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Ursinus College

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The Sixteenth Commencement.

Full Account of the Annual Graduation Festivities of 1887.

With fitting ceremony and special rejoicing Ursinus has sent forth her sixteenth band of graduates, and entered the nineteenth year of her existence. The crowning event of the successfully completed period of '86-'87 will be accorded bright description and glowing recital in our yet unwritten academic history, as an occasion fraught with great interest, much satisfaction and unusual pleasure. A season of anticipations realized and plans fulfilled, the Sixteenth Commencement celebration was truly the proper and suitable termination of a prosperous college
year. Despite unfavorable weather throughout the week the attendance of friends and alumni from a distance was very large, and each of the well-arranged and entertaining programmes of the several days was enjoyed by a crowded audience. The exercises were inaugurated on Sunday evening, June 19th, with the

BACCALAUREATE SERMON.

The farewell discourse to the Class of '87 was, according to the custom at Ursinus, delivered by the President, J. H. A. Bomberger, D. D., LL.D., in St. Luke's Reformed Church, Trappe, Penna. Vice-President H. W. Super, D. D., and Rev. Dr. J. B. Shumaker, pastor of the congregation, assisted in the services, which were opened with the singing of an "Alleluia Anthem" by the church choir, led by H. W. Kratz, Esq.

The theme of the sermon was:


It was based on John viii, 12: "Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."

Dr. Bomberger said: "No time shall be given to the occasion of these wonderful words of Jesus, or to show their marvellous fitness to that occasion, and their sharp significance for the persons immediately addressed, some of whom, as Scribes and Pharisees, proudly thought themselves the light of the world.

Neither need I stop to explain the metaphor employed in the text, or to point out the instructive analogies between the natural sun as the source of material light for the earth and man, and Jesus Christ, the Sun of righteousness, as the true spiritual light for man in regard to all his faculties, relations and work. The fitness of that metaphor to its purpose, and the force of those analogies were recognized by the multitude that listened to Jesus at the time. And surely after the testimony of eighteen centuries to their propriety and truth, we must more clearly discern, and more readily acknowledge them. What service so excellent and effective can the created material light of heaven render to man, as that of declaring to him the glory of its Creator?

The solemn declaration of the text gives a cheering assurance to educated young men and women about to exchange the academy for the camp and the training school for the race set before them. Looking out upon the scene with merely earthly vision, the prospect may seem disheartening. Conflict and confusion amidst clouds and darkness appear largely to prevail. This is rather a dreary outlook for the closing decades of the nineteenth century. But it is so only to those who view the situation in the dim light of carnal reason, and from an earthly position. This is a folly and mistake. Above the din and discords of dazed and conflicting human dissensions, caused mainly by a disregard of means at hand which would prevent them, may be heard the voice of him now seated at the right hand of God, declaring his power and willingness to quell the tumult, and reduce the discords to order. Through all the darkness now seeming to prevail, he offers himself as the light to every one who will accept his heavenly illumination; and this light he offers as the only true light of the world, in the widest and
deepest sense, as certain, constant and all-diffusive, adequate to all the rational, spiritual and moral wants of man.

I. In the more special consideration of the great theme thus presented, it must be obvious that, however close his relations to the world, to men, may be, Christ as the light shines in upon them from beyond and above them. This is taught by the analogy of the metaphor and is abundantly confirmed by other Scriptures. As a divine, personal light, he asserts this essential superiority over the objects and spirits illumined by him, intimately as he admits them to personal (not essential) spiritual union with him.

Furthermore, the text and parallel Scriptures make it equally plain that he is the light in a sense suited to the rational, personal nature of those for whom and in whom he shines. Hence his light reaches and helps them through media adapted to their spiritual nature, namely, by his Spirit and Word; in brief, by his truth. But for that Word written, handing down to us the inspired, authoritative "truth as it is in Jesus," we should not know who he is, or for what he came into the world. His Gospel in its perennial, unchangeable sense, and his grace operating by the Spirit through the truth of the Gospel, are his perpetually self-authenticating testimony to his person and his work. And the Christ of that Gospel, as revealed to the Apostles—not by flesh and blood, not by the carnal fancy or reason of men, but by the Holy Ghost, and as thus believingly apprehended and then preached by them—is the only Christ that ever was or will be given to men for salvation.

Hence, also, there is nothing either magical, material, or organic in the case. 2 Cor. 4: 6. 2 Peter 1: 19.

II. In this sense, then, Christ is the light of the world:

1. Primarily with respect to all religious knowledge. This includes all those revealed facts and truths which relate to the need and nature of redemption. He alone truly reveals what sin is, how it came into the world, and the death-penalty that came by sin; how alone man can be delivered from the penalty and power of sin and restored to purity and peace again; the nature and necessity of a vicarious expiation of the guilt of sin, and how the eternal Son became incarnate that he might make such an atonement and become the Jesus of our lost race; how each lost sinner must personally repent and believe in him in order to salvation; and that whoever fails to do this now, "in this accepted time," shall be forever lost.

All this, and whatever doctrines are related to it, may and must be learned of him, and heartily accepted in his own clearly revealed sense of all. What if to Jews and Greeks, ancient or modern, this Gospel be a stumbling-block or foolishness? The Light of the World declares it to be the wisdom of God, and all teaching that does not fully agree with it is false and destructive.

In theory, and latterly even in terms, many profess assent to this truth who yet discard it, and pervert it by substituting versions of it which change the divine Gospel into misleading error, and seduce multitudes into ruin. His own warnings against such perils should be sufficient to keep us from falling into them.

