the best of all knowledge is the knowledge of human nature—the best sense of all is common sense,” but also that “habit would enable us to do almost anything. Some by habit have learned to chew arsenic.” Or that: “An argument founded upon sound reasoning will often fail—an argument founded on the feelings and prejudices of the public never.”

In the recitations, however, Nott also trained his students to read the textbook critically, and to check its claims against their own experience. On the whole, it was a course for practical men who wanted to succeed in the world of politics and business affairs. It was not a course for intellectuals and scholars, but Nott was himself neither.

However others with a more scholarly bent also taught philosophy during the Nott era. ANDREW YATES DD, a Yale graduate, and an admirer of the works of Jonathan Edwards, was Professor of Logic and Moral Philosophy, 1814–25. He published little, but in one of his manuscript “Lectures on Moral Philosophy,” preserved in the College archives, he defends revealed religion from Hume's famous (and notorious) argument against miracles, along the way providing a very fair exposition of Hume's position. “You must know what you believe,” Yates told his students, “and why you believe it.” Among his colleagues was Francis Wayland '13, who served from 1817 to 1821 as a tutor at Union, and later became a famous president of Brown University (1827–55) and the author of an important textbook, *Elements of moral science* (1835). ALONZO POTTER '18, who had also been a tutor with Wayland and, briefly, Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy (1822–26), was appointed Professor of Rhetoric and Moral Philosophy in 1831. Nott, whose daughter he had married, made him vice-president and hoped Potter would succeed him, but Potter left in 1845 to become the Episcopal Bishop of Pennsylvania. In 1836, THOMAS REED '26 was appointed Professor of Intellectual Philosophy; thus, for

nearly a decade, Nott, Potter, and Reed were all teaching philosophy. Later in the nineteenth century and for the first half of the twentieth, as the number of required philosophy courses in the curriculum declined, Union had only one or two philosophy teachers at a time.

The 1840 catalogue lists eight “Departments of Instruction,” including Rhetoric, Elocution and General Criticism, taught by Nott, Potter and Reed, and Moral and Political Science, taught by Potter and Reed. Texts for the latter included: Paley's *Moral philosophy* and *Natural theology*, Abercrombie's *Intellectual powers*, Whateley's *Logic*, Wayland's *Moral science*, and Butler's *Analogy of religion*. This curriculum continued into the 1850s, generally with logic and intellectual philosophy studied in the sophomore year, and criticism (Kames), mental philosophy (Stewart) and moral philosophy (Paley) senior year subjects. Reed left the College in 1851, and when Hickok arrived in 1852 as Vice-President and Professor of Moral Philosophy, he brought with him a reputation as a published philosopher. He quickly created his versions of the courses in mental and in moral philosophy (moved to the junior/senior years), using his own books, *A system of moral science* (1853; many later editions) and *Empirical psychology* (1854; revised edition, 1882), as the main texts.

Partly in consequence of Hickok's appointment, in 1852 the College curriculum was reorganized into fifteen segments, including “Logic and Political Economy” and “Mental and Moral Philosophy.” Hickok described the latter in the catalogue:

The order of instruction pursued in these studies is given in the text-books used [Hickok's]; but while following the method given, a wide margin is filled in by lectures, and oral comments, explanations and illustrations. The end determined to be secured is a systematic and not merely elementary or fragmentary apprehension of the subjects in hand. Each part has its relation to a whole, and its connections and place in the whole are necessary to be apprehended in order to any adequate knowledge of the fact itself. ... Different views and theories are noticed and examined as the course proceeds.... The constant aim is to cultivate the habit of manly and independent though careful and patient reflection.

Given Hickok's rather severe, no-nonsense personality, the density of his prose, his liberal use of philosophical jargon derived primarily from Immanuel Kant, and the complexity of his philosophical arguments, these courses must have been quite challenging to Union students more comfortable with Dr. Nott's homilies. Yet the available evidence suggests that Hickok was well respected by the students, some of whom volunteered for extra-curricular study, especially after he published *Rational cosmology* in 1858 (revised edition, 1861).

Students were perhaps at least vaguely aware that Hickok was no ordinary teacher of philosophy. One

historian of philosophy has claimed that "for sheer intellectual power ... and for comprehensive grasp of technical philosophy Hickok is easily the foremost figure of American philosophy between the time of Jonathan Edwards and the period of the Civil War." In fact, Hickok uses Kantian distinctions and terminology to support a form of absolute idealism that itself reflects an underlying framework of "new school" Presbyterian theology. "New school" theologians like Hickok followed Jonathan Edwards in attempting to reconcile individual moral responsibility with the determinism of "old school" predestination and the doctrine of original sin. But his idealism is more arcane and difficult than most; his few modern readers are perhaps not surprised to learn that he left no disciples.

He did however, leave a lasting imprint on Union's philosophy curriculum: his two textbooks were still in use in 1885, and he taught the College's first course on the history of philosophy (using Schwegler's *History of philosophy*), introduced for seniors in 1862 after Nott's incapacity forced the removal of the Kames course. At least one course on some period of the history of philosophy, often Greek philosophy, seems to have been part of the curriculum ever since.

In 1866, as president of the College, Hickok appointed Rev. RANSOM B. WELCH '46 Professor of Logic, Rhetoric, and English Literature. Hickok's resignation in 1868 and the arrival in 1869 of Rev. CHARLES AUGUSTUS AIKEN as President and Professor of Moral Philosophy added Acting Professor of Mental Philosophy to Welch's title. Elderly and deaf classics professor TAYLER LEWIS gave senior year lectures on Greek philosophy. When Eliphalet Nott's grandson, ELIPHALET NOTT POTTER, became President, Professor of Moral Philosophy, and Lecturer upon the Evidences of Christianity in 1871, the philosophy curriculum took on decidedly religious overtones. By 1876 Potter had dropped his professorial title in favor of Lecturer on Christian Ethics, Evidences, and History, and introduced a senior course on Christian Ethics. During the last several controversial years of Potter's presidency, after Welch resigned in 1877, a succession of local ministers taught philosophy courses, presumably on an adjunct basis. The philosophy curriculum only stabilized with the arrival of FRANK SARGENT HOFFMAN in 1885 as Professor of Mental and Moral Philosophy. For the next thirty-two years, Hoffman would be almost single-handedly responsible for philosophy instruction at Union.

An 1876 Amherst graduate with a BD from Yale (1880), he had studied philosophy and theology in Germany for nearly two years, but never earned a PhD. Thirty-three when he arrived at Union, Hoffman had spent the preceding two years teaching philosophy at Wesleyan University. He found Union weak and impoverished, with few students and a small faculty serving under interim president JUDSON LAN-

DON. For several years Hoffman had to teach nearly all the senior subjects, psychology, logic, ethics, and the history of philosophy, as well as additional senior courses on subjects ranging from economics to the history of education. He also continued the course on Christian evidences, which eventually became (circa 1907) a comparative religion course called "The Evolution of Religion." Because logic, elementary psychology, and elementary ethics were required of all except engineering degree candidates, many Union students took Hoffman's courses.

"Hoffy" was apparently the most popular teacher in the College for much of his career, perhaps because he was an easy grader who allowed his classes to engage in wide-ranging discussion without demanding much rigorous knowledge. He wrote four textbooks for his courses; three "sphere of" titles: *The sphere of the state* (1894); *-of science* (1898); and *-of religion* (1908); and *Psychology and common life* (1903). Unlike Hickok's, Hoffman's textbooks were easily accessible to undergraduates and not particularly original, but they promoted student interest in their subject matters and participation in his discussion classes.

An early member of the American Philosophical Association, Hoffman contributed to prominent periodicals, such as the *North American Review*, and was the first to occupy the Ichabod Spencer Chair of Philosophy (see ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIPS). He seems not to have been highly regarded by his colleagues or by the presidents under whom he served, however, perhaps because he was a socialist in an era of free market capitalism, and in a town dominated by industry. In his article "How the Church Should Treat the Right to Property" (1908), Hoffman argues that while the right to property is a natural right, the acquisition of property must be subject to state control and even overrule: the state "is the supreme authority for determining how [property] should be used after it is acquired." Pointing out that less than one percent of the population owns half the nation's property, Hoffman concludes: "The present system is so manifestly vicious and leads to such a marked oppression of the poor that every voice in favor of the righteous use of property should be raised against it."

In 1925, a former faculty member cautioned a candidate for a Union faculty position: "You need have no worries about religious heresies. No one will care what you say 'along these lines.' If, however, you are a socialist, communist, or nihilist, keep that fact to yourself, at least until you look the ground over thoroughly. 'GE' is God at Union."

During the first two war-time years after Hoffman's retirement in 1917, philosophy courses were covered by faculty from other departments. In 1917/18 the College also welcomed a distinguished Visiting Professor of Philosophy and Ichabod Spencer Lecturer in Psychology, Reinhold Friedrich Alfred Ho-

ernlé. An Oxford-educated idealist who had been recommended by William Ernest Hocking of Harvard, Hoernlé was later the author of *Studies in contemporary metaphysics* (1920), and several other books. While visiting at Union he offered a course in General Problems of Philosophy and a special course dealing with "realism in its various modern forms, idealism, monism (the absolute) versus pluralism, the problem of evil, and the problem of free will," with readings mostly from "leading modern thinkers," such as William James and Bertrand Russell.

In 1919 Harold Chidsey arrived as Assistant Professor of Philosophy, beginning what might be called the department's "Harvard-Columbia Era." A 1909 Lafayette College graduate with master's degrees from Columbia (1914) and Harvard (1915), he was just completing his PhD from Harvard (1920). For nearly the next fifty years, men with similar credentials would have charge of philosophy at Union.

Chidsey's arrival coincided with a reorganization of the philosophy curriculum that made psychology a separate domain, and organized the philosophy course offerings in a manner similar to the current curriculum. The department offered a year course in the history of philosophy, with semester courses in logic, introduction to the problems of philosophy, and ethics, as well as "Present Philosophical Tendencies" with a thesis requirement. In 1923 Chidsey added a seminar course "designed for a small group of advanced students." Essays written for this course might have been entries in the competition for the STERNFELD PRIZE (established in 1920), given annually to the senior who submits "the best original essay in philosophy."

Chidsey left for Dartmouth after five years. In the 1925 letter quoted above, he explained to his possible successor (and former student at Harvard), HAROLD ATKINS LARRABEE, that he left because of the lack of research facilities, including very weak library holdings in philosophy, and because "the whole academic side of the establishment plays second fiddle to the Engineering Schools. You will hear much talk to the effect that this is not so; but deeds have not kept pace with fine speeches." Larrabee nevertheless accepted Union's offer, arrived for 1925/26, and stayed for thirty-five years.

Larrabee was thirty-one when he joined the Union faculty. A 1916 Harvard graduate (Phi Beta Kappa), he had done graduate work in religious education at Columbia University and Union Theological Seminary before returning to Harvard to study for his PhD under William Ernest Hocking and C.I. Lewis. A traveling fellowship took him to Europe in 1923/24 to attend lectures and research his dissertation on the social theory of Henri de Saint-Simon. Hocking, who knew Union's president Richmond, steered Larrabee to Union, and Richmond wrote the candidate: "My de-

sire is to secure some one who will be interested in building up the department. He would have a free hand and would receive every encouragement."

A natural as lecturer and explainer, with an upbeat personality and vast enthusiasm and energy, Larrabee wasted no time in building up the department. In two years he tripled enrollments, published an introductory book, *What philosophy is* (1927), and gained promotion to associate professor. He also became head of an expanded department as another Harvard graduate student, PHILIP STANLEY (AB 1923, Penn State), joined him; together, Larrabee and Stanley would constitute the philosophy department for nearly thirty years. They complemented each other extremely well; Larrabee a performer and expositor, best in larger lecture classes; Stanley a dialectician, an analyst who used the Socratic method to pry out the details of an argument with small classes and individual students. Larrabee's primary philosophical interests were in applied logic and in the philosophy of the social sciences; technical areas, such as existentialism or logical positivism, held little interest for him. Stanley was concerned with the arguments of the classical philosophers, with traditional systematic areas of philosophy, such as metaphysics and epistemology, and with the history of ideas. Larrabee was high profile, Stanley was quietly effective; both left lasting impressions on their students.

By the usual measures of academic success, however, Larrabee was the more successful of the two. A prolific writer, he had published newspaper pieces while an undergraduate, and continued to produce book reviews, articles, and books throughout his career, even into retirement (his bibliography lists nearly a thousand items). He served as book editor for the *Journal of Philosophy* and as editorial board member of *The Humanist* and *The New England Quarterly*. Promoted to full professor after just three years at Union (1928), he was appointed to the Ichabod Spencer chair in 1940. He held various college offices, chaired important committees, served as College Marshal for twenty-two years, and accepted visiting professorships at Columbia University (1953/54) and (after retirement) at Syracuse University (1961/62).

Stanley, who completed his PhD during his second year at Union, was promoted more slowly. He spent a 1937/38 sabbatical studying economics and sociology at the University of Chicago but published only a few articles during his career and held fewer positions within the College. However he entertained a generation of students in his home in the Stockade, argued for—and prepared himself to engage in—interdisciplinary teaching, including the ID program from 1951 to 1956 (see CURRICULUM), and powerfully influenced the most serious philosophy students. Larrabee was in effect the missionary enticing students into the field, while Stanley converted many of them into philosophical thinkers.

The department changed its curriculum only a little in Larrabee's first nine years, adding Social and Political Philosophy in 1930 and refocusing the seminars on individual philosophers, but with the advent of the divisional system in 1933/34 (see DEPARTMENTS, DIVISIONS AND CENTERS) and the related curricular revision, all courses became divisional rather than departmental for about a decade. Philosophy, in accordance with Larrabee's conception, was placed in the Social Studies division. He and Stanley were strong supporters of these changes and offered interdisciplinary courses as well as more traditional philosophy courses under the new structure.

Social Studies 10: Methods and Problems, Larrabee's best-known course, required of all sophomores in the social sciences, was taken by many others as well. A course in applied, mostly inductive, logic, using exercises from everyday life, such as predicting baseball standings or the frequency of traffic accidents, it led to publication of *Reliable knowledge* (1945; revised edition, 1964), a highly successful textbook.

Stanley's range of knowledge is reflected in his teaching of Elementary Economics, History of Ideas in Western Civilization, and Development of Economic Thought, as well as Contemporary Philosophical Problems and other more traditional philosophy courses. About 1947 he introduced Techniques and Ideology, "a philosophical examination of logical and other techniques as they relate to contemporary ideologies." The "other techniques" included Greek and Hegelian dialectic, operationalism and scientific method, dialectical materialism, psychoanalysis, and general semantics.

Stanley and Larrabee had sequential sabbatical leaves in 1948–50. To replace them, the College hired SAMUEL STRATTON, a Harvard MA in philosophy with a special interest in Spinoza. His principal courses at Union were in political philosophy; during his brief service on the Union faculty he launched in Schenectady the political career that would eventually take him to the House of Representatives for thirty years (1958–88).

The 1951–56 Carnegie Foundation grant to support the development of interdepartmental courses allowed Stanley to prepare a new course entitled Communications, an elaboration of Techniques and Ideology with many outside speakers; under the same sponsorship Larrabee created American Thought, jointly taught with English professor Carl Niemeyer.

The grant also supported the addition of faculty to relieve professors developing ID courses; the department accordingly hired its first new, non-visiting member in nearly twenty-five years. Sven Richard Peterson, a Columbia PhD candidate with a Harvard BS in mathematics, arrived in 1952. He introduced a new course on symbolic logic and team-taught an integrative course on the philosophy of science. Philosophy

did not really become a three-man department at this time, however, because Larrabee took two leaves, and Peterson served (1954–56) as part-time Coordinator of Student Activities. In April 1957 Stanley was permanently incapacitated by a series of strokes.

The nominal philosophy curriculum in 1957/58 included year courses in: Logic and Scientific Method; Introduction to Philosophy; History of Ideas in Western Civilization; American Philosophy; Social and Political Philosophy; Contemporary Philosophical Problems; Modern Logic; Metaphysics and Theory of Value; and Techniques and Ideology; plus a seminar for majors.

Peterson spent the 1959/60 academic year as a SAINT ANDREWS EXCHANGE professor, replaced at Union by his Scottish counterpart, Richard N.W. Smith. When Peterson returned for the 1960/61 year, Larrabee had reached mandatory retirement age; at the 1960 Commencement ceremonies, the College took the unusual step of awarding him an honorary doctorate. In 1962 William R. Adams '28 established the annual Harold A. Larrabee Prize for the student doing the best work in philosophy.

Now department chair and the only veteran member still teaching, Peterson was joined by associate professor Rollo Handy, who broke the Harvard-Columbia connection by having an undergraduate degree from Carleton College (1950) and a doctorate from SUNY Buffalo (1954). Handy left the next year for the department chairmanship at Buffalo and was succeeded by another associate professor, Paul Winter Kurtz (PhD 1952, Columbia).

In 1962 the Department introduced some one-semester courses. In the same year a Canadian, EDWIN KIRKMAN TOLAN (PhD 1959, Montreal), joined the College as Librarian and the department as professor of philosophy. He would offer a course in medieval philosophy until his death in 1976. Kurtz followed Handy to Buffalo in 1965. Having seen two people hired as associate professors stay only briefly at Union, in 1965 the department hired two less experienced instructors, Michael James Foster (BA 1960, Duke), a Princeton doctoral candidate, and Nanette Funk (BA 1961, Brooklyn College), who was pursuing her PhD at Cornell. The first woman to receive a regular full-time appointment to Union's teaching faculty, Funk remained only one year.

The arrivals of Theodore Lockwood in 1964 as dean of faculty (later provost) and HAROLD C. MARTIN in 1965 as president resulted in fundamental changes in the College, including: a return to the three term calendar (see CALENDAR AND DAILY SCHEDULE); the movement of Philosophy to the Humanities Division; and the introduction of the general education curriculum called Comprehensive Education. Peterson began team-teaching with Professor Niemeyer a "Comp Ed" course on Joyce's *Finnegan's Wake*; its pop-

ularity led Peterson to develop a course on *Ulysses*. As in the early 1950s, participation by faculty members in the new interdisciplinary courses allowed the hiring of additional faculty. After a one-year hiatus (1966/67), during which Peterson was on sabbatical, in 1967 the department replaced Funk with Ruth Vallily Parker (BA 1958, Whitman College), a University of Cincinnati doctoral student. Philosophy had become a three-person department.

Ruth Parker was succeeded in 1969 by Jan Keith Ludwig (BA 1963, Gettysburg College), a doctoral candidate at The Johns Hopkins University (PhD 1971), who had been teaching at The American University. As a philosopher of science, Ludwig's responsibilities included sections of the scientific freshman Comp Ed course, an unusual assignment for a humanities faculty member. When Foster left at the end of 1969/70, the department, encouraged by the Martin administration, looked for a senior person to assume the chairmanship and hired Willard F. Enteman, a Williams College graduate (BA 1959) with a Harvard MBA (1961) and a PhD from Boston University (1965). Enteman's energy and enthusiasm quickly carried over to the department, which reorganized its curriculum to better reflect the divisions of philosophy and the order in which courses ought to be taken, and reintroduced a serious senior seminar. Because new faculty positions were authorized primarily on the basis of "body counts," department members removed enrollment limits and succeeded, by teaching as many students as possible, in obtaining a fourth colleague. Frederick Allan Elliston (BA 1967, Trinity, Ontario), a University of Toronto doctoral candidate (PhD 1975), joined the department in 1972 with expertise in phenomenology and existentialism, major areas not represented in the department.

Enteman became PROVOST in 1972, but continued to teach philosophy as often as possible (especially in team-teaching situations, then becoming increasingly common) until leaving to become president of Bowdoin College in 1978. Ludwig, still an assistant professor, took over the chairmanship in the winter of 1973 and served until the end of this account (1990). His first task was to replace Enteman—whose primary teaching responsibilities had been ethics, social, and political philosophy—preferably with a veteran teacher, since, except for Peterson, the department was relatively inexperienced. Robert Baker (BA 1959, CCNY; PhD 1967, Minnesota), who had taught at the University of Iowa and Wayne State University, was hired in 1973, but previous commitments necessitated his being on leave for 1974/75. Boston University doctoral student Mary Vetterling (BA 1969, Mt. Holyoke) served as Visiting Instructor, offering one of Union's first feminist courses, *Philosophical Implications of Women's Liberation Literature*.

Many other new courses emerged during the 1970s; Enteman devised the Freshman Seminar in Philosophy, continued by Ludwig through the 1980s. Elliston's *Sex and Society*, later taught by Baker, led to Elliston's and Baker's very successful anthology *Philosophy and sex* (1975). Similarly, Ludwig's course on parapsychology led to his anthology, *Philosophy and parapsychology* (1978). Perceiving a gap in Union's curriculum, Ludwig began offering the history of science, first (1974/75) in a team-taught Comp Ed course, later—after a sabbatical post-doctoral year in the history of science at Harvard—in two courses designed for the Liberal Learning Program, which replaced Comp Ed in 1977/78. Baker, whose interests were turning to medical ethics, introduced *Ethics and the Life Sciences* in 1978/79. When Linda Patrik (BA 1971, Carleton College; PhD, 1978, Northwestern University) replaced Elliston in 1978/79 as the expert on twentieth-century European philosophy, she introduced *Masculism and Feminism*, a Liberal Learning course which evolved into a departmental course, *Issues in Feminism*.

Perhaps the most important continuing curricular innovation of the 1970s was *Advanced Introduction to Philosophy*. A one-credit research-oriented course stretching over two terms, it brings many influential philosophers to Union colloquia, after which the student participants write essays based on the presentations. The students thus gain direct experience of the process of philosophical research.

During the 1970s and through the 1980s, the department was deeply invested in Union's general education curricula, first in *Comprehensive Education*, later in *Liberal Learning*. When the Freshman Preceptorial course was introduced as part of the Liberal Learning curriculum, its generally philosophical and transdisciplinary nature attracted many in the department, and the philosophy faculty typically taught several sections of Preceptorial annually. Broad participation in these programs also enabled the department to maintain a faculty larger than would otherwise have been warranted.

Moreover, during the 1970s Peterson began teaching about one third of his load in the Institute for Administration and Management (see GRADUATE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE), enabling the philosophy department to hire annual distinguished adjunct visiting professors. Arthur Danto of Columbia University visited twice, followed in 1978 by Richard Taylor of the University of Rochester, who continued to visit for one or two courses each year through the 1980s. The 1979 appointment of JOHN MORRIS (PhD 1961, Columbia) as President of the College and Professor of Philosophy added yet another member; in the tradition of presidents past, Morris taught *Philosophy of Religion* annually for much of his tenure, and occasionally participated in other departmental courses.

From the late 1970s through the 1980s, the department comprised the equivalent of five to seven faculty members, including those, like Morris and Taylor, teaching only one or two courses each year. The hiring in 1980 of Stanley Kaminsky (AB in Philosophy 1975, Union), a University of Michigan doctoral candidate (PhD 1984), and of Felmon Davis (BA 1970, Haverford), then pursuing his doctorate at Princeton (PhD 1986), brought in two bright, young visiting instructors. Their hiring was based in large part on the department's annual commitment to the Liberal Learning Program. 1981/82 was perhaps the high water mark in terms of staffing, but leaves of absence kept the actual number of full-time faculty at five. When Peterson retired in 1983 after thirty-one years at Union, he was not immediately replaced, although Davis eventually (1987) moved into his tenure-track position. In 1984 Professor Patrik became the department's first tenurable woman. By 1990, philosophy had stabilized at five full-time, tenure-track positions, and was revising its curriculum yet again, to meet the demands of still another college-wide general education scheme.

