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BECAUSE a knowledge of the general principles which underlie educational work is necessary to a wise choice of an educational institution, the BULLETIN herewith submits a few of the more important to the consideration of its readers.

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URSINUS COLLEGE BULLETIN.

VOLUME V. COLLEGEVILLE, MARCH, 1889. NUMBER 6.

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COLLEGE EDITOR:
A. W. BOMBERGER, ’82.

COLLEGE CONTRIBUTORS:
OSWIL H. E. RAUCH, ’89.
ZWINGLIAN.
1. CALVIN FISHER, ’89.
ERNEST CLAPP, ’89.
OLEVIAN.
FLORA S. RAHN, ’89.
EBRARD.
H. A. I. BENNER, ’89.

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SINCE the ancient time when Plato the immortal philosopher was wont to charm his listening disciples with the magic powers of his lofty mind, the study-halls of nature have ever furnished the most favorable and attractive conditions for ideal intellectual culture. The pursuit of knowledge in the “Grove of Academe,” — with its shady walks and winding avenues of trees, its marble statues and altars and sparkling fountains, the clear, bright skies of sunny Attica shining softly overhead and her pure and balmy breezes blowing fragrance thro’ the foliage around,—must indeed have been a most delightful avocation. None but a veritable dullard could have withstood the invigorating influences of such surroundings, chosen by a noble teacher for learning’s special courts. The earnest student spirit thrills and quickens as fancy paints the scene. And yet what seems a picture now was a reality then, and the picture, or reality as you please, has its counterpart today. For rural college life is still the pleasantest and best for those in search of wisdom for the love of it, as well as any particular ends they hope its acquisition may secure.

* * *

Now that spring-time once more draws near, the truth of this opinion becomes manifest. In the very midst of nature is the student’s native home: and as the sunlight again seems day by day more golden and all the signs declare that the season of bud and blossom and singing birds has been sighted from afar, the hearts of hundreds of toilers over text-books in the country colleges of our land grow lightsome at the prospect and swell with newly infused vigor for the daily round of work.

* * *

Among the varied duties which students owe to their fellows, those which are simplest and ever-recurring are the ones most frequently neglected. In all institutions a common offense against the rights of the academic community is the disturbance of the quiet or privacy of study hours. It usually arises from mere thoughtlessness or lack of consideration for the rights of others, and yet it often be-
comes a source of constant and serious annoyance. A writer in an undergraduate exchange, who has evidently been a victim of offences of the kind referred to, challenges any man to write a eulogy in one room while a school-mate in the adjoining apartment plays "Yankee Doodle" on the cornet, and his challenge contains a suggestion which many college-men might profit by in the regulation of their future conduct.

* * *

The question of the advisability of passing a law providing for the compulsory attendance of the public schools of Philadelphia is receiving more or less general discussion in that city. Leaving out of consideration any other features of the proposed enactment, the fact that it would have the effect of withdrawing, for the greater part of the day, hundreds of children from the degrading influences of the streets would seem to have great weight in recommending it.

* * *

In a brief month or so arrangements for the next commencement at Ursinus will begin to be the subject of conversation. If the size and spirit of the graduating class form any index of the character of the event, it may be anticipated with more than ordinary pleasure.

THE LITERARY SOCIETIES.

ZWINGLIAN.

NINETEENTH ANNIVERSARY.

The nineteenth Zwinglian anniversary will be celebrated in the college chapel on Thursday evening, March 28, 1889. The literary portion of the programme of the occasion is made up as follows:

Invocation,
Salutatory,
  Thomas E. Kalbach, '92, Lebanon, Pa.
Oration, Ira L. Bryner, '92, Cisna's Run, Pa.
Oration,
Oration,
Eulogy,
  Harvey E. Kilmer, '90, Myerstown, Pa.
Zwinglian Oration,
  Wallace Harvey Wotring, '89, Schneckville, Pa.
Benediction,
  President Bomberger, D.D., LL.D.

