Ursinus College Bulletin Vol. 2, No. 3

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Ursinus College

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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 assuring 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

At the present period of the Collegiate year the total number of students thus far entered on the rolls at Ursinus is an increase on the attendance up to the same time a year ago; and the attendance then was in excess of that of the year before. A cheering proof is this of steady and substantial growth.

An unusual number of applications have already been made for admission next term, by young men who expect to take a full classical or scientific course.

Provision has been made for filling the College vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Professor Van Haagen, by a gentleman of fine scholarly attainments, and one believed to be well qualified for the position.

Experience has proved that the winter months at Ursinus are far from being either dreary or tedious to the students. This season, like previous ones, has thus far passed very pleasantly. It has afforded fully as much rational diversion as any could desire, and yet there has been no serious interference with the main purpose and work of the school.

The Spring Term of the College will open on Monday, April 5. It is desired that all the students make it a special point to be promptly here on that day. Tardiness causes not only delay and confusion in arranging class-work, but disadvantage and loss to the student. The opening address for the term will be delivered by Prof. Reichenbach.

For some time the bicycles of Ursinus have been at a discount, and base ball games have been suspended. But amidst the pleasures of sleighing and skating there has been abundant
opportunity of out-door recreation. What if the temperature was occasionally down to zero, and even 10° and 13° below! Young blood does not shrink from that.

Since our last issue the Young Men's Christian Association of the College has been made the grateful owner of a handsome, fine-toned Estey organ, the gift of two warm friends of the institution, Mrs. Susan B. Good, of Reading, and Rev. James I. Good, of Philadelphia. The instrument will add very materially to the interest and success of the prayer-meetings of the Association, which are held on Wednesday night of each week. At a meeting held February 10th, a resolution was unanimously passed thanking the donors for their kindness and the concern in the welfare of the Association manifested by them. At present the Association is in a very prosperous condition. The membership numbers 59. J. L. Fluck is President of the Association and J. O. Lindaman, Secretary.

The lecture, or rather oration, by Daniel Dougherty, Esq., of the Philadelphia bar, given under the auspices of the Schaff Society, on the evening of the 19th of February, was in every respect a success. The distinguished orator, whose reputation has long been national, spoke on the theme, "Orators and Oratory." The large audience assembled in the College Chapel received the speaker very warmly, and he, in return, delivered a most entertaining, instructive and eloquent discourse. Mr. Dougherty's lecture was a rare treat to the students and the community, and it will long be remembered with pleasure and profit. The BULLETIN offers him a most emphatic vote of thanks for his just and discriminating criticism of the modern fashion (or vice) of substituting closely read essays or papers for orations and sermons. His protest against this bad and hampering habit, and his cogent reasons for denouncing it, are warmly endorsed.

The great benefits accruing to Ursinus College from the success of the $10,000 scheme, of which the readers of the BULLETIN have already been apprised, justify some further reference to it. In large measure that success is the fruit of the liberality of a warm and intelligent friend of the College. As a detailed statement of the matter, intended for an earlier number of the BULLETIN, was mislaid or lost in its transmission for publication, the substance of the statement is here repeated. A generous offer of $5,000 was made by the friend referred to, on condition that a like additional sum be raised. To secure this Rev. H. T. Spangler yielded to the urgent request of the Board of Directors, and gave his services as special agent for a few months to the work. His efforts were effective, and by the time stipulated, January 1, 1886, the amount needed was secured. Accordingly, on January 12, Rev. Dr. Klopp, of Philadelphia, met the treasurer of the College with a check for $5,000, and the plan was happily consummated. The influence of this issue has proven most advantageous to the
Institution in many ways, inspiring all its friends with fresh confidence and courage, and gaining for it increased favor in all directions. For all this let there be first devout gratitude to God, and with this a thankful appreciation of the liberality of friends.

