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Executive Committee of the Board of Directors

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The chief purposes of the Bulletin are: Statedly to furnish facts concerning the current life and work of Ursinus College; to promote closer fellowship between the College and its friends, and to stimulate zeal for the vital interests which it represents; to supply items of literary and religious news, with special regard to a higher Christian education and the evangelizing work of the Church; to afford members and friends of the College a medium for occasional contributions; and to give assurance of proof of the fidelity of the Institution to the principles and aims for which it was founded, and of its efficiency in their maintenance and pursuit.

Short contributions of items and articles in harmony with these purposes are solicited, not only from the Alumni, but from all the friends of Ursinus College. Thus they can help to make the Bulletin interesting and effective.

COLLEGE NOTES.

By pretty general consent, at least in educational circles, the month of June is yielded to College festivities and the graver matters connected with annual Commencements. Even secular papers, and among them those of the highest standing and widest circulation, are vying with religious periodicals in giving prominence to reports of such occasions. The readers of the Bulletin, therefore, will not only expect its pages to be largely occupied with some-what detailed descriptions of the events of the great week of the year at Ursinus, but will welcome them.

The acknowledged sagacity of the secular Press in discerning and meeting the demands of public sentiment and the popular taste, warrants the inference that the general interest in education, and especially the higher institutions of learning, is increasing. And in proportion as this interest is intelligent and discriminating, it may be expected to result in many advantages to the cause of education.

Reports of the excellent and warmly appreciated addresses of Rev. Dr. Hibshman, of Tiffin, O., and Rev. F. F. Bahner, A. M., of Waynesboro, Pa., will be found on another page.

It will be noticed by our readers that the account of Commencement Day's festivities is given priority of position in our columns. Though out of the regular order of the week's proceedings, the arrangement was deemed proper in view of the fact that the greatest interest is, naturally, always centered in this, the day of occasions of this nature.

A few among the many visitors from a distance who attended the Commencement were:

Robert Patterson, Esq., Hon. Hiram C. Hoover, Rev. Dr. F. W. Kremer, Rev. Dr. George Wolff,

Save where most exceptional circumstances call it forth, hissing, as a method of expressing in a public audience one's sentiments of disapproval, is unrefined and brutal. Even in cases which, seemingly, would warrant it, there are far better ways of showing disapprobation. But when—as in the case of some of the students of Dickinson College, on the occasion of the Junior Contest, during the recent Commencement week at that institution—it is used to give vent to an unreasonable, contemptible and foolishly stubborn bad feeling, no terms in condemnation of it can be too strong.

The Rev. Dr. Crowell, of Philadelphia, the able Secretary of the American Sunday School Union, was in Collegeville on Sunday, the 4th inst., in the interests of that association. He preached an excellent sermon at Trinity Church in the morning, and in the evening, at the same place, delivered an interesting address at a Children's Day service.

Special note should be taken of the fact that the Fall Term of the College opens August 30, 1886. All applications for admission should be made without delay.

In response to the suggestions and demands of a number of contemporaries, the BULLETIN hopes to open an "Exchange" department with an issue of the near future.

All who have on hand unused orders for railroad excursion tickets to the Commencement are requested, kindly, to return them immediately.

COMMENCEMENT DAY.

GRADUATION EXERCISES—MEETING OF UR SINUS UNION—PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION.

Graduation.

Thursday, June 24th, the final day of the fifteenth Commencement week, opened with leaden skies, and the storm, which for several days previous had been hovering over the country, still lingered. But the friends of Ursinus have long since shown themselves more than mere fair-weather admirers. By the time ten o'clock a. m.—the hour for beginning the exercises—had arrived, Trinity Church, the large edifice in which the Commencement was held, was filled to its utmost capacity with eager spectators. After the Faculty, the Board of Directors, the Alumni Association and the students—having marched from the College to the church headed by a detachment of the Eureka Orchestra—had made their way through crowded aisles to the seats reserved for them, the assemblage was called
to order by President Bomberger. Rev. James I. Good, of Heidelberg Reformed Church, Philadelphia, offered an earnest prayer. The six members of the Senior class then spoke in order as follows:—

Oration, — — "Silent Influence."
  May H. Royer, Trappe, Pa.

Oration, — — “The Victories of Peace.”
  Lillie P. Eberly, Durlach, Pa.

Oration, — — "Mystery."

Scientific Oration, — — "It Might Have Been."
  Ella B. Price, Collegeville, Pa.

Scientific Oration, — — "Public Opinion."
  George H. Miller, Weaverville, Pa.

Valedictory, — — "The Beautiful in Nature."
  Edwin Clark Hibshman, Tiffin, Ohio.

The orations were well written and displayed much thought and originality. Their delivery was characterized by pleasing grace, clear enunciation and agreeable modulation of voice.

The speech-making being successfully ended, President Bomberger conferred the degree of Bachelor of Arts on Mr. Hibshman, and that of Bachelor of Sciences on the remaining graduates, Misses Royer, Eberly, and Price and Messrs. Murtha and Miller. The ceremony was concluded with farewell words of wise counsel and strong encouragement, and hearty good-wishes for the future. The other degrees passed at the annual meeting of the Board of Directors on Wednesday, were then conferred, as follows:— Master of Sciences in course, Prof. A. Lincoln Landis, ’83, of Ursinus College; the honorary degree of Master of Arts, on J. Freeman Hendricks, Esq., Doylestown, Pa., Rev. S. P. Myers, Bloomville, Ohio, and George Barrie, Esq., Philadelphia; the degree of Doctor of Divinity, on Rev. Eli Keller, Zionsville, Penna., and Rev. D. F. Brendle, Bethlehem, Pa.; and the degree of Doctor of Laws on Samuel W. Gross, M. D., the eminent surgeon, professor in the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia.