2. But whilst the supreme purpose of the heavenly light dispensed by Christ is to lead men to seek and enable
them to find "first the kingdom of God and his righteousness," it would be quite too narrow a conception of gospel piety to suppose that it limits us to the study and practice of piety in any such restricted sense. The physical world abounds in facts, phenomena, wonders, which challenge the attention of properly cultured minds and richly repay investigation. This opens a field of thought and study so wide that all must enter it and find themselves confronted by the questions which it starts. Science, as it is commonly designated, cannot, and less now than ever, be avoided. Neither are there any valid reasons why it should be. There can be no conflict between true science and Christianity. If at times antagonisms have been fomented between them, the fault has lain with a perverted science, using its false and sinister knowledge of nature in hostility to the Gospel. The Bible and nature have the same divine Author and never clash. Indeed, in one important respect, the former was is the Alpha and Omega of all truth.

So far from being hostile to Christianity, true science is its handmaid, and helps to promote true piety. But to be true it must study its lessons in the clear, bright light of heaven. Christ is the light of the world of science. He made the laws, the elements, the objects which it investigates, and their deepest nature and meaning cannot be discerned excepting as seen in his light. This holds of every branch of science. Both the microscopic anatomist and telescopic astronomer discern their respective objects most clearly, when they study with their faculties quickened and elevated by faith in Christ, and with the devout purpose of laying the trophies of their discoveries at his feet, or of weaving the laurels they have won into his crown.

3. If the hour were not exhausted, it would be easy to show that Christ is even in a stronger sense the light of all philosophy (in the higher sense) worthy of the name. Whether we take the philosophy of being, or of nature, that of the human soul individually, or of history, or enter any other sphere of abstract thought and inquiry, all is dark as death that is not illumined by the light of eternal truth in Jesus Christ. No wonder that the annals of the transcendental schools of Europe are records of successive failures, from that of Spinoza down to the bankruptcy of Hegelianism, the final dynastic system of the erratic series, when it is considered that each system in turn virtually ignored the Gospel of God and his Christ. First and fundamental truths can be learned only through him who is the Alpha and Omega of all truth.

III. In order to secure the advantages of this light of Christ he must be personally appropriated by us, we must follow him:

By discarding all false lights of man's invention.

By using even reflecting lights in subordination to him.

By implicitly, unqualifiedly and cordially surrendering to his guidance.

IV. And to this we should feel invited by the sure promise that if we do so:

We shall not walk in the darkness shrouding the world's depraved reason, but shall have for our constant peace and safety, the light of life in our efforts to meet and master the many important questions now again agitating
human thought, and sadly vexed by erratic scientists and arrogant philosophers of the age. ‘Come and let us walk in the light of the Lord.’"

The sermon occupied nearly an hour in the delivery.

THE JUNIOR EXHIBITION.

Monday evening, June 20th, was reserved for the members of the Class of '88, and well indeed did they use their opportunity. The Junior Exhibition of '87 aided most materially in securing for the Sixteenth Commencement the bright success by which it was attended. It was the second event of the kind in the history of our Alma Mater, and the brilliant manner in which it passed off gives assurance that future classes will follow a worthy example and make the Exhibition a fixed part of coming commencements. The exercises of the evening were held from a platform, erected for the occasion, on the south side of the spacious campus, beneath the sheltering branches of the "sentinel oak."

The programme, which had been announced a week or more previously in handsome invitations issued by the class, was carried out to the letter in the presence of an audience of between seven and eight hundred people. Abram H. Hendricks, Collegeville, Pa., acted as master of ceremonies. The class salutatory was delivered by Raymond F. Longacre, Yorkes, Pa. J. Lewis Fluck, Quakertown, Pa., read the history of the class, and Howard T. Boyer, Collegeville, Pa., gave the class essay. The class poem by John Lerch, Mt. Bethel, Pa., followed next on the programme. The class oration, subject "Knots in the Web of Life," was then delivered by J. Ross Myers, New Oxford, Pa. C. U. O. Derr, Reading, Pa., the class prophet, told the audience of '88's future, and Albert S. Bromer, Schwenksville, Pa., brought the exercises to a close with the class valedictory.

The several performers acquitted themselves most creditably, their eloquence and wit meeting with warm appreciation by an assemblage which, throughout a somewhat lengthy programme, listened with rapt attention and applauded with eager enthusiasm. Nor was the excellent literary feast provided the sole attraction of a long-to-be-remembered night. The music of the evening, furnished by the Phoenixville Military Band, under the direction of Prof. L. B. Vanderslice, was exceptionally fine, even for Ursinus, and the audience attested by hearty encores the great pleasure which the stirring rendition of several difficult operatic selections and a number of more popular airs created. At the conclusion of the programme, President Bomberger stepped upon the platform and in the name of the Faculty and those assembled cordially congratulated the class on the happy issue to which by its energy and talent the Junior Exhibition of '87 had been brought.

THE ANNUAL ADDRESS BEFORE THE LITERARY SOCIETIES.

The Commencement celebration was continued on Tuesday evening, June 21, with the Annual Address before the Zwinglian, Schaff, Olevian and Ebrard Literary Societies of the College, by the Honorable Henry K. Boyer, of Philadelphia, Speaker of the House of Representatives of the State of Pennsylvania. The address was delivered on the campus at the same place where the Junior Exhibition of the previous
night occurred. A large concourse of people was in attendance, and the trees and surroundings were brilliantly illuminated with Chinese lanterns. Raymond F. Longacre, '88, of the joint committee of arrangements, conducted the exercises, which opened with the singing of a bass solo, entitled "The Gauntlet," by Rev. Henry A. Bomberger, Point Pleasant, Pa.