The department moved from Washburn Hall to Bailey Hall in 1935, and to the Humanities Building in 1967.

—Jan K. Ludwig

Photography. Union students were able to study photography in the last third of the nineteenth century, and again in the last third of the twentieth century.

When students first became interested, photographic plates still had to be made by the user, employing the "wet collodion" process. A contemporary report in the *Union College Magazine* for June 1873 describes the origins of photographic study at Union:

The introduction of the magic lantern to our lecture rooms brought the camera into immediate use, but it was not until the Spring of 1871 that our students began the study of Photography. They did little more, however, than experiment upon the data laid down in Cook's chemistry. The means at hand were still inadequate, the pictures were taken in the open air, with the Laboratory wall as a background, and the work was necessarily uncertain and unsatisfactory. With all its disadvantages, the work was continued by the class of '73, when, under the direction of an experienced photographer, some excellent negatives were obtained and some progress made in printing. With the present term Photography has assumed the importance of an elective study, and, thanks to the energy of the professor of Chemistry [MAURICE PERKINS], the means are now at hand to the successful study of this art. Dr. [ELIPHALET NOTT] POTTER has caused two commodious rooms to be fitted up; one with a large sky-light, for photographing, another is suitably arranged for printing.

The "laboratory wall" was probably the south wall of North Colonnade, which serves as the background for several early College photographs. The "commodious rooms," which had apparently been used for pho-

tography before President Potter had them improved, were above Professor ISAAC JACKSON's stable, probably the building later known as HASKINS LABORATORY.

Perkins was assisted at that time by Schenectady photographer Francis Burrows. By December of 1873, a Troy photographer named Capper was using the rooms to take yearbook photographs of the students. Student photographers also invited their classmates to sit.

At that time, photography was an elective study for students in the engineering course; it would not be seen as a branch of art until its return in the twentieth century. Perkins taught the course through 1874; it then disappeared until 1885, except for 1881, when Professor of Military Science and Tactics J.W. MacMurray formed a class.

Perkins began to teach the subject again in 1885, and it remained in the engineering curriculum, combined with blueprinting, until at least 1897/98. During roughly the same period that Perkins offered instruction in photography, students formed a Photographic Society, succeeded by a Camera Club (see STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS: AVOCATIONAL).

The formal study of photography returned in the winter term of 1966/67 when the Photographic Society sponsored a non-credit course taught by Joe Alper. The Physics Department offered a Comprehensive Education course on scientific and technical photography in 1974/75, and the following year the subject was first taught in the Arts Department, by Nina Rosenblum. Since 1979 it has usually been taught by Martin Benjamin.

Physics Department. "Natural philosophy" was a significant part of Union's curriculum from the beginning. As used in the curriculum, the term at first encompassed physics and chemistry, but it was soon restricted to physics.

Union's first teacher of natural philosophy, Colonel JOHN TAYLOR, a Princeton graduate and former professor at Queen's College (Rutgers), had come to Schenectady in 1793 to head the Schenectady Academy; he remained on the faculty when the Academy became Union College two years later. He presumably taught the senior year course in natural philosophy in 1796/97 (the first senior class) and 1797/98; he died in 1801.

In 1796 the trustees ordered over one hundred pieces of "philosophical apparatus" from London to be used in demonstrations involving natural phenomena in astronomy, mechanics, optics, electricity and magnetism. With the purchase of this remarkable collection Union clearly intended to offer outstanding scientific instruction (see SCIENTIFIC APPARATUS [EARLY]).

CORNELIUS VAN DEN HEUVEL, a Dutch-born physician who taught natural philosophy at Union in

1798/99, probably was the first to use the new apparatus. His lectures reflected his European training in the treatment of such modern topics as the wave theory of light, but he died before the year was out.

Union's first long-term Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, BENJAMIN ALLEN, a graduate of Rhode Island College (later Brown), joined the faculty in 1800. Nothing is known about his teaching; in 1809 he resigned under fire for (in historian Codman Hislop's words) "exercising the discipline of an ill-tempered sheriff."

ELIPHALET NOTT, who became president in 1804, strongly believed that experimental science had theological sanction; he exhorted the graduating class of 1805 to:

Go ... with Newton, span the Heavens, and number and measure the orbs which decorate them; with Locke, analyse the human mind; with Boyle, examine the regions of organic nature ... and trace the everlasting in His word and in His works.

Nott replaced Allen in 1810 with FERDINAND RUDOLPH HASSLER, an outstanding Swiss-born mathematician and astronomer, who stayed at Union for only one year before becoming the first head of the U.S. Coast Survey. Hassler remained Nott's lifelong friend and wrote two mathematical texts later used at Union.

To succeed Hassler, Nott appointed Latin professor THOMAS MCAULEY '04 as Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy. McAuley took this new assignment conscientiously and made a number of major additions to the philosophical apparatus.

During this period, obsolete textbooks seriously hampered the teaching of natural philosophy; not until the 1820s did available textbooks reflect new scientific developments in Europe.

The College moved in 1814 to the present campus, where philosophical apparatus and lecture rooms were soon located in NORTH COLONNADE. Around 1820 Nott called the philosophical library and apparatus, valued at \$14,114.82, "inferior to none in America."

McAuley resigned in 1822 to devote his full time to the ministry; he was succeeded by ALONZO POTTER '18, Professor of Natural Philosophy, 1822–26. On Potter's resignation to become a Boston clergyman, Francis Wayland '13, who had served as a tutor, 1817–21, resigned the pastorate of his Boston church to become Professor of Mathematics and Natural History at Union, but before the year was out he was called to the presidency of Brown University. (Potter served again on the faculty, 1831–45, and taught a course in applied science, although his title was then Professor of Rhetoric and Moral Philosophy.)

The next teacher of natural philosophy, BENJAMIN JOSLIN '21, appointed in 1827, had just received his M.D. While teaching at Union he practiced medi-

cine, edited the American edition of Lardner's *A treatise on hydrostatics and pneumatics* (1832), and published his own *Meteorological observations and essays* (1836). Joslin left Union for New York University in 1837.

In 1828 Union College introduced a new Scientific Course on an equal footing with the Classical Course (see CURRICULUM); graduates of both earned a BA. After a common freshman year, students in the upper classes took a curriculum which differed by about one course each term. Beginning in 1854 the Classical and Scientific courses strongly diverged from the freshman year onward. Union's Scientific course flourished until the Civil War.

Two innovative professors appointed in the 1830s—ISAAC JACKSON '26 and JOHN FOSTER '35—became the first to spend their full careers teaching natural philosophy at Union. A dynamic team who taught mathematics and physics for the next half-century, they kept up with European developments in their fields, played major roles in the life of the College, and were revered by generations of students.

Jackson, who joined the faculty as a tutor immediately after graduating, served first as Professor of Natural Philosophy and later as Nott Professor of Mathematics until his death in 1877. He was primarily interested in the mathematical aspects of physics, and wrote four widely used textbooks, including *Elementary treatise on optics* (1848, three editions), and *Elementary treatise on mechanics* (1852, four editions).

Foster, appointed to the faculty in 1836, was an enthusiastic experimentalist and designer of lecture demonstrations. He updated the College's apparatus collection several times over a period of decades, particularly in the fields of electricity, magnetism and acoustics, and also introduced practical courses, such as surveying, which preceded the introduction of CIVIL ENGINEERING in 1845.

The term "physics" first appeared in Union's catalogue in 1840, when physics and chemistry were classed together as "physical sciences," but "natural philosophy" remained the commoner term until late in the century. In 1852 both chemistry and physics moved into the new Philosophical Hall (the front part of the present ARTS BUILDING), erected at the east end of North Colonnade. Physics, with a large lecture-demonstration room, was located on the second floor, and would remain in that building for 119 years.

Despite a decline in the College's fortunes which began during the Civil War, Jackson and Foster struggled to maintain high standards in physics and mathematics. Foster continued updating laboratory equipment, and in 1875 he produced a remarkable two-volume inventory of over seven hundred items in the apparatus collection. He published *An elementary lecture on electricity, magnetism, Galvanism, electro-magnetism and acoustics* in 1877.

Union was one of the first colleges to introduce student laboratories to the physics program, starting in the early 1870s. Foster also initiated courses in practical electricity and electrical testing long before the College had a full program in ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING.

Physics continued to be recognized at Union as a basic and essential educational component, long after other schools began reducing their required physics courses. A nationwide study conducted in 1878 showed that both scientific and classical students at Union had to take more physics than at most other colleges.

Jackson died in 1877 and Foster was forced to retire in 1885; he was replaced by THOMAS W. WRIGHT, who remained for twenty years, the first non-alumnus to be an important teacher of physics at Union since the earliest days. Wright was a graduate of the University of Toronto, with a civil engineering degree from the Sheffield Scientific School at Yale. He had spent ten years with the U.S. Lake Survey and published *A treatise on the adjustment of observations with application to geodetic work and other methods of precision* (1884) and *Textbook on mechanics* (1890), a well-illustrated modern text which utilized calculus.

In 1890 Union introduced the BS degree for graduates of the Scientific Course and a PhB degree for those who took a combination of the Classical and Scientific programs.

Another curricular revision in 1897 increased the requirement for science and engineering majors to three terms of physics laboratory in addition to a broad series of lecture courses. The College continued to require physics for graduation in the Classical Course, although many other institutions had dropped the requirement.

In the earliest years of the twentieth century, the department was referred to as "Physics and Mechanics," and its curriculum aimed to provide aspiring engineers with a firm understanding of the mechanical properties of matter. Students' class notes from these years reveal an introductory physics course that concentrated on the mechanics of fluids, thermodynamics, and geometrical optics. A smattering of calculus permeates the presentation. Though features of the magnetic field are discussed, the electric field—and hence Maxwell's equations—are essentially absent. There is no mention of the atomic structure of matter, nor of relativity—those notions had not yet become widely accepted. Nevertheless, introductory physics at Union in the early 1900s has the feel of modernity: for example, one finds no reference to such old-fashioned topics as the mechanical advantage of levers and pulleys.

Thomas Wright was given charge of mathematics in 1898, and the primary physics instructor through the first two decades of the new century was HOWARD OPDYKE, a Williams graduate without advanced degrees, who taught at the College from 1894 until his

sudden death in 1928. A popular teacher with a reputation for eccentricity, he took a strong and effective interest in the College's athletic program, but was probably the last important physics professor at Union who did no research.

Joining Opdyke in 1915 was RICHARD KLEEMAN, a figure of some note who had worked with Nobel laureates W. H. Bragg and J. J. Thompson, and had written numerous papers and several books, most of them on what now would be called chemical physics. Some of the substantial body of research he produced over the years was done with Union undergraduates during his twelve years on the faculty. He may have been less satisfactory as a teacher, however, and he left not long after President Richmond discussed his "mediocre work" at a 1926 trustee meeting.

The transition to true twentieth-century physics at Union began with the hiring of PETER WOLD as professor and chair of physics in 1920. Wold had been a research physicist at the Western Electric Co., studying the newly emerging technology of vacuum tubes. His interests meshed well with work going on at General Electric, and for many years Wold nurtured a close relationship between GE and Union. From 1928 until the onset of the Second World War, the noted GE scientists Irving Langmuir and Albert Hull held joint appointments in physics—the former lecturing on vacuum tube phenomena; the latter on the production of x-rays and x-ray crystallography.

At Union, Wold rapidly gained respect as a charismatic and engaging lecturer and an educational visionary. In 1922, convinced that a modern technological society would have great need for generalists educated in the fundamentals of science and mathematics, he introduced the BS in Physics curriculum. At a time when most programs required fifteen credit hours a term, the BS in Physics program typically required eighteen to twenty credit hours, and included four full years of chemistry and mathematics along with an even heavier dose of physics, and two terms of research. Despite its extraordinary demands, the BS in Physics was attained by three to five majors a year for many years.

During the early 1920s the groundwork was also laid for a small master's degree program, and graduate courses in mathematical physics, electromagnetism, and quantum mechanics began to be offered on a regular basis. The first degree was awarded in 1925.

In 1930 Wold hired VLADIMIR ROJANSKY and Frank Studer, and for the next fifteen years the three men formed the nucleus of one of the strongest small physics departments in the country. Among the students they produced were GTE president and longtime Union College trustee Lee Davenport '37, the co-inventor of the laser (R. Gordon Gould '41), Nobel Prize winner in medicine Baruch Blumberg '45, and

many others who achieved high levels of distinction in academia and industry.

The Second World War had a heavy impact on the department. Wold and others were frequently absent doing war work, and Wold died in 1945 before he could return. Studer left the College to do research at GE, and the responsibility for rebuilding the program and guiding the department fell to Rojansky. He managed to bring to the College two professors—Theodore Goble and WINFRED SCHWARZ—who would be valued members of the new department for the balance of their careers, but he was neither interested in administration nor very good at it, and in 1948 Harold Way was brought in as the new chair. Way had considerable prior experience as a chair and as acting president at Knox College; with the backing of his longtime friend, President CARTER DAVIDSON, he constructed a productive and effective new department. Among the men he hired who eventually became tenured at Union were Charles Swartz, CURTIS HEMENWAY, Robert Vought, Kenneth Baker (later president of Harvey Mudd College), Ennis Pilcher, Richard Henry '54, Kenneth Schick, and Frank Titus.

The Frank and Marie Louise Bailey Professorship in Physics was established in 1949 in part to honor Rojansky—and to help him meet his wife's heavy medical expenses. Her health worsened, however, and Rojansky left in 1955 for a much higher paying position in industry. Harold Way was installed as the new Bailey Professor in 1959.

Bolstered by hordes of returning veterans, a booming technological postwar economy, and elevated levels of federal support for research, the number of graduates in physics at Union grew rapidly in the 1950s and 1960s, reaching a high of thirty-three. Despite the elimination in 1951 of the demanding BS in Physics program, which the College administration considered too narrowly professional for Union, students of Way's department remained highly attractive to the nation's graduate programs. These students obtained PhDs at a high rate, and many subsequently carved out meritorious careers.

Way's retirement in 1966 marked the end of the long tradition of permanent chairmanship. Thereafter, administration of the department rotated internally among faculty already on staff: from Goble, to Schick, to Pilcher, to Titus, to David Peak, to Gary Reich (the latter two, along with Chris Jones and Jay Newman, becoming tenured members of the faculty in the post-Way years). The Bailey chair, vacant after Way's retirement, was filled jointly from 1975 to 1979 by Schwarz and Swartz, and again by Peak and Schick starting in 1987.

Philosophical Hall, later called the Physics Building, was given over entirely to Physics after Chemistry moved to the new Butterfield Hall in 1918. The building was expanded by a major addition in 1927, and the

old portion of it was rebuilt in 1947. The department finally moved in 1971 to the new SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING CENTER, with far superior laboratory facilities, but external events in the 1970s and 1980s brought the department's postwar boom to an end: federal funding for science fell sharply from the days just after the launch of Sputnik, and the job market for physicists nose-dived as well. Undergraduate enrollments in physics at Union in the latter decades dropped back to pre-Second World War levels, and the never-large master's program ceased admitting new students in 1972.

Despite their reduced numbers, students remained generally interested in pursuing advanced study. A much keener emphasis on scholarly work began to pervade the College during the HAROLD MARTIN administration, and the faculty aggressively built up a research capability rarely encountered in physics at a small institution—with laboratories in light scattering, spectroscopy, particle detection, and accelerator physics. In 1973, Herbert Strong, the inventor of the artificial diamond, joined the faculty as a research associate, and in 1986, Ralph Alpher, internationally renowned for seminal work on the Big Bang model of the universe, was named Distinguished Research Professor. The full record of research is too lengthy to detail here, and in addition Baker, Goble, Hemenway, Henry, Ohanian and Schwarz published textbooks.

Among the roughly nine hundred small liberal arts colleges in America, Union ranked sixth in the number of its graduates who earned a PhD in physics between 1920 and 1990. By 1990, graduates had become directors of several academic and industrial laboratories and faculty members at over fifty colleges and universities, and had attained the honor of being named Fellow of the American Physical Society at a rate twice that of the Society's general membership.

—V.E. Pilcher (19th century)

—David Peak (20th century)

Pi Beta Phi Society. The Pi Beta Phi Society, a local literary society founded at Union in 1813, was probably the first Greek-letter organization at Union. It is not considered a fraternity because it was not secret.

The society is said to have been founded with Eliphalet Nott's encouragement after Union's application for a chapter of PHI BETA KAPPA was rejected, but it survived the arrival of Phi Beta Kappa in 1817, and still existed in 1837. Its subsequent fate is unknown.

Pi Delta Epsilon. A national journalism honor society, Pi Delta Epsilon granted a charter on April 27, 1923, to Union's Inkspot Club, which had been founded in 1921 as an honor society for "those who have shown marked proficiency in literary or journalistic endeavors in connection with college publications." In the interim between its founding and its

chartering by Pi Delta Epsilon, the Inkspot Club sometimes identified itself by its initials in Greek, Iota Sigma.

Pi Delta Epsilon published College blotters and programs sold at athletic events until the Schenectady Chamber of Commerce decided, in the fall of 1930, to recommend that its members advertise only in the *Concordiensis*, *Garnet*, *Student Handbook* and *Idol*.

The chapter dissolved itself December 12, 1933, in anticipation of the 1934 faculty investigation into honorary societies.

Pi Gamma Mu (New York Alpha chapter).

A national social science honor society founded at Southwestern College in 1924, Pi Gamma Mu established a chapter at Union in the spring of 1926. Following a faculty investigation into honorary societies, the College dissolved the chapter at the end of 1933/34. The Social Studies Club took its place.

Pi Phi. A high school fraternity, the Beta chapter of which was founded at the Union Classical Institute in 1881, Pi Phi sent many members to Union College. Until about 1914, those former members often joined the "Pi Phi Club" or the "Pi Phi Alumni Club of Union College."

See also: ALPHA ZETA.

Pi Sigma Alpha (Zeta Upsilon chapter). A national political science honorary society founded at the University of Texas in 1920, Pi Sigma Alpha has had a chapter at Union since 1974.

Pi Sigma Omicron. At its July 26, 1820, meeting, the Board of Trustees "Resolved that the Pi Sigma Omicron be recognized by this board on condition that their aniversary [sic] and other meetings do not interfere with the meetings of societies already recognized." Nothing more is known of this group, which was probably a literary society.

Pi Tau Sigma. A national honor society in mechanical engineering founded in 1915 at the University of Illinois, Pi Tau Sigma has had a chapter at Union since May 5, 1990.

Pipes, Class. Circa 1900–07 it was fashionable at Union for classes to order pipes of uniform design for members who wanted them; the freshman pipe of the Class of 1911 was reported to be "unlike the class pipes of the last few years, being a small poker pipe with the numeral '11 inside the 'U.'"

See also: CANES; HATS.

Plug Hat Parade. From sometime before 1879 (when the custom was described as perennial) until 1892, the freshman class paraded through Schenectady

on the first day of spring term, wearing top hats and carrying canes.

The conventions of hazing demanded that the sophomores dispute the pretensions of the freshmen to full membership in the student body (see HAZING AND CLASS FIGHTS). The principal manhood ritual, the cane rush, was supplemented for a few years by the plug hat parade.

The parade was harrassed by sophomores in most years, but increasingly by young town residents as well; by 1885 the freshmen wore rubber raincoats in anticipation of being pelted with rotten eggs and garbage by a crowd, a newspaper reported, "seemingly composed of all the hoodlums in town."

Although it was precisely to antagonize this element that the parade route left the campus, attacks by town boys did not necessarily remain within reasonable limits; consequently, by 1886 most freshmen, and particularly the older ones, stayed away. The freshmen voted not to have a parade in 1891; the next class did march, but the custom was then allowed to die.

Poet-in-Residence. Although the term had not yet been coined, Percy Mackaye and his wife, Marion Morse Mackaye, both poets and dramatists, were Union's first poets-in-residence; they lived for a month in South Section, South College, in the winter of 1930/31. "Mr. McKaye will devote his time to writing," the alumni magazine reported, "and has expressed his willingness to meet our students informally to discuss literature."

Political Science Department. Political science as constituted today includes the study of subjects predating Union's founding—primarily within the fields of political economy, moral philosophy and law—as well as other subjects that developed more recently. Political science at Union was shaped not only by institutional and personal forces peculiar to the College, but by wars and other phenomena in the larger society and by the evolution of the discipline and such related fields as history and law.

Union's first CURRICULUM, published in 1796, required seniors to become "acquainted with... [the] Constitution of the United States of America, and of the several states," but that requirement was dropped sometime before the next edition, in 1802. It also required seniors to take moral philosophy, a requirement that would continue (sometimes shifted to the junior year) through much of the nineteenth century. The textbook used in 1821, and probably at the beginning, was William Paley's *Principles of moral and political philosophy*, which devoted 185 pages to "Elements of Political Knowledge."

When ELIPHALET NOTT became Union's president in 1804, the curriculum included no other political science, but his senior course using Kames *Elements of*

criticism as a foil (see KAMES (ELIPHALET NOTT'S COURSE IN)) may have had some political content. Biographer Codman Hislop finds that by 1824 the "political sciences" were central to Nott's vision of education: "He had convinced himself that training in the physical and political sciences, not in the trivium, not in the theology of the Puritans, nor in speculative systems of thought, was the central concern of higher education in the America of his time."

Anticipating political scientists of a later era, Nott rejected the moral philosopher's benign view of man in favor of a darker one resembling James Madison's: man's reason could easily be overwhelmed by passion, especially among large groups of people. Nott told his students:

Man seldom acts from reason.... You must not go into the world supposing that men are governed by reason.... If you go into a man's room and converse with him coolly, you will find him very rational.... You will never find men in a body ruled by reason. Men are more rational in retirement, but in society, feeling rules all.

Until the Civil War, Union's curriculum resembled other colleges' in its attention to the precursors of the discipline of political science. "Political economy" was a Harvard requirement in 1820, and Williams introduced lectures in political economy in 1827. Both institutions offered a course in "civil polity" early in the century, and both Dartmouth and Williams offered senior year courses in law.

By 1824, Union seniors had to choose between "the Law of Nations" and the Greek Testament in the second term and between "Law" and La Place's *Mécanique céleste* in the third. Lectures were also delivered in Political Economy.

After Nott's creation of a "Scientific" curriculum as an alternative to the traditional "Classical" curriculum in 1828, all students continued to hear lectures on political economy, while juniors in the Classical course had a term of recitations in that subject as well, and third-term seniors in the Scientific courses had a recitation class in law, using Kent or Blackstone. From 1831, political economy was taught by the Rev. THOMAS REED '26.

Although most of the topics within political economy eventually became a part of the field of economics, they were often treated at this time from a governmental perspective; Adam Smith defined political economy in the eighteenth century as "a branch of the science of statesman or legislator."