Following the order of past Commencements, Prof. Ruhe’s accomplished Eureka Orchestra, of Allentown, assisted by Setaro, the talented harpist, of Philadelphia, rendered delightful music at intervals in the programme.

Brief congratulatory remarks on the increased prosperity of the College were made by the President, and the audience was dismissed with the Benediction.

Ursinus College Union.

In the afternoon, at 2 o’clock, the annual meeting of the Ursinus College Union was held in the College chapel. The general purpose of the Union is to promote, by suitable means, the principles and interests of Ursinus College. Its operations are carried on through three distinct standing committees, one on Missions and Church Extension, another on Education, and a third on Publication. The Union, like the College itself, is amenable to the Reformed Church and its constitutional judicatures. Hitherto it has limited its work to the objects of the first two of the three committees named, and has done good service to the cause.

The meeting having been opened in due form, the following were

The old committees were reappointed, with Rev. Dr. Kremer, of Lebanon, Treasurer of that on Missions.

Among the items of business attended to, the following merit special mention:—1. Action was taken for the more vigorous prosecution of the work of missions in co-operation with other missionary organizations of the Church. 2. It was resolved to make an earnest effort to raise at least $3000 during the current year in aid of the educational interests of the College. 3. A resolution was adopted warmly endorsing the Ursinus College Bulletin and pledging the members to efforts for its wider circulation.

Although many of the members felt aggrieved at some unfair attempts recently again made to hinder the legitimate work of the Union, no action was taken on the subject, in the hope that patient forbearance on their part, and wiser counsels elsewhere, would prevent repetitions of such inexpusably offensive and sinister measures.

The Union adjourned at 3 p. m., and from that hour until late in the day Prof. Ruhe and his musicians gave a most enjoyable instrumental Concert beneath the pines of the beautiful campus. A large concourse of people was present, for whom the bright sunlight, which at last appeared through the breaking clouds, formed an additional attraction.

In the evening, at 8 o'clock, the President's Reception was held. It was attended by many guests, old and young, and all joined in giving expression to their great pleasure in this closing event of a successful Commencement season.

**BACCALAUREATE SERMON.**

Falling into the line of what has become a prevalent custom, the Commencement Week of 1886 at Ursinus was inaugurated with the official sermon to the graduating class, by President Bomberger, on Sunday evening, June 20, in St. Luke's Reformed Church, Trappe, Pa. Postscript memoranda of the discourse will be found under "Special Topics." The occasion drew together a large audience of earnest and attentive hearers. The other churches of the vicinity were courteously closed for the evening.

**THE LITERARY SOCIETIES.**

ANNUAL ADDRESS BY REV. DR. HIBSHMAN.

The celebration of the fifteenth Commencement was renewed on Tuesday evening, June 22, with the address before the Zwinglian, Schaff, Olevian and Ebrard Societies of the College, by Rev. H. H. W. Hibshman, D. D., of Tiffin, Ohio. The night was rainy and unfavorable, but the audience which gathered in the cheery, commodious Chapel was fair, and warmly interested in the orator...
and his oration. Mr. O. H. E. Rauch, of Slatington, Pa., a Zwinglian, was master of ceremonies. After the offering of prayer, Dr. Hibshman was introduced and met with a very cordial reception. His theme was "The Age and its Demand."

In the ably presented views of the speaker, a chief demand of the times is intelligent and inflexible moral courage in exposing and condemning all that is wrong and false, and in advocating and promoting truth and virtue, personal and social, in Church and State. Many of the evils and errors of the times are popular, because they pander to vicious tastes and the superficially plausible fancies of a false science, philosophy and religion. The currents of thought and feeling run strongly that way, and it requires not only clear convictions, but a firm purpose and resolute courage to antagonize such perverse and perverting tendencies. Many, who detect the evils of the day and deplore their effects, shrink timidly from openly withstanding them. But unless their further prevalence is arrested, it is clear that the worst consequences must follow. All, therefore, who have any proper regard for the truth, for public and private rectitude, should feel themselves constrained to rise superior to natural timidity and anxiety for personal, selfish interests, and unite with undaunted determination in contending against every form of error and wrong, and for the ascendance of those great principles, which are commended by pure Christianity, and the most enlightened reason of mankind. Thus the demand of the age will be met.

- The address abounded in illustration, was delivered in excellent rhetorical style, and was accorded the closest attention of those assembled. During the exercises the Oratorio Glee Choir, a strong chorus led by Mr. H. A. Bomberger, rendered two selections to the great satisfaction of the audience, one,—"Zion, Awake!"—at the opening of the programme, and the other,—"Oh, Italia Beloved!"—at its close. The latter was repeated in response to a persistent encore.

Throughout the College year just completed the Literary Societies have manifested an unusual activity in their work. A new society, now in a flourishing condition, has been organized, improvements and additions have been made in the libraries and meeting-rooms, and many other evidences of progress in this department of academic life, mark the rounded period of '85-86.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

The annual meeting of the Board of Directors took place on Wednesday morning, June 23d, and was largely attended, only three of the whole number of members being absent. Besides the routine business, and the re-election of the old officers of the Board—H. W. Kratz, Esq., President, Frank M. Hobson, Esq., Secretary and Treasurer—and the appointment of the Standing Committees for the
year, several matters of special importance were acted upon.

The Scientific Course of study was lengthened from three to four years. Experience proved the shorter period too brief for a thorough training in the branches proper to such a course, and that it tended to lower the standard of a liberal education in the estimate, not only of students, but of the friends of education in general. In some cases, the saving of a year's time and expense, seemed to be a temptation to take "the short cut" to the graduation goal, to the serious, ultimate disadvantage and loss of those who took it. At first the change may not be popular. Mature reflection, however, can hardly fail to approve of it. To obviate objections on the part of any who have already passed a year under the old rule, the extension of the Course will not go into effect until the Fall Term of 1887.