The anniversary committee of arrangements consists of I. Calvin Fisher, '89; Henry Tesnow, '89; Calvin D. Yost, '91; Harry E. Jones, '91, and William H. Kern, '92. The music will be furnished by the Aelolian Orchestra of the college, O. H. E. Rauch, '89, Director. Handsomely engraved invitations have been sent out to Zwinglian and Ursinus friends at a distance as well as in Collegeville and surrounding towns. The society will be pleased to see the public in general present at the exercises.

Rev. James W. Meminger, '84, Lancaster, Pa., a former Zwinglian, offers a prize of $10 in gold, to the man that delivers the best oration on anniversary night. The criteria by which the orations shall be judged are, matter, style and manner of delivery.

ZWINGLIAN OFFICERS.

On Friday evening, March 1st, the following officers were elected by the Zwinglian Society to serve for the ensuing eight weeks:

President, William H. Loose, '90; Vice-President, Harvey E. Kilmer, '90; Recording
On Friday evening, February 15th, Die Ebrard Literarische Gesellschaft held its first anniversary in the college chapel. The event had been looked forward to with unusual interest by professors and students as well as many friends outside the institution, with the result that a large and deeply attentive audience was in attendance.

The exercises opened with a march by the Æolian Orchestra, led by O. H. E. Rauch, '89, during the performance of which the faculty, the performers and the Ebrard, Schaff, Zwinglian and Olevian Societies entered the chapel and were assigned to seats reserved for them. Prayer was then offered by Rev. J. E. Smith, '77, of Bath, Pa., after which the "Ebrard Sanger-Bund" rendered a selection of vocal music. The Salutatory oration was delivered by O. B. Hensinger, '92, of Best's, Pa. His theme was "Deutschland's Sprache." Granville H. Meixell, '90, of Bethlehem, Pa., in the Ebrard oration spoke on "Die Flüchtigkeit der Zeit." Henry A. I. Benner, '89, of Collegeville, Pa., pronounced a eulogy on Dr. Ebrard, and Wallace H. Wotring, '89, of Schnecksville, Pa., gave the Anniversary oration, choosing as his subject "Die Stärkste Wehre einer Nation—die Familie."

All the speakers acquitted themselves with high honor, their efforts being marked by fluency and distinctness of utterance as well as correctness of construction and composition. No hesitation of any kind marred their delivery and the audience was most agreeably surprised at the knowledge of the German language which the performers displayed. The Sänger-Bund, composed of eight voices, gave two selections during the evening both of which were warmly received, while the Æolian Orchestra as usual fully sustained its part of the programme.

The novelty of a German entertainment at Ursinus tended to enhance its decided success, to which the delightful weather of the evening gave additional lustre. May the first Ebrard anniversary ever stand as a precedent for coming years.

The importance of a German society in an institution which, like Ursinus, represents the Reformed Church in the United States, should, in the opinion of the Ebrard correspondent, be specially felt by those students having the Gospel ministry in view. In support of this view he cites statistics which show that out of 805 ministers in this church 394 preach exclusively or in part in the German language. An apparently conclusive reason why this tongue should not be neglected by those desirous of accomplishing effective work in the Reformed Church.

The Ebrard officers are at present as follows:—

President, C. D. Yost; Vice-President, H. T. Wagner; Recording Secretary, H. E. Kilmer; Corresponding Secretary, H. E. Jones; Treasurer, H. A. I. Benner; Chaplain, W. H. Wotring; Critic, I. C. Fisher; Editor, O. B. Hensinger; Librarian, F. H. L. Witzel.
MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

At a recent meeting of the Schaff society the interesting question, "Resolved, That Canada should be annexed to the United States," was earnestly discussed, many members participating in the debate. The opinion of the society proved to be decidedly in favor of annexation.

The annual Open Meeting of the Olevian Society took place on Thursday evening, March 14, in the college chapel. A full report of the meeting may be expected in our next issue.

At a recent Schaff election, the following were chosen officers of that society:

President, E. S. Bromer, '90; Vice-President, I. C. Williams, '91; Recording Secretary, J. M. S. Isenberg, '93; Corresponding Secretary, C. H. Slighoff, '90; Chaplain, H. M. Wright, '93; Editor, Mayne R. Longstreth, '89; Critic, G. H. Meixell, '90; Treasurer, Peter E. Heimer, '91; Organist, F. W. Steinbright, '94.