The President of the College then rose and referred to the fact that as the orator of the evening was a former student of Freeland Seminary, the predecessor of Ursinus, it was especially fitting that he should be the one to address the members of Literary Societies, who in the present were receiving instruction among the same scenes in which twenty years ago his student life had passed, and in part from the same minds to whom he owed his early educational training,—a training that in this instance had been used to such good advantage in winning honor and success in life. He thereupon introduced Speaker Boyer, who was greeted with great and long continued applause. The speaker, after a few appropriate preliminary remarks, announced his theme as "Legislation in Pennsylvania."

He said that his introduction of a subject like this before an audience composed partly of women needed no apology, for women are taking more interest in affairs political than ever before, and it is plain that suffrage must soon become universal, just as the law will not be fair between the sexes until a woman, married or single, is accorded the same legal rights and subjected to the same legal responsibilities as a man.

The character of legislation depends on the character and ability of the law-makers as well as on public sentiment. Both were affected by the interest taken in public affairs, particularly by the younger men, who are actively participating in the affairs of government in all its departments. "It is the manifest duty of every citizen," he said, "to participate in political affairs." He argued at length on this duty of the citizen, and made a strong plea in favor of honest "practical politics." "The country," he said, "required the participation in politics of every good citizen. In recent years, since the adoption of the new Constitution, there has been a steady improvement in the composition of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, the present House containing a large proportion of intelligent and conscientious men, representing all professions and interests." The causes which led to the formulation of the new Constitution and the beneficial results its adoption had resulted in, were exhaustively reviewed.

Mr. Boyer suggested that further reforms might be inaugurated by a provision in the Constitution, or perhaps by the adoption of joint rules, requiring the Legislature to fix the day of final adjournment within a month from the opening of the session, and providing that within ten days of the time of final adjournment no legislation, excepting questions upon amendments made by one House to the bills of the other or the adoption of conference reports, be considered. Continuing, he said: "The people think more closely and study more carefully public questions than ever before. The public press is not only more vigilant but fairer. If public men are watched more closely they are criticised more fairly than ever. Journalism has advanced to the front
rank of the profession. It serves the public by informing it and teaching it, and keeps itself pure by unceremoniously thrusting out the fraud who prostitutes his high calling to base or dishonest purposes.

"Legislation advances in a definite direction. While years ago corporate franchises were strewn over the State lavishly and often inconsiderately, now, apart from the fact that all such special privileges have ceased, it is the policy of the State to require its corporations to keep within the letter of the law and to contribute their full share of the burdens of government. That this policy will be carried out can scarcely be doubted, for, while as we know the last Revenue bill, framed upon this principle, failed through the deplorable negligence or fault of some person or persons, yet public sentiment as well as the opinion of those in authority will certainly lead to its re-enactment, or to the enactment of a better bill at the next special or regular session. A large portion of the license fees to be derived from the sale of intoxicating liquor is diverted into the treasuries of the respective cities and counties, on the principle that, as liquor is responsible for much of the expense incurred by local governments, it should contribute largely to the liquidation thereof. Legislation has at last taken definite shape on the liquor question."

The address, which was a very forcible production, full of instruction and highly interesting and entertaining, was listened to with marked attention and frequently interrupted by spirited applause. At its conclusion a chorus of thirty voices, conducted by Rev. Henry A. Bomberger, sang by request the selection "Oh, Italia, Italia, Beloved!" arranged from the opera of "Lucrezia Borgia," in a manner that met with such a decided approval from the assembly that in response to persistent calls it was repeated. Thus successfully was consummated the programme of the third evening of the week.

**THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.**

The Board of Directors held its regular yearly meeting on Wednesday, June 22d, in the President's room, commencing at 10 o'clock a.m. The meetings of the Board are never surrounded with much demonstration, and yet form a vital element in the organism and work of the College. Quietly as it deliberates upon matters claiming attention and provides for the interests entrusted to its supervision and management, the Institution must largely depend upon its liberal and judicious counsels and decisions for success.

This year the attendance was unusually full, all but three members of the body being present. The first business in order was the reading of the minutes of the Executive Committee, which is invested with all the powers of the Board, excepting the usual reservations, during the intervals of the meeting of the Board itself. During the past year the meetings were frequent, and the minutes showed that much had been done to further the prosperity of the school, by the satisfactory supply of vacancies in the Faculty, the increase of the teaching force, and especially by the gratifying financial work accomplished.

Special committees appointed at the previous annual meeting rendered their reports. Then followed the Standing Committees with their reports in proper order. That on Property re-
ported that, besides the various repairs and improvements necessary, adequate fire-escapes had been put up, costing nearly $500.

Next came the report of the Treasurer, always important as exhibiting the financial condition of the College, and this time particularly interesting in its testimony to continued success. One item was specially cheering, that which stated that the income from tuition fees had amounted to upwards of $3000.

Following the Treasurer's report came that of the financial agent of the College. He had zealously prosecuted his mission, and met with such favor as not only secured immediate results, but gave very cheering promise for the future. It showed that with two professorships endowed the income of the College would enable it to pay its way for the present, and, by assuring the permanence of the institution, incite its friends to still more liberal provisions for its wider efficiency.