By the will of the late Henry Snyder, deceased, formerly of Pikeland Township, Chester County, Pa., $1,000 is bequeathed to Home Missions in the Reformed Church, $1,000 to Church Extension in said Church, and $500 to Ursinus College for Beneficiary Education.

THE LITERARY SOCIETIES

It appears that the communication in the February Bulletin in reference to the "Zwinglian Society," does not reflect the opinion of all the members as to the present condition and past work of their Society. A "Zwinglian," speaking of the article, cites as an evidence of the "zeal" of at least some of his associates the fact that the Society now occupies a new and commodious hall, which, together with an adjoining library room, it has in the last few years refitted at a heavy expense, a fine Brussels carpet for the meeting-room being among the improvements. It was the Zwinglian Society, also, he adds, which started and perfected the lecture system, which of late has added so much to the literary enjoyment of life at Ursinus. While some of the members do not seem to be as faithful as they might be, the energy and efficiency of others have achieved successes which stand on a par with what has been accomplished by its rival.

The publication of the article seems to have acted like a local thunderstorm, which will doubtless leave the Society in a purer atmosphere.

We give below a list of the present officers of the Zwinglian and Schaff Societies:

Schaff Society.—President, W. A. Korn; Vice-President, J. R. Myers; Recording Secretary, Wayne Longstreth; Corresponding Secretary, J. L. Fluck; Chaplain, S. L. Messinger; Editor, P. C. Mensch; Critic, G. P. Fisher; Treasurer, C. P. Kehl; Librarian, C. H. Brandt; Assistant Librarian, F. R. Sallade.

Zwinglian Society.—President, O. H. E. Rauch; Vice-President, T. S. Krause; Recording Secretary, H. T. Boyer; Corresponding Secretary, A. J. Mosteller; Chaplain, W. H. Wotring; Editor, M. A. Peters; Critic, D. C. Murtha; Treasurer, G. H. Miller; Librarian, J. B. Mosteller; Assistant Librarian, Samuel Roberts.

ZWINGLIAN ANNIVERSARY

The Sixteenth Anniversary of the Zwinglian Society, will take place on Thursday evening, March 25th. The order of exercises for the evening will be as follows:

INVOCATION.

Salutatory — — — Singleness of Aim
O. H. E. Rauch, Slatington, Penna.

Oration — — — Temptations of Youth
Wallace H. Wotring, Schnecksville, Penna.

Oration — — — Success
Abraham Wotfinger; Bingen, Penna.

Oration — — — The Emptiness of Human Greatness
C. U. O. Derr, Reading, Penna.

Eulogy — — — George Peabody
Thad. S. Krause, Plumsdale, Penna.

Zwinglian Oration — — — Self Knowledge
D. Charles Murtha, Philadelphia.
The Committee of Arrangements, of which George H. Miller is Chairman, is taking steps to secure for the occasion instrumental music of a high order.

A NEW LITERARY SOCIETY

The urgent necessity of practical improvement in the German Language has given rise at Ursinus to another Society, called the Ebrardische Literary Society, which has lately been organized with the following students as its officers: President, W. A. Korn; Vice-President, P. C. Mensch; Recording Secretary, C. U. O. Derr; Corresponding Secretary, O. H. E. Rauch, Treasurer, W. H. Wotrin; Editor, J. L. Fluck; Chaplain, M. A. Peters; Critic, G. P. Fisher.

The interest and energy thus far manifested by the members show that they appreciate the advantages resulting from an Association of this kind. It is to be hoped that the spirit now displayed may remain, and that the Society, profiting by the failures of previous similar efforts, may prove of lasting benefit to all that are connected with it.