In 1838 the German-born JOHANN LUDWIG TELLKAMPF, holder of a Doctor of Laws degree from Göttingen, was appointed Professor of German Language and Literature and as Lecturer in Civil Polity and History. During his five years at Union he lectured on Roman law and on political economy, and he published articles on such subjects as the codification of laws and prison reform, as well as on money and bank-

ing. He could be seen as the first Union political scientist to publish in his field, and he later became the first to gain experience of practical politics, serving, after his return to a law professorship in Germany, as a member of the Frankfort parliament and subsequently in the first Reichstag.

The 1840 catalogue was the first to divide course listings into categories; among the eight groupings were "Moral and Political Science," described as being under the care of Professors Alonzo Potter, Reed, and Tellkamp. Texts used included Say's *Political economy*, Kent's *Commentary on American law* and Guizot's *History of civilization*.

When Reed resigned in 1851, ELIAS PEISSNER, Professor of German, took over the political economy course for a year, after which it was taught by LAURENS PERSEUS HICKOK '20. For a while in the 1830s and 1840s, the moral philosophy course sometimes used Francis Wayland's *Elements of moral science*, but Paley was again used exclusively from 1848; students read "those parts... which respect moral duty and the principles of general jurisprudence." TAYLER LEWIS '20 taught Paley in 1851/52 (delivering daily lectures on "the main moral, and political and social questions of the day") and Hickok took it over the next year, switching in 1853/54 from Paley to his own newly-published *System of moral science*, which devoted 145 pages to civil government.

The senior term of law using Kent's *Commentary* was taught from at least 1848/49 by civil engineering professor WILLIAM MITCHELL GILLESPIE. In 1855/56 it became the responsibility of adjunct professors (S.T. Freeman, then A.J. Thompson).

All students took moral philosophy, but from at least 1836 political economy was required only in the Classical course, and law only in the Scientific. Political economy returned to the Scientific course in 1847, but the recitations were dropped from both courses in 1858 (Peissner continued lecturing for four more years). Gradually evolving into modern economics, political economy came back again in 1868 as a required one-term junior course, moved temporarily, 1879-86, to the senior year as an optional course.

Law was dropped in 1862, but returned (as "international law") in 1868, a required one term-course for both Classical and Scientific seniors. For a time, the catalogue's "tabular view" of required courses called it "Political Science." In 1871, President Potter replaced it with a course on the Constitution, though the catalogue did not register the change until 1878/79.

Although Union's nineteenth-century instruction in political science was erratic, the courses in moral philosophy, political economy and law, as well as the example of Nott as a man, seem to have had an impact on its graduates and, through them, on the larger society. Union produced many college presidents—thirty by 1845 and far more later—some of whom took with

them a commitment to moral philosophy and public service. One of Nott's students, Francis Wayland '13, a sometime Union faculty member, published not only the moral science textbook mentioned above, but also *Elements of political science* in 1837, and he served with distinction as president of Brown University. The many governors, cabinet officers, judges and state and national legislators among Union alumni of the first half of the century had graduated from a college in which a concern with public questions was manifested in Nott as a teacher, in the curriculum, and in student debating societies (see LITERARY SOCIETIES; DEBATING).

As higher education expanded in the latter half of the nineteenth century and disciplines began to become more specialized, an orientation toward political questions declined in the fields of law, in political economy, and in classics. Only history retained a focus on politics. Although Amherst, Columbia, Johns Hopkins, and a few other places established departments or schools of political science before 1900, there was no comparable development at Union, which was just beginning its recovery from a long post Civil War decline.

During the time of his service as interim president, JUDSON S. LANDON (1884–88), a state judge, delivered lectures described by the 1887/88 catalogue in terms that suggest movement toward what was to become political science: "Constitutional Law and the History of the United States, embracing an exposition of the respective functions of the Federal and State governments, and a discussion of many debatable points in the Science of Government." He later published the lectures.

In 1886 a senior elective in the history of "American Politics" was introduced, taught for a time by chemistry professor MAURICE PERKINS, and later probably by BENJAMIN HENRY RIPTON '80, then a mathematics professor. It remained until 1894, but the time for political science as a department had yet to come, as it had come for history in 1889.

Two years after newly installed president ANDREW V.V. RAYMOND appointed Ripton as Dean of the Faculty and Professor of History and Sociology, the curriculum of the newly formed department of the same name for 1896 included a full year's sequence of "political science" courses (but only one term each in sociology and economics). The courses were American Government, Comparative Politics, and International Law. When the department was renamed "History and Government" in 1910, Ripton's title changed accordingly.

He was one of the 214 charter members of the American Political Science Association founded in 1903, and an article in the *Union Alumni Monthly* in 1910 noted that although he had joined the faculty as a mathematician, his chief interest was really comparative politics. The first Union faculty member with training in political science as such was David

Hutchinson, A. M. (1906–08). The founding of the A.P.S.A. and the influence of the Progressive Era contributed to a steady increase in the production of doctorates in the discipline, but not until 1923 would a PhD trained in political science come to the College as a faculty member.

After the First World War Ripton stepped down as dean in 1919 and the department was divided into two: History (under Ripton) and Economics and Political Science, under a succession of economists. Courses in Elements of Political Science, United States Government, State Government, and Municipal Government were added to the curriculum. The creation of a Department of Economics and Political Science was consistent with Progressive ideals and foreshadowed the orientation of the Political Science Department and its successor, the Government Department. In the meantime, however, another departmental shuffle following Ripton's retirement from the faculty had created (1922) a separate department of economics and rejoined "government" with history.

What might be called "the Godshall Era" began when WILSON LEON GODSHALL was appointed Assistant Professor of History in 1923 and put in charge of work in political science. With a PhD in political science from the University of Pennsylvania, where he had been teaching as an instructor, Godshall was to preside until 1934 over the first great flowering of the field of political science at Union.

During his eleven years on the Union faculty, Godshall distinguished himself in several realms. Throughout his career, he published extensively; two of his books appeared while he was at Union: *Tsingtau under three flags* (1929) (based partly on research as a Penfield Traveling Scholar in China in 1925–25) and *Documents illustrative of American foreign relations* (1931).

A contributor to several journals, he served on the board of editors of the *American Political Science Review*, and studied or lectured at several universities in the U.S., China and the Philippines. He had a reputation as a dynamic and very demanding teacher, a "disciplinarian," one who questioned students in class as a way of involving them. One alumnus recalled his "sharp wit" and occasional sarcasm.

Godshall was also deeply involved with students outside the classroom. The *Union Alumni Monthly* of May 1928 reported an impressive array of opportunities that he made available to students: an annual spring trip to Washington focusing on State Department operations, attendance by six to twenty students at the Foreign Policy Association's monthly luncheons in Albany, and participation in various conferences, including model assemblies of the League of Nations. (A Union team placed first in a model assembly competition at Lehigh.) "To hear his students talk," the *Alumni monthly* added, "one might believe that they are as

familiar with the capital at Albany as the Associated Press reporters."

Godshall directed the Debate Club from 1928 until he left Union. He served on College committees and delivered numerous talks to community groups and schools. He also served as vice president of Kiwanis.

In 1926/27, the field of political science began a substantial expansion in American colleges and universities that was to continue through the 1930s, as the New Deal gave impetus to the study of politics and government. At Union political science offerings increased in 1926/27 from four to twelve, spanning the areas currently covered in the department: American politics, comparative politics, international politics and political thought (represented only by philosophy professor Harold Larrabee's "Philosophy of the State.") Offerings were consolidated to seven the following year and a redesigned seminar appeared with a description that might well be found in college catalogues of the 1980s; it can be taken to represent a faculty's commitment to a view of a mature discipline oriented toward preparing students for graduate school:

Advanced study and discussion, under the direction of members of the Department, of current problems in Political Science; emphasis upon systematic guidance designed to give greater familiarity with the fundamentals of research technique and the chief resources in the field.

Among the non-curricular innovations during Godshall's time were the establishment of the DAY LECTURES ON CIVIC ADMINISTRATION (1924) which brought prominent political scientists and public figures to the campus, and of the BRACKETT MEMORIAL LECTURESHIP (1929) in "practical politics." Under Godshall's guidance, the Social Studies Club produced Union's first student evaluation of instructors by means of questionnaires.

Political science became an independent department in 1928, with Godshall as chair, and expanded to three men in 1930 when Godshall and Harold Enslow were joined by Alexander Gordon Dewey, the first junior faculty member with a PhD.

Godshall's achievements unfortunately put him on a collision course with a new direction the College began to take in 1933. A radical revision of the curriculum, described more fully in the article on that subject, was intended to save money in a deepening Depression while combating the alleged evils of premature specialization. Introducing the plan, acting president EDWARD ELLERY said that it would do away with specialized courses that belonged in a university, and not in a small college where they "represent a dissipation of teaching energies." Under the new plan, the introduction of divisions (see DEPARTMENTS, DIVISIONS AND CENTERS) would reduce the power of department chairman and would lead to elimination of similar courses offered by different departments.

All of these initiatives represented a threat to Godshall's achievements. He was a strong chairman whose courses had been criticized for being too specialized and who offered a course similar to one taught by the faculty author of the new plan, economics professor EARL CUMMINS.

In circumstances described at greater length in the article on Godshall, he apparently resisted the changes in ways that caused his colleagues to lose trust in him, and on May 1, 1934, nearly all of the senior faculty in the social sciences signed a petition requesting his dismissal. With the perhaps reluctant approval of incoming president DIXON RYAN FOX, the trustees gave Godshall a terminal leave in exchange for his resignation.

For various reasons, this chain of events could not have occurred at Union later in the century. Even when one examines it in the context of the times, it is far from clear to what extent Godshall's dismissal can be explained by his apparent lack of cooperation at a time when the College, and especially the social sciences faculty, was straining to make sacrifices and compromises for the common good, and what role, if any, must be assigned to academic prejudices against the kind of program Godshall had been so successful in building or even to personal prejudices against the man himself.

Godshall later became chairman of the Lehigh University international relations department, continued to publish, and served for two years as cultural affairs officer at the U.S. embassy in Tokyo. On his death in 1956, a *New York Times* obituary noted that he was "considered one of the top ranking U.S. experts in international relations."

Ensloy had left at the end of 1932/33; with the departure at the end of 1933/34 of both Godshall and Dewey, Godshall's work in building the department was soon largely undone. The Social Studies division, as it was then called, went farther than any other in suppressing departments in favor of "fields of study." Political science, now again called "Government" and reduced to five courses, would not have a complement of three faculty again until 1963. In 1935, the field's faculty, which had been quartered in South Colonnade, moved to Bailey Hall to make way for the creation of Hale House.

DOUGLAS CAMPBELL, who had recently earned his PhD from Princeton, succeeded Godshall as head of field. The field's junior faculty changed frequently until about 1962.

President Fox, a historian with a strong interest in political science, announced in 1935 that Union would seek to become a leader in the study of government by utilizing internships in state government to teach students about "practical politics." The course, "State and Local Government in Practice," taught by Campbell and Patterson H. French, was advertised as offering "something more than a bookish knowledge of the complicated machinery of modern government."

Remembered as a brilliant man and a fine teacher capable of making a difference in the lives of his students, Campbell published, with Vernon O'Rourke (1937–41) as co-author, a study of the 1938 New York State constitutional convention, *Constitution-making in a democracy* (1943). He also developed some expertise in the field of propaganda. When he returned to Union in 1946 after wartime service in Washington, departments had re-emerged and he became chairman. In 1955, however, he was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, and after 1957 he taught only a decreasing number of students in his home, finally going on total disability in 1962.

The department saw few developments either in curriculum or in size of faculty during the 1940s and 1950s. James A. Riedel, appointed in 1956, succeeded Campbell as chairman in January 1960. In the fall of 1963 the department was renamed Political Science.

The first step in a rapid expansion of the department began in 1963 when Riedel recruited two young faculty members, Charles Gati (PhD, Indiana) and James Underwood (PhD, Syracuse), the first in a succession of young faculty to arrive over a period of five years, most of whom were to stay for substantial periods of time and together provide the department with great stability. Riedel took a leave at SUNY Albany in 1963/64 and stayed there, but at the end of the period covered by this book, in September 1990, six of the men who came between 1963 and 1968—Gati, Byron Nichols (PhD, Johns Hopkins), Robert Sharlet (PhD, Indiana), Donald Thurston (PhD, Columbia), Charles M. Tidmarch (PhD, Johns Hopkins), and Underwood—were still in the department. Two others had resigned after long service: William Daniels (PhD, Iowa), the department's first black member, appointed in 1966, resigned in 1988 to become Dean of Liberal Arts at R.I.T., and Fred Hartwig (PhD, Northwestern), appointed in 1968, joined Peter Hart Associates, a political consulting firm, in 1987.

All except Gati and Underwood were recruited under the vigorous leadership of Joseph B. Board, a Rhodes Scholar and Indiana PhD and JD who came to Union in 1964 as Riedel's successor and presided over a rapid expansion of curriculum, enrollments, majors and faculty. In 1972/73, Board's last year as chairman, the department graduated fifty-three majors, third highest among all departments. At the end of the decade of the 80s, the department graduated sixty majors, the highest number in the College. By that time, it had also built a reputation as a strong teaching department with high standards and a reputation for scholarship.

During most of the period 1963–90, the department was relatively faction-free and characterized by high morale, a commitment to high standards for students, a belief that good teaching and active scholarship were mutually reinforcing, and some degree of

impatience with what its members saw as bureaucratic red tape emanating from the administration and faculty committees. The department's high opinion of itself sometimes galled other faculty, especially when (as with Dean Martin Lichtermann's statements in the 1970s that Union's was the country's best small college political science department) it was reinforced by administrators. In 1966 the department moved from Bailey Hall to the new Social Sciences Building.

The department's dramatic expansion in the '60s and '70s was helped to a considerable degree by the close relationships Board built with Provost Theodore Lockwood (1964–68) and Dean of Social Sciences and Humanities (later Dean of Faculty) Martin Lichtermann (1966–76). The department grew by 1970/71 to nine and one-half permanent faculty slots, which remained its size in 1990. In 1973, Board was named the first Robert Porter Patterson Professor of Government, and in the same year the Royal University of Umeå, Sweden, awarded him an honorary doctorate.

After Board resigned the chairmanship at the end of 1972/73, that post rotated among Sharlet, Gati, Underwood, Hartwig and Tidmarch. Under Sharlet's leadership, visiting assistant professor Barbara Wolfe Jancar (1973–75) became the first woman member of the department. However, not until 1989 did the department recruit a woman—Theresa Marchant-Shapiro (PhD, Chicago, 1991)—into a permanent position.

Given the stability of the department, the challenges that faced chairs after Board were not great, at least until shortly after Tidmarch took over the chairmanship in 1987. As chair, Tidmarch carried out the difficult task of maintaining the department's strength in the face of losing faculty to administrative roles (Daniels and Underwood), leaves of absence (Sharlet) and resignations (Gati and Hartwig). Only Sharlet and Underwood returned to full-time teaching.

Between 1965 and 1990, political science faculty published ten books, including: *The bloc that failed: Soviet-East European relations in transition* (Gati), *The government and politics of Sweden* (Board), *Governor Rockefeller in New York: the apex of pragmatic liberalism in the United States* (Underwood and Daniels), *The new Soviet Constitution of 1977: analysis and text* (Sharlet), *Teachers and politics in Japan* (Thurston).

Department members also produced seven edited books and wrote numerous articles—some for prestigious journals—and conference papers.

A few were active in government, politics or civic affairs; Board at the local and national level, Daniels at the local level, and Clifford Brown (PhD, Harvard) as Research Director for John Anderson's third party presidential candidacy in 1980. Daniels served a Supreme Court Justice as a Federal Judicial Fellow, and Tidmarch and Underwood became Congressional staff members

in their roles as American Political Science Association Congressional Fellows. Tidmarch regularly appeared as an election analyst and commentator on local radio and T.V. Others made occasional appearances.

Members of the department were also deeply involved in College affairs: Board, Sharlet and Tidmarch served terms as Faculty Trustees, Board and Tidmarch chaired the Faculty Executive Committee, Daniels served as Associate Dean of Faculty (1983–88) and Underwood as Dean of Faculty (1988–).

Although the department included other gifted teachers, Gati's and Nichols' ability to inspire and challenge students earned them especially strong followings. Tidmarch enjoyed perhaps even higher esteem, especially among those whose senior theses he supervised, theses which sometimes led to jointly authored papers and articles.

As new faculty arrived through 1970/71, new courses reflected their training, the evolution of the discipline and the department's needs. The Vietnam War engendered Sharlet's course, "Vietnam and Political Theory," still attracting students at the end of the period covered by this book. Other notable innovations during the 1960s and 1970s included a legislative internship program in Albany and a "Term in Washington" featuring Congressional internships; many alumni of these two programs went on to careers in government and politics. By 1968/69, the curriculum had been systematized into a form not very different from that of 1989/90.

In 1968 the department added an elected undergraduate representative to its meetings. Out of discussions initiated by the student representative came a change in graduation requirements; in place of the "comprehensive field exam" (written and oral) required at least since the 1950s, each student was now required to defend his or her senior project to two faculty members, one of whom had supervised the work.

By the 1980s, the subfields of comparative political systems, international politics, and American politics were all well-developed within the curriculum. Unfortunately the subfield of political theory had not reached a comparable state of development.

Eight political science majors won the College's highest student award, the BAILEY CUP, between 1967 and 1990. Union ranked nineteenth among nine hundred colleges in graduating students who went on to earn a PhD in political science in the period 1979–89.

This history is largely based on the very thorough research of its intended author, the late Charles M. Tidmarch, Professor of Political Science (1970–Oct. 29, 1993) and on the good sense and imaginativeness of his approach. His widow, Laura Tidmarch, skillfully organized the research materials and notes in a way that greatly facilitated the writing of the history.

—James E. Underwood

—Charles M. Tidmarch*

Pond, Charles B. Assistant treasurer of Union College, 1902–07.

When Frank Bailey accepted the position of treasurer in October 1901, he was determined to run a much tighter financial ship than had his predecessor, G.K. Harroun. Since, like Harroun, Bailey was based in New York City, he installed a deputy at the College to collect the bills and manage the college's business affairs efficiently.

C.B. Pond, as he styled himself, had been a debt collector and had been in the construction industry; because he answered to Bailey and not to the president, he saw no need to adapt to the gentility of academic life. Hugh Davis, '07, remembered him as a large, noisy, cigar-smoking man, "about 6' 2'' and over 200 pounds in weight," with "a Roman nose, [and] a firm chin and mouth.... He walked rapidly and every motion was one of decision. He gave the impression of positive thinking and action and showed in every way the energy and determination of a construction man...."

Pond collected bills and fines very aggressively, sometimes even in excess of what was actually owed, and went so far as to have himself sworn in as a special deputy sheriff and to keep a revolver on top of his desk. Students called him "Pond's Extract" (a patent medicine of the day) in addition to the inevitable nickname "Ducky." Pond's responsibility for all business and physical plant affairs also brought him into contact with the faculty, whom he went out of his way to offend and bully; the students enjoyed that greatly, especially as Pond made a point of telling them about it. He was equally firm with merchants, and installed scales outside his office to weigh all incoming goods.

At the end of the Raymond administration, after six years during which he had both traumatized the College community with his belligerence and uncouthness, and reformed its financial habits to Frank Bailey's satisfaction, Pond resigned and was replaced by HARTLEY F. DEWEY. Pond was appointed Commissioner of Public Works for the City of Schenectady on January 1, 1908, but left that position after about a year-and-a-half; he later again worked in the construction industry.

Seventeen South Lane was built as a residence for Pond in 1906/7.

Porter, Jermain Doty (July 5, 1911–July 27, 1987). Professor of Chemistry, 1937–41; 1948–64.

A Cincinnati native, Jermain Porter was the elder of two children of John Jermain Porter and Edith Frazier Porter. His father, who had briefly been a chemistry professor, became president of the North American Cement Co. and co-founded the Porter Chemical Co., a manufacturer of chemistry sets; his grandfather, Jermain Gildersleeve Porter, was a noted astronomer; his great-grandfather, John Jermain Porter, DD, graduated from Union in 1843.

After preparatory school, Porter earned an AB (1932) and a PhD (1937) from Cornell University and then accepted an instructorship in chemistry at Union. His marriage in 1937 to Ellen Leader produced four children.

After four years at Union, finding no prospects for promotion in the top-heavy chemistry department, Porter took a position at Lebanon Valley College in Annville, Pennsylvania (1941–44). He later moved to Wesleyan College in Macon, Georgia (1944–48). When an opening developed at Union in 1948, President Carter Davidson, who did not know Porter, was willing to waive the customary interview because members of the department recommended him so confidently.

Porter co-authored several papers in his specialties of physical and colloid chemistry, undertook some abstracting work for *Chemical abstracts*, and spent a 1962/63 sabbatical leave at the University of Wisconsin in post-doctoral study of theoretical chemistry; his personal scientific interests, however, were not limited to chemistry.

A slight man (5' 10'', 125 pounds), quiet, introspective, and indifferent to appearances—he wore cheap, ill-fitting suits and army surplus sneakers, and had his hair cut at home—Porter was probably never entirely comfortable in the role of college professor or, indeed, in the American society of his time. He served as a Boy Scout leader, was active in the Trinity Methodist Church, and manifested a serious concern with the religious life of the College, but in 1964, following the breakup of his marriage, he resigned from Union, telling President Davidson that, like Thoreau, he “had other lives to lead.”

Rejected by the Peace Corps, but eager to live in a different kind of society, he signed up with the U.S. Agency for International Development for a two-year tour of duty as a science teacher in a secondary school near Vientiane, Laos. He remained there for ten years, and adopted a Laotian boy, leaving only when all Americans were expelled. He spent the remainder of his life in Hawaii.

Potter, Alonzo (July 6, 1800–July 4, 1865). Class of 1818. Tutor, 1819–22; Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, 1822–26; Professor of Rhetoric and Moral Philosophy, 1831–45; trustee of Union College, 1846–63; Honorary Vice-President, 1848–65.

Born in Beekman, New York (later renamed LaGrange), the sixth of eight surviving children of Joseph and Anna Knight Potter, Alonzo Potter attended the Dutchess County Academy in Poughkeepsie, where he was taught by Daniel H. Barnes '09. Potter's father, a farmer, also served in the state legislature. When Union's President ELIPHALET NOTT dropped by on a lobbying mission, Potter showed him a letter written

by Alonzo, and Nott was sufficiently impressed to urge him to send the boy to Union.

After Barnes declared him ready for college at fifteen, Alonzo entered Union, where he led his class for four years, graduating at eighteen. His student nickname, “Old Potter,” teasingly acknowledged his exceptional seriousness.

The Potters were Quakers, but when Alonzo boarded with his older brother in Poughkeepsie while an academy student, he began attending his sister-in-law's Episcopal church (whose rector, John Reed, was a Union alumnus). After graduating from Union, Potter went to work for another older brother, a bookseller in Philadelphia. While there he was baptized and confirmed in the Episcopal church, and began studying for the ministry under the Rev. Dr. Samuel H. Turner.

After a year in Philadelphia, however, Potter made the first of several moves back and forth between the ministry and education. Eliphalet Nott called him to Union as a tutor in 1819, and at the same time, St. George's Church appointed him a lay reader. He resigned the latter position about a year later, citing ill health. In 1824 he was ordained a priest, though he did not preach regularly at that time.