The appointment of the Rev. H. T. Spangler as the special financial agent of the College, was unanimously endorsed by the Board, and he is warmly commended to the liberal favor of all the friends of Ursinus College.

According to the report of the efficient Treasurer of the Board, the fiscal condition of the College presents many encouraging features. By generous donations the College debt has been considerably reduced, as readers of the Bulletin have seen from statements previously published. And the receipts from tuition have been largely increased, amounting, for the year, to nearly $3000.

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

Throughout, this year's convention of the Board was one of hopeful interest in the affairs of the College, evincing full confidence in its growing success. The lowering clouds that hovered over it a few years ago, have been scattered, and threatening disasters have been averted. The moral effects of all this are visible not only in the revived confidence of the Board, but in the warmer favor and zeal of a widening circle of friends. Merited success is proverbially popular, and generally wins such approbation and sympathy as helps it to higher attainments. The ship that safely weathered angry seas, becomes a favorite vessel.

THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.

ITS PART IN THE FIFTEENTH COMMENCEMENT—EXERCISES OF ALUMNI DAY.

Annual Meeting.

Wednesday, also, as of old, was Alumni Day at Ursinus. In the afternoon, at 2:30 o'clock, the annual meeting of the Association was held in the College Chapel. The attendance was good. In the absence of both the President and Vice President, A. W. Bomberger, Esq., '82, was elected temporary chairman. Prayer was offered by Rev. Geo. S. Sorber, A. M., '76. The yearly reports were
then received, the members of the class of '86 were duly elected and initiated, and the usual routine business was transacted. The officers of the Association chosen for the ensuing year are as follows:


The Address

In the evening at eight o'clock, despite the continued inclement weather, the College Chapel was crowded by the supporters of Ursinus to listen to the annual Address by Rev. F. F. Bahner, A. M., of the class of '73, Waynesboro, Pa. Rev. F. A. Guth, the newly elected President of the Association, conducted the exercises. Prayer was offered by Rev. Jas. W. Meminger, A. B., '84, of Chester county, Pa. The orator of the evening then arose, greeted by hearty applause, and announced his subject— "Education and Educational Methods."

Trite as the theme may have seemed, it was forcibly treated, and the address proved interesting and instructive. The speaker, though he kindly consented at short notice to render the service, had evidently been giving the subject much thought, and fully appreciated the somewhat perplexing points involved in the divergent theories of education. He fairly presented those theories and the arguments commonly urged in their favor by their respective advocates. The merits and defects of each were candidly set forth; and, without asserting any positive, unqualified endorsement of any one in particular, he left his audience to use the data furnished in coming to a conclusion for themselves.

The music of the evening was furnished by the Y. M. C. A. Quartette of the College.

Immediately after the conclusion of the exercises the

Alumni Banquet of '86

was given in the spacious dining-hall of Prospect Terrace. A large number of Alumni, and 'ae, with invited guests, were present. F. G. Hobson, Esq., '76, presided at the board and proposed the following toasts, which were eloquently responded to:—"The Future of Ursinus," Rev. H. T. Spangler, '73; "The '76 Decennial," Rev. Geo. S. Sorber, '76; "The Theological Alumnus," Rev. F. S. Lindaman, '72; "Our Next District Attorney," J. A. Strassburger, Esq., '73; "Visiting Friends," Rev. Dr. Hibshman, Tiffin, O.; "The Ladies," Rev. Dr. Kremer, Lebanon, Pa.; "Our Alma Mater," President Bomberger.

The banquet brought to an end the active participation of the Alumni Association, as a body, in the week's Commencement festivities. The spirit of loyal devotion to Ursinus, evidenced throughout by her graduates, attested anew the fact that her influence as an Alma Mater has not waned.
Numerous letters of regret were received by the Secretary of the Association from Alumni unable to attend the Commencement. They expressed deep pleasure in the present prosperity of the Institution and earnest desires for her future good.

PERSONAL.

'75. Rev. D. W. Ebbert, A. M., of Spring City, Pa., has just returned to his charge after having spent a month or more visiting friends in Kansas, in the vicinity of the Indian reservations.

'75. Rev. L. G. Kremer, A. B., delivered an address at the seventh anniversary of the missionary society of the First Reformed Church of Hagerstown, Md., on the 13th ult.

'77-'79. Rev. J. W. Mabry, A. M., Cherryville, Pa., of '77, and Rev. A. R. Thompson, a theological alumnus of '79, are among the delegates elected by East Pennsylvania Classis, at its late annual meeting, to represent that body in the next sessions of the Synod of the United States.

'77. Rev. H. I. Stern, a graduate of the theological department, is the professor of Latin, Greek and German in the Southwest Institute at San Diego, Cal., a town situated on a beautiful bay of the Pacific coast, in a region whose climate is unsurpassed by any in the world.

'77. Rev. A. B. Stoner, a theological alumnus, of Mechanicstown, Md., during the past classical year organized in his charge a new congregation, whose present membership is 53, and added one hundred persons to his five other churches.

'78. L. C. Royer, A. B., Robertsdale, Pa., was one of the “alumni from a distance” present on Commencement Day.

'79. Rev. F. G. Stauffer, B. S., is serving out a successful pastorate in the Methodist Church of Westerville, Franklin county, Ohio.

'81. Edwin S. Snively, B. S., of Shady Grove, Franklin county, Pa., who has always evinced a lively interest in the Alumni Association of Ursinus, took active part in the annual meeting on Wednesday afternoon of Commencement week. Mr. Snively entertains ideas on Alumni work, which, if put into practice by the Association, would materially increase its welfare.