The annual report of the Faculty, setting forth the educational and disciplinary work and state of the school, was highly encouraging in every respect. The students had been earnest in their work, and so prompt in their conformity to the rules of order as to require but rare applications of discipline.

The old officers,—H. W. Kratz, Esq., President, and Frank M. Hobson, Esq., Secretary and Treasurer,—were unanimously re-elected, and the Board added to its membership by choosing as Directors Rev. Joseph H. Hendricks, A. M., of Collegeville, Pa., and Mr. Peter Gross, of Slatington, Pa.

Besides voting the regular degrees to the graduating class, the Board, upon consideration, passed a number of honorary degrees and degrees in course, which appear in the report of Commencement day.

Altogether, therefore, the Board saw fresh reason for confidence in the principles upon which the College was founded, and for the vigorous maintenance of those principles.

At half-past two o'clock in the afternoon of Wednesday, June 22d, the ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION took place in the College Chapel. The number of Alumni and 'ae present was greater than at any meeting for many years past. In the absence of the President, Rev. D. W. Ebbert, A. M., '75, of Spring City, Pa., was named as temporary chairman. Rev. M. H. Groh, A. M., '74, of Landisburg, Pa., led in prayer, and the members of the class of '87 were then elected to membership and duly initiated. Subsequently the yearly reports were received and adopted, and the usual routine business was transacted. The following were elected officers of the Association for the ensuing year:


The work of the meeting having been accomplished, Rev. H. T. Spangler, A. M., '73, read a long list of the Alumni who had recently made donations to URSINUS, after which the Association adjourned.
THE ALUMNI ORATION.

On Wednesday evening, for the first time during the week, the exercises were held in the College Chapel, that bright and cheery hall being crowded with a representative Ursinus audience that had gathered to enjoy the programme once a year provided by the graduates of the institution. The weather was very inclement, but as this is the usual condition of affairs on Alumni Night at Collegeville, it was philosophically taken as a thing to be expected, and accordingly, Faculty, students, alumni and friends all came despite the rain. The annual Alumni Orator of '87 was the Rev. Milton H. Groh, A. M., '74, of Landisburg, Perry county, Pa. The subject of his oration was, "Triumphs of Christianity." Much had been expected of the speaker and his production, and all was fully realized.

The exercises, which were conducted by Miss Minerva Weinberger, A. B., '84, of Collegeville, Pa., the retiring Vice-President of the Association, were opened with a vocal solo, "The Watcher," by H. Alvin Hunsicker, B. S., '84, of Philadelphia. Prayer was offered by Rev. Leighton G. Kremer, A. B., '75, of Hagerstown, Md. A second vocal selection, entitled "When the Flowing Tide Comes In," having been given by Abram H. Hendricks, '88, of Collegeville, Pa., the orator of the evening was introduced and was tendered a warm reception. He said in substance as follows:

"The world has always had its dream of a Golden Age. The Greeks and Romans looked backward and the Jews looked forward for their ideals of this blissful era. The former based their conception of this happy period on the deeply-cherished opinion of the world's degeneracy with the progress of civilization, and inspired the consoling hope that mankind should again be restored to its pristine state of prosperity and happiness. The latter, with a far loftier ideal, anticipated "the coming age" in the future, and, in prophesy and prayer, in creed and song, associated it with the advent of a royal Deliverer, who should establish a kingdom of universal peace and righteousness.

To the vagueness and mist of these human dreams, Christianity has given the sharpness and substance of fact. Itself a fact, an influential, conspicuous, aggressive, absolute and divine fact, it carries within itself the elements of transcendent power, of accelerated progress and of ultimate triumph. Christianity's Gospel speaks with authority and positiveness. The Golden Age has not yet come. It is yet in the future. The petulant clamor of each past century for something better than it realized has been superseded by a reasonable expectancy and a divinely-prompted prayer, "Thy Kingdom come." Day by day that prayer receives new answers in the achievements and triumphant development of that kingdom. As the morning star be-tokens the coming day, so does the light already kindled give cheering tokens that the Light of Christianity shall finally irradiate and dominate the earth. The dark cloud of the world's unrest is spanned by the bow of divine promise. Humanity is on the broad road to the realization of its long hope. There has never been a time in the history of Christianity's triumphal march through the world, when the cause of truth suffered from the lack of courageous supporters and brave wit-
idolatries of earth and the corruptions of the Church, there always have been some standing out against them. The pure ideal of "the coming age" has in every period produced some proximate realization of itself. The Christianity of the past has not been a failure. All along the highway of the centuries, from the infidels of Jerusalem to the Agnostics of America, Christianity has vigorously sustained her onward movement to redeem the world, and to achieve magnificent triumphs over the machinations of her enemies. Over all the conditions and relationships of human life, over the intellectual, moral, spiritual, governmental and domestic domains, she has reared aloft her banners of victory and crowned her heroes.

Throughout all the years of the combined assaults of the vituperative insolence, and the quips and quirks of the arrogant, tyrannous faction of "Know-nothings," Christianity has heroically triumphant. Christianity's Gospel has been stretched on the guillotine of sarcasm, and scorched in the fires of denunciation, but all the malignant thrusts of destructive criticism have produced no lasting wounds.