Potter succeeded THOMAS MCAULEY as Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy in 1822. A year or two later he published anonymously a brief textbook on descriptive geometry for the use of his classes. He is said to have also published a text on logarithms, but it has not been identified. By 1823 he was serving as secretary of the faculty.

On April 14, 1823, Potter married Eliphalet Nott's only daughter, Sarah Maria (see POTTER, SARAH MARIA NOTT). They would have six sons and one daughter, and Potter's kinship with Nott would have important consequences for the College.

Alonzo Potter was clearly destined for responsibility. In December 1825, though only twenty-five, he was invited to become the first president of Geneva College (later Hobart), an Episcopal institution. After thinking it over for a few months, he declined in the spring of 1826, apparently because the enterprise seemed too precarious. Soon afterward he was called to the rectorship of St. Paul's Church in Boston.

That church, founded in 1820, had dismissed its first rector in 1825 and had been seeking a successor for a year. Potter's friend, Francis Wayland '13, then a Baptist pastor in Boston, recommended Potter as the kind of evangelical preacher and pastor the representatives of the parish wanted. An austere but thoroughly earnest man, less “high church” than most Episcopal priests of his day, Potter was quite successful with his Boston parish. He took a particular interest in promoting foreign missions, not at that time a major concern of the Episcopal church, and delivered a notable address on the subject in 1829.

During Potter's five years as rector of St. Paul's, the congregation grew larger and put old quarrels behind it, and the church, in debt when he came, became much more prosperous. However Potter's health, and in particular his voice, finally broke down under the burden of his duties, and he resigned in 1831 to return to the Union College faculty.

The strain on him was apparently caused in part by the fact that his Union classmate, the Rev. George Washington Doane, eventually the leader of the high church faction in the Episcopal church but then serving as assistant minister of Boston's Trinity church, continually pressed his high church views in diocesan conventions. Potter "had no heart," his biographer explains, "for partisan strife; the seeming necessity for it worried and wearied him. The burden of leadership in such domestic conflicts he felt indisposed and unable to add to the labors of his important pastoral cure. The sense that he was expected by friends to do so was a constant trial to him, and contributed its share to the accumulation of burdens that broke him down and determined him for a while to desist from pastoral life."

Back at Union, where he assumed the new title Professor of Rhetoric and Moral Philosophy, Potter earned high praise as a lecturer, though many were put off by what JONATHAN PEARSON, then still a student, called in his diary (1833) Potter's "haughty, proud carriage and overbearing disposition." Students dubbed him "Old Pug."

By virtue of his relationship to Nott, Potter was more than an ordinary professor. He brought about a tightening of classroom discipline in the whole College, and a stricter enforcement of parietal rules. In the fall of 1836, Pearson—by then a faculty member—observed that:

Dr. Potter has nearly the whole charge of affairs now both during the absence and presence of Dr. Nott. He is a smart and active man whose mind is highly cultivated and stored with treasures of knowledge which he has classified in the most perfect manner.

But four months later he added:

Prof. Potter would certainly be a more pleasant and agreeable man were he to lay aside some of that put-on dignity and distance of manner to his inferiors. It really makes one uneasy to be in his presence under such circumstances of embarrassment.

Sometime before 1837, Potter and his growing family took over from Nott the North faculty house in South College. In addition to rhetoric and moral philosophy courses, he taught a senior year course in "technology," using his book *The principles of science applied to the domestic and mechanic arts*. He also regularly delivered Sunday evening lectures, without notes, on "Evidences of Christianity."

Union had no English department in Potter's time, and whatever English literature was taught was inci-

dental to rhetoric courses, but in 1840/41, and perhaps at other times as well, Potter taught a senior year elective course on Shakespeare and Milton.

In July 1838, the Board of Trustees formally granted Potter a part of the power he had been using for some time, authorizing him, in the president's absence, "to preside over the deliberations of the Faculty & to exercise the same general control over the officers & interest of the institution which the president of the College is authorized to exercise when present." The trustees sanctioned a corresponding salary increase, but although Potter was often called vice-president, the board apparently did not bestow that title on him during this period.

Union had never had a vice president in name or in fact, but Nott, then sixty-five years old, had begun to think about a successor, and Potter was the most obvious candidate (obvious even to the student satirist who, writing in the *Wizard* in 1838, put into Potter's mouth the words "As I hope to be president of this institution...").

Nott's biographer, Codman Hislop, points out that the rather cold and conventional Potter must have served in some degree as a counter-balance to the visionary Nott during the decades when the president was daringly using the money he had derived from the LOTTERIES to speculate in New York City land (see HUNTER'S POINT, GREENPOINT AND STUYVESANT COVE PROPERTIES OF UNION COLLEGE) and trying to build a sufficient endowment to transform the College into a university. Potter is known only once to have publicly expressed his lack of enthusiasm for some of his father-in-law's tenets: At a faculty discussion of discipline, after Nott said, "We must strive to bring back the erring; we cannot secure high scholarship in all; there will always be dunces in every class," Potter is said to have replied in exasperation, "Very well; I should, however, prefer not to have the responsibility of making them dunces."

Certainly Potter seems to have thought his future lay at Union. He refused an invitation to join the faculty of New York's General Theological Seminary in 1835. In 1838, after spending the summer in England and Ireland in search of improved health, he declined election as assistant bishop of Massachusetts and then refused to be considered for bishop of the newly-formed Diocese of Western New York.

On March 16, 1839, his wife died after giving birth to her seventh child. Sarah Maria had been her father's great favorite, and Hislop speculates that the prospect of retirement without the compensation of her high-spirited company was unappealing to Nott, who then threw himself into work. In the meantime, another development dimmed Potter's prospect of succeeding to the presidency: the continuing strife within the Episcopal Church between the high and low church factions—which he tried to ignore—had en-

gendered an animosity on the part of other Protestants toward the church as a whole, and some trustees apparently began to talk of the importance of preventing an Episcopalian from becoming Union's head.

On November 26, 1840, Potter married his wife's cousin—the daughter of her mother's brother—Sarah Benedict; they would have three children.

In the fall of 1842, Pearson assessed Potter again, and found him (though he did not say it in so many words), clearly presidential material: "Next to Prex [Potter is] the most famous man in our set," he wrote in his diary, "He is an excellent scholar, industrious, knows something about every thing and is getting to be an inveterate book maker." Although Pearson wasn't very impressed with Potter's books or his speaking style, he thought those deficiencies were more than offset by other qualities:

He's a wordy, grandeloquent man — he's no saxon spoken. He is cocked and primed for any occasion, on any subject, often very happy in his extempore efforts, sometimes shoal, windy, large spoken. He has a great mind but cant stop to mature, dig deep and bring up from the bottom. No matter, this is going to be the greatest man in the set if he's not now. His efforts in the cause of education in this state have had a happy effect and will be felt more some time hence.... Some think him austere and haughty; so he seems but in reality is not. He has changed some. Once the boys hated him or, rather, some disliked him much for his stiff, unbending manners towards them; that's gone, I imagine. He's more popular and highly respected for his talents.

Potter agitated to extend and improve the state's public schools and to establish a system of "normal" (teacher-training) schools. He took the initiative in starting Young Men's Associations to encourage self-education by young working men, and lectured before several of these institutes throughout upstate New York.

He wrote his first two substantial books with such readers in mind: *Political economy, its objects, uses and principles, considered with reference to the condition of the American people. With a summary, for the use of students* (1840), and the two-volume treatise he also used as a textbook at Union, *The principles of science applied to the domestic and mechanic arts, and to manufactures and agriculture, with reflections on the progress of the arts, and their influence on national welfare*. (1841; rev. ed. 1860).

As a result of his prominence in the movement for improved schools, he was selected, with George B. Emerson, to write *The school and the schoolmaster, a manual for the use of teachers, employers, trustees, inspectors, &c., &c. of common schools* (1842), a volume subsidized by James Wadsworth and distributed by the thousands to schools and teachers in New York and elsewhere. The following year Potter issued *Handbook for readers and students*, essentially a bibliography of recommended reading in all fields, with extensive quoted critical notices of the books. He also prepared,

for Harper's Family Library and School District Library series, editions of such authors as Bacon, Michelet, Paley and Francis Lieber.

Kenyon College (then an Episcopal seminary) awarded him a DD in 1838, and Harvard gave him the same degree in 1843.

In 1841, Potter invited all the alumni attending Commencement to tea at West College; he wanted to strengthen their ties with the College, and also to raise money to improve the library, which Nott had tended to neglect. An alumni organization began the following year, and Potter continued to hold the Commencement meetings while he remained at the College.

It is not known whether Potter was aware of the opposition to his succession to the presidency, nor is it certain that the opposition would have prevailed. When he was offered the bishopric of Pennsylvania in May 1845, he called on Nott to discuss it, expecting to be urged to stay. Instead, he found the president resigned to his leaving and so he accepted the offer. A large celebration had been planned for Union's fiftieth anniversary that year, and Potter had long been scheduled to give a major address. His speech, on college education, thus became a personal valedictory as well, and much of the audience was apparently moved to tears. He departed the next day with an LLD.

The Pennsylvania diocese had called him because he was the only candidate acceptable to both the high and low church factions, which had fought to a stand-off. During his twenty years as a bishop, he would be an effective peacemaker and a highly competent administrator, skills he had no doubt improved during his service at Union. His own ecclesiastical stance was support for the progressive proposals embodied in the Muhlenberg Memorial of 1853. He chaired the committee appointed by the House of Bishops to consider those proposals and solicited papers on them from the Episcopal and other clergy, which he published as *Memorial papers* (1857). His own paper in that volume, "Church comprehension and church unity," was long influential.

Potter created several Philadelphia institutions. He revived the long dormant Protestant Episcopal Academy in 1846. After nine years of work he was able in 1860 to lay the cornerstone for the first building of the Episcopal Hospital, and in 1861 his labors to set up a system of diocesan training schools for clergy culminated in the founding of the Philadelphia Divinity School. He also began a system of convocations to encourage cooperation among the Episcopal clergy, and organized "Young Men's Institutes" in Philadelphia, as he had in New York. During his tenure, thirty-five new Episcopal Churches were built in Philadelphia alone.

Potter had long opposed slavery. In 1861 Bishop John Henry Hopkins of Vermont published a pamphlet entitled *The Bible view of slavery*, arguing for the Biblical sanction of slavery. When this was reprinted in

Philadelphia in 1863 by some Philadelphia churchmen and used as a campaign document by the Pennsylvania Democrats, Potter felt he had to protest in an open letter which he signed at the head of 163 other Pennsylvania clergymen. This protest was then used by the Republicans as a campaign document. Hopkins replied in an 1864 book entitled *A scriptural, ecclesiastical, and historical view of slavery...Addressed to the Right Rev. Alonzo Potter*.

Administration came to occupy most of his time, but between 1845 and 1853 he delivered four courses of theological lectures at the Lowell Institute in Boston, to which he had committed himself before accepting the bishopric. Delivered without notes, these lectures filled the largest public hall in Boston. He wrote them out afterward and they were published posthumously as *Religious philosophy; or nature, man and the Bible witnessing to God and to religious truth* (1872).

Although Potter was busy enough in Philadelphia, his ties to the College remained strong. He was appointed to the Board of Trustees in 1847, and the next year the board appointed him to preside at Commencement if the president should be too unwell to do so, "and to act as Vice President should the President's ill health render assistance necessary, until a Professor of Moral Philosophy shall be appointed." There is no record that Potter did function as a vice president in this period, and after LAURENS PERSEUS HICKOK became vice-president and Professor of Moral Philosophy in 1852, Potter's title was apparently considered honorary—but he continued to corresponded regularly with Nott. When the president established the Nott Trust in 1854, he named Potter one of its "Visitors." On January 25, 1858, Nott wrote to him: "You will, I have always hoped, and still hope, live after me, to superintend what I have done, and perfect what I have left undone." But probably owing to his own poor health, Potter left the Board of Trustees in 1863.

He also served as a trustee of the University of Pennsylvania, taking at least one action in this capacity that remains of interest. In 1854, he proposed to make that institution primarily a graduate school, on a national scale. He argued that, as it stood, the University of Pennsylvania was indistinguishable from all the other colleges in the country. There was room, he thought, for only one graduate institution of the kind he envisioned, and one was already being started in Albany, so it would be necessary to act quickly (he referred to an abortive precursor of UNION UNIVERSITY). All the faculty were opposed; though Potter continued his advocacy for awhile, nothing came of it. Twenty-two years later Johns Hopkins opened as the first American university of the kind Potter had envisioned.

Sarah Benedict Potter, who had long been consumptive, died January 29, 1863. Potter himself had probably had a stroke in 1857 and he suffered another

in 1864. Persuaded to take a long voyage in the hope of recuperation, he accepted an invitation from the owners of the new and luxurious steamship *Colorado* to sail to California via the Straits of Magellan. All of the other passengers were likewise guests of the company; they included Louis Agassiz and a group of scientists en route to Brazil. A few days before departure, Potter married Miss Frances Seaton, an old friend of the family.

Potter preached on board the ship, listened to Agassiz's lectures, and performed various ecclesiastical duties at ports of call. While stopping in Panama to consecrate a church, he was apparently bitten by a mosquito and contracted "Panama fever," to which he succumbed on board ship in San Francisco harbor.

Potter's children by his first wife were: Clarkson Nott Potter '42 (who would become an important trustee of the College), Howard Potter '46, Robert Brown Potter '49, Edward Tuckerman Potter '53 (architect of the NOTT MEMORIAL), Henry C. Potter, ELIPHALET NOTT POTTER '61 (president of the College), and Maria Louisa Potter.

By his second wife he had three more sons: James Neilson Potter, William Appleton Potter '64 (architect of WASHBURN HALL), and Frank Hunter Potter '73.

Potter's widow long survived him; for a time she lived in the President's House with Eliphalet Nott's widow.

From the time the building now called the Nott Memorial was completed in 1877 until it was rededicated in 1903 as the Nott Memorial Library, it was officially known as the Nott Potter Memorial.

Potter, Eliphalet Nott (Sept. 20, 1836–Feb. 6, 1901). Class of 1861. Kappa Alpha. Seventh president of Union College, 1871–84. President of Hobart College, 1884–97.

Eliphalet Nott Potter was born at Union College, where his father, ALONZO POTTER, served as Professor of Rhetoric and Moral Philosophy and was shortly to become de facto vice president. His mother, SARAH MARIA NOTT POTTER, was President ELIPHALET NOTT's only daughter. E.N. Potter had five older brothers and a younger sister; later, he would acquire three half-brothers. His father and brothers would figure in almost every stage of his career.

Following his mother's death when he was two-and-a-half years old the family dispersed; for the next two years Eliphalet and three of his brothers lived with his mother's cousin, Sarah Benedict. Alonzo Potter's marriage to Miss Benedict in 1841 re-united the family at Union College until 1845; in that year, when Eliphalet was nine, the family moved to Philadelphia upon his father's election as Bishop of Pennsylvania.

Four of his older brothers had attended Union, where their grandfather was still president, but Eliphalet did not follow them directly; at nineteen,

after studying briefly at the Protestant Episcopal Seminary in Philadelphia and at the preparatory department of St. James College in Maryland, he undertook, for the sake of his health, a voyage around the world, mostly on sailing vessels. On the return voyage he served before the mast. His health, delicate since childhood, would always trouble him, but the voyage inspired a desire to become a sea-going missionary to sailors, an aspiration his father deflected by persuading him to take a Union degree first.

Academically, he did not have an easy time, and he was later remembered as an indifferent student. Entering Union in the fall of 1857 as a twenty-one-year-old "UNIVERSITY STUDENT," he later changed to the scientific and then to the classical course, but he seldom if ever took more than a course or two at a time, and was frequently away for a term or more. He withdrew at the end of his sophomore year to enroll at the Berkeley Divinity School in Middletown, Connecticut, returned to Union for the third term of his junior year, and may have been back in divinity school during part of the third term of his senior year. Although he had taken, in toto, less than one-third of a full course, the faculty decided to grant him a degree at Commencement, 1861.

"Lif" (the childhood nickname remained with him) apparently lived while at Union in the household of his grandfather, then entering his dotage, but he consorted with the rowdiest of his classmates. Judge Yates, his contemporary, later observed that "his piety was not of the early kind...it was not perceptible in the horde which went down to the corner of Jay and Union to fight the 'dog corner boys.'" But it was presumably manifested when he played the organ on Sundays at St. George's Church. He joined Kappa Alpha and was Secretary of the Mohawk Boat Club.

On graduating from the Berkeley Divinity School, he was ordained deacon by his father in June 1862. Following brief service as a chaplain in the Civil War, probably with his brother, General Robert B. Potter, he was assigned by his father to do missionary work in the Lehigh Valley of Pennsylvania. There he helped form three parishes and several missions, and he built three churches and two rectories. In 1863 one of those churches, the Church of the Nativity in South Bethlehem, called him to its pastorate; there he remained six years, receiving ordination as a priest from his father on March 19, 1865.

The first president of Lehigh University on its founding in 1865 was E.N. Potter's friend HENRY COPPÉE; the friendship led to Potter's appointment as the institution's first professor (teaching ethics and philosophy), and as secretary to the Board of Trustees. He held these positions in addition to his pastoral duties.

In March of 1869, Potter came back to upstate New York as associate rector of St. Paul's Church in

Troy. His father, long before, had been temporary rector of that church, and his brother Henry was rector of another Episcopal church in the same city. Again Eliphalet's tenure saw much building: a parish house and free chapel on State Street and St. Paul's Free Chapel in the northern part of the city.

A year after arriving in Troy, on April 28, 1870, he married Helen Fuller, the twenty-two year-old daughter of banker and stove manufacturer Joseph M. Fuller; they would have six children.

Union Presidency (1871-1884). At E.N. Potter's election as president of Union College in the summer of 1871, the institution had been in gradual decline for more than a decade. Eliphalet Nott had remained in office too long, and his successors, LAURENS P. HICKOK and CHARLES AIKEN, had been unable to exercise the leadership needed to revive the College. The Civil War had initially harmed all colleges by taking away students, but in the unsettled postwar years many institutions had become more innovative; Union had stood still.

To a Board of Trustees looking wistfully backward, E.N. Potter's most important attribute was his lineage. He was thirty-five years old, personable, strikingly attractive (people who knew him in his youth used the word "beautiful") and, as an Episcopalian, escaped the imputation directed at Hickok and Aiken of being the wrong kind of Presbyterian. He had a wealthy family and moved easily among people of his own class. But as Governor John Hoffman, himself an alumnus and a trustee, made very clear at the inauguration, Eliphalet Nott Potter was above all expected to be the re-incarnation of Eliphalet Nott:

The death of President Nott was a great blow to our Alma Mater, and though not, we trust, irreparable, she has never fully recovered from it. But she will, and that now rapidly.... In the household, when the head and master is taken away, children stand by their sorrowing mother, left alone and hopeless, without a protector or a guide. Yet, when all hope seems dying out, some younger son often steps to the front, and all look up to him in trust and confidence as he takes his father's place and does his work. So it is in all spheres of life, and so it is here in old Union.

Because the Potter administration caused the College grave long-term damage, the substantial achievements of its early years are easily overlooked. Before Potter took office Union had seen no building since the completion of the President's House a decade earlier, while the foundation of the future NOTT MEMORIAL, untouched since 1859, bore constant witness to the College's poverty. The curriculum had not changed significantly for several decades, and enrollments had fallen to their lowest level (seventy-two students in the fall of 1871) since the College's first decade.

His grandfather's widow having secured lifetime tenancy in the President's House, one of Potter's first acts was to erect a house for himself. Potter's father-in-

law, for whom Potter procured a seat on the Board of Trustees, contributed much of the cost of the new house, which was completed by the summer of 1872; it later became the ADMINISTRATION BUILDING. In the meantime, in the fall of 1871, major gifts from Howard Potter and Clarkson Nott Potter, the president's brothers, had enabled the College to resume work on the Nott Memorial, for which another brother, Edward Tuckerman Potter '53, was architect.

Students had been agitating for a gymnasium, a project many alumni thought unnecessary, but Potter supported the students, encouraging them to begin raising money for the purpose. When they had collected about half the projected cost, Potter found the balance and began the gymnasium, said to be his own design, in the spring of 1873 (see BECKER HALL).

The College's greatest bricks-and-mortar need, a classroom building, was finally addressed with the construction in 1881–83 of WASHBURN HALL, designed by half-brother William Appleton Potter '64.

E.N. Potter was perhaps more successful at raising money than any other president within the scope of this book. He obtained it from members of his family, from former parishioners, and from other members of his various circles. (Since he received a commission on donations, he had an added incentive to work hard at that part of his job.) Unfortunately, all of the major donations he obtained were for restricted purposes, and many of them entailed added expense for the College.

In an attempt to restore enrollments to their former level, a step he saw as crucial to rescuing the College's reputation, Potter raised substantial funds for scholarships, and he recruited students from Southern states, where many ante-bellum colleges had not yet reopened.

Complementing his penchant for erecting buildings, E.N. Potter had a predilection for empire-building. Not long after taking office, he began the work that led at the end of 1872 to the formation of UNION UNIVERSITY, with himself as Chancellor. An 1875 flyer—proclaiming that Union College, “as the representative Institution of Christian Unity, while unsectarian, is yet in its character and influence distinctly and earnestly Christian”—foreshadowed Potter's vision, developed further when he was at Hobart, of a religious alliance of colleges.

Potter had some personal interest in the arts; he dabbled in architecture, played the organ by ear—composing a funeral march after Lincoln's death—and he was surely the only Union president to quote from a Mozart letter in an annual report to the trustees. In 1876 he became the first Union president to create a place for the arts, bringing in outside lecturers in art, architecture and sculpture. Two years later he placed these and other lecturers and a newly-hired instructor in drawing under a nominal “Department of Art Instruction and General Culture” (see ART). In 1879/80,

the department also brought two lecturers on MUSIC to the campus, the first—and for many decades, the last—appearance of that subject in Union's academic offerings.

Using gifts from Catharine Lorillard Wolfe, who also funded the scholarships for Southern students, Potter established (1878) an annual Wolfe prize for proficiency in free-hand drawing and purchased (1879) a large collection of plaster casts of famous sculpture for display in a Nott Memorial gallery.

Potter re-introduced military training into the curriculum in 1873/74, with the attachment to the faculty of Brevet Captain Thomas Ward, USA.

The president taught a senior year course on Butler's *Analogy* for a few years, but gave it up about 1880—according to critics because he found it too difficult, but probably because he was too often away from the campus. He lectured on other subjects as well, ranging from constitutional law to “The Choice of a Wife.” Perhaps more important, in 1878/79 he re-introduced some elements of an elective system.

Popular with students in his early years, he went out of his way to entertain them, as other presidents had not. With Potter's encouragement, students launched the *Concordiensis* and the *Garnet* in 1877; that same year, after reporting that the president had made himself personally responsible for the boat house lease, the *Concordiensis* assured students that he was “the foremost man in the Faculty in supporting athletic interests.”

Not long after, however, the tide began to turn against Potter. As early as 1875, members of the Finance Committee (trustees Platt Potter [no relation] and J. T. Backus, and Treasurer Pearson) had become very concerned that the president's unauthorized spending was creating an annual deficit which had to be met by selling land. Although new rules were instituted and the president promised to be more careful, the problem would recur throughout his administration.