'83. Rev. Morin Custer, A. B., having taken a three years’ theological course at Princeton, recently graduated from that institution with a class of forty-six members. Before graduation a call was tendered him by the Presbyterian church of Elmer, Salem county, N. J. He accepted it and has now settled down to pastoral work at that place.

'83. A. Bond Wanner, B. S., has for some time past been assisting his uncle in teaching in the excellently graded High School of Minersville, Schuylkill county, Pa.

'84. Rev. Henry A. Bomberger, A. B., has received licensure from the Classis of Philadelphia, having successfully passed the examination of a committee of that body, at its late yearly meeting in Norristown.
'84. Rev. Jas. W. Meminger, A. B., was tendered a very cordial reception by his charge in Chester county on entering upon the pastorate. Brownback’s congregation, to the number of about one hundred, first repaired to the parsonage and enriched their new pastor with kindest expressions of esteem and as many silver dollars as visitors. Shenkle’s, a few days after, treated him just as handsomely.

'84. Rev. John J. Stauffer, A. B., was duly installed as pastor of the charge at East Berlin, Adams county, Pa., on Tuesday afternoon, June 29. His charge consists of four congregations, one at East Berlin, at Hampton, at Bermudian, and at Red Run. He has already received many evidences of the friendship and good will of his people.

SPECIAL TOPICS.

THE GRADUATE’S GUIDE.*

Jeremiah iii, 4: "Will thou not from this time cry unto me, My Father, Thou art the guide of my youth?"

Closely connected with the primary import and application of these words, they plainly offer two points which seem specially suited to the present occasion: first, that the chief mistakes in life, and the most fatal wanderings from the way of truth and right, and therefore of success and peace, are caused by following false guides; and, second, that the only security against such errors and their baneful consequences is heartily to accept the offer of God our heavenly Father to be our guide, from the beginning to the end of our earthly pilgrimage.

Our need of guidance, that is, of some directive controlling power or influence beyond and above our own independent thought, desire and will, to aid us in clearly discerning truth and duty, in laying earnest, hearty hold of both, and in firmly choosing them, and Him who is their source and end, that we may thus realize the best and noblest purposes of life,—our need of such guidance is assumed as theoretically obvious and practically attested by the common experience of mankind. Even the seemingly most wilful and wayward are under the spell of some outward fascination, which sways their life.

This need, however, let it be noted, does not arise from any absolute difficulties in the way of truth or right to be pursued, nor from any defect in man’s original mental or moral constitution. All springs from what man lost in clearness of his reason and rectitude of his moral sense through sin. Conclusive proof of this is furnished by the fact, that all who have found the right way, after long and painful wanderings, have been amazed that they should ever have failed to discern it.

But leaving these and other related thoughts, suggested by our subject, I will pass on at once to the consideration of the two main points mentioned above.

I. The first directs attention, and impliedly in the form of reproof and warning, to the fact that false guides often press their services upon men and especially upon youth, and to the fatal consequences of following them.

There is something so repulsive and odious, not to say satanic, in the character of those, who, with full purpose and design, take advantage of human weakness and want by misleading men, and especially inexperienced, confiding youth, or by striving to hinder them from accepting the divine guidance offered, that one shrinks from charging individuals with so heinous a crime. Natural as well as christian charity suggests some excuse or palliation in the case. Some of them may be themselves deceived in holding for truth the errors they persuade others to embrace; although those errors are often so flagrantly at variance with the supreme rule of all truth, and with the subordinate standards they have solemnly promised to uphold, that such self-deception seems irreconcilable with their presumed intelligence. Others may be so charmed with the love and excitement of novelties in thought or theory which they fancy themselves to have discovered, or which, more likely, may have ensnared them in their eager search for pearls purer and brighter than the old gems of the Gospel, that they not only barter the old for the new as a good bargain.

* The substance of a Baccalaureate Sermon to the Graduating Class, preached in St. Luke’s Reformed Church, Trappe, on June 27, 1886, by the President of Ursinus College.
for themselves but ardently commend the trade to all whom they can reach.

Still others, it is to be feared, too vainly proud to go on in the beaten path of eternal truth and grace, though it be the King's highway, and marked by His own footprints (equally discerned by the scars of the nails of the Cross),—the way of the faith once (for all) delivered to the saints,—and ambitious of renown as inaugurators of a new era for philosophy, and even Christianity, toil with an untiring zeal, surpassed only by their deceptive sophistries, to captivate disciples and to hold them enchanted by the "great swelling words" of carnal wisdom and transcendental speculations. And even these are changeful as the moon.

Still others, finally, whom fidelity to you compels us to notice, are those more open foes to the Gospel who boldly avow their hatred of its holiest and most vital doctrines, and strive to supplant them and put in their place the destructive tenets of a God-denying and a God-defying infidelity. Among these are found those modern scoffers who debase true science by forcing it into seeming antagonism to Moses and the prophets, so as to make these to appear to be fools or knaves, and the entire Bible, with the Religion founded upon it and its divine Author, an imposture.

This dark list might be greatly enlarged, and the classes named be more specifically described by personal details. Enough, however, has been said for our purpose, enough to forewarn you against false guides lying in wait for you at the outset of your journey, and eager to take you in hand for life.

But what can they do for you as leaders or teachers, either in matters of secular or religious knowledge, science or faith, concerning this life or that to come? The answer comes from their notorious failures to accomplish anything of substantial value in the past, and from the disturbing, unsettling elements they have been trying to infuse into every sphere of thought and belief in the present. When hard pressed to state their pretentious notions in intelligible, explicit terms they are mute, or mutter only vague, ambiguous, unsatisfying platitudes.