"OLEVIAN" ITEMS

The Olevian Society will give an Open Meeting in the College Chapel on Friday Evening, March 12th. The following programme has been arranged for the occasion:

- Opening March - Miss Eberly
- Prayer - Rev. H. T. Spangler
- Music—Olevian Quartette
  Misses Grater, Price, Schleichter, and Kulp
- Recitation
- Essay
- Music—Violin Solo
- Recitation
- Music—Vocal Duet

The Olevian's Officers, recently elected, are as follows: President, Miss Eberly; Vice-President, Miss Royer; Recording Secretary, Miss Rahn; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Price; Editor, Miss Fetterolf; Treasurer, Miss Bechtel; Critic, Miss Johnson. The Society meets every Thursday afternoon. The Y. M. C. A. has kindly given the ladies the privilege of using their new organ at their meetings.

THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

PERSONAL

'74. Rev. M. Peters, A. M., Professor in Galesville University, Wisconsin (Presbyterian), has had his ecclesiastical relations transferred to the Presbyterian Church. Whilst wishing that, in our need of true and faithful ministers, his health would have permitted his continuance in an Eastern field of our own Church, it is gratifying to know he has found a field in so closely related a branch of the Reformed Church, and one which recognizes the Heidelberg Catechism among its doctrinal standards.

'76. Rev. J. F. Butler is supplying the Altamont Mission in Illinois, and is Stated Clerk of the Classis to which he belongs.

'76. Rev. G. S. Sorber, during his pastorate of seven years and eight months in Chester Co., preached 820 sermons, baptized 75, confirmed 135,
and officiated at 254 funerals. His present address is McEwensville, Northumberland Co., Pa.

'77. Rev. Percy Y. Schelley, of Hamburg, Penna., who recently married Mrs. Levi B. Stoudt, a lady of the same place, is at present, with his bride, sojourning for a season in Florida.

'83. Geo. W. Woltersberger is now a member of the Junior Class at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, he having entered the institution in October, 1885.

'85. At Newton, North Carolina, on Feb. 11, 1886, Mr. Joseph L. Murphy and Miss Minnie Perkins Reinhardt were married by Rev. Dr. J. C. Clapp, President of Catawba College. The BULLETIN extends its warmest congratulations.

SPECIAL TOPICS

SWISS REFORMERS AND THE REFORMATION

It is entirely in harmony with the ruling design and aim of the BULLETIN, to discuss, occasionally, such topics as that above named. To this it will be prompted, not by any sectarian zeal, but by the desire to serve the cause of historical truth and justice. That God is in history, even in regard to its general course of so-called secular events, is freely admitted by all who hold right views of God and believe in him. But, if so, then His potent presence in religious history, and most emphatically in that of the divine Redemption will not be questioned. Let this be admitted, and the conclusion is obvious that histories are under special obligations to be scrupulously true to the actual facts and events which may have transpired in the past. Those facts and events are not raw material, whether of marble or plaster, which successive writers may chip or mould to suit their private tastes, or for the display of the powers of their artistic talents. A history should not be a romance. Otherwise not only will history be perverted, but God will be dishonored, and the great lessons will be spoiled by which he seeks to instruct mankind through the events of the past. But it is not our present design to pursue further the broad and interesting subject which these thoughts open up. They have been introduced here for another purpose.

In the Book Notices of our last issue, attention was directed to the excellent popular manual of Church History, by Prof. Dr. Moffat. To the general commendation of the work as worthy of wide circulation a qualified exception was hesitatingly filed in regard to a single point named. The notice of the book, with this exception, came into the esteemed author's hands. And whilst the BULLETIN regrets that its criticism of the point referred to has, undesignedly, been likely to make a wrong impression, the occasion it gave Dr. Moffat to write the following letter fully explaining his position in the premises, half reconciles us to any error committed.

The friends of the BULLETIN will be glad to read the writer's frank and positive statements, and will share with us the pleasure felt in their persual.
Theological Seminary,
Princeton, N. J., February 16, 1886.
To the Editor of the Ursinus College Bulletin.