And yet the successes of Christianity are not all achieved. Treasuring the trophies of well-deserved victories, Christianity is pressing its way into new fields of conquest, assuredly looking forward to the fulfillment of its mission, and the happy realization of its ideal aim and purpose,—the amelioration and ultimate evangelization of the world. Her messengers, with the boldness of expectancy, are summoning the earth to turn all its channels of influence and elements of power towards the advancing kingdom. Everywhere the Church is springing up into vigorous life. To-day her apologies are ended. To-day her desolations are overpassed. To-day her magnificent sway is coextensive with the human race.

The Christianity of the future will be triumphant in the adjustment of international relations on the basis of righteousness, in securing the protection of life and property by individual piety, in the elevation of woman to her rightful intellectual and moral position, and in the final transformation of the world."

The oration evidenced great thought and care in the preparation, and was a masterly specimen of correct logic and eloquent rhetoric. The exercises terminated with the rendition of the "Soldier's Chorus," from the opera of "Faust," by the company of thirty singers, led by Rev. Henry A. Bomberger, '84, and with Miss Mary T. Kratz as accompanist, which had participated in the programme of the previous evening. The audience insisted by long drawn out applause upon the repetition of this last number.

Immediately after the conclusion of the preceding programme the Alumni Banquet of '87 was given in the dining hall of Prospect Terrace. A large number of graduates with invited guests assembled around the festive board, at which Miss Weinberger, '84, presided with dignity and grace. Toasts were proposed and responded to as follows: "Westward Bound," Rev. D. W. Ebbert, '75; "The Mercantile Profession," Mr. H. Alvin Hunsicker, '84; "The Ursinus College Bulletin," A. W. Bomberger, Esq., '82; "The Faculty," Professor J. Shelly Weinberger, A. M.; "The

In this way pleasantly ended the Alumni exercises of the week. The following graduates of Ursinus were present during the festivities of Commencement:

72. Rev. F. S. Lindaman.
74. Rev. M. H. Groh.
76. F. G. Hobson, Esq., Rev. G. S. Sorber.
77. Rev. E. R. Cassaday, Rev. S. M. Hench.
82. A. W. Bomberger, Esq.
83. Prof. A. L. Landis.
86. Miss Lillie P. Eberly, Miss May Royer, Miss Ellia B. Price, Geo. H. Miller, D. Charles Martha.

GRADUATION DAY.

Thursday, June 23d, the final day of the Sixteenth Commencement, brought, as of old, the graduation exercises, in which naturally the strongest interest of the week centered. The spacious audience room of Trinity Church was taxed to its utmost capacity to accommodate the eager throng of spectators that assembled on the occasion, so that before the programme was opened, standing room only was available. The Faculty, Board of Directors, alumni and students having been ushered to the seats reserved for them, President Bomberger at ten o'clock a. m. called the audience to order and prayer was offered by Rev. H. A. Keyser, of Mahanoy City, Pa. The members of the graduating class then spoke in the order given with the brief abstracts of their orations which follow:

Salutatory, "Adaptations in Nature," Gideon P. Fisher, Gouglersville, Pa. The speaker, having appropriately welcomed those present, said:

"The fact of a perfect harmony in nature cannot be disputed. It is apparent in every department of natural life and in numberless varieties of form. There are adaptations of minerals to vegetables; of vegetable to animal life; of all to man. Many are wonderful, and excite in all thoughtful minds the highest admiration. One fact is especially calculated to impress us: it is the direct and powerful influence of the material world, inorganic as well as organic, upon the intellectual and spiritual nature of man. Thus all nature becomes a school for man filled with objects calculated to stimulate his faculties to their noblest efforts, to educate them and afford them culture. All this, however, reaches its climax in the convincing evidence, furnished by these multiplied and universal adaptations, to an all-wise design back of all, and supreme over all."

Oration, "Liberty and Oppression," Thaddeus S. Krause, Plumsteadville, Pa. "When God made man he decreed that the creature of his hand should not only be, but that he should be free; and he who dares to dictate otherwise, tramples upon the sacred command of Being who has no superior. Liberty is then the creation of God; oppression the evil product of humanity. Liberty tends to elevate the race, while oppression benumbs and destroys its energy and nobility. For proof of
this we have but to look to the land where the spirit of freedom prevails and contrast it for a moment with the country where oppression and foul tyranny reign. The one ever advances, the other sinks lower and lower until all that is good, all that is pure, is lost beneath the despot’s power.

"The history of nations shows that the light of liberty must finally prevail in all climes throughout the world, dispelling the darkness of every form of slavery and raising the down-trodden peoples of the earth to that position where they rightfully belong."


"From amidst the vast fields of thought in which the human mind grows up there arise ideas which frequently lead far beyond the safe limits of propriety and reason. Too often is man, attracted by the twinkle of a new opinion and carried away by its novelty, induced to turn aside from well-beaten and trusty ways, to enter into dangerous by-paths whose course is yet new and unexplored. Too often our customs, manners, laws, yea, and even our religion, grow old and wear out, and new doctrines and customs must be substituted. Our natural tendency to drift into extremes is most strikingly exhibited in the indulgences and evils that appear in the social life of the nation, in the excessive love for gold and gain universally prevailing and shown in its worst form in the monopoly,—the enriching of a favored few by the pauperizing of the masses,—and in the undue haste to enter active life, so common among students of the day, that results in ignorant, ill-prepared and incapable professional men and citizens. To curb these tendencies more careful training and social culture are required among all classes and a cautious restraint of individual passions and desires."