Like "wandering stars," they have broken away from their proper orbit, and cannot find another. Like vapor-clouds driven about by shifting winds, they darken the sun, and yet never drop refreshing rains upon the parching grass; only shadows mark their course—dark, chilling shadows. They are too light to help the earth, and yet too heavy to rise to heaven, or aid others in the ascent.

Shall such deluded "philosophers," who are presumptuously thrusting themselves and their vagaries into the front rank and leadership of the learning and activities of the nineteenth century, be accepted as your guides? Shall the really grand achievements in the realms of true science, philosophy, theology and practical Christianity, which have so eminently distinguished this century, be worse than frustrated by allowing such self-constituted magnates to usurp control of them?

Surely not so long as guidance worthy of our supreme confidence is offered to us, and may be freely secured. This leads to the second main point of our text and theme.

II. Your only safeguard against delusive errors and their baneful effects is to accept God, the heavenly Father, as your guide in all the duties and pursuits of life.

Commonly, it may be supposed that He has to do with us, and that we have to do with Him, only in matters of religion, or personal piety in the narrower sense. This, however, rests upon a misapprehension both of the nature of man and that of true piety. By the very law of psychical unity the whole man is involved in the activity of each so called faculty, and hence by a similar law of piety, it claims and rules the entire spiritual and (indirectly at least) physical life of man. Assuming this view to be correct, it becomes obvious that man's highest development and purest culture lie in the line of true piety, and that the attainment of both will be promoted by piety and subserviency to it.

Under whose tuition, now, may we most surely and rapidly advance in such development and culture? By whom and how can we be taught most certainly those general lessons which pertain comprehensively to our entire personal being, and those special facts, laws and principles, which constitute true knowledge and the matter or contents of the true faith of pure religion and piety? No one assuredly can hesitate to answer. If there is a personal God, which all rational beings know and believe, then by His very nature and attributes He is our best Instructor.

1. This is true, as intimated above, in the most general and comprehensive sense; in regard to our walk and work, things that belong to
the common duties of each human life. But, not to stop with this, let me to-night direct your thoughts to the special instruction and guidance needed as underlying and vivifying the whole.

2. God is the true and best teacher and guide of man in the education of his intellect or reason, and his advancement in true knowledge. All real knowledge is true. Any other, whoever may boast of it, is spurious, false; that is, ignorance. The very beginning of such knowledge is to fear, to believe in, love and worship God. All who would start right in the pursuit of knowledge, including of course every science or branch of learning, must start with this. Nothing can so quicken the mental faculties and invigorate them. Nothing can supply such stimulants for study, or so reward it. The most truly wise and learned men, the men whose learning has outlived a thousand erratic philosophies of ages past, and continues pre-eminent in our day, were men taught of God and trained in His school. Even those acknowledged as the wisest pagans, were men who approached nearest the discernment and recognition of the true eternal God, and drew inspiration at His feet.

Who can wonder that it should be so? God made the things of heaven and earth, and knows them as only the Creator can. And so far as their origin, constituent elements and laws of individual or specific being are concerned, "who teacheth like Him" (Job xxxvi, 22), or who is so infinitely qualified to teach? And so far as man is related to these things, all who contemplate the physical universe around him, must be irresistibly convinced, that what and as it is, it exists largely, if not chiefly, that it may supply suitable means for imparting to man the knowledge which God would teach him.

In the highest sense the material universe is God's University, open to every one without a fee or any formal matriculation. He built it to be a training-school for all His rational creatures, and has fully furnished it with all the material appliances needful for that purpose. For every science, the first facts and principles may be found plainly set forth and most richly illustrated here. Astronomy, Geology, Mineralogy and Botany, Biology in regard to plants, animals and man, indeed every branch of healthful scientific study, is abundantly supplied with all the material needful and stimulating to the most careful investigations, not only in phenomenal forms appealing to sensuous perception, but in relations which aid the reason in ascertaining the laws under which those phenomena occur, even to the utmost limit of man's power to comprehend, not only things pertaining to the religious or supernatural spheres of truth, but those included in the realm of nature.

No university has ever gathered such a museum of wonders—wonders of the sun, moon and stars; wonders of light, heat and electricity; wonders of chemical and mechanical forces, of dynamics in the widest sense,—as are made to encompass man, all ready for rational use, in the vast Academy of God. No such orrery was ever constructed as He has set out in the heavens, the model for human thought to ponder and the pattern for human skill to imitate. No such observatory was ever built as He reared, when He laid the foundations of the enduring hills and raised their summits high above the clouds. And all are so made and arranged as to suit the spiritual capacities of men and to serve for their endless education and enjoyment.

But still more than this is true. To all this marvelous provision for our noblest development, another has been added more marvelous still: an unerring guide-book to aid and cheer man in his pupilage, and especially to guard him against going astray in his pursuit of knowledge. The otherwise inexplicable agreements between this Book and nature, prove the Author of both to be the same Being, whether its direct source be natural or, as we hold, supernatural. Only He who made the heavens and the earth and man, could tell the facts it records about them, long centuries before science discovered them, and with such accuracy that though false, atheising sciences have often tried to refute them, they have as often been compelled to succumb to its testimony. Moses and the book of Job, telling in that book what it reveals, are right,—Colenso, and all scientists like him, are wrong.