An issue of greater concern to the faculty was Potter's usurpation of their prerogatives. In June 1877 the faculty had ruled, and informed students, that no junior who had “conditions”—i.e., had not made up failed courses—could move up to the senior class. Without consulting the faculty, the president subsequently allowed all conditioned juniors to pass into the senior class. On other occasions, he claimed that the faculty had ordered punishments which, in fact, he had imposed on his own authority. From the fall of 1877 through the fall of 1879, Potter called far fewer faculty meetings than previously, and he paid ever less attention to the votes in them. Finally, during the Christmas break of 1878/9, without consulting the faculty, Potter made changes in the curriculum and/or the class schedule, effective immediately.

The first faculty response was an individual protest to the board in January 1879 by Professor JOHN FOS-

TER, one of the teachers most affected by the changes. The trustees upheld the president, but formed a committee to study the matter, and eventually, in June 1880, enacted a new governance system requiring that all matters relating to instruction be determined by vote at faculty meetings, which would be held fortnightly rather than at the pleasure of the president. The president could override the faculty's vote only with the approval of the trustees.

In the immediate aftermath of Foster's protest, however, Potter, himself a voting member of the board, informed Foster that his supporters on the board (who included his brother and his father-in-law) would tolerate no faculty opposition. The faculty, doubting that the board would act in their favor, signified their solidarity by signing a resolution very critical of Potter. Only a draft survives: its language suggests how deep the antagonisms had become. The faculty

have often had reason to fear that the lessons on truthfulness, presumably given by the Professor of Moral Philosophy [i.e., Potter] have signally failed of exemplification in his own life.... There is manifest an ever increasing tendency towards that condition of things...under which no man can live who is unwilling to give up his manhood and become an abject slave.

The grievances that could be answered by clarifying the respective authority of the president and the faculty symptomized a deeper problem: in small matters and large, Potter was contemptuous of the faculty, which reciprocated the feeling. Trustee JUDSON LANDON, a Potter supporter, later singled out Professor HARRISON WEBSTER as the instigator of the continued discontent: "A Presbyterian, [Webster] affects or has a contempt for the learning of Episcopalians, and President Potter is an Episcopalian. Blue blood is one of [Webster's] antipathies, and he relegated the President to the blue-blooded." According to Landon, Webster was such a persuasive talker that he won most of the faculty over to his anti-Potter stance.

Although Webster probably did take the leading role in the opposition to Potter, he was in fact not particularly orthodox in religion, and there is every evidence that most of his colleagues were responsible men who formed their own opinions. They inevitably did so in reaction to Potter's aristocratic stance: the president whom some of them remembered as a not-particularly-diligent student was the kind of "blue-blood" capable of writing to Webster: "It is not becoming the dignity of a college professor to be seen sitting in his shirt sleeves, laughing and reading to a mob of students under the Big Elm. What if you had been seen by any of the better people in town!" In conversation with Professor HENRY WHITEHORNE he once characterized his faculty as "Mere pedagogues—people without refinement or distinction."

Only a much stronger and shrewder executive than Potter could have carried off such haughtiness. The

sickly and beautiful middle child had developed by adulthood too great a need for admiration to be a successful autocrat; he vacillated in the face of opposition, sometimes resorting to transparent and pathetic lies to evade responsibility for controversial actions. A majority of the faculty eventually determined to be rid of Potter, but when Webster told the president in 1879 that he and others no longer had confidence in his word, Potter was appalled, and he begged Webster to counsel him. When Professor ISIAH PRICE told the president in 1881 that Alonzo Potter would have found his son's underhanded approach to opposition "dishonorable," Potter replied "My father was a very strong man, and could do things in a manner that I cannot."

In the meantime, student opinion of Potter followed a parallel course. Potter's initial popularity, based in part on his support of athletics, gave way to resentment at his imperious manner, which seemed to be symbolized by the high fence in front of his house. The fence actually pre-dated his administration, and Potter had it lowered in 1873, but students tore it down entirely in 1879. Then, in the 1880 Commencement issue of the *Concordiensis*, the just-graduated editor fired a stunning blast at Potter. John Ickler '80 was motivated in part by a personal grievance: piqued by a *Concordiensis* article critical of the Nott Memorial, Potter had circumvented a unanimous faculty vote awarding Ickler the Warner Prize and had given it to the son of trustee Judson Landon. Ickler's attack branded Potter a liar, a hypocrite and a coward, and deplored the fact that "such noble men as our faculty should have been for so long a time associated with and ruled over by a man so unprincipled as Dr. Potter."

By this time, many alumni were aware of the controversy; whether because, as Landon charged, they had been lobbied by the faculty, or because, as the opposition claimed, they knew the president at first hand, the younger ones were overwhelmingly anti-Potter. The alumni having won the right to elect trustees in 1871, his opponents saw the best prospect for removing Potter to lie in electing anti-Potter alumnus trustees. When a majority of the faculty (Staley, Pearson, Alexander, Webster, Whitehorne, Wells and Price) presented a new petition dated May 26, 1882, demanding a trustee investigation of Potter, there were enough anti-Potter votes on the board to prevent its rejection.

Having long since lost confidence in the President, and believing him to be incompetent and un-trustworthy...[the petitioners] declare our sense of his unfitness for the position which he holds, and our conviction that his continuance in that office is compromising the honor of the Institution, and prejudicial to its most vital interests.

Instead of conducting its own investigation as the faculty had asked, the board directed the faculty to draft a list of specific charges. The faculty was thus—

the attorney they engaged complained—put in the awkward position of prosecutor. (At Dartmouth the previous year, the trustees, faculty, and alumni had put president Samuel Bartlett on trial.)

Formal charges, dated July 1, 1882, and signed by the same men, with the addition of Maurice Perkins, accused Potter of twenty-one specific instances of “untrustworthiness” and eight specific instances of “incompetency.” The major non-signers—the faculty members loyal to Potter—were Foster, Ashmore, Copée, and Lamoroux.

The “trial,” held July 17–August 5, 1882, in the Nott Memorial, heard testimony by all the signatories, by Potter, and by others. From the record of testimony emerges a picture of a manipulative and imperious prevaricator who claimed and exercised the right to alter (“correct”) the minute books of the faculty and of the trustees, and who may have forged letters to support his case (the faculty counsel remarked, “It is certain the president never lacks a letter when it is convenient to have one.”) But too many of the crimes with which Potter was charged were trivial—failing to keep order in chapel, usurping the registrar’s responsibility for preparing the catalogues, falsely telling a professor he had commended the professor to the trustees, etc.—and in the end the trustees, however their individual opinions of Potter may have been altered by the testimony, decided on September 8 that the charges, to the extent that they had been sustained, did not justify his removal; they were “dismissed without reflection on the faculty.” It was clear to a slim majority, however, that Potter could no longer function effectively as president, and the board then passed (9–8) a resolution requesting his resignation “under a conviction of the necessities of the college.”

Potter refused to resign, on the remarkable ground that the votes of the four alumni trustees were not consequential. On October 12, 1882, the board met again, with Governor Hoffman present and an anti-Potter trustee out of the country, to rescind the resolution.

The Board took no further significant action on Potter’s tenure, but the war continued, accompanied by pamphlet attacks from all sides. The president’s brother, trustee Howard Potter, publicly accused the two most prominent anti-Potter trustees, J. Trumbull Backus and Platt Potter, of having made improper personal profits through their ownership of Certificates of Residue in the Hunter’s Point Trust (see HUNTER’S POINT, GREENPOINT AND STUYVESANT COVE PROPERTIES OF UNION COLLEGE), which they oversaw as trustees. These charges, which seem valid at least from the point of view of ethics, were made in the context of mutual finger-pointing over the College’s financial plight; Potter’s supporters claimed that the money the president brought in was offset by losses at Hunter’s Point.

In a bold but ill-conceived move, in March 1883 the anti-Potter forces, led by trustee David Robinson, quietly had a bill introduced in the New York State Legislature, ostensibly to “Relieve the governor...and other state officials of certain trusts.” The bill would have replaced all of the ex officio members of the board with alumni trustees, who would then have a majority of the seats. It had passed and awaited the Governor’s signature when its significance was discovered; denounced as “revolutionary and communistic,” as well as unconstitutional, it was quickly recalled, and after hearings which recapitulated many of the issues aired at the trial the measure died in committee.

At their May 8, 1883, meeting, the trustees forbade the president from disbursing without their approval money given to be spent at his discretion, and from accepting, without their approval, any donation which would commit the College to other expenditures. These reforms were prompted by the realization that because of the way some of the new scholarships were designed, the College was receiving only slightly more in 1881 than it had from half as many students a decade earlier.

Commencement weekend of 1883 saw the last, and probably bitterest, major battles of the Potter wars. The alumni trustees had just released a report, dated June 1883, detailing Potter’s numerous irregularities in the receipt and disbursement of funds over the previous ten years. The Potter bloc narrowly elected its slate of Alumni Association officers but failed to carry the alumnus trustee election, in part because its tactics aroused great resentment. The Potterites tried to bar members of the largely anti-Potter Class of 1880 from voting, on the ground that the required three years from their own graduation would not be reached until the following day, and to introduce proxy votes (for which no provision was made at that time); in the final tally, the anti-Potter incumbent prevailed, 159–122.

At the board meeting on the same day, the pro-Potter trustees took advantage of a temporary majority to fire the president’s most outspoken faculty critic, Harrison Webster. Edgar Jenkins, registrar and Secretary of the Board, and James L. Woodward, treasurer, then resigned, and trustees Backus and Platt Potter were replaced on the Finance Committee by Potter sympathizers.

At a heavy cost to the institution, Potter had won the most important battles. He never publicly expressed regrets, but Judson Landon, both a supporter and a dispassionate observer, said of him in 1883:

He has a wonderful capacity to grow under fire. He is every way broader, nobler and better than he was before this war opened upon him. It has opened his eyes to his own faults and mistakes, and instead of growing bitter and malignant as small men would, he has become quite gentler in disposition, more charitable toward the faults of others, and a

careful student of the high art of self-amendment. It is a mistake to take him for the same man he was five years younger.

Potter was ready to leave Union, but he needed to save face and to find a satisfactory destination. He was twice offered the bishopric of Nebraska (his father had been Bishop of Pennsylvania and his brother Henry had just succeeded their uncle Horatio as Bishop of New York). Presumably the office appealed but Nebraska did not, and he declined. Trinity College in Hartford, seeking a president, passed him over. Then, on January 16, 1884, Hobart, another Episcopal college, offered him its presidency. His father and his uncle had long ago refused that office, but Eliphalet sailed for Europe to think it over, then accepted. His resignation from Union was effective August 1, 1884.

Hobart Presidency (1884–1897). He arrived at Hobart in the summer of 1884 at a reduction in salary, but with the understanding that he would not be expected to raise money. His tenure there was more successful than at Union. He established strong ties between Hobart College and the nearby De Lancey Divinity School, and he advocated the creation of a union of all Episcopal colleges “into one or more great universities.” He presented his views on this subject in “Church Colleges and the Church University” (1888).

While at Hobart, Potter devoted more time than he had at Union to scholarly work, publishing in 1892 a paper (“The pedigree of a period”) on the punctuation of the *Book of Common Prayer*, which eventually resulted in changes in the standard text. His most substantial work, *Washington a Model in his Library and Life*, appeared in 1895. Potter also interested himself in missionary work in Seneca County and sometimes drove about ministering to the sick.

His old arrogance flared up from time to time—he would walk out of faculty meetings to exercise his horse, and he became notorious for stopping express trains on the New York Central by pulling the emergency chain where he wanted to get off—but he avoided direct conflict with the faculty, and his extravagance seems to have been limited to buying a Hebrew manuscript for the library. He held the trustees to their promise that he would not have to raise money, and although some donors did materialize, when Potter resigned at the end of 1896, citing poor health, Hobart was in serious financial straits.

Last Years. Potter had sustained connections with friends at Union, rewarding Professor Sidney Ashmore and trustee Edward W. Paige with Hobart honorary degrees in 1887. His nemesis, Harrison Webster, eventually succeeded him as president of Union, but in 1895, with Webster out of office, Potter made a brief, self-serving speech at Union’s CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION, ostensibly as the founder of Union University.

Soon after announcing his resignation from Hobart, he expressed to Union’s trustees “a desire to spend the remainder of his life on the grounds of Union College.” Even his friends among the trustees must have had misgivings, but the board agreed in December 1896 to let him build a house on the present site of Sigma Phi. A couple of months later he proposed an even worse plan: he would instead move into his former house, the present Administration Building, and build new houses for the two professors then residing there. The trustees again acceded, but happily nothing came of his intentions. After staying at Union long enough to deliver a lecture on architecture to the senior class in sociology, Potter accepted in the fall of 1897 the presidency of the newly founded “Cosmopolitan University,” a correspondence school headquartered at Irvington-on-Hudson. The enterprise soon ran afoul of the New York State Board of Regents, however, and did not long outlive its president.

Potter’s death came at sixty-four from heart failure in Mexico City, where he had gone in a quest for renewed health. On his deathbed he performed one more act for Union College, an act which must significantly affect any attempt to appraise his connection with the College. His letter to Andrew Carnegie, reminding the philanthropist of a promise made long before to help turn the Nott Memorial into a useful building, elicited after Potter’s death a \$40,000 gift which made it possible to use the building for a library.

E.N. Potter’s widow, Helen Fuller Potter, died March 11, 1937, in New York City at 88.

Although Eliphalet Nott Potter worked hard and loyally for the College, his administration must be reckoned a disastrous failure. The misapplication of the College’s meager resources and of the substantial funds he raised was a serious error, though hindsight can find parallels in other periods. The factionalization caused among the alumni and the trustees by Potter’s war with the faculty, however, continued after his departure and almost destroyed the College (See LANDON, JUDSON). The trustees must share a large measure of blame for failing to stop the conflict while Potter was in office, and for the years of paralysis that followed, but the war was unquestionably precipitated by the character and personality of President Potter himself.

The Potter administration is the most obscure chapter in Union’s written history. Nearly all the contemporary literature is partisan. In his *Union University*, published six years after Potter’s death, President Raymond found the subject still too inflammatory to discuss: “It is not necessary and not even desirable that the story of this prolonged controversy should be reviewed. It is a chapter in the history of the College which all the sincerest friends of the institution now wish to pass in silence.”

The *Dictionary of American biography* (1933) makes no hint in its article on Potter of any kind of controversy, and Dixon Ryan Fox was nearly as discrete in his *Unfinished history of Union College* (1945): "to shorten an unpleasant chapter of the story, let us admit that material advancement, for a time, was not paralleled by that sort of progress which depends on institutional harmony."

More recent histories have based their treatment of Potter on a partial reading of the contemporary polemical literature.

Potter, Sarah Maria Nott (Sept. 30, 1799–March 16, 1839). Sarah Maria, the second child and only daughter of ELIPHALET NOTT and SARAH MARIA BENEDICT NOTT, was born in Plainfield, Connecticut. After her mother's death on March 4, 1804, she resided with Mrs. Robert Tillotson of Rhinebeck, the daughter of Chancellor James Livingston, until her father remarried in 1807.

Sarah Maria developed into a very attractive, vivacious young woman; all the evidence suggests that her father felt closer to her than to anyone in his adult life except her mother, to whom she bore a strong resemblance. Nott's biographer Codman Hislop stresses Sarah Maria's increasing importance to her father:

The threads that go into the pattern of a life are so cross-woven that we can trace only the darkest and the brightest ones back to their skeins. Nott's love of Maria is one such bright thread. From the days of her frightened return from Rhinebeck [through the rest of her life] Sarah Maria seems more and more the brightest thread in the web of her father's life... the effervescence and gaiety he needed.

At twenty-five, she married ALONZO POTTER '18, then professor of mathematics and natural philosophy. Except for the period 1826–31, which they spent in Boston, they resided at the College; several of their seven children played significant roles in Union's history.

Sarah Maria's death at thirty-nine, a few hours after giving birth to her only daughter, was a grievous blow to her father; Hislop suggests that losing the happiest aspect of his family life may have influenced Nott to cling to the presidency until his own death, instead of retiring, as he had planned, to be succeeded by Alonzo Potter.

Potter House. The College has had two buildings called Potter House:

- 1) The private residence built by President ELIPHALET NOTT POTTER was sometimes called Potter House during the period before it was rebuilt as the ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.
- 2) The dormitory at 1461 Lenox Road, east of the Field House and south of Raymond House, is usually presumed to bear the name of Eliphalet Nott Potter, but in fact the trustees, apparently recog-

nizing that president's controversial place in Union's history, stipulated at their June 7–8, 1963, meeting that "Potter House will be named for the Potter family [i.e., ALONZO POTTER and his descendants], and not any one person in that family."

Potter House and its neighbor, RAYMOND HOUSE, were built to be leased to the four fraternities which were being compelled by the zoning laws to give up their houses in the GENERAL ELECTRIC REALTY PLOT. The elevations for both houses were made by the College's architect, MCKIM, MEAD AND WHITE, but the interiors were designed by Harrison and Mero, a Troy firm retained by the fraternities who would occupy them. Construction by Schenectady contractor Christiansen and Neilsen began in June 1960, and the buildings opened in the fall of 1961.

Potter House was built at cost of about \$450,000 to accommodate THETA DELTA CHI and KAPPA SIGMA, but the College reserved the right to place other students there, and after Kappa Sigma was evicted in May 1964 "for malicious damage," the space was assigned to PHI SIGMA KAPPA. When that fraternity moved to Fox House in the fall of 1977 its space was assigned to the newly founded DELTA GAMMA sorority, which remains. Theta Delta Chi moved to Edwards House in the fall of 1977.

Potter (Stephen J.) Testing Laboratory. A materials testing laboratory west of the Operations Center, the Potter Laboratory is named for the Ticonderoga businessman whose bequest created the foundation which underwrote the cost of the structure.

The laboratory was designed by Union professor Robert J. Brungraber and built by Michael J. Samal of Albany. Construction began in 1967 and the laboratory was dedicated February 21, 1968.

Pre-law programs. From the Class of 1798 onward, Union graduates have become lawyers, but because the usual nineteenth-century path to a legal career was either to "read" in a law office or (later in the century) to go directly from secondary school to law school, the College did not make special provision for intending lawyers until 1927.

The change came in response to the decision of the ALBANY LAW SCHOOL (which had until then admitted students by qualifying examination) to begin requiring a year of college work by the fall of 1926 and to require two years starting in 1928. The first separate section of pre-law students, about thirty men, accordingly entered Union in the fall of 1927. The pre-law curriculum was identical with the AB course, except that students electing the non-classical AB course had to take Latin instead of modern languages.

After 1930/31, the College catalogue made no mention of a pre-law program; many pre-law students

majoring in political science. Student pre-law clubs existed from 1927 until about 1933, from 1946 until the mid 1970s, and from 1979 until the present (see STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS). Until his retirement in 1961, history professor JOSEPH DOTY acted as advisor to pre-law students; political science professor Joseph Board filled that role from 1965 onwards.

Since 1974, Union and the Albany Law School have offered a six-year program under which highly qualified students enter the latter institution after three years as Law and Public Policy majors at Union. They earn a Union BA degree at the end of their first year of law school and a Law School JD degree at the end of the course. A maximum of ten freshmen a year are admitted to the program.

Pre-medical programs. John Nash Smith, the future doctor among the six men in Union's second graduating class (1798) was the first of an uncounted number who have attended Union as a preliminary to becoming a physician or other health-care professional.

Union had no specific pre-medical program in the nineteenth century. The scientific course (see CURRICULUM), introduced in 1828 and further differentiated in 1854, did not at first attract students contemplating a medical career; most future doctors in the 1850s and 1860s took the classical course. Later, they commonly took the scientific course, but there continued to be exceptions, including such distinguished graduates as Alexander Duane '78, J. Montgomery Mosher '86, and George Bowler Tullidge '81, who took the classical course, and Edward Jackson '74 and Oscar H. Rogers '77, who earned civil engineering degrees.

At least two members of Union's nineteenth-century faculty also taught at ALBANY MEDICAL COLLEGE: MAURICE PERKINS, a chemist, 1865–1901, with expertise in public health and in toxicology, and HARRISON WEBSTER '62, a biologist, 1869–83. Although special courses were offered in the spring of 1884 in histology and in medical chemistry, both billed as being of special interest to students of medicine, for the most part Union's nineteenth-century curriculum included only meager offerings in the biological sciences.

Under the new curriculum introduced in 1897, all freshmen studied physiology; the course included a field trip to inspect Albany Medical College and the Albany Hospital. One year of college was then the common prelude to medical school. Union began in 1913/14 to offer a specially designed pre-medical year; in response to the changing requirements of medical schools, it increased in 1917/18 to two years. The curriculum was limited to science, English and modern languages. In 1915, students in the course formed a Pre-Medic Club, but it did not survive the First World War.

When the medical schools began requiring three years of college, Union abandoned a specific pre-med-

ical course in 1924 and enrolled pre-medical students in the first three years of the non-classical AB course. The third year of that course consisted, however, (for all students) of electives "under the guidance of the Dean of Students"—who doubtless steered pre-medical students to suitable courses.

Since 1898, it had been possible for students who completed three years at Union and then enrolled at the Albany Medical College to receive a bachelor's degree with their class at Union on completion of their first year of medical school. This option attracted more students when the 1924 change compelled all pre-medical students to remain in college for three years. In practice, however, most pre-medical students after that date remained at Union for the fourth year in order to improve their prospects for admission to medical school against the increasingly stiff competition of the Depression years. In 1929 the trustees approved the faculty's recommendation and rescinded the Albany Medical College arrangement, beginning with the students entering in the fall of 1931. Although the College catalogue continued until 1960/61 to mention the possibility of students entering medical college after three years at Union, few, if any, students did so in the later years.

In the beginning of the three-year program, the College admitted only fifty pre-medical students each year and allowed only thirty-five of the highest ranking to proceed to the second year. Those limits were later raised to eighty/fifty; then, in response to student complaints that it was unfair to make the cut as early as the end of the freshman year (and perhaps also in response to the institution's Depression-era need for full classes), the College began in the fall of 1932 to allow all pre-medical students to take all of the courses required for medical school. Limited laboratory facilities, however, made it necessary to continue restricting enrollment in certain non-essential courses.

Beginning with the Class of 1944, pre-medical students normally graduated with a BS degree, although—the catalogue noted—it was still possible, "by proper selection of courses," to earn a state qualifying certificate while majoring in the Humanities or Social Studies divisions.

Broadly speaking, that continued to be the situation through the end of the period covered by this book; Union never re-established a pre-medical curriculum, and advisors continued to encourage most pre-medical (later, "pre-health") students to take more liberal arts courses. Some few did major in fields other than biology and chemistry, but the necessity of taking the science-heavy Medical College Admissions Test in the spring of the junior year, and the importance, in increasingly competitive times, of doing very well on that test, exerted great pressure on students to take as many science courses as possible in the first two and one-half years.

Pre-medical clubs founded in 1927 and 1938 failed to survive. The Pre-Medical Society, established in 1947, is the direct ancestor of the present Pre-Health Society. (See STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS: ACADEMIC / PRE-PROFESSIONAL.) The clubs arranged for frequent addresses by medical professionals, and thus formed a significant part of the members' pre-professional education.