"There is a debt in the cancelling of which the greatest knave is honest and sincere, and, as far as he is able, punctual. Time cannot erase it from the memory; for an injustice, unforgiven and unforgotten, is healed only with the balm of satisfaction. This debt is revenge—the wilful gratifying of one’s passion to resent a real or fancied injury,—and noble is the debtor who evidences his superiority over his fellow-men by refusing to pay it. Revenge is sweet; no more delicious morsel tempts the passion’s palate; but its momentary joy is succeeded by a train of woes and an age of torments. In the light of the law of our lower animal natures to cherish and return a suffered wrong seems justifiable. It is a characteristic and an inborn instinct of the brute creation; but civilized, Christianized man should be controlled by higher emotions, and leave just vengeance to that infinitely and supremely righteous Judge who will finally mete out punishments and rewards in equity and truth."


"There is a strong tendency existing at the present day to parade and magnify the glorious achievements, the splendid advancement in civilization and the surpassing excellence and power of the country in which we live. This tendency is dangerous in the extreme and full of bad results, in that it creates a false public idea that we, as a people,
have reached a state of perfection and need no further improvement. Though we do, indeed, possess the elements and many developments of national righteousness, there are still evils in our midst that must be eradicated; there are wrongs that must be corrected; there are moral foes that must be suppressed and repulsed. Prominent among these is that social demon the Sunday Newspaper, which, with its crowded columns of divorce cases, murder trials, political trickeries and every variety of crime, would absurdly have us believe that in this century of civilization and enlightenment we must go to perdition to learn morality. And, besides this foremost evil, there are many lesser foes including the "woman suffrage question," which must be met and put down ere we can roll back the portentous clouds of sin and iniquity which cast their ominous shadows over us, and allow the sun of life, liberty and light to send forth in full beauty its warm and healthful rays on our beloved land."


"At a small distance below the surface of the earth lie entombed the accumulated wastes of centuries ago. As the geologist enters the dark caverns of the world, and by the resurrecting power of science brings before him in panoramic review the ages, the character and the majesty of departed animal and vegetable life, so may we look into the blurred and dust-covered pages of man's history and observe the traces of his existence which there remain,—the footprints of the human race.

"All the works ever accomplished by man that were of lasting good, and that have remained as monuments to succeeding generations,—all the advances in civilization made by humanity in any period, that were permanently beneficial, leaving an indelible impression on their age,—were but the outgrowth of three great factors ever active in society for its elevation and improvement: education,—moral and intellectual,—science, and liberty. The sands of time are everywhere covered with the marks of noble and glorious achievements wrought out by the power of these forces during the onward march of the world."

After the last speaker, in the name of his class, had said well-chosen words of farewell to Faculty, Board of Directors, students and all assembled, President Bomberger conferred the degree of Bachelor of Arts on Messrs. Korn, Fisher, Wehler and Mensch, and that of Bachelor of Sciences on Messrs. Bomberger and Krause. He also announced, amid great applause, that the honorary degree of Master of Arts was conferred on Speaker Henry K. Boyer of the House of Representatives of Pennsylvania, and that of Doctor of Divinity on Rev. James I. Good, pastor of Heidelberg Reformed Church, Philadelphia. In addition to these degrees that of Doctor of Divinity was passed upon Rev. John Van Haagen, A. M., professor in the Sheboygan Mission Institute, Sheboygan, Wis., and upon Rev. W. L. Gray of Philadelphia; while that of Master of Arts in course was received by Rev. Milton H. Groh of the class of '74, and Prof. Joseph E. Saylor of Huntingdon, Pa., Rev. David L. Fogleman and Rev. Henry A. Bomberger of the class of '84.

The programme was interspersed at well-timed intervals with selections of instrumental music given by Prof. E. Lehman Ruhe's talented Eureka Orchestra, of Allentown, Pa.
After brief remarks by President Bomberger touching on the prosperous condition and bright future of the College, the audience was dismissed with the benediction.

On Thursday afternoon the regular yearly meeting of the URSINUS UNION was held, and several important items of business demanding its action were satisfactorily disposed of. In the meantime a delightful instrumental CONCERT was progressing in the College Chapel under the supervision of Prof. Ruhe, to the great enjoyment of a large audience that had gathered there.

The exercises of the week were brilliantly concluded with the usual PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION, which for special reasons was held in the College Chapel, and was attended by many friends, old and new, who expressed great pleasure in this last event of the Commencement.

A few among the many visitors during the week were:
Rev. Dr. George Wolff, Rev. Dr. F. W. Kremer, Rev. Dr. Jas. I. Good, Rev. Dr. C. Z. Weiser, Rev. Dr. D. E. Klopp, Rev. Dr. David Van Horne, Rev. Dr. I. S. Weisz, Rev. Dr. Eli Keller, Rev. Dr. J. B. Shumaker, Robert Patterson, Esq., James Brownback, Esq., Hon. H. C. Hoover, Dr. Mensch, Rev. M. Z. Hittel, Rev. A. Spangler, Rev. H. A. Keyser, H. W. Groul, Esq., Mr. Korn, W. H. Hoobaugh, A. B. Stauffer.

NOTES FROM THE LITERARY SOCIETIES.
Oleavian Picnic.

Things however good become monotonous, and accordingly the Olevians annually hold a picnic to bring variety into the routine of literary exercises that is followed at their regular weekly meetings. This out-door diversion of the Society occurred this year on the afternoon of June 11th, at Glen Farm, the residence of Prof. Weinberger.