With facts like these before us, who can fail to see that our heavenly Father not only offers to be our Guide and Teacher in all that pertains to education and intellectual culture, but that He has provided ample and attractive means for having the work most effectively done? And when I say most effectively with emphasis, it is to impress you with the fact, that the divine principle and purpose of education neither starts nor stops with mere rational development and knowledge, as though they were the alpha and omega of man's physical existence. It proposes an immeasurably
higher and better aim and end, and makes true learning the means and way to heavenly love and light in God for ever. For this, so far as concerns man at least, the heavens and the earth, the very elements of nature and all the countless varieties of phenomenal combinations they exhibit, were created by the Father Almighty, the eternal I am; they are, and are what they are, that they may declare, and that we may learn from them, the glory of God, and discern in the expanded firmament His handiwork, as the deepest significance of all for science as well as religion.

That in all this God employs human instruments duly qualified to be tutors under Him, is freely admitted, and is in no sense inconsistent with our previous statements.

3. In a still more direct way is God our Guide into more specifically religious truth. And what has been said already as to His claims to be accepted and heeded as Supreme Teacher in regard to general knowledge, will apply with greater force to this point. He has laid down the faith to be received in clear, fixed terms. What He has thus revealed is the unchangeable standard for all ages; it may be developed and illustrated ever more fully, if this be done in strict harmony with the revelation given. But woe to the hands that alter it and to those whom they deceive! And thrice woe to those, who, whilst perverting that faith, speciously conceal their false doctrines under the cover of accepted evangelical terms. Men who claim to improve upon the faith and theology of the prophets and apostles are the dupes of their own conceits, or conscious impostors, and in neither case to be trusted. And the most dangerous of all such impostors, or dupes, are those who try to twist and mould the Bible to their purpose, and out of its material make dogmas, liturgies and rules of christian piety to suit their fancy and magnify their fame.

My young friends, choose rather to heed the admonition of the text and say with full purpose of heart, "My Father, thou art the guide of my youth."

A SETTLED POINT.

Among other matters of interest, in which the Bulletin as representing Ursinus College is deeply concerned, and which were definitely included in the Peace compact of the General Synod of 1881 in Tiffin, was the formal recognition of the right of the respective parties to that compact to appropriate their benevolent contributions to the particular agency that each might prefer.

The principle underlying this recognized right is embodied in the Constitution of the Reformed Church. It could not be otherwise in a Constitution which explicitly bases all its articles and rules upon the Bible and gospel christianity. Gospel beneficence is ever to be free, without arbitrary compulsion of the individual, or any fellowship of individuals, as to how much each shall give, or the special application of the gift. And under this established law of liberty, the cause of beneficence has flourished. No one has ever questioned the propriety of a synod's ascertaining how much, altogether, might be needed for the different objects, such as Missions, Beneficiary Education, &c., or of distributing the general amount believed to be needed among the several charges or congregations in sums, proportioned to their supposed ability. In this sense so-called assessments for such objects have been admitted as allowable. But such assessments are not taxes levied, which all are bound to pay under peril of ecclesiastical censure or other penalty.

All this is so obviously right, and in harmony with the spirit of the Gospel, that it need not be justified or defended by any array of special reasons for it. Hence the Constitu-
tional law of the Reformed Church, and the actions of its Synods bearing upon the matter, could not be consistently otherwise than they are. No Synod, no Classis, therefore, has the right to say how much each charge or congregation shall raise for Missions, or Beneficiary Educations, or to what particular mission, or education society or board, that amount must be paid. It may recommend, or ask what it thinks best, but then leave all to their Christian freedom in the case.

And this is almost generally admitted. By this proper rule the good work is in most cases carried on. There is special reason why it should be so under existing circumstances in the church. Any other rule would operate in an unfairly and oppressively partisan way.

It is to be regretted, however, that a few exceptions to this common assent to the rule have recently again arisen. That in disregard of the Gospel principle and the action of the General Synod, a demand has been pressed for specific sums assessed, and threats, or what implies threats, have been made to enforce the assessments as though they were taxes imposed by civil law.

Such attempted violations of the Peace, even, are to be greatly deplored, and are calculated to incite to a resistance of them which cannot fail to result in evil. Ursinus College and its friends have always been loyal to the Church in the fullest sense, and intend to remain so. But they know their rights, and in all Christian, constitutional ways will vindicate them. Even though what may be threatened be meant only to intimidate, and so cut off resources, the measure is an infringement upon their Christian liberty and as such will be earnestly withstood.

‘NEATH SUMMER BRANCHES.

The south-west wind is stirring ‘mong the maple’s silver leaves;
Deep down within the shady nook, the forest rill is flowing;
The wood-thrush ’mid the bushes, by his dead mate, lonely, grieves,
As homeward, toward the river bank, the swallows swift are going:
And a sunbeam through the branches steals, as love-light, to my heart,
Softened radiance o’er my dreamy spirit throwing.

Across the stream in splendor waves the ripened, golden grain,
Close by where new-mown hay its fragrance forth is sending:
Above the grassy meadow sounds the oriole’s refrain:
His noisy way, the farm-boy to the pasturage is wending:
And the river’s distant murmurs rise as voices of the past,
Sad forgettings with sweet mem’ries, gently blending.

Far off among the rushes red, where water-lilies bloom,
The frogs in merry chorus loud, sonorously are singing;
From out a near-by orchard comes the rain-bird’s note of gloom;
Beyond the rustling tree-tops, glad the sky-lark’s voice is ringing:
And the summer day’s wild music now swells—and now breathes low,
To my listless being joy—then sadness, bringing.

Here, in my cool, secluded dell, where nod the fairy ferns,
On mossy couch reclining, and in pensive silence thinking,
Lo! Nature sweet— to Elfin-land, my busy fancy
turns,
While sprite-like forms, in laughing glee, the
brooklet’s tide are drinking:
And dim years gone by, returning, now in old-
time brightness live,
As beneath blue hills the burning sun is sinking.
—Contributed.

GENERAL COLLEGE NEWS.