In 1958, the College was able to report that, over the previous six years, an average of 93 percent of Union's students applying to medical and dental schools had been accepted. Fifteen years later, in a much more competitive market, the acceptance rate for Union students had fallen to 60–65 percent (against a national average of 35 percent). By 1993, Union's average was back up above 90 percent (national average: 50 percent).

In 1964, after Union declined an invitation to participate, the Albany Medical College began a joint program with RPI, inspired by a similar program at Johns Hopkins University. By taking summer courses, gifted students could complete three undergraduate years in two, and by maintaining sufficiently high averages, be guaranteed entrance to the medical college. There they would continue to study year-round, graduating with a bachelor's degree and an MD in a total of six years. In the fall of 1977, Union accepted a renewed invitation from the medical college to participate in the program with a quota of twenty students (RPI's quota being reduced from forty to twenty). Students in the program were required to have a "co-major" in a non-scientific field. In 1986, the program was lengthened to seven years, three of them at Union. The summer session after the freshman year was dropped, and more liberal arts content was introduced into the curriculum.

A long succession of Union biology professors served as advisor to pre-medical students: JAMES MAVOR, William Winne '34, LEONARD CLARK, Willard Roth, and others. Since about 1940, a faculty committee has overseen the program.

Presbyterian Church. Although Union was founded as a non-sectarian institution primarily through the efforts of DIRCK ROMEYN and the DUTCH REFORMED CHURCH, it was, with some reason, long regarded as a *de facto* Presbyterian college.

Until 1928, only two presidents—JONATHAN MAXCY (1802–4), a Baptist, and ELIPHALET NOTT POTTER (1871–84), an Episcopalian—were not Presbyterians or members of the closely related Congregational church; all except HARRISON WEBSTER were clergymen. Controversy over LAURENS PERSEUS HICKOK's Presbyterian orthodoxy nearly prevented his appointment.

In the nineteenth century, the College's COMMENCEMENT was more often held at the Presbyterian church than anywhere else. Surveys of student church

affiliation in 1858 and 1861 showed that about half were Presbyterians or Congregationalists; by 1883/4, the proportion had declined to 27 percent, virtually the same as the Episcopalians, whose ascendancy was doubtless explained by the fact that Potter had been president since 1871. Presbyterians were still the largest denomination in the Class of 1929, the last for which statistics are available, but they had been reduced to 17 percent, and were closely followed by Methodists and Catholics (16 percent each), Episcopalians (15 percent) and Jews (14 percent).

See also: RELATIONS WITH OTHER COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES (Princeton).

Presidents and the Presidency. During the period covered by this book, the following men served Union College as president, acting president or interim president:

(JOHN TAYLOR, president *pro tem*, September 29, 1795–circa December 1795)

JOHN BLAIR SMITH, circa December 1795–May 1799

(DIRCK ROMEYN, Stephen Bayard and Joseph Yates, Commissioners in charge of the College, April 30, 1799–July 1799)

JONATHAN EDWARDS JR., July 1799–August 1, 1801

(Maxcy was elected president soon after Edwards' death, but a year elapsed before he could take up his duties. The trustees' minutes record no assignment of interim authority except for the appointment of the senior professor, BENJAMIN ALLEN, to preside at the 1802 Commencement.)

JONATHAN MAXCY, late September 1802–July 1804

ELIPHALET NOTT, August 1804–January 29, 1866

(In July 1861, recognizing that Nott was increasingly unable to carry out his duties, the board authorized Vice President Hickok to "act as President." Although Nott remained president until his death, Hickok was listed in the College catalogue as "Acting President" until he was elected president.)

LAURENS PERSEUS HICKOK, March 1, 1866–June 30, 1868

(IRA HARRIS, acting president, July 1, 1868–October 12, 1869)

CHARLES AUGUSTUS AIKEN, October 12, 1869–June 1871

ELIPHALET NOTT POTTER, summer 1871–July 31, 1884

(JUDSON S. LANDON, president *ad interim*, August 1, 1884–May 23, 1888)

HARRISON E. WEBSTER, mid-1888–January 1894

ANDREW VAN VRANKEN RAYMOND, May 5, 1894–mid 1907

(GEORGE ALEXANDER, president *ad interim*, mid 1907–March 31, 1909)

CHARLES ALEXANDER RICHMOND, April 1, 1909–January 20, 1929

(CHARLES B. McMURRAY, acting president during Richmond's sabbatical, June 1922–March 1923)

FRANK PARKER DAY, acting president, December 1, 1928–January 20, 1929; president, January 20, 1929–August 10, 1933

(EDWARD ELLERY, acting president, April 18, 1933–July 1, 1934)

DIXON RYAN FOX, July 1, 1934–January 30, 1945

(BENJAMIN WHITAKER, acting president, February 7, 1945–February 28, 1946)

CARTER DAVIDSON, March 1, 1946–January 31, 1965

(MEADE BRUNET, acting president, February 1, 1965–June 30, 1965)

HAROLD C. MARTIN, July 1, 1965–June 30, 1974

THOMAS N. BONNER, July 1, 1974–August 31, 1978

(NORMAN P. AUBURN, acting president, September 1, 1978–July 30, 1979)

JOHN S. MORRIS, August 1, 1979–August 31, 1990

Powers of the President. The presidency of Union College changed in ways common to all colleges, as the chief executive gradually acquired from the trustees virtually complete responsibility for College operations, while dividing much of his decision-making authority among an increasing number of other administrators in order to devote a good deal of his attention to fund-raising. Though not necessarily unique, a few formal changes were specific to Union in their timing.

All presidents through Eliphalet Nott Potter were also elected to fill the next vacancy on the Board of Trustees; perhaps because of its difficulties with Potter, the board stopped the practice after his administration (he did not resign his board seat until two years after leaving the presidency). The board requested subsequent presidents to attend meetings as non-members. In 1972, the board's membership was expanded to in-

clude student and faculty trustees, and the president, *ex officio*.

The formal relation of the president to the Board of Trustees altered on January 11, 1867, when the Regents granted the application of the trustees for a change in the language of the Charter, which had provided that the president "shall hold his office for and during his good behavior." The new language provided that the president "do hold his office at the will and pleasure of the Trustees..., to be expressed by the votes of a majority of all the...trustees." In other words, it was no longer necessary to bring charges against the president in order to dismiss him or retire him; a simple majority of the board could do so without explanation. Probably mindful of the recent example of Eliphalet Nott, who had remained in office much too long, the trustees initiated this change immediately before electing his successor.

With a faculty and a board both eventually dominated by his own former pupils, Nott had been able to gather to himself many powers not specifically granted by the Charter or by the board. He assumed absolute control over student discipline in 1809 because he disapproved of the harsh faculty discipline then common; his successes in controlling unruly students by "moral suasion" contributed to his high reputation, but in his dotage the method faltered.

It is not clear to what extent Nott (who seldom called for a vote at faculty meetings) shared power with the faculty on educational matters, but the revolutionary parallel scientific CURRICULUM was certainly introduced at his initiative, and he may have planned it in detail.

Nott also became adept at concealing from the board his manipulation of the College's finances; finally state legislative investigations culminating in 1853 compelled the notice even of those who may have preferred to remain ignorant.

Following Nott's death in 1866, the question of the limits of the faculty's, the president's and the board's powers became an important issue on several occasions in the next three administrations.

Some senior faculty members, most notably ISAAC JACKSON, were personally opposed to Nott's successor, Laurens Perseus Hickok, and nearly all apparently felt the faculty should have a greater role in discipline. In July 1865 the board referred to a special committee the position papers it had requested from Hickok (then still vice president) and from the faculty "regarding the powers and duties of the president and faculty." But the board's minutes record no further action. Then, on March 1, immediately after electing Hickok president, the board considered a resolution requiring the president to confer with the faculty in all disciplinary matters—differences to be adjudicated by the board. After rejecting that proposal (8–10), the board affirmed the principle of Nott's "paternal" discipline.

In curricular matters, Hickok tried, against fierce opposition by Jackson and JOHN FOSTER, to alter the physics courses, but ultimately failed. Hickok's successor, Aiken, complained to the trustees that it was unclear to him where his powers ended and those of the trustees began:

I find myself not unfrequently embarrassed in regard to the extent & limits of my own powers & functions, as related in one direction to the Trustees and in the other to the Faculty. The College is unique in its theory and organization.

The trustees responded by enacting a revision of the College laws at their January 24, 1871, meeting. The first two paragraphs made it clear that the faculty had only such power as the president delegated:

1) According to the Charter of Union College the Trustees "appoint the President and Professors and Tutors to have the immediate care of the education and government of the students...according to such ordinances, rules and orders as shall be made by the said Trustees.

2) By the long established ordinances of the College, the President has the power to govern the College and direct all matters relating to it according to the laws; the Professors and Tutors are to take care of the College under the President, instructing and governing according to the laws,—the President, when he shall deem it necessary, convening the Professors and the Tutors to advise and assist in the management of the College and the execution of the laws, and submitting such questions for their decision as shall appear to him most expedient.

The laws went on to re-affirm the College's commitment to "parental" discipline.

Though the board gave Aiken all the power he could have hoped, he made no use of it, resigning six months later. His scant two-year term was followed by the stormy thirteen-year administration of Nott's grandson, Eliphalet Nott Potter.

Lacking Nott's shrewdness and stature, Potter nevertheless tried to imitate his ancestor's imperious style, and eventually came into fierce conflict with most of the faculty and much of the board, a story told at length in the article on him. All the major issues were raised again: his power vis-à-vis the faculty concerning curriculum and student discipline, and his questionable handling of College funds. In June 1880, the board introduced a new governance system, affirming the faculty's jurisdiction over academic matters and student discipline; the president could overrule them only with the consent of the trustees.

Responsibility for student discipline eventually returned to the administration, but to the dean of students rather than to the president. The faculty has retained responsibility for curricular matters, though the practical exercise of that responsibility has sometimes been limited by an increase in administrative authority (see GOVERNANCE). On the other hand, the president has yielded to the faculty much of his for-

merly absolute power over faculty hiring, promotions and TENURE.

Presidents since Potter are not known to have come into serious conflict with their boards over the limits of their power; indeed, Carter Davidson eventually displeased at least the leadership of his board by not being sufficiently independent, and by persisting in consulting the board about matters which they felt lay within his sphere of responsibility.

Since 1877, the president of Union College has also served as Chancellor of UNION UNIVERSITY.

Characteristics of the Presidents. Only four presidents had headed other colleges before coming to Union: Smith (Hampton-Sidney College), Maxcy (Rhode Island College [Brown University]), Davidson (Knox College) and Bonner (University of New Hampshire). Five went on to college or other presidencies: Maxcy (South Carolina College), Potter (Hobart), Davidson (Association of American Colleges), Martin (American Academy in Rome) and Bonner (Wayne State University).

Three presidents (Edwards, Nott, and Fox) died in office and another four retired: Hickok, Webster, Richmond and Morris. Smith and Raymond returned to the ministry and Aiken to teaching, as, ultimately, did Martin and Bonner. Only Day was forced to resign, although Potter narrowly evaded dismissal, and Bonner's effectiveness was compromised and his departure hastened by a faculty no-confidence vote.

Four presidents were Union alumni: Hickok (Class of 1820), Potter (1861), Webster (1862) and Raymond (1875). The others earned undergraduate degrees at Brown (Maxcy); Dartmouth (Aiken); Hartwick (Martin); Harvard (Davidson); Mt. Allison University (Day); Oxford (Day, for a second undergraduate degree); Potsdam Normal School (Fox); Princeton (Smith, Edwards, Richmond); University College of South Wales and Monmouthshire (Morris); and the University of Rochester (Bonner). Nott had no undergraduate degree; after he had passed an examination in lieu of undergraduate courses, the Brown faculty awarded him an MA.

Only the five most recent presidents (within the scope of this book) possessed earned doctorates: Fox (Columbia), Davidson (Chicago), Martin (Harvard), Bonner (Northwestern), and Morris (Columbia).

Hickok and Webster had previously taught at Union. Only Raymond had never been a teacher anywhere. Of the presidents who could be said to have an academic field, three (Day, Davidson and Martin) had been English professors, and another three (Edwards, Aiken and Morris) had been scholars of religion or theology. Fox and Bonner were historians and Hickok's field was philosophy. Only Webster, a marine biologist, was a scientist.

Eleven presidents were ordained clergymen: Smith (Presbyterian), Edwards (Congregationalist), Maxcy (Baptist), Nott (Presbyterian), Hickok (Presbyterian), Aiken (Presbyterian), Potter (Episcopal), Raymond (Presbyterian), Richmond (Presbyterian), Davidson (Congregationalist, although he never had a pulpit) and Morris (Presbyterian).

The longest presidency (sixty-one years) was Nott's, followed by Richmond's (nineteen years) and Davidson's (eighteen years); the shortest were Aiken's (about twenty months) and Maxcy's (about twenty-two months).

Nott was both the youngest man to hold Union's presidency (thirty-one when he took office) and the oldest (ninety-two at his death). Hickok retired at sixty-nine and Richmond at sixty-six; everyone else left office at an earlier age.

All presidents were born in the United States except Day (Canada) and Morris (Wales). The first president, Smith, came from Philadelphia, but the next five (Edwards, Maxcy, Nott, Hickok, and Aiken) were New Englanders. All subsequent American-born presidents came from farther west; New York produced Potter, Webster, Raymond, Richmond, Fox, Martin (an early immigrant from Pennsylvania), and Bonner; Davidson was born and raised in Kentucky.

Six presidents served in the military: Smith (American army in the Revolution), Webster (Union Army in the Civil War), Day (British Army in the First World War), Martin (U.S. Navy in the Second World War), Bonner (U.S. Army in the Second World War) and Morris (Royal Air Force in the Second World War).

President's House. Union College had a separate president's house in 1797, and although Old WEST COLLEGE, first occupied in 1805, contained a presidential residence, a house was later built for ELIPHALET NOTT on Front Street, near the site of the old Queen's Fort. After the College moved to the present campus, Nott chose, in accordance with his theories of parental discipline, to live in an apartment in the same building with the students. The trustees resolved in 1815, on the completion of North College and South College, "that the building committee be requested to proceed to the erection of a house for the accommodation of the President of the College as soon as they can consistent with the means of the College," but the president's house included in the RAMÉE Plan, on approximately the present site of Schaffer Library, was never built.

In 1857, probably because his wife Urania had been thinking about her own future, the eighty-four-year-old Nott, then living in South Colonnade, agreed to construction of a President's House just inside Blue Gate, on the site of the former South Hall. Following plans that Nott's grandson, Edward Tuckerman Potter '53, then just beginning his architectural career, had

adapted from the president's house in the Ramée plan, Thomas Brignall, mason, and G.I. Van Vranken, carpenter, began work May 25, 1857. The house was enclosed and roofed over by fall, but lack of funds then halted work until January 28, 1861. Friends, in particular New York City heiress Mrs. Harriet Douglas Cruger and her brothers, had paid part of the cost but were slow to contribute their full pledge, and Nott engaged in prolonged negotiations to get the trustees to appropriate the balance.

The house was finally completed in July 1861, and Nott spent the last five years of his life there. It had been understood when the house was begun that his widow could reside in it for the rest of her life, and she did live there for many years (though she may have left before her death on April 19, 1886): Professor SIDNEY ASHMORE lived there in the fall of 1884, with MOSES VINEY and his wife in service. Presidents HICKOK, AIKEN, POTTER, and acting president LANDON, had to make other living arrangements. Hickok probably remained in the north end of South College, where he had resided as Vice President; Aiken lived somewhere in South College or, perhaps, South Colonnade; and Potter built his own house, the present ADMINISTRATION BUILDING. Acting President Landon already had a house on Union Street; when Mrs. Nott died during his time in office, the College rented the President's House to a Mr. Sewall, who apparently had no connection with the College. HARRISON WEBSTER was thus the first president to occupy the house after Nott.

The house's exterior has been altered several times. The brick was stuccoed sometime after 1867. Preparatory to President RICHMOND's occupancy in 1909, the Union Street porch and the wooden shed in the rear were removed, and a larger front porch created. In the summer of 1916, the porch on the north, facing the garden, was enclosed and a new "severely classical" entrance added on the front.

Soon after DIXON RYAN FOX arrived in 1934, a modern heating system was installed (the original had employed fireplace flues to distribute heat) and the library was enlarged to accommodate his books. MARIAN OSGOOD FOX, in a thorough redecoration, ordered the scenic wallpaper that still hangs on the walls; printed from the original blocks made by a French artist in 1834, it shows views of West Point, Boston and New York harbors, and Niagara Falls. On the Foxes' arrival in the summer of 1934, Mrs. Walter Baker made a gift of the large sunken garden northeast of the rear of the President's House.

Presidents of the United States. Three U.S. presidents have studied within Union University. Chester Alan Arthur graduated from the College in 1848, and William McKinley attended ALBANY LAW SCHOOL in 1866–1867; JIMMY CARTER's very tenuous

connection to Union College is described in the article on him.

The College awarded LLDs to future presidents Van Buren (1814) and Grant (1865), and to President Arthur (1882).

President's Office. Since the College moved to the present campus in 1814, all Union presidents have lived on the grounds. Until 1883, all apparently had offices within their residences or in adjacent rooms in South College.

WASHBURN HALL, erected in 1883, provided a president's office at its north end; ELIPHALET NOTT POTTER used it until he departed in 1884, but his immediate successor, acting president JUDSON LANDON, found it more convenient to be in GEOLOGICAL HALL and, later, in the Middle Section of South College. President HARRISON WEBSTER at first occupied the South College office, but apparently later used Washburn Hall, as did his successor, ANDREW VAN VRANKEN RAYMOND. President CHARLES ALEXANDER RICHMOND preferred Geological Hall, which was nearer to other offices, presiding there or nearby in the east end of South Colonnade until the present ADMINISTRATION BUILDING was ready in August 1919.

Under Presidents Richmond and FRANK PARKER DAY, the president's office was on the south side of the second floor. During the administration of President DIXON RYAN FOX, trustees FRANK BAILEY and WALTER BAKER underwrote renovation of the large faculty meeting room east of the landing between the first and second floors to serve as a president's office. It was used for that purpose by all subsequent presidents through JOHN MORRIS.

Price, Isaiah Benjamin (Aug. 28, 1848–Dec. 10, 1884). Class of 1872. Professor of mathematics and physics, 1872–84.

Born near New Market, Virginia, Isaiah Price was the fourth of the nine children of Joshua C. Price, a tanner and farmer, and Phoebe Ann Moore Price. After John Brown's raid made their situation as Quaker abolitionists in Virginia untenable, the parents sent Isaiah and a brother north to school in Pennsylvania, then sold the farm and moved to Maryland. Isaiah joined the Union army in the last weeks of the war but did not see active service.

When his parents died in 1864, Isaiah first tried to farm, then returned to school to prepare for college; he also taught school at this time. He enrolled at Cornell University, but friends soon persuaded him to transfer to Union, where, entering the junior class in 1870, he took the two-year civil engineering course. He joined Psi Upsilon and won election to Phi Beta Kappa.

In his senior year, Price contributed to the *Union College Magazine* a remarkable article entitled "Conservatism in Union," in which he argued that the Col-

lege—then in steep decline—could regain the reputation it had enjoyed under ELIPHALET NOTT by committing itself to a liberal position; specifically, he urged eloquently, it should "let its doors be opened to colored as well as white students, and let ladies who desire them be given places in our midst."

When he graduated in 1872, Price had already secured a position as tutor in mathematics and history at the College. After teaching for a year-and-a-half, in January 1874 he enrolled at Edinburgh University to study mathematics and physics under professors Kelland and Tait. Called home in August to the deathbed of a consumptive sister, he then resumed work as a tutor of mathematics and adjunct professor of physics. Following ISAAC JACKSON's death in 1877, Price succeeded to the chair of mathematics; he also held the title assistant professor of physics.

In 1881 a local printer issued his *Elements of trigonometry, plane and spherical*, a textbook used at Union for several years. An interest in history led Price to offer a voluntary course in that subject; at his death he was said to have left an unfinished history of Virginia.

Regarded as a strong disciplinarian in the classroom, Price was notably forthright and self-confident. He was the youngest of the eight faculty members who brought charges against president ELIPHALET NOTT POTTER in 1882, and he testified at length during the subsequent "trial."

Price married Ellen M. Morton of Schenectady in July 1878; they had a son (Morton Price '99) and a daughter. The tuberculosis which had killed one of his sisters, and probably also one of his brothers, first manifested itself in Price in August 1882, shortly after the conclusion of the Potter trial. Confined to bed in January 1883, he returned to the classroom briefly in February and March, but more hemorrhages sent him home again until the fall. He taught from mid-September to November 1884, during the latter weeks at his home, and died in December. The lingering death of a young and popular professor deeply affected the student body.

During his last illness, Price published *Some recollections of a blameless life*, a memoir of his friend, tutor Joseph Davis '76, who had died of tuberculosis in January 1884.

Princetown Academy. From 1853 to 1856, the Princetown Academy and Female Seminary operated in rural Schenectady County, about eight miles west of the city, on a hill near the present intersection of Currybush and Kelly roads.

The land, with a magnificent southern view, belonged to the nearby Presbyterian Church, and the school was apparently situated there because the prominent Schenectady citizens who served as trustees wanted to send their children to a place "free," in the words of the school's advertising, "from all those

haunts of vice into which so many youth, when absent from home, are so frequently decoyed and ruined."

It is certainly not true, as has been claimed, that the academy pioneered in co-education, but female students could, at least in theory, take the same "graduating" (i.e., college entrance) course or commercial course taken by the male students, or, if they preferred, the usual courses offered in female seminaries. An extra charge was made for such class materials as wax fruit and flowers. The "gentlemen" were forbidden to speak to the "ladies" without the principal's permission.

The institution has often been portrayed as closely affiliated with Union College, but evidence suggests that the connection was a loose one, involving neither finance nor governance. The academy is not mentioned in the minutes of Union's trustees.

In order to secure adequately prepared students, the College found it necessary—even after the establishment of a public school system in 1855—to take an active interest in the operation of local preparatory schools (see SCHENECTADY ACADEMY; UNION SCHOOL/UNION CLASSICAL INSTITUTE), and it doubtless encouraged the founders of the Princetown Academy. ELIPHALET NOTT was one of its fifteen trustees, and both the board president, the Rev. David Tully '49, (who also served as co-principal in 1855), and the other co-principal at that time, the Rev. James Gilmour '50, were alumni of the College. The following year (the academy's last), future Union College trustee JUDSON LANDON served as principal.

The school's advertising promised, "Our graduating course for young men is sufficient to prepare them for the junior class in Union, or any college which they are advised to enter to complete the studies begun with us," and further, "Lectures will be delivered from time to time on Literary and Scientific subjects, by several of the Professor's [sic] of Union College, by members of the [academy] faculty, and by distinguished literary gentlemen from abroad." Professor JOHN FOSTER spoke at the dedication, but it is not known who (if anyone) from Union regularly made the sixteen-mile round trip over plank roads to teach classes.

The academy was a boarding school, occupying a four-storey frame building with accommodations for 250 or 300 students. In 1854, 125 female students and 256 males students were enrolled; the overflow boarded with nearby families or lived at home.