NEWS ABOUT COLLEGE.

THE COLLEGE LIBRARY.

Since the last report in the Bulletin of the condition of the library the following volumes have been added by the Schaff Literary Society:


Gifts of honorary and active members of this society are acknowledged as follows:

Rev. J. H. Shuford, of Middlebrook, Virginia:
Moberly's Brightstone Sermons, Rev. Newman Hall's Sermons, Hare's Alton Sermons, Dr. Addison Alexander's Sermons.
B. H. Sprankle, Esq., of Knoxville, Tenn.:—


Mr. Heins, of Philadelphia:—
Hallam's Literature of Europe (2 vols.)
Reid's Boy Hunters, and Hughes' Tom Brown's School Days.

Mr. M. H. Koehler, of Bath, Pa.:—

Mr. H. S. Filbert, of Womelsdorf, Pa.:—
Hallam's Constitutional History of England (2 vols.), Lover's Handy Andy, Lever's Harry Lorrequer, Duchess' Phyllis, Amélie Rives' The Quick or the Dead.

Mr. C. E. Wehler:—
Mrs. Ward's Robert Elsmere, and De Quincey's English Opium Eater.

Governor Beaver:—

C. Tyson Kratz, Esq.:—
Warren's Birds of Pennsylvania.

E. S. Bromer —
Hallam's Middle Ages (2 vols.).

W. F. Ruff:—
Roe's Forging His Own Chains.

Y. M. C. A. NEWS.

Early in the present collegiate term a meeting, purposing to present the subject of total consecration in a new way, was held. It resulted in a "Motto" meeting, in which those below named participated. The passages
given are the portions of Scripture which the respective members have chosen as their insignia in their daily Christian conflict:

E. Cassel, Ps. 16: 1; J. M. Eisenberg, Phil. 3: 20; O. B. Hensinger, Ps. 110: 14; H. E. Jones, Phil. 1: 21; H. E. Kilmer, Eccl. 9: 10; S. P. Stauffer, Phil. 4: 4; W. H. Stubblebine, Ps. 91: 11; O. H. E. Rauch, Jas. 5: 16; Harry Tesnow, Mark 14: 38; H. T. Wagner, Josh. 24: 21; C. E. Wehler, Ps. 56: 3; Howard Wright, Phil. 3: 13, 14.

On Sunday, February 17, at 3 o'clock P.M., after the singing of hymns and a prayer, Prof. Weinberger addressed the students on the subject, “Serving God.” “The first requisite is to be in right relations with Him. We must repent and He will regenerate.” Then will our words be only the overflow of a good heart. We should feast our eyes not on self but Jesus Christ; ever listen to the voice of God by obeying; be occupied with the world about us, but always looking for higher things; and spring to our feet to escape the dangers which indifference would bring upon us. There should be no seeming within us but heart impulse. Each is called to work. “Did you ever see a lazy Christian? It is a contradiction. It is as much your duty to work six days as to keep the Sabbath holy.”

Rom. 12: 11. All are the servants of God. Do not say “I am under no obligations to Him,” for you are living on His earth. Read Psalm 139: 7-9. Rather live for His glory. Acts 20: 19.

The following officers have been elected by the association for the ensuing year:

President, Harvey E. Kilmer; Vice-President, Jos. K. Freed; Recording Secretary, H. T. Wagner; Corresponding Secretary, Peter E. Heimer; Treasurer, C. D. Yost; Organist, O. H. E. Rauch.

The standing committees appointed by the President are:

Devotional—Henry Tesnow, Peter E. Heimer, Howard Wright.


General Religious Work—Chas. H. Slinghoff, O. B. Hensinger, Nevin Huber.


GENERAL ITEMS.

Professor E. M. Hyde, late of Ursinus, now of Lehigh University, visited the college about the middle of February.

President Bomberger preached the sermon at the funeral of Rev. Dr. George Wolff, in Myerstown on the 22d of last month.

J. K. Freed, ’90, and H. G. Allebach, ’91, who were recently confined to their homes by illness, have both recovered and are once again engaged in their scholastic work.