“When College days are o’er!”
There are 151 College branches
of the Y. M. C. A. in the United
States.
The Handel Society of Dartmouth
has offered a prize of $25 for the best
college song.
Dr. Cattell, ex-President of Lafa-yette
College, has gone to England.
Murat Halstead has a son in each
of the four classes at Princeton Col-
lege.
Virginia has $1,650,000 worth of
property in universities and colleges.
The President of the United States,
Grover Cleveland, never attended a
college of any kind.
There are thirteen American wo-
men studying at the University of
Zurich.
The Princetonian published 950
feet of reading matter in the past
year.
The inventor, Thomas A. Edison,
has given to Cornell University a
complete electric light plant.
The late Mrs. C. M. McCoskry, of
New York, left $50,000 to Williams
College to establish the Thornton
Read professorship.
The University at Lewisburg has
changed its name to Bucknell Uni-
versity.

In the last five years Yale College
has received over $1,600,000 in char-
table bequests.
It is announced that two of the
graduates of the Medical Depart-
ment of the University of Pennsylvania are
to go as medical missionaries under the
Presbyterian Church—one to Siam, the other to India.
Oliver Wendell Holmes, the poet,
has received the degree of LL. D.,
from Oxford, and his son, Oliver
Wendell Holmes, Jr., the same de-
gree from Yale.
The President of Bowdoin College
graduated in the class of ’79. He is
the youngest college president in the
country.
An active warfare has for some
time been going on against Pres-
ident McCaulley of Dickinson Col-
lege, for alleged bad management in
that institution. Dr. McCaulley is
warmly defended by his friends, and
thus far the attacks upon him have
been unsuccessful.
Vassar, Wellesley, Smith and Bryn
Mawr are the only Colleges in the
United States giving instruction to
women alone, but there are over 150
Colleges for men which also admit
the other sex. Columbia College
has just opened wide her doors to
fair applicants.
A decision has been filed in the
famous McGraw-Fiske will case, de-
creeing the legacies of Jennie Mc-
Graw Fiske to Cornell University of
$1,500,000, for library purposes, in
all respects valid. The case had
been pending since 1883.
The Southern Presbyterians of Kentucky have raised $100,000 to endow Central University. The work was accomplished in sixty days. Of this sum Mr. W. M. H. Brayer gives $30,000 to endow the chair of Christian Evidences, Mr. Orville Ford gives $20,000 toward the endowment of the chair of English Language and Literature, and one lady and two gentlemen give $10,000 each. So the amount was made up.

MONTHLY SUMMARY.

COLLEGIATE.

The closing exercises of the year at Palatinate College, Myerstown, Pa., were held on the 24th of June. Eleven young men and women finished the different courses taught in the school.

The commencement of Allenpeton Female College took place on the 25th ult., and closed another prosperous year under Dr. Reily’s administration. The total number of students connected with the school last year was 94.

At the dedication of the new building of Heidelberg College, Tiffin, O., on Wednesday, June 16th, addresses were delivered by Revs. I. H. Reiter, D. D., and S. C. Goss, and Presidents Williard of Heidelberg and Bomberger of Ursinus. In the evening a general supper was given with the following toasts:


“Endowment of Heidelberg College,” Rev. S. S. Rickley, Columbus, O.


“A Thorough Education,” Rev. J. J. Leberman, Louisville, O.

“My Alma Mater,” Rev. E. R. Williard, Germantown, O.

“The Post Graduate Course,” Prof. A. S. Zerbe, Ph. D., of Heidelberg.

During the exercises a gold-headed cane was presented to President Williard by Miami Class, and one to Agent Leonard by Tuscarawas Class, in recognition of their indefatigable efforts in behalf of the new building.

On Thursday morning the Commencement was held, with eleven graduates, and at 4 p. m. the rooms of the College Y. M. C. A. were formally opened.

Class Day exercises have been abolished by action of the Board of Trustees.

The honorary degree of L.L.D. was conferred on our President, Dr. Bomberger, and that of D. D. on Rev. J. B. Kniest, of Philadelphia.

The leading features of Commencement week at Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa., were the Junior Prize Contest, with W. R. Peters, a son of Rev. J. A. Peters, of Danville, Pa., as the successful contestant; Class Day exercises; Biennial Oration, by Charles Emory Smith, Esq., of the Philadelphia Press, on “Aspirations and Inspirations”; Society Reunions; Alumni Meeting, and address by S. H. Guilford, D. D. S., of Philadelphia, on “Post Graduate Study of Natural Sciences”; dedication of the Daniel Scholl Observatory, with an address by Prof. C. A. Young, Ph. D., of Princeton; and the graduation of twenty-eight young men.

The honorary degree of D. D. was conferred on Rev. A. S. Leinbach, of Reading, and on Rev. William Rupp, of Manchester, Md.; that of LL.D., on Geo. F. Bear, Esq., of Reading, Pa.; that of Ph. D. on Prof. B. K. Buehrle, Superintendent of the Lancaster city schools.

At the Alumni meeting it was resolved to devote this centennial year to the further equipment of the scientific department and the erection of a fire-proof library building to cost about $30,000; to raise the $14,000 needed to complete the Alumni Professorship; and to endow the Presidency in the sum of $20,000.

The special anniversary services of the centennial of Franklin and the semi-centennial of Marshall College are to be held on Tuesday and Wednesday of next Commencement week.

The citizens of Wichita, Kansas, have elected a Board of Trustees to found a College, which they will put under the care of the Reformed church if the church contributes one-fourth of the money needed for its building and equipment. The citizens definitely promise $25,000, and hope to raise $40,000, together with 50 acres of land (worth about $15,000), 35 of which has been positively pledged.

Mercersburg College, under the presidency of Rev. G. W. Aughinbaugh, D. D., closed another
year's work on the evening of June 22, with a number of visitors and friends from abroad in attendance. During the vacation the College building is to be painted and put into good repair.