In the last year before the academy failed, the faculty was cut from five men to four, and from seven women to three. A few years after the school closed, the building was dismantled and the property sold at auction.

Prize Day. In 1932, to shorten graduation exercises, the awarding of student prizes was moved to a separate Prize Day, first held on May 18. This accommodation offered the additional advantage of a student audience not limited to seniors. Referring to the es-

tablished award night for athletes, Professor HAROLD LARRABEE called Prize Day "an intellectual Block-U Dinner."

In 1964, at the request of the PARENTS ASSOCIATION, Prize Day was inserted in the PARENTS' WEEK-END schedule, where it remained through 1990.

Proal, Pierre Alexis (Sept. 24, 1796–Sept. 15, 1857). Instructor in French and Spanish, 1826–36.

Union's second known professor of French, a native of Newark, New Jersey, was the son of Pierre Proal, a French naval officer who emigrated during the French Revolution, and Mary Ann Phillips Proal.

After studying under Bishop Hobart, Pierre Alexis Proal was ordained a deacon in New York City's French Church Du St. Esprit. Taking charge of St. John's Church in Johnstown in 1819, he received ordination as an Episcopal priest at Lansingburgh in 1820, then accepted a call to the rectorship of St. George's Church in Schenectady in May 1821. He married Maria Haulenbeck in 1818 and had two daughters and two sons; one son died in infancy and the other, William Hurlois Proal, graduated from Union in 1843.

In 1826 the College appointed Proal to teach French and Spanish; he remained on the faculty until he left St. George's in 1836 for Trinity Church in Utica. While in the latter position, he became prominent in the state-wide affairs of the Episcopal Church, and served as a trustee of Hamilton College (1836–57). A chronicler of the church recalled him as

a remarkable man in every way, physically and mentally, and a power in the church. His presence was commanding, and he was gifted with one of the most powerful voices that I ever heard, musical as well.... He took great interest in the Liberia question, when the project of sending the colored people back to Africa interested so many. To make men better, to benefit all races, and to elevate mankind was his aim. Though one of the most sympathetic of clergymen, he was a man of very positive convictions, and made enemies.

Hobart College awarded him an honorary DD in 1839. In that year, his first wife died; he subsequently married Mrs. Susan Breese Stout, widow of Jacob Stout of New York City. Poor health forced him to resign the rectorship of Trinity Church in 1857, and he died soon afterward.

The only letter from Proal in the College's possession is signed "Pierre Alexis Proal." The history of Trinity Church gives his name in that form, as do the records of Hamilton College, but some Union College catalogues and the history of St. George's Church call him Alexis Pierre Proal.

Prosser, Charles Smith (March 24, 1860–1916). Professor of Geology, 1894–99.

A native of Columbus in the Unadilla Valley of south-central New York, the son of Smith Prosser, a farmer, and Emeline A. Tuttle Prosser, Charles S. Pross-

er earned his BS (1883) and MS (1886) degrees from Cornell University. As a beginning graduate student he was the first holder of the Cornell Fellowship in Natural History. Remaining at Cornell as an instructor in paleontology until 1888, he was among the first class of initiates into the Society of SIGMA XI, founded at Cornell in November 1886.

An avid and careful field observer, Prosser served with the United States Geological Survey in the Division of Paleobotany (1888–92), then took a position as professor of natural history at Washburn College in Topeka, Kansas, where he began a study of Permian rocks.

The study of Paleozoic strata would occupy him throughout his professional life. Depending upon the rocks available in the immediate vicinity, he shifted his focus to different parts of the geologic record, from Devonian at Cornell, to the Permian of Kansas, and the Ordovician of New York and Ohio.

President ANDREW V.V. RAYMOND recruited Prosser to Union in 1894, shortly after taking office himself, as part of a program to reverse the College's long decline by strengthening the faculty. Probably the most eminent geologist ever to teach at Union, and the first faculty member specifically trained in that field, Prosser was to start a separate geology department (the field had previously been combined with biology).

Although his stay was comparatively brief, by the time of his departure in 1899 he had not only established a strong one-man geology department with a full range of courses, but he had also profoundly influenced a small group of young men, at least two of whom (Edgar Roscoe Cumings '97, and Christie A. Hartnagel '98) would themselves become prominent geologists. His method of teaching was one almost of apprenticeship; in modern terms we would describe it as undergraduate research participation. Field trips and detailed examination of specimens in the laboratory, as well as familiarity with the literature, were fundamental to his approach to teaching geology.

Cumings later recalled that Prosser "appreciated the unworldly atmosphere of the old classical college. His sensitive spirit responded to it as one to the manner born; for he was essentially a man of the cloister. He disliked the hurly-burly of the world." In 1893 Prosser married Mary F. Wilson; they had a son, who died at an early age.

The sale of the College's Long Island City property at the beginning of 1898 brought Union's long-uncertain financial situation into sharp focus and spurred the Board of Trustees to a series of drastic cost-cutting measures, including the dismissal of Prosser and two other faculty members, and the merging of geology again with biology. Although Raymond protested to board chairman George Alexander that Prosser's "presence goes far to create the scholarly atmosphere which

means so much to a college," Prosser's appointment was terminated at the end of 1898/99.

Ohio State University geologist Edward Orton Sr., seeking a successor to the chairmanship of the geology department there, promptly took advantage of Prosser's availability, and Prosser did advance to the chairmanship of the department in 1901, remaining until his suicide in 1916, at fifty-six.

Prosser's contributions to geology included many observations and constructions of Paleozoic stratigraphy, which were major departures from previous work. He was at various times on the staffs of the state geological surveys of New York, Maryland, Kansas and, finally, Ohio, where most of his work was carried out. He was a founding Fellow of the Geological Society of America, and an inspirational mentor to many successful geologists. His views of higher education, particularly his approach to teaching geological science, contrast favorably even with those found in some present-day institutions. His statements concerning the practice of science frequently stress the selflessness and hard work necessary to the pursuit of research.

President Raymond awarded Prosser a Union DSc in 1906, at which time Prosser gently urged on the College his view that "Union College, by virtue of its age, situation and historic location in connection with the beginning of American geology ought to support a strong and well equipped department of geology." Cornell awarded him a PhD in 1907.

—George H. Shaw

Proudfit, Robert (June 6, 1777–Feb. 11, 1860). Professor of Greek and Latin, 1818–49.

Born in Hopewell, Pennsylvania, of Scottish ancestry, Robert Proudfit graduated from Dickinson College in 1798. He then studied theology in the Salem, New York, home of his cousin, Rev. Alexander Proudfit, a trustee of Union College. While in Salem he was pressed into service as a teacher in the local academy, a job he continued for nearly two years.

After being licensed by the Presbytery to preach in 1802, Proudfit spent two years travelling on horseback as a missionary among the poor churches of the region. A new church at Broadalbin, New York, founded by immigrants from the Scottish Highlands, installed him as pastor on April 18, 1804.

Fourteen years later, Proudfit left his church to accept appointment in November 1818 as Professor of Greek and Latin at Union, which had apparently been relying on tutors in those subjects since the departure of Professor HENRY DAVIS in 1809. Proudfit continued throughout his career, however, to preach almost every Sunday in local churches; JONATHAN PEARSON thought his sermons dull and unanimated, but solidly didactic and edifying.

While a student, Pearson also shrewdly appraised Proudfit as a teacher:

His jolly Scotch face beams with intelligence and good nature, which is ever and anon lighted up with a funny laugh wholly peculiar to himself. He is not a great man, but is good and well fitted for his station unless it can be said that he is wanting in energy.

Unambitious, undemanding, scarcely varying his recitations from one decade to the next, the clever but not particularly learned Proudfit faithfully taught his subjects for thirty-one years, a record for Union at that time. A thoroughly kind man, disliked by no one, "Old Proso" was famous for never directly contradicting a student in recitation; if someone called a noun a verb, Proudfit would say "Yes, very well, or rather let us call it a noun."

He occupied the faculty residence at the south end of South College from 1818 until 1830, then moved to a College-owned house on Union Street below the campus. He and his wife, the Scottish-born Eliza Law Proudfit, had seven children.

In 1849 the seventy-two-year-old Proudfit became the first Union professor to be retired; the College gave him the use of his house, a pension and the title "emeritus." He lived another eleven years, cared for, after the death of his wife in 1853, by one of his daughters.

Provost. A provost in name only, the first person to hold that title at Union, former Hobart and William Smith president Alan Willard Brown, served during 1955/56 and 1956/57 under president CARTER DAVIDSON, but he was not assigned any significant part of Davidson's responsibilities. Rather, he functioned as director of the Evening and Graduate Programs and editor of College publications, while also taking charge of preparation of a report for the MIDDLE STATES ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS upcoming accreditation visit. When Brown left to take a job in educational television, the position of provost was allowed to remain vacant.

After Davidson announced his impending resignation, the Board of Trustees gave to DEAN OF THE FACULTY Theodore Lockwood the additional title of Provost in June 1964. The action was part of a new administrative plan, but it also recognized that Lockwood would take charge of the College's day-to-day operations during the acting presidency of trustee MEADE BRUNET.

When Lockwood resigned effective February 2, 1968, to accept the presidency of Trinity College, former Dean of the Faculty C. William Huntley '34 returned briefly from the faculty to fill in for the remainder of the academic year. The positions of Provost and Dean of the Faculty were then abolished in favor of increasing the power of the "center deans"—Martin Lichterman, Dean of the Center for Humanities and Social Science, and James Palmer, Dean of the Center for Science and Engineering.

In 1971, however, the trustees reversed that change and revived the positions of Dean of Faculty and Provost, as separate titles. The provost was to be the principal administrative officer in charge of all areas of College operations except intercollegiate athletics and the Department of External Affairs, both of which would report directly to the president.

The provost search committee, chaired by philosophy department chairman Willard F. Enteman, brought three candidates to the campus, but none was acceptable to all parties. The committee asked to be discharged and replaced by a new committee, but President Martin instead asked Enteman himself to assume the post temporarily. Appointed in August 1972, Enteman received a regular appointment the following February.

Enteman defined the provost's job as being concerned with short-term internal matters, while the president would give his attention to external matters and long-term internal matters. Although he had moved to the job from the faculty, Enteman was generally viewed as aggressive in strengthening the hand of the administration *vis a vis* the faculty. He was also, however, an effective advocate for more competitive faculty salaries, and was the originator of the faculty Planning and Priorities Committee, which gave the faculty a formal voice in budgetary matters. Knowledgeable in the field of economics, he placed particular emphasis on increasing, through the use of computers, the sophistication of the College's budgeting and financial projections, introducing the concept of budgeting by "responsibility centers."

Enteman was appointed late in the HAROLD MARTIN administration and served through much of THOMAS BONNER's presidency; though initially a strong supporter of the new president, he became increasingly alienated from Bonner in the controversies which engulfed the administration. Bonner, for his part, made it clear that he numbered the provost among those he considered disloyal. Enteman finally escaped from this untenable situation at the end of 1977, when he was chosen president of Bowdoin College. Shortly before he left, in June 1977, the trustees approved the new position of Vice President for Administration and Finance, which assumed much of the provost's responsibility for non-academic areas of the College.

On Enteman's departure, Bonner recalled Professor Huntley to the administration building to serve a limited term as provost, expected to run from January 1978 until June 1979, but later extended to the fall of 1980. Bonner left at the end of 1977/78, and Huntley, who had disapproved of many of his actions but had not quarreled with him, devoted himself to repairing the damage the strife had done to the fabric of the College.

When Huntley stepped down in the fall of 1980, having served through the interim administration of NORMAN AUBURN and the first year of the JOHN MORRIS administration, the position of Provost and that of Dean of Faculty were both subsumed by the newly-created office of Vice President for Academic Affairs. Thomas D'Andrea, formerly provost and dean of faculty at Haverford College, served from 1980 to 1987; his successor, political science professor James Underwood, at first bore the revived title Dean of the Faculty, but on the recommendation of the Middle States accrediting team, the title Vice President for Academic Affairs was subsequently revived and added to it.

Psi Chi. A national honor society in psychology, Psi Chi has had a chapter at Union since January 1979.

Psi Upsilon. (Theta chapter). The fourth national fraternity founded at Union College, Psi Upsilon began with a meeting in (old) West College on November 24, 1833. Later meetings were held in upstairs rooms in taverns and hotels in Schenectady.

The founding members were four sophomores: (Samuel Goodale, Sterling Goodale Hadley, Edward Martindale, and George Washington Tuttle) and three freshmen (Robert Barnard, Charles Washington Harvey and Merwin Henry Stewart).

The founders had all been members of the Delphian Institute, and it has been said that Psi Upsilon grew out of an association "founded for election purposes." Student political rivalries were intense; when other fraternities conspired to exclude Psi Upsilon members from PHI BETA KAPPA, Eliphalet Nott countered by having the faculty nominate them.

The low point of Psi Upsilon at Union came in 1863 and 1864, when the chapter would have become extinct had not the Iota chapter at Kenyon College sent Morton Brasee '63 and David Zeller '64 to Union.

The Diamond, the national magazine of Psi Upsilon, was originally published by the Union chapter from 1883 to 1886.

Psi Upsilon was the first fraternity at Union to take members from all four classes, and the first to build a house on the campus. Little is known of the fraternity's early meeting places except that, immediately before the first house was built in 1892 (see PSI UPSILON HOUSE), the chapter had rooms on State Street. The present house was built in 1938 on the site of the first house.

Psi Upsilon House. Psi Upsilon has built two houses on the campus, both on the same site, east of the plot now occupied by Memorial Chapel.

- 1) In 1884, the fraternity successfully petitioned the trustees for a building site at the foot of the Union Street hill. Sometime before the beginning of con-

struction in the fall of 1890, however, the site was changed to the fraternity's present location. Completed in 1892, the original Psi Upsilon structure was the first fraternity house on the campus. The interior was extensively remodeled in 1916; soon thereafter, the house was used as officers' quarters during the First World War.

- 2) The fraternity announced plans to build a more modern house in the summer of 1930, but again a long delay ensued before the first house was razed in the summer of 1937 and a new one was built; much of the \$71,000 cost was the gift of WALTER C. BAKER. Mrs. Baker took an active interest in the furnishings and landscaping.

Lawrence Grant White, of MCKIM, MEAD AND WHITE, designed the new house, striving for harmony with the RAMÉE style. Built by Hanrahan Brothers of Schenectady, the house was formally opened April 30, 1938. It now belongs to the College, which leases it to Psi Upsilon.

Psychology Department. From 1840 through 1855, Union students took a one-term course in Intellectual Philosophy using John Abercrombie's *Inquiries concerning the intellectual powers of man and the investigation of truth* (1830). In the book are found many of the same topics discussed over a half-century later in William James' two-volume classic, *Principles of psychology* (1890), topics Abercrombie insisted must be studied by the methods of "physical science, namely, a careful observation of facts, and conclusions drawn from these by the most cautious induction." The moral question of punishment for crimes committed by the insane was considered, and the book included practical suggestions—refreshingly free of jargon and much more sensible and literate than those in today's self-help books—for achieving "a well regulated mind." Typical of mid-nineteenth-century discussions of the topics that were to become the core of psychology, Abercrombie's text held that an understanding of these subjects would serve as a foundation for Christian belief and lead "to humble adoration of God." The Rev. THOMAS REED taught the course until his resignation in 1851, after which it was taught by WENDELL LAMOROUX.

When Abercrombie's book was introduced, Union students had long been taking President Nott's famous senior year course in Criticism (see KAMES (ELIPHALET NOTT'S COURSE IN)), the first term of which was sometimes described as "Psychology and the application of taste to the fine arts." Nott enlivened the course with many illustrations of his dicta "Man is not a reasonable being," and "Passion alone can move."

But if one were to identify a milestone marking the origin of psychology as a discipline at the College, it

would be the 1852 appointment of the Rev. LAURENS PERSEUS HICKOK '20 as Vice President and Professor of Moral Philosophy. "Mental Philosophy" was added to his title in 1855, but as soon as he arrived he began teaching a one-term course in that subject, using his *Rational psychology*. The following year he switched to his newly published *Empirical psychology*, and in 1855 he expanded the course to two terms, adding logic and moral science.

Rational psychology; or, the subjective idea and the objective law of all intelligence (1849), 717 octavo pages, has been described by Fay in his *American psychology before William James* (1939) as "super-Kantian transcendentalism...breath-taking rational psychology raised to the nth degree." The *Dictionary of American biography* praised Hickok as "an original and powerful thinker, the ablest dialectician of his day." More pertinent to the development of modern psychology was Hickok's *Empirical psychology; or, the human mind as given in consciousness* (1854), mercifully only 400 pages, in which he describes psychology as "a science...the study of facts in their combinations as nature gives them to us...through careful observation and experiment." Although Hickok insisted on observation and experiment, the method he espoused was really introspection, an approach later abandoned as a foundation for empirical psychology.

The book may strike the modern reader as odd, with no references, bibliography, or footnotes, and a pietist tone, but Hickok was clearly advocating the experimental, empirical psychology of his day, an important step in establishing psychology as a scientific discipline. Roback devotes several pages in his *History of American psychology* (1952) to Hickok, "a Union College theologian," and suggests "there was a modern ring" to much of his work. Presaging later developments at the College, Hickok also claimed psychology "equally applies to the full process of Female Education."

Ascending to the presidency upon Nott's death, Hickok served only two years before resigning in 1868. He moved to Amherst where he continued his scholarship until his death in 1888.

After Hickok's departure, psychology appeared in danger of disappearing from the College, which entered a long period of shrinking enrollments and shaky morale. Professors of mental philosophy (later, mental science) were appointed only at long intervals, and stayed only briefly: Nathan Hale (1869–71), Timothy Darling (1879/80) and William Griffis (1883/84).

Frank S. Hoffman became Professor of Moral and Mental Philosophy in 1885 and introduced a new, more extensive program. An Amherst graduate who had undertaken graduate study in philosophy and theology in Germany, Hoffman published five books, including *Psychology and common life; a survey of the present results of psychical research with special reference to their bearings upon the interests of everyday life* (1903).

With Hoffman's arrival, psychology was mentioned for the first time in the catalogue course descriptions; it would be "treated as an experimental science." A new edition of Hickok's *Empirical psychology* was used, as well as Calderwood's *Relation of mind and brain*, Carpenter's *Mental physiology*, and Harris's *Philosophical basis of theism*. "Psychology" (there was only one course) met for five hours in the fall term of the senior year and was required of all students except civil engineering majors, for whom it was optional. During 1895–97, Hoffman had help in teaching philosophy from Albert F. Buck, who also taught English. This enabled Hoffman to expand his psychology offerings to a junior year course in experimental psychology and a senior course in advanced psychology. He continued offering both even after Buck left in 1897 and Philosophy became again a one-man department. By the end of the century, Hoffman was using texts by authors prominent in the early history of psychology, such as Baldwin's *History of psychology* and Ladd's *Physiological psychology*.

An endowment from Katherine Spencer Leavitt established an annual lecture series in psychology (See SPENCER [ICHABOD] LECTURES IN PSYCHOLOGY), beginning in 1910/11; it has continued to enrich the College's academic program by supporting visiting lecturers.

A semi-invalid in his later years, Hoffman retired from active teaching in 1917. During the next two years, disrupted by the First World War, the College filled in by making the Ichabod Spencer Lecturer, Reinhold Hoernlé, a visiting professor, and by drawing on the services of the Classics department.

The board of trustees voted Oct. 28, 1919, to make Psychology a department separate from Philosophy, and JOHN LEWIS MARCH, who had been teaching modern languages at Union since 1899, was named Associate Professor of Psychology and chairman of the separate Psychology Department.

March had earned a PhD in English from Lafayette but had taken summer courses in psychology at Columbia, studied in Leipzig and in 1908 published *A theory of mind*. He taught and chaired the department until his retirement in 1943. A most popular teacher, his influence on generations of Union students is legendary.

Under March's leadership for a quarter-century, the department flourished and grew in number of faculty and course offerings. The seed of an expanded role in the College, beyond the strictly academic, was planted in 1921 with creation of a brief form of the general psychology course ("with emphasis upon the application of psychology to business and employment.") It was required of all civil engineering students taking the "administrative option." The 1927 appointment of Elmer McLeod made Psychology a two-man department; he was succeeded the following year by FRANKLIN CHILLRUD, appointed to teach the new courses in education-

al psychology, principles of education, and methods of teaching which the state had mandated for teacher certification. In 1935 he added a course in statistical methods. Renamed "Psychology and Education" in 1940, the department can claim to be an ancestor of the EDUCATIONAL STUDIES PROGRAM.

The department expanded to three men in 1929 when ERNEST LIGON joined the faculty to teach abnormal psychology and the psychology of personality. He added a course in psychological methods in 1935 and in the following year inaugurated graduate courses in personality and child psychology, and in research.

When the divisional system was established in 1934, psychology was placed in the Division of Science, where it has remained.

Upon March's retirement in 1943, Ligon became chairman of the department. C. William Huntley '34 returned to his alma mater in 1947, leaving a deanship at Adelbert College of Western Reserve University to become Dean of Faculty and Associate Professor of Psychology. Courses in applied psychology and social psychology were introduced that year. Another alumnus, CLARE GRAVES '40, earned his PhD at Western Reserve and joined the faculty in 1948.

Ligon's research work, an attempt to understand the factors underlying the development of the "Christian personality," was generously supported by Eli Lilly and grew to a substantial operation called the CHARACTER RESEARCH PROJECT. By 1948 a full-year graduate course titled "Experimental Design for Character Research" was being offered and for a couple of years several research fellows and research assistants were included in the department's faculty listing. Deeply involved in this work, Ligon turned over the chairmanship to Chillrud in 1951. After serving as chairman of the department again (1959-62) following Chillrud's retirement, Ligon retired from active teaching and became a Research Professor in 1962. He remained director or co-director of the Character Research Project for another fifteen years, but after the Lilly Foundation funding ended in 1974 the project devoted itself to publishing materials for the moral education of children. Ligon was active in presenting self-help workshops growing out of the project. The College subsidized the project well into the 1980s before severing the relationship.

A course in management and leadership, representing an increasing interest on Graves' part, appeared in the department offerings in 1960. Since about 1952 he had been working out a theory of levels of personality development, and after he brought the two interests together in a very widely noticed 1966 *Harvard Business Review* article, "Deterioration of work standards," he found himself in increasing demand as a speaker and consultant on a variety of psychological topics and as a presenter of managerial workshops. Compelled by health problems to give up active teaching in 1978, he

continued to elaborate his theory of seven levels of psychological existence; one publication bore the grand title, "Emergent-Cyclical, Double Helix Model of Mature Adult Biopsychosocial Development."

Soon after Chillrud's retirement in 1959, the College decided to cease offering education courses. The last was given in 1962/63, and "Education" was dropped from the department's name.

Huntley assumed the chairmanship following Ligon's retirement in 1962, and held the post until 1978. The third quarter of the twentieth century saw steady growth in the department's faculty and course offerings. A modern curriculum had been developed, taught by a well-trained staff of psychologists. John Girdner (1953-88) established a network of contacts in the community to provide the students with practicum experiences in applied psychology. Christopher Fried, a practicing psychoanalyst, joined the faculty in 1957 and in 1965 offered Union's first course in clinical psychology. Frank Calabria was recruited in 1966 to teach humanistic psychology. Physiological psychology was first offered in 1972, and continues to be offered. During this period, enrollments in psychology increased, and it became one of the most popular majors in the College, mirroring a national rise in student interest in the field.