C. E. Wehler, ’87, of the Senior theological class, preached in Myerstown, on Sunday, February 17, and G. P. Fisher, ’87, also a Senior theologian, preached in Tamaqua on the Sunday following.

Chas. P. Kehl, ’90, and J. Manton Mensch, ’91, not long since walked from Collegeville to Pennsburg in five hours.
Washington's Birthday was not observed at the college except by the usual cessation of work, and many of the students spent the day either at home or with friends.

The supporters of the Prohibition amendment at Ursinus have formed an association for the purpose of better putting their views on the question into effective operation.


The second of the two lectures on "Life, and how to Live it," by Rev. D. E. Klopp, D. D., of Philadelphia, was delivered in the college chapel on Monday afternoon, February 11th, and met with a reception equally as warm as that accorded the one given in January. The first lecture was a very earnest and impressive presentation of principles, and the second a practical application of them in a more familiar style. For both, with the good results which will attend them, the college feels gratefully indebted to their author.

COLLEGE CONTRIBUTIONS.

VESPERTINE.

"In the hour of softened splendor,"
"In the hour of softened splendor,"
In the regal aureole glow,
Which the flaming sunbeams send, o'er
Nestling vales where brooklets flow;—
When the shades of night advancing,
Like soft zephyrs from their rest;
Mellow colors, soul entrancing,
Stain and purple all the west;—

When the Robins chant together,
And the late Larks from the mead,
With the Thrushes in the heather,
Winged nature's carols lead;—
Then the heart breaks forth in vespers,
Then the soul's ecstatic lay
Is breathed out in spirit whispers,
With the dying of the day.
And while dews of night are falling,
While the pale moon rises high,
Like some Robin's distant calling,
Those hushed whispers heavenward sigh.

WALTER BOMBERGER.

TRUE WORDS.

Speak to thy friend the truth!
His days are shining golden grains,
Which, slipping through the glass of Time
With swiftness, show that noon-tide wanes,
Before he thinks day in its prime.
A word of greeting, then,—farewell;
A passing glance, a parting tear:
And the bright tableau of his life
Is ended; death seals his career.
"What! gone already! and without your alms!
How easily, when you grasped his hand,
Might you have dropped in it some pearl;
Some burning thought, like Christian's roll,
A passport to the better land!
What little labor to have thrilled his heart,
Before his short-orbed sun had set,
With words that inward strength impart,
And soothe to perfect peace the sore regret!"

Speak to thy friend the truth!
The shallow joke, the cunning jest,
Can't's blunted edge and hackneyed form,
Will comfort not the earnest breast;
But are like lightning in the storm,
Which for a twinkling shows the way,
Then leaves one blind in darker night to stray.
They are the butterflies of wit,
Which please the fancy while they onward flit;
But nourish not the choicer mind,
That makes the worth of humankind.
The Truth has power to stretch man's course
In journeying through Life's wilderness;
To open and reveal the source
Of his own weal and happiness.
For in its light the flowers grow fairer
The scenery of life seems rarer,
While love thrives as a tropic plant,
And firm becomes as adamant.

Speak to thy friend the truth!
It is the duty of a friend
To share the hardships of his mate;
To bear the burden of the day
In common with his brother clay,
And each the other's load abate;
Each whisper in the other's ear
His word of counsel or of cheer.

For Truth is paired with Sympathy,
And from it cannot sundered be.
Who art thou, then, that slight's a friend,
And fills his hungry soul with jests;
Who can no words of counsel lend
When evil with its scourge molest?
Thou know'st not Love; thy Truth is base;
Truth linked with Selfishness is none.

Who cannot from his mind erase
His self-love, he the Truth will shun.
O, take thou, then, thy pilgrim staff,
And let thy brother on it lean;
And they will write thine epitaph,
"His life was felt,—not seen."

H. G. A.

THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.

PERSONALS.

[Alumni and others can render a service by sending items of interest for this column. All such items, to receive prompt attention, must be addressed to URSINUS COLLEGE BULLETIN, Collegeville, Montg. Co. Pa.]