**CONGREGATIONAL.**

Klopp's church of the Tulpehocken charge in Lebanon county, of which Rev. H. J. Welker is pastor, was dedicated on Whitunday, Rev. C. Z. Weiser, D. D., J. Kehne and S. A. Leinbach assisting in the services.

A new congregation has been organized in the northeastern section of Philadelphia, between Kensington and Frankford, J. Voegelin pastor, with 47 members and 80 Sunday School scholars.

**The 150th anniversary of the organization of the First Church, Lancaster, Pa., was celebrated on June 20th.** Its list of pastors includes Wm. Otterbein, Wm. Hendel, John Henry Hoffmater, G. W. Glessner, N. A. Keyes, D. Y. Heisler, H. Harbaugh, A. H. Kremer, J. A. Peters, and the present incumbent, J. M. Titzel, D. D. The membership of the congregation at present is 419, and of the other churches organized out of this first one is as follow: - St. Paul's, 304; St. John's, 203; St. Luke's, 134; St. Stephen's, 71.

The corner stone of the new mission building in southern Philadelphia, 21st and Tasker sts., was laid on Sunday afternoon, 27th ult. The mission is under care of the First Church and is exceptionally promising.

**MINISTERIAL.**

Becker, C., from New Hamburg, Ont., to Florence, Ind.

Davis, B. Frank, address changed from Kingston to Kinikinnick, Ohio.

Miller, W. A., from Winimac, Ind., to Lindsay, O.

Miller, R. W., of the Seminary at Lancaster, elected assistant to Dr. C. F. McCauley, Reading, Pa.

Peters, N. F., from Orbisonia to Slatington, Pa.

Reuter, W., from Monroeville to 50 Higgins street, Cleveland, O.

Stewart, W. I., Everett to Mechanicsburg, Pa.

Truxal, A. E., from Irwin to Bellefonte, Pa.

**BENEFICIARY EDUCATION.**

H. M. Housekeeper, Trinity, Philada., $47 61
Rev. F. A. Guth, Jefferson charge, York county, 105 00
Mrs. Barbara Hoke and Mrs. Reber, of Lischen's Church, York county, 50 00
Rev. Hartzell, Springtown, Bucks Co., 30 00
St. Paul's, Chester county, $56.60, and St. Matthew's, $74.40, pastor E. D. Wettach, 13 00
Union charge, E. Susquehanna Classis, 10 00
Alexandria charge, pastor C. U. Heilman, 21 78
Rev. M. L. Fritch, Allegheny charge, 25 00
Rev. F. W. Kremer, D. D., Lebanon, Pa., 100 00
Rev. S. M. Hench, Glade charge, Md., 30 00
Rev. Geo. Wolff, D. D., Myerstown, Pa., 25 00
Rev. F. J. Saurber, Heidelberg charge, York, 22 73
Rev. J. E. Smith, Moore Twp. charge, 13 00
Shenkle's church, Chester county, 12 00
Rev. H. J. Welker, Tulpehocken charge, 40 00
Rev. M. H. Groh, Landsburg charge, 20 19
Rev. L. G. Kremer, Hagerstown, Md., 12 00
Rev. F. F. Bahner, Wayesboro, Pa., 13 02
H. M. Housekeeper, Trinity, Philada., 44 79
Rev. J. W. Mabry, Cherryville, 48 43
Grace Mission, Philadelphia, 11 78
Rev. S. Kuhn, Berrysburg charge, Dauphin county, 15 00
Rev. A. Spangler, York, 30 00
Rev. A. B. Stoner, Mechanicstown, Md., 20 00
Rev. M. L. Fritch, Goulgersville church, Berks county, 10 00
F. M. Hoibon, Treasurer.

**BOOK AND LITERARY NOTICES.**

[In noticing Books the Bulletin is not limited to such only as are received for that purpose from publishers. For sufficient reasons others may be mentioned favorably or unfavorably, according to the Bulletin's estimate of their merits.]


In this volume of 400 pp. Dr. Dalton, of St. Petersburg, Russia, gives not only very graphic but exceedingly thoughtful and valuable reports of his travels during the summer of 1884, including his visit to Berlin as a delegate to the Reformed Alliance, in June, 1884, and covering also the Conference of Reformed Ministers in Marburg, on August 20-23 of the same year.


A tract of 104 pp., in which the author seems to prove conclusively that down to about 1585 the term Reformirte was most used to designate the Protestant Church, and that Lutheran was till then chiefly applied as a term of reproach.
NEW SCHOOL BOOKS.

TOPICAL OUTLINES IN THE HISTORY AND CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES
By Prof. J. K. Harley.

This is a capital little work intended to save teachers labor in writing on blackboard, and pupils in copying topics in History, etc., for future examination. The topics are well chosen to bring out facts presented in Ordinary History. Interesting both pupils and parents in searching larger histories within their reach. The book is a small size, in full cloth. 25 cents.

EXERCISES IN THE FUNDAMENTAL RULES OF ARITHMETIC
By Prof. E. K. Buehrl.

This, like the former, is a capital work for blackboard exercises intended to supplement the text book on arithmetic in use. The exercises are carefully graded, and are such as are found in every practical life, and are worked in each of the forms. Two editions are published, designated as "With Answers" and "Without Answers," bound handsomely in cloth. 25 cents.

PRACTICAL BOOKKEEPING.
By Prof. E. Oran Lyte, A. M., State Normal School, Millersville, Penna.

Every young lady, as well as young man, should be taught the principles of ordinary bookkeeping and accounts, for ladies, as well as men, must be able to understand accounts or at some time in their lives they will be liable to be defrauded.

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