Dear Sir:—

In the No. of your periodical for this month, there is a kind and discriminating notice of my book designed to present in brief the life of the church, for which I wish to present my thanks to the writer. My motive, however, in writing this note is to assure both him and you that my estimate of the precedence of the Reformed Church and its great leader Zwingli, does not really differ from your own. On pages 244, 245, and 246 I present, so briefly it is true as to be easily overlooked, the earlier beginning of the Reformed Church in Switzerland, its more rapid progress, earlier completeness, and more thorough reformation. In my lectures I treat more fully of these points, and in the same adherence to historical fact. But Luther has to come to the front in his place, not because he was the earliest, or the most purely Scriptural reformer, but because he rushed into the public controversy the boldest and most belligerent of leaders. From his first word on the subject — his first challenge — the gauntlet was thrown down to the whole Romish Church. The army corps which he led, determined the action of empire, and nations.

Although I have therefore to put the great Saxon in the place of controversy which he seized and held, I entirely agree with you that Zwingli both preceded him and effected a purer reformation.

This is written not for publication, but merely to state my historical agreement with Christian gentlemen, who have treated my little book kindly.

Yours very respectfully,

James C. Moffat.

To this highly appreciated letter, a suitable answer was given, which was courteously acknowledged by a second from the same respected source, portions of which are, by permission, herewith added.

The Rev. J. H. A. Bomberger, D. D.

Dear Brother:—

In reply to your very kind note, I am glad to say that we coincide on some points not often subject of discussion in our church, and yet on which I have observed a general undercurrent of agreement. Tacitly we admit many things as true which we never assign to their proper place of importance. Touching the Reformation, Basle beyond all dispute was far in advance of Wittenberg, and Zurich’s reform was more complete than that of Saxony. On these points I have never heard any discussion among our men, but I know that their views cannot differ from your own.*** We of the Reformed churches cling faithfully to our doctrine, and yet give the highest praise of the Reformation to a man who never acknowledged it.

Yours sincerely,

James C. Moffat.

Helps to Successful Study.

Every student feels the need of some special helps to study, if he has set himself about his work with any serious purpose. And under the pressure of this feeling many make grave mistakes in the selection of their helps, seizing and depending upon “keys” in mathematics, “ponies” in the languages, and “plagiarism” in other branches,—all of them deceptive and pernicious aids.

For the benefit of those who really desire to make the most of their edu-
cational opportunities, and to do so for the most worthy ends, the following counsel is given as, in part at least, the best assistance they can find.

First, try to get a right estimate of your spiritual power and capacities for learning, and to realize every day more fully your duty to improve your precious talents.

Second, look thoughtfully and lovingly over the vast field of elevating knowledge which surrounds you, and invites you to cultivate it.

Third, reflect often and seriously upon how little you know, much less than you might and should know; and,

Fourth, consider how much happier you might make yourself and others, by faithful diligence.

Try this recipe, report results, and the Bulletin may give you further help.

"Seekest thou great things for thyself? seek them not." Jer. 45:5.

"Whosoever shall seek to save his life shall lose it; and whosoever shall lose his life shall preserve it." Luke 17:33.

MONTHLY SUMMARY

COLLEGIATE.

There are already quite a number of College Exchanges which each month find their way to the Bulletin's editorial table. Among them we mention The Haverfordian, Swarthmore Phoenix, The Advocate, The University Mirror, The College Student, The Heidelberg Monthly Journal and The Pennsylvania College Monthly. Though they all present a very neat and attractive appearance, we cannot refrain from admiring especially among the number, the style and make-up of the two first-named papers.

CONGREGATIONAL

St. John's Church, Baltimore, Rev. M. Firor, Pastor, held a series of "Gospel meetings" in January in which Rev. J. B. Shontz, of Shippensburg, assisted. The Gospel was plainly preached, familiar hymns sung, many prayers offered and requests for prayers received, and house-to-house visitation performed.