'73. The Rev. F. F. Bahner, pastor of the Waynesboro charge, Franklin Co., Pa., observed Reformation Day on the third Sunday of January with the enthusiasm that characterizes all his work, and achieved the most happy results. The eloquence of the theme was not exhausted in the pulpit, and when the pastor made an appeal to an individual member, his heart and hand responded warmly and liberally in a special thank offering of $200 for beneficiary education. Mr. Bahner is to be commended for carrying the gospel of Reformation Day from house to house, and his generous-minded parishioners for rightly appreciating its blessed import.

'75. Henry Herbert Pigott, Esq., has been working his way to fortune, if not to fame, by faithfulness to his duties as solicitor for The Fidelity Insurance and Safe Deposit Company, Third and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, one of the most successful and substantial institutions of its kind in the city. His home is at Secane, Delaware Co., on a branch line of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

'76. F. G. Hobson, Esq., of the Norristown Bar, attended the State Prohibition Amendment Convention at Harrisburg on February 11th, as a delegate from Montgomery County, and is now serving as a member of the State Committee. The BULLETIN prophesies that his energy and efficiency will contribute largely to the success of the amendment in Montgomery.

'76. The Rev. George S. Sorber, of Watsontown, Pa., enjoyed a mid-winter vacation February 18–28, during which he visited Philadelphia, Collegeville, and Brownback's charge in Chester County—his former home—assisted at a wedding, married a couple, and preached a number of sermons for the Rev. A. D. Wolfinger.

'77. The Rev. P. Y. Shelly, who entered the ranks of the Presbyterian ministry during his residence in the State of Florida, has accepted a call to the pastorate of the Presbyterian church, at Slatington, Pa., and has removed to that place.

'77. The Rev. S. M. Hench, of Walkersville, Maryland, celebrated a joyful occasion with his congregation
at Woodsboro on the 16th of February. The people though few in number, determined to remodel their church, which is an old stone structure with immense walls. The improvements consist of a new pine floor, a new pulpit and chancel, new windows, carpet, chandelier and fine fresco work. The church is now one of the neatest in the charge. A thanksgiving service was held on Saturday night, and the re dedication service on Sunday morning. The collections and contributions were sufficient to cover all the expenses, which amounted to about $800. On Sunday afternoon a Union Sunday-school service was held. The attendance at all the services was very large, and the sermons were preached by Rev. Louis F. Zinkhan, of Baltimore. On the evening of the same day, the missionary society at the Glade church held its 3d anniversary. The large church was crowded to overflowing. Mr. Hench, the president of the society, gave a most encouraging report of the year’s work, showing that the contributions had been large and the interest in the cause most encouraging. The charge is in a flourishing condition, and shows on every hand evidences of faithful and efficient work.

'77. Rev. J. E. Smith, pastor of the Moore Township charge, Northampton Co., Pa., delivered the prayer at the anniversary of the Ebrard Literarische Gesellschaft of the College. Mr. Smith has excellent command of the German language, and uses that tongue in the performance of the greater part of his ministerial duties.

'77. The Rev. J. W. Mabry and wife, of Cherryville, Pa., have been bereft of the brightest light of their home by the death of their daughter Edith, a sweet child of six summers. Intelligent beyond her years, most winning in speech and manner, she soon attracted the visitor with the same artless charms that made her a favorite in the church and community which her guileless life illumined for so brief a time only. The bereaved parents are assured of the sympathy of pastor Mabry’s college friends.

'77-'86. Rev. C. H. Coon, assistant pastor of Trinity Reformed Church, Philadelphia, excels as a director of music. He has organized a choral society in his church of about two hundred voices, which has given two very successful concerts of the Music of the War. The first was given early in the winter in Girard Assembly Hall, which has a seating capacity of 1100, and every ticket was sold, netting the society about $475. For the second concert, on the evening of February 14th, the Academy of Music was used, and a neighboring congregation joined in the undertaking. The pecuniary results turned out to be just as satisfactory for the choral. The orchestra which led the chorus in the latter concert was under the direction of Rev. E. C. Hibshman, ’86, assistant pastor of Heidelberg church, Philadelphia, and Mr. H. E. Kratz, ’90, was an efficient participant.