At the time mentioned, the members of the Society journeyed with light hearts from the College to their old picnicking ground, and, reaching their destination, were greeted with a most cordial welcome. The afternoon was spent by some in parlor and lawn games and by others in wandering about in pleasant recreation under the wide-spreading trees. About five o'clock supper was announced. The table was laden with every dainty of the season, and each Olevian did ample justice to the banquet. All were filled with regret when the time of departing came, and they left for their homes thankful for the privilege of being Olevians, and grateful to the friends at Glen Farm for so delightfully entertaining them.

F. S. R.

[The Editor can personally vouch for the excellent quality of certain of the edibles that graced the banqueting table of the picnic above reported. The specimen viands that he received were much enjoyed, and the kindness which prompted the sending of them was warmly appreciated.]

The officers of the Olevian Society are: President, Flora S. Rahn; Vice-President, Hallie Vanderslice; Recording Secretary, Flora Schwenk; Corresponding Secretary, Ernie Wanner; Critic, Lizzie Alderfer; Treasurer, Mary Schleichter; Editress, Minnie Casselberry.

Wallace G. Bobb, M. D., of the Freshman class of ’75, is a successful physician of Philadelphia.
COLLEGE ITEMS.

The Opening Address of the approaching Fall term, which commences September 5th, will be delivered by Prof. Edmund Morris Hyde, A. M., Ph. D. The professor is at present absent in Europe, he having sailed from this country on the morning of Commencement day. He has arranged, however, to return in time to perform the duty that has devolved upon him.

Already twenty-five applicants have been admitted to the coming Freshman Class and it is highly probable that there will be quite a number of additions to the list as it now stands. This is another assurance of the steadily increasing strength and vigor of the College Department.

STUDENTS OF FORMER DAYS.

[Items of news are requested for this column.]

Benjamin H. Sprankle, a member of the Junior class of 1880, and at that time a resident of Altoona, Pa., has for several years past been successfully engaged in business in the flourishing town of Newark, Ohio.

U. S. Stauffer, a student in the Preparatory department in 1878, is now editor of the Quakertown Free Press.

Edwin P. Gresh, a prosperous merchant of Norristown, Pa., whose name made its last appearance on the roll of Ursinus students in the catalogue of '76, recently gave material evidence of his interest in the welfare of the Bulletin by surprising it with a five-dollar subscription.

Ernest H. Longstreth, a Sophomore of '85, who after leaving college was until lately a clerk in the First National Bank of Norristown, now occupies a very desirable position in the Manufacturers’ Bank of Philadelphia.

William H. Shepp, of Tamaqua, Pa., one of the Juniors of '86, and a member of this year's graduating class at Heidelberg College, Tiffin, O., has decided to enter the Theological Department of Ursinus.

George W. Baney, Elwood Detwiler and Joseph W. Shelly were among the nine members of the Freshman class of '83 who were present at the Commencement exercises. Mr. Shelly is a nephew of Prof. Weinberger. For the last two years he has been teaching very acceptably in the public school at Pineville, Bucks county, Pa. He proposes making the profession his life work.

Harry Lenhart, of Philadelphia, an Academician of 1881, was connected with the Enterprise Manufacturing Company for a number of years after leaving Ursinus, and during that time travelled extensively through the United States and Canada. He has recently taken up the study of Law in his native city.

Charles A. Wagner, a Normal student of '82-'83, has for some time been a clerk in the Philadelphia post-office.

Rev. J. C. Lenhart, of the Junior class of '81, is at present pastor of the Green Hill Presbyterian Church, of Wilmington, Delaware.

ALUMNI PERSONALS.

[Alumni and others can render a service by sending items of interest for this column.]

'72. We clip the following from a late issue of the Northampton Eagle, of Bath, Pa.: "On Sunday morning and evening, June 19th, Rev. F. S. Lindaman, of Littlestown, occupied the pulpit of Christ Reformed Church at this place, and delivered two able and interesting sermons. Rev. Lindaman is
a forcible speaker, talks to the point, and is plain and simple in style, so that his hearers not only may, but must comprehend what he says. His aim is not to display but to make himself understood, which should be the purpose of every true gospel preacher."

'74. Rev. J. H. Shuford is now engaged in ministerial work at Lexington, Davidson county, N. C.

'75. Rev. D. W. Ebbert, of Spring City, Pa., has received and accepted a call from the congregation of Trinity Reformed Church, Dayton, Ohio. He has resigned his charge in Chester county and will enter upon his new field of labor at an early day.

'76. Rev. John Keyser has for some time been following the profession of a teacher at Alburtis, Lehigh county, Pa.

'76. Rev. H. J. Welker, of Berks county, Pa., was elected President of Lebanon Classis of the Reformed Church, at the late annual meeting of that body in his church at Stouchsburg.

'76. Rev. F. C. Yost, pastor of the congregation at Milton, Pa., is busily engaged with his people in perfecting plans for the building of a handsome church edifice for their use. The old house of worship has been torn down and work on the new structure will be begun immediately.

'83. Rev. F. H. Keller has changed his place of residence in Kansas from Baker to Wathena, Doniphan county. The two congregations under his care, —at Baker and Wathena,—are both prospering, the former numbering 41 members and the latter 100 with a catechetical class of 16 to be confirmed this Fall.

'84. Rev. D. L. Fogleman, of Womelsdorf, Pa., was graduated from the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, during the latter part of May, with a class of twenty-one members, and has subsequently been ordained as a minister of the Gospel.