Beginning with Girdner and Fried, the Counselor to Students usually received an academic appointment in the Psychology Department and taught courses (see COUNSELING CENTER).

A young clinical psychologist, Rudy Nydegger, joined the faculty in 1976. Huntley, who had served his alma mater well both as department chairman and as dean, relinquished the chairmanship in 1978 to serve temporarily as provost, and retired in 1986, though he continued for several more years to play a role in the department and in the College.

Named chairman in 1978, Nydegger recruited several new faculty members whose commitment to undergraduate teaching was supplemented by active research programs. Substantial involvement of students in faculty-supervised research evolved during this period. Appointments during Nydegger's tenure as Chairman included Seth Greenberg (1979-) and Suzanne Benack (1981-).

During the presidency of JOHN MORRIS (1979-90), and with the 1980 arrival of Thomas D'Andrea as Vice President for Academic Affairs and Professor of Psychology, a practice of rotating department chairs was instituted wherever feasible, and the era of quarter-century chairmanships ended. Seth Greenberg became chair in 1984 and seized the opportunity to strengthen the research involvement of the faculty by making some very strong appointments. He built a cohesive, amiable collegiality and the department's program was generally acknowledged to have moved under his leadership to a higher level of rigor and excellence.

Nydegger became increasingly involved with the GRADUATE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE through his courses in organizational psychology and came to teach half his load there, carrying on the department's tradition of active involvement in applied psychology and its affiliation with the management program. The College instituted a new Educational Studies Program in the mid-'80s, and at the end of the period covered by this book Union students could again become certified to teach in the public school system. Student demand increased to the point that the department shared a new position in educational psychology with the program.

With Greenberg's increased involvement in an international research collaboration that he developed with psychologists at the University of Haifa in Israel, he stepped down as chairman in 1990 and was succeeded by Suzanne Benack. A developmental psychologist trained at Harvard with Gilligan, she provided, through her research on moral development, yet another link to the department's past.

The department was originally housed in WASHBURN HALL, where John March had his office. March continued to teach there until his retirement in 1943, but the other psychology faculty moved to NORTH COLONNADE after Biology vacated that space in 1931. In 1948 a gift from FRANK BAILEY paid for the construction of a two-storey addition on the north side of the east end; it originally housed a "child guidance observation room" for Ligon's use. In 1996 the department moved to BAILEY HALL.

—Thomas D'Andrea

Public Relations. The public relations effort at Union has two main elements—one in which it controls its message (e.g., the *Union College* magazine) and one in which it relies on the press to tell the College's story. Both elements began in the early years of the twentieth century, and both spent much of the century experiencing staff and budget constraints.

Although Union has never offered journalism courses, for several decades its publicity work, like that of many other colleges, was done by a succession of student press clubs. The Union Press Club, which traces its origins to 1891 (see STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS: ACADEMIC / PRE-PROFESSIONAL), began in earnest in 1908. Working with a faculty advisor, the club began to distribute news about Union people and activities on a regular basis to newspapers in Schenectady, Albany, and New York. To support itself, the club sold caps, song sheets, and other paraphernalia at football games. During 1920–22, the College hired men from General Electric advertising and publications departments to supervise the students' work.

The club waxed and waned, however, until Milton Enzer '29 assumed a particularly energetic role in 1928. After his graduation he remained at Union as

the College's first public relations director, with the title Secretary of the News Bureau—later changed to Assistant to the President for Public Announcements. The student club continued (as "The News Bureau"), until about 1936, providing Enzer with an undergraduate staff.

Enzer's philosophy was simple. Good will is the goal of publicity, he said, and the purpose of the News Bureau is to maintain as well as create good will among alumni and other audiences. To do that, he mailed out a constant stream of stories about academic events, athletic contests, student achievements, faculty papers, presidential speeches, and campus activities, such as the American Physical Society and the New York State Historical Society conventions held at Union. He broadened the publicity efforts geographically and added magazines and radio to his distribution list. In 1931 the office acquired a teletype machine and the capability of sending telegrams.

He was not responsible for the College magazine. Although it began in 1911, it was a publication of the Graduate Council/Alumni office until responsibility began to pass to the Public Relations office in 1947. Even after that, until 1967, the editors were not always attached to Public Relations (see ALUMNI MAGAZINES).

Enzer left in 1941, and the College entered several decades in which support of public relations activities wavered. President DIXON RYAN FOX (1934–45) strongly believed in making Union better known. Introducing a new public relations director in 1944, he articulated a more ambitious rationale for the position: "It has long been our doctrine at Union that an American college exists for America and not just for itself. Most of its responsibility is discharged in teaching selected students of ability and promise—but not all. Beyond this, it should tell the public what it is doing, should stimulate intellectual curiosity among all who will read or listen, and should give as widely and freely of its learning as its surplus energies permit."

Fox's immediate successor, Acting President BENJAMIN WHITAKER, added a second professional position to the office in 1946, appointing Robert Bishop '43 as assistant director. Robert Callander '41 succeeded Bishop in 1947, but on his departure in 1949 the subordinate post was allowed to remain vacant until 1953. It was about this time that the College magazine referred to "what is becoming almost a biennial search for a Director of Public Relations," and a student columnist in the *Concordiensis* complained in 1952 of the "disintegration" of the Public Relations Office. Because the Public Relations staff often consisted of one person, many of the College's publications were prepared by various offices on campus.

In 1953, Irving Mickey '53 was hired to handle most press relations, a function for which the name "News Bureau" was revived. When Harold Hammond resigned as Public Relations Director in 1954, the

Board of Trustees decided it was not necessary to replace him, and the College continued for the next three years with only a News Bureau (during 1955/56 and 1956/57, public relations was nominally added to the manifold duties of Provost Alan Brown).

In 1960, Bernard Carman was appointed Director of Public Relations and Publications. In his fifteen years, Carman expanded the Public Relations staff to three professionals and began to bring the production of publications under a central office. But tight budgets continued to be the norm, and in 1971 the award-winning college magazine *Symposium* disappeared, leaving the College with only a less expensive tabloid newspaper that had begun in 1967. Into the 1990s, both the size of the Public Relations staff and its budget remained well below those of the College's competition.

That changed after the period covered by this book. The College's trustees approved a significant budget increase in 1997. Under its two directors, Peter Blankman and Bill Schwarz, the office tripled the number of professional staff members and changed its name to the Office of Communications, reflecting a broader focus. The office not only expanded its own efforts in publications, media relations, and the Web, but increased its cooperative activities with other offices, such as admissions, development, and alumni affairs, to support such institutional goals as attracting students, ensuring financial support, and strengthening a sense of Union community.

Public relations was first housed in the Graduate Council offices in the ADMINISTRATION BUILDING (1929–32), then shifted to SILLIMAN HALL (1932–46), where Enzer also lived for a time. It moved in 1946 to WELLS HOUSE and in 1967 to LAMONT HOUSE. From 1988 until leaving the campus in 1999 for 69 Union Avenue, the office occupied all of SEVENTEEN SOUTH LANE. The public relations director reported to the president until creation in 1966 of the Office of External Affairs (see ADMINISTRATION.)

Directors of Public Relations. 1929–41: Milton M. Enzer '29 (Secretary of the News Bureau, 1929–34; Assistant to the President for Public Announcements, 1934–41); 1941–43: George A. Roberts, Assistant to the President for Public Announcements; 1943–44: BURGESS JOHNSON, Director of Publications; 1944–45: Kingsley W. Given, Director of Announcements; 1945–49: Francis C. Pray, Director of Public Relations; 1949–51: Lewis B. Sebring '23, Director of Public Relations; 1952–54: Harold E. Hammond, Director of Public Relations; 1957–60: Rowan Wakefield, Director of Public Relations; 1960–75: Bernard R. Carman, Director of Public Relations and Publications; 1975–81: Jack Maranville, Director of Public Relations; 1981–: Peter Blankman, Director of Public Relations.

—Peter Blankman

Public Speaking. From its beginning until 1930, the College required all students to take public speaking. Many in the school's early classes were destined for careers in law or the clergy, and a large proportion of the relatively few young men who attended college were expected to become leaders in their fields.

In 1801, when students petitioned the trustees for permission to "speak a tragedy and comedy in the College Hall," the faculty cautiously supported the proposal because "such exhibitions may be useful and will tend to excite emulation and be an incitement to their improvement in speaking." The next year College laws included a new requirement:

That the students may make as much proficiency as possible in the art of speaking, they shall on every Wednesday in the afternoon, at the ringing of the bell, repair to such place as the President shall direct, and there pronounce pieces previously approved by a member of the Faculty. The Officers before whom they speak shall make such corrections of their manner of delivery, and give them such instruction as they shall deem proper . . . All the students are required to commit their pieces perfectly to memory, so as to be able to pronounce them without hesitation.

At about this time, with the encouragement of President MAXCY, students formed an association which met at sunset to practice extemporaneous speaking.

In addition, after Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday evening prayers, two students each day (proceeding alphabetically through the two upper classes) were required to "pronounce pieces on the stage." The 1807 laws altered this requirement to one student from each of the four classes, speaking every day but Sunday.

The College laws of 1802 and 1815, presumably addressing a problem that had arisen, prohibited students participating in public speaking exercises from choosing a "ludicrous piece" or appearing in "indecent dress."

Probably at the behest of President Maxcy (1802–4), the freshmen began to study elocution, and the sophomores to study Hugh Blair's *Lectures on rhetoric*. In 1803, Maxcy persuaded a Troy printer to reprint Thomas Sheridan's *Course of lectures in elocution* for the College's use; the 1807 and 1815 curricula continued to prescribe it for sophomores. Speaking was not at that time treated purely as a technique to be acquired; Sheridan's preface acknowledged his great debt to Locke's *Essay concerning human understanding*, and such other Union textbooks as Blair's *Lectures on rhetoric* and Kames' *Elements of criticism* also treated the art of persuasion as a subject inseparable from philosophy.

The Wednesday afternoon speaking sessions moved to Saturday afternoons in 1805, but students attending the LITERARY SOCIETY meetings, where they

would gain experience in declamation and debate, were exempted.

In 1832, it was still the custom for one from each class to declaim after evening prayers and for members of the senior class to declaim privately before the president once a week. If the chapel piece was poorly prepared or too long, the auditors might sometimes shuffle their feet to drown out the speaker and drive him off the stage.

The SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, both of which existed by 1836, were designed to give the senior and junior classes respectively experience in debate and extemporaneous speaking.

Professors THOMAS CHURCH BROWNELL, ALONZO POTTER, and JOHN NOTT had titular responsibility for rhetoric, usually in addition to other subjects, but it is not clear how much instruction (as distinct from practice) in speaking was given at this time. Asked in an 1833 interview whether future clergymen should "cultivate elocution," President Eliphalet Nott, himself a masterful speaker, responded:

It seems to me that at those institutions where they pay the most attention to elocution they speak the worst. I have no faith in artificial eloquence. Teach men to *think* and *feel* and when they have anything to the purpose to say, they can say it. I should about as soon think of teaching men to cry or to laugh or to swallow as to speak when he has anything to say.

In 1825 the catalogue began to specify one term of Jamieson's rhetoric for sophomores and one term of Blair's lectures for juniors. From 1836 through 1855 all students took one term of rhetoric, which included composition and declamation, using Blair's lectures. The rhetoric requirement then increased to two—and sometimes three—terms until the period 1868–77, when all students in both the scientific and the classical course took a total of four terms. It is difficult to know how much of it was devoted to public speaking before the years 1875/76–1877/78, when the two final terms were called "Elocution."

Beginning in 1878/79, English literature apparently gained greater emphasis at the expense of rhetoric, which was again reduced to one term. Required practice in public speaking was not limited to rhetoric classes, however; in 1863/64 chapel speaking had returned under the newly arrived Professor Nathaniel Clarke. All members of the three upper classes were required to participate in "Rhetorical exercises ... before the whole college, in chapel, Saturday at 8 AM." The rules changed frequently after 1874, but typically sophomores were required to declaim (i.e., read a set speech) in class from two to four times a year, juniors both declaimed in class and delivered an original oration in chapel, and seniors delivered original orations twice a year in chapel. Saturday morning chapel orations were apparently discontinued with 1896/97, but

classroom practice in rhetoric continued to be required until 1929/30.

Professor Clarke left in 1866. He was succeeded as Professor of Rhetoric by RANSOM WELCH '46 (1866–77), GEORGE ALEXANDER '66 (1877–84), Giles Hawley '71 (1884), JAMES TRUAX '76 (1885–95), and EDWARD EVERETT HALE JR. With Hale's arrival in 1895, rhetoric moved from the English Department to a new Department of Rhetoric and Logic under his direction.

Hale relinquished his responsibility for rhetoric in 1905 to the newly-hired HORACE GRANT MCKEAN. The department was then renamed Rhetoric and Public Speaking. It later merged with the English Department, but McKean continued until his retirement in 1926 to teach the required public speaking courses for all classes as well as electives in argumentation and debate (after 1911/12, freshman were exempted). The name of the required courses changed from "Rhetoric" to "Orations" in 1911/12, and to "Public Speaking" after McKean retired.

All formal courses in public speaking were discontinued after 1929/30. To fill the gap, from about 1935 until he retired in 1943, classics professor GEORGE DWIGHT KELLOGG taught a non-credit one-hour-a-week course in public speaking. After the Second World War, the English Department offered a public speaking course from at least 1947 until 1966. Usually taught by the same person who taught the department's theatre courses, it disappeared when theatre moved to the newly-established Department of the Arts.

The Philomathean Society had absorbed the Adelpic Society in 1930 and died in 1967. A Speech Club formed in the fall of 1975 for debating and practice in public speaking proved short-lived.

Throughout the College's history, with few exceptions, students have spoken at Commencement exercises. During some periods as many as two-thirds of the seniors spoke at graduation ceremonies, and orators competed for prizes. The changes in commencement speaking are chronicled in the article on COMMENCEMENT.

Non-Commencement Prize Speaking. Other prize speaking contests were held during Commencement week from at least 1864. Prizes rewarded the two best sophomore and two best junior orations on subjects of the contestants' choosing. An 1867 editorial in the *Union College Magazine* suggests that it became customary to compete while hung over:

We therefore here raise our voice against that habit indulged in from time immemorial, of the Appointees for prize speaking, disgracing themselves and the College, by engaging, for one night, in a beastly, drunken revel.

In 1885, Dr. Andrew T. Veeder began to offer a fifty-dollar prize for the best extemporaneous speech

delivered at a public competition each year. The topics, selected by a faculty committee, were announced on the evening of the contest, and all classes were eligible. In 1894 Veeder withdrew and Robert C. Alexander '80 sponsored the prize for the next three years. Complaining that the speaking had not in fact been extemporaneous, Alexander withdrew in 1897.

James Goodrich '79 and Alexander Duane '78 established a new prize for extemporaneous debate in 1910; individual contestants (not teams) defended or attacked a position on short notice. The Goodrich-Duane contest has not been held since 1974.

The Blatchford contest, held at Commencement from 1857 until 1946, revived in 1954 as an impromptu speaking competition separate from Commencement; it continued for two decades. Revived again in June 1986, this time with contestants delivering famous speeches of the past, it lasted until 1989.

Another impromptu-speaking contest was established in February 1986; contestants drew topics from a hat and had thirty seconds in which to prepare a three minute talk. The first prize winner received a cash prize and the "Melvin Zimmer Award for Excellence in Public Speaking." The contest died out after a few years, and at the end of the period covered by this book there was little interest at the College in public speaking as an acquired skill.

See also: CLASS DAY

Publications Board. In December 1910, Union's student government, the Terrace Council, established a board to correct abuses in the management of the *GARNET* and the *CONCORDIENSIS*. The board would have jurisdiction over those and other student publications until 1964.

The *Concordiensis* outlined the problems the board (initially called the Literary Board, but soon named the Publications Board or Undergraduate Publications Board) was intended to correct:

Too often in the past it has been the case that the business manager has reduced the number of issues or the size of the paper in order that he might gain the greater profit... Too often it has been the case that the managers of the *Concordiensis* and the *Garnet* have not given the advertisers a square deal and have left large printers' bills unpaid. In forming the Literary Board, the Terrace Council believes that it is insuring the permanent removal of these evils, and many others, also.

The potential for financial chicanery or neglect derived from the fact that the editors and managers long shared personally in the publications' profits.

As originally constituted, the board consisted of the president and dean of the College, the editor and business manager of both publications, the president of the Press Club, one faculty member and one student elected by the senior class. Membership changed several times over the years, either because new publications

arose, (the *IDOL* in 1928, the *Freshman Handbook* in 1937, etc.), or because the constitution was revised.

The Board's powers over publications seemed broader than they were in practice. The Board always or nearly always ratified each publication's choice of new editors and business managers, because the student members were in the majority and each expected his colleagues on the board to reciprocate his approval of their choice of their own successors. The Board never exercised its power to remove editors for cause, although it did extort an apology from an offending columnist in 1954. While it banned liquor advertising in 1953 and cigarette advertising in 1963, and discouraged new publications in order to avoid diluting the advertising revenue of the others, the board seldom interfered with the policies of individual publications. However, the mere fact that editors would have to face the administrative members at monthly board meetings (the dean generally presided) doubtless had some restraining effect.

Members of Union's two Jewish fraternities had been generally excluded from editorship of the *Concordiensis* and the *Garnet* until 1952, at which time the situation was reversed; for the next fifteen years those fraternities nearly always controlled both publications. The Publications Board was heavily criticized for failing to end this hegemony. Finally, controversy over the fall 1963 publication of an obscenity in a *Concordiensis* column resulted in the Board of Trustees ordering the dean of students to deal severely with any repetitions. The next spring, in circumstances that can only be conjectured, the Board of Publications dissolved itself and asked the dean of students to set up a replacement.

The "Publications Selection Committee," on which editors were a minority, thereby became a part of student government in February 1965, and apparently tried unsuccessfully to end Jewish fraternity control of publications. In 1967, the Student Council gave to the staffs of the publications the responsibility of electing editors, a change which had the desired effect of opening the positions to all candidates. The All-College Council's Publications Board, created in 1968, and its successors in later student governments, have consequently had less to do.

Pyramid. A pyramid ten feet high and ten feet square at its base, with a concrete core and a façade consisting of fourteen layers of rocks representing twelve great eras of this area's geological history, stands just east of the north end of the Whipple Bridge, behind Achilles Rink.

Originally built in 1934 in a wooded area of Schenectady's Central Park, off Fehr Avenue near Oregon Avenue, the Pyramid was a Civil Works Administration project, intended as a Boy Scout Memorial. Inspired by a "time table" E.W. Allen had seen on the campus of Penn State University, it was designed by

him with the assistance of Union geology professor E.S.C. SMITH.

The layers are, from top to bottom (youngest to oldest): Mohawk conglomerate (Pleistocene), Onondaga limestone (Devonian), Oriskany sandstone (Devonian), Kalberg and Beacraft limestones (Devonian), Coeymans limestone (Devonian), Manlius (Silurian), Schenectady (Ordovician), Trenton (Ordovician), Little Falls dolomite (Cambrian), Theresa sandstone and Hoyt limestone, Potsdam sandstone, and Pre-Cambrian gneiss, schist and quartzite.

The pyramid had been suffering from neglect and vandalism when, at the suggestion of Professor Hilary Tann, and with the permission of the Schenectady City Council, it was disassembled and moved to the campus. The work, carried out during 1983/84 by Civil Engineering students under the direction of Professor Frank Griggs, was supported by a \$1,000 contribution from Psi Upsilon, on the occasion of the fraternity's 150th anniversary.

Pyramid Club. Founded at Union in 1902 for non-fraternity men, the Pyramid Club was affiliated with the National Commons Club as the "Pyramid chapter" from 1909 until it withdrew about 1917.

The club had rooms in Middle Section, North College from at least 1906 until the fall of 1920, when it bought a house at 101 Seward Place. On February 17, 1923, the Pyramid Club became a chapter of the revived THETA DELTA CHI, which took over the house.

The Pyramid Club itself revived in December 1931 as the principal organization of non-fraternity men, with a constitution designed to prevent the group from ever again succumbing to the temptation to become a fraternity. There would be no rushing and no pledge period; any neutral could apply for membership, and membership automatically ceased if the member joined a fraternity, a step the club leaned over backwards not to impede.

The club made some attempt to run dances and provide other social activities for neutrals, but without much success, and in the fall of 1941, following a *Concordiensis* editorial advising neutrals to stop complaining and organize themselves, the dormitory neutrals set up a representative body called the Pyramid Council; the Pyramid Club thereupon dissolved itself and turned over its treasury to the more politically oriented organization, which expired a year or two later.

Quarry, College. The College lands originally included a quarry east of the campus, southwest of the later location of the Brown School on Rugby Road. Stone for the TERRACE WALL and for other purposes was drawn from it, and nineteenth-century students skated and swam there. The quarry has long since been filled in, and some back yards of Oxford Place now cover this area.

Radiation Laboratory. A small concrete block building, the Radiation Laboratory stood outside the east end of Jackson's Garden from the summer of 1958 until its contents were removed to the Science and Engineering Center in 1971.

The laboratory, protected by steel and barbed wire fences, contained "a substantial quantity" of Cobalt 60, rated at 1210 Curies in strength, surrounded by a three-ton lead shield. The building and its contents were given to the College by the Schenectady Varnish Co., whose president, W. Howard Wright, was a trustee.

Radio. Student radio at Union College dates from the fall of 1910, when Howard Olwin Thorne '11 and Gustave Huthsteiner '11 began to set up a "wireless telegraph station" as part of their senior thesis work in electrical engineering. Their work was continued the following year by Montgomery Ker '12 and Martin Untermeyer '12.

Thorne and Huthsteiner planned a 180-foot-high antenna pole east of the Electrical Engineering Building (see BIOLOGY BUILDING). By October 22, 1910, a concrete foundation had been laid, a pole had been donated by Thomas Dempster, and the supports were being forged by GE. It was not until April 24, 1912, however, that the *Concordiensis* could announce the new station as "now in condition to receive messages." The antenna as erected was 225 feet long and 15 feet wide; it was suspended like a giant hammock between a 165 foot high pole about 250 feet east of the Electrical Engineering Building, and a tree near the building. A wireless room was set up inside the laboratory.

A radio club held its first meeting October 29, 1915. By early December members were using a 250 watt "spark" set to communicate (by Morse code) with amateurs in Albany and Schenectady, and were working to set up a two kilowatt broadcast transmitter purchased by the Electrical Engineering Department. In 1916 the club staged a demonstration of the new technology by broadcasting from the College to Professor ERNST BERG's home on Liberty Street, during a meeting there of the Fortnightly Club.

In those pre-war years, some GE scientists conducted radio research in the Electrical Engineering Building. Although there is no record of direct connection with the student work, the presence of advanced research would, at the very least, have stimulated student enthusiasm. The radio club is known to have had early access to new General Electric products.

In the fall of 1916, ground was broken for the addition of a fourteen-by-fourteen foot radio shack on the side of the Electrical Engineering Building, and the club affiliated with the Radio Association of America. But a few months later, in April 1917, the government