'77. Rev. Ernest Randolph Cassady, pastor of St. Peter’s Lutheran church at Ninth and Reed Streets, Philadelphia, and Miss Lillian Weaver, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. William Weaver, formerly of Chester County, were married on February 21st, 1889, at six o’clock, in the church of the Holy Communion, Broad and Arch Streets, Philadelphia. The ceremony
was performed by the Rev. Dr. Joseph A. Seiss, in the presence of a large assemblage of relatives and friends. Miss Leila Yerkes was maid of honor, and Miss Mina Pennypacker, of Phoenixville, and Miss Sallie Pott, of Williamsport, acted as bridesmaids. The ushers were: Rev. George S. Sorber, of Watsontown; Samuel G. Fry, of Philadelphia; H. M. Muhlenberg, of Reading; Rev. W. A. Passavant, of Pittsburg, and Dr. Sherman Loder, of Philadelphia. After the ceremony a reception was given at 1605 South Broad Street, where the newly married couple will make their home. The Bulletin would add its hearty congratulations and good wishes to the long list of those already received by Mr. Cassady and his bride.

'84. Rev. J. J. Stauffer, of East Berlin, Adams Co., Pa., has accepted a call to the Weissport and East Mauch Chunk congregations in Carbon Co., and expects to take up pastoral work in the new field April 1st.

'86. The Rev. J. A. Mertz and his people at St. Vincent, Chester Co., Pa., enjoyed a happy day on February 24th, when their new house of worship was dedicated free of debt. The old building had been dismembered, and additions built to it, so that the house now consists of a communicating Sunday-school and audience room, with an entrance and vestibule on the east and west sides, and a pulpit recess. All the furniture is new, the walls are neatly frescoed, and the floors carpeted. The cost of the building was $6,000. President Bomberger preached a sermon on the morning of dedication day, and Rev. H. Hilbish, of Myerstown, at night. Mr. Mertz's work at Linfield and St. Vincent has made steady progress, and we congratulate him on his success.

GENERAL TOPICS.

MALICIOUS FICTION.

Romances, and especially less exaggerated works of fiction, may be allowed a place in general literature, and serve some good ends as entertaining and even profitable diversion from severer studies. Of course, they should always be governed by pure ethical principles, tastes, and aims. And, furthermore, indulgence in the reading of them must not be permitted to become an absorbing passion, and so unfit the mind and heart for higher and better studies. Under such rational and moral restraints and limitations, novels, not open to just censure, because of vicious and debasing tendencies and designs, may have claims to approval and patronage.

But of late years, there has been a flagrant lowering of the standard requirements, both ethical and literary, of books of fiction. Several things may have led to this degradation. Vast as is the power of the imagination, and seemingly boundless as its range may be, it still is subject to the laws of limitation by which every human faculty is bounded. It can soar on eagle's wings to wondrous heights, leaving the loftiest clouds below, but there it soon finds its powers failing, and it must drop for rest to its eyrie among the cliffs. Or, if despising the eagle's flight, it darts with bolder pinions out among the stars to gather stories which shall fill thousands of admiring listeners with amazement, it is soon lost in nebulous mists, and
glad to descend again to the refracted lights and mellow visions of earth.

Hedged in by such restrictions, the fancy finds itself correspondingly limited in regard, not only to subjects and material for its stories, but also to descriptive language, the coloring and shading of its pen-pictures, which are so necessary to their attractiveness.

Counting the thousands of novels and romances which have been published within the memory of the present generation in England, Germany, and France alone, it is not surprising that the mine of suitable themes should be exhausted. Rather must one wonder that any gold can be discovered worth the cost of smelting, or gems that will repay the pains of setting them. Shakespeare (or Bacon!) about swept over the whole domain of the drama, and Walter Scott (in English literature) left but scanty gleanings in the field of legitimate fiction. More recently, popular novels are either like modern variations upon “Auld Lang Syne,” *et cetera* (especially, *et cetera*) or overstrained efforts at hectic and sensational sentimentality.