'84. Rev. Henry A. Bomberger, of Point Pleasant, Pa., was ordained and installed as pastor of his charge, on June 12th, in the Lower Tinicum (Bucks county) church, by a committee representing Tohickon Classis. Rev. J. S. Dengler, chairman of the committee, preached the sermon on the occasion. A large audience witnessed the ceremony.

'85. Rev. Silas L. Messinger was ordained and installed in the Blain charge, Perry county, Pa., at Ickesburg, on Monday evening, June 13th, Rev. M. H. Groh, '74, of Landisburg, Pa., preaching the sermon, and Rev. G. E. Addams, of Carlisle, assisting in the services. The people of the charge have presented their pastor with a handsome new buggy.

'86. Edwin C. Hibshman, of the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church at Tiffin, O., preached his first sermons in the First Presbyterian Church of Sandusky City, O., on the last Sunday in May. He also attended the sessions of the General Synod held in Akron, O., during the early part of June. He still retains a strong attachment for Ursinus.

EXCHANGES.

The new exchanges received since the last issue of the Bulletin are, The Crescent, representing Hillhouse High School, New Haven, Conn., and The Johnsonian, published by the Johnson High School of North Andover, Mass.

Book notices are again crowded out by extra matter under other headings. They will appear in full in the next number.
URSINUS COLLEGE BULLETIN.

MONTHLY SUMMARY.

COLLEGIATE.

The 34th Commencement of Heidelberg College, Tiffin, O., was held June 12-16. President Willard, D. D., preached the baccalaureate; Rev. E. P. Herbruck, of Canton, O., delivered the address before the literary societies, and Rev. J. B. Rust, also of Canton, the alumni oration. Three ladies and ten young men graduated. The honorary degree of D. D. was conferred on Rev. J. A. Peters, Danville, Pa., and Rev. W. A. Hale, Dayton, O.

The centennial of Franklin and Marshall at Lancaster passed off very successfully, according to programme, June 12-16. The weather and attendance were all that could be desired. About $15,000 was reported as secured toward the endowment of the Presidency of the College, and it is proposed to make a new start in the effort to raise $40,000 as a memorial of Dr. Nevin, with Dr. Apple and Prof. Stahr in the field as canvassers. Dr. Theodore Appel was appointed to edit a memorial volume of Dr. Nevin. A large honorary degrees were conferred.

CONGREGATIONAL.

Rev. D. P. Lefevre, pastor of the East Baltimore mission, has organized a congregation with eleven members.

St. Mark's mission, Lebanon, Pa., has been organized into a congregation, with 160 members and 320 in the Sunday school.

Martha Memorial Reformed Church, New York city, was dedicated in May, but is still in need of funds to pay for the building. Rev. F. Fox is pastor.

Rev. W. M. Landis has dedicated a new Reformed church at Troxelville, Snyder county, Pa.

Emanuel Reformed (German) Church, West Philadelphia, Rev. J. B. Knies, D. D., pastor, celebrated its quarter-centennial June 26th.

Last summer the Union Church at Uniontown, Dauphin county, was struck by lightning and burnt down. The pastor, Rev. G. W. Engle, has erected a church for his own congregation at a cost of $3,500, which was recently dedicated.

The cornerstone of the Reformed Church, at Wichita, Kansas, of which Rev. J. W. Love is pastor, was laid May 22d.

MINISTERIAL.


Dippel, P. H., installed pastor of Zion's (German) Church, Philadelphia.

Ging, A. D., and wife have returned from Japan and will visit the churches in the interests of foreign missions.

Goss, R. F., licentiate, of the Seminary at Lancaster, accepts call to Red Bank charge, Clarion county.

Hale, J. T., settled at Tremont City, O. Johnston, T. S., D. D., died at Lebanon June 11th.

Keller, Henry, of Centre county, died in Bellefonte.

Metgar, G. E., address changed from Anna, Ill., to Summum, Fulton county, Ill.

Miller, R. W., of Reading, sailed for Europe June 18th.


Pontius, J. W., removed from Coebroton to Martinsburg, Blair county, Pa.

Sandoe, H. H., address changed from Harmony, Pa., to Baldwin, Butler county, Pa.

Seikel, G. B., installed pastor of Zwingli mission, Harrisburg.

Stauffer, A. S., installed pastor of Line Mountain charge, Northumberland county, Pa.

Shaley, W. E., ordained and installed at Brandon, Ia.

Steckel, O. P., licentiate, called to St. Mark's, Lebanon.

Truxal, A. E., removed from Irwin to Manor Station, Westmoreland county.

BENEVOLENT.

Mr. R. W. Shawhan, dec'd, late of Tiffin, O., bequeathed $3,000 to Heidelberg College and $1,000 to each of the three Reformed churches of Tiffin.

The larger donors to the Nevin Memorial Fund during Commencement week at Lancaster were the following: Jacob Bausman, of Lancaster, Treasurer of Franklin and Marshall, $5,000; Charles Santee, Philadelphia (in addition to $10,000 given a year ago), $1,000; J. Y. Dietz, Philadelphia, $1,000; G. F. Bear, Esq., Reading, $1,000; Dr. Pepper, Philadelphia, $1,000; Dr. Schaff, New York, $1,000; Mr. Daniel Black, Easton, $1,000.
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In Nervous Dehility.

Dr. EDWIN F. VOSE, Portland, Me., says: "I have prescribed it for many of the various forms of nervous debility, and it has never failed to do good."

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