The first anniversary of Faith Reformed Sunday School, a mission of St. Paul's Church, Lancaster, was held on February 7th. Rev. Dr. Shumaker is pastor and R. W. Miller, of the Senior Class in the Seminary, is Superintendent. In addition to the regular Sunday-School work, Gospel meetings have been held in a chapel near by every Sunday night since January 10th.

MINISTERIAL


Hottenstein, A. R., resigns Mahanoy charge, Northumberland County, Pa.

House, G. A., resigns Maquokita, Iowa.

Leisman, J., address Fort Dodge, Iowa.

Lerch, J.V., address Soldiers' Home, Montgomery County, Ohio.


Neef, G. L., pastoral relation with German Church at Lancaster, Pa., dissolved.

Yundt, T. C., formerly of Allentown, Pa., elected Superintendent of Bethany Orphans' Home, Womelsdorf, Pa.

BENEVOLENT

Elder Lerch, of Bethlehem, Pa., lately deceased, has bequeathed $2,500 each to Beneficiary Education and Home Missions; $500 to the Society for the Relief of Ministers and their Widows, and $200 to the Sunday-School Library of his own church.
BOOK 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.]

BILHILD. (A picture of Christian Life, in the eighth century.)

DIE KREUZ-EICHE, eine Erzählung.

HUGONOTTENSGESCHICHTE. Mas d' Azil.

It is rather strange that three books as interesting and instructive as these, should be unknown by Americans, though some years have passed since their first publication in Germany. They appear under the assumed name of Gottfried Flamberg, but are known by many to be the productions of an author whose writings in some of the highest branches of learning, rank with those of the most distinguished scholars of Europe, of the positively evangelical class. He has few equals, and no superiors in theology, history and Biblical criticism. In vindication of Gospel Christianity against modern assaults of skepticism and infidelity, he stands facile princes. And he has been a most diligent and prolific author in these profounder departments of study. How he found time to take rest, even by change of theme, in writing such volumes as those named above, and a half dozen more of like drift and aim is simply amazing. But it was leisure devoted a very good purpose, by husbanding facts and incidents gathered in his pursuit of other and weightier subjects, and putting them into such popular form as not only saves them from oblivion, but makes them serve the noble ends of instruction, and incitement to virtue and piety. By the way, the author of the volumes is a distinguished descendant of the Huguenots.

Attention is directed to them now in the hope first, that some of our friends who read German may be induced to purchase the books; and secondly, that an enterprising publisher may be tempted to procure a good translation of them, and so place them within reach of English readers. Either of them so translated would be a valuable addition to family or Sunday School libraries. They could be obtained through any importing German Book Store.

From the Presbyterian Board of Publication, 1334 Chestnut St., Philadelphia.

UNCLE SETH'S WILL, by Mrs. Nathaniel Conklin, 12mo., pp. 408, $1.25.

So many excellent books, not only for Sunday Schools, but general reading, are continually issuing from the prolific press of this Board that the vocabulary of praise has long been exhausted in commending them. And yet here is one which in some respects may be said to surpass its predecessors. If any doubt, let them read it.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, for the year ending June 1, 1885.

Superintendent Higbee, D. D., to whom we are indebted for a copy of this Report, will please accept thanks for his courtesy. The Report is a very complete and satisfactory one.


Ever since the discontinuance of the Catholic Presbyterian (monthly), the need of some periodical publication has been felt as a medium of stated communicaton between the friends of the Reformed Alliance and of maintaining interest in its work. The Quarterly Register will be warmly welcomed as a good substitute. The contents of No. 1 show that its management is in the best hands—Drs. Blaikie and Mathews, aided by Principal Cairns and others. Price per year, one shilling (25 cents). Let it be widely circulated. The Bulletin will gladly help in this by receiving subscriptions and ordering the paper.
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Spring Term, April 5th—June 24th, 1886

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Rev. J. H. A. Bomberger, D. D.,

Collegeville P. O., Montgomery County, Penna.

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