To this must be added another fact. Modern readers have largely had their tastes perverted and appetites debauched by what the romance-markets of the times have supplied. Now, nobody wants to write a book which will not pay. But to make it pay it must *sell* to at least the twentieth thousand and upwards. And to secure this, writers must do—well—somewhat as Barnum does to succeed with his shows, offer on exhibition all sorts of prodigies. Just this seems to be the dilemma of the novel-inventing guild. Everybody given to indulgence in the “fine art” of romancing knows the result. What a “variety show” a library of all the novels of the day would be!

On the shelves of this library, *malicious fiction* has managed to find a place—fiction debased to purposes of malevolent animosity to civil law, personal and social virtues, and gospel Christianity. Among the myriads of “born poets,” and “eminently gifted” romancers, there are many scores whose genius inspires them with irrepressible aspirations, who feel sure that they possess every quality required to win fame as authors, and probably, make a fortune on the lower financial lines.

Their first perplexity, however, is to discover what will tell for glory, and pay in gold. They scan the skies, then watch the winds and the weather-vanes of popular caprice and passion, ready to pander to them for the coveted gains. Possibly they consult shrewd publishers as oracles of the signs of the times in their particular sphere. The outlook is rather discouraging. The shambles where fiction is retailed are overstocked, and with every description of romantic viands, from frothy fritters to pyramids of tropical candied fruits, from foaming lager to sparkling champagne.

But, lo! glimpses of light break through the clouds. Christianity is waning. The churches are declining. Against the extraordinary religious life, zeal and activity of the past three quarters of the present century of wonderful achievements in the cause of Gospel evangelism at home and abroad, a strong skeptical reaction has set in. No matter how, the fact is enough and ominous. What an opening it offers for fiction! The spirits of Volney and Voltaire seem to be resuscitated
and welcomed back to earth. Men weary of "the faith," or always averse to it, are ready to cheer whatever may conspire to the overthrow of Bible Christianity. Fiction shall be loudly hailed as a light artillery or destructive dynamite alley in the great battle waged against Moses and the prophets, against God and his Christ, the Gospel's facts, its doctrines and its sacred ordinances! Christianity must be destroyed. And fiction is ready for the fray.

And so we have, as a sort of first installment of its contribution to the antagonism, two volumes, issued almost simultaneously though from widely separated sources, whose vicious purpose is at once apparent. In style and dress, method and plot, they are totally unlike, but in spirit and deadly aim, they are one. It is somewhat queer, but both are written, ostensibly by women, if they are women, seeing how much the very cause they hope to aid in demolishing, has done to elevate and bless their sex. But Jezebel was also a woman, and that others later Queen of France.

One of the two volumes affects philosophy in its profoundest depths and loftiest transcendentalism. The other deals with matters more concrete and commonplace, and adopts more familiar methods. Both, however, have advantages, as fictions, which other styles of attack hardly possess. By the license of fiction, they can caricature and burlesque Christianity, lampoon and libel it unlimitedly, and yet not seem to lie. They can travesty Gospel truth and evangelical doctrine, preached even by a Baxter or Flavel, until they appear ridiculous or absurd, and yet screen the outrage under the gossamer of their romance, hide their hideous face under the fair enamel of fiction. And thus many may be, for a season, infatuated and deceived. It is this which gives a diabolical character to all such devices.

However, such arts have been often tried to the discomfiture of wily foes, who in due time have fallen victims to their own treacherous boomerangs.

Grasses have withered and flowers have faded, but the truth of Heaven survives the weeds of earth.

A NOBLE GIFT TO RUTGERS.

GARRETT E. WINANTS, ESQ., GIVES A LARGE DORMITORY.

Among the large gifts recently made to Rutgers College, none has been so rich in promise for the future of the College, and none so valuable in itself, as the one first made public this week, the unsolicited gift of Garrett E. Winants, Esq., of Bergen Point, N. J. Mr. Winants is a gentleman of large wealth, retired from business, and a great traveler. He is a devoted member of the Reformed Church, prominent in the work and the benevolent Boards of the Church, a generous promoter of all good causes, and especially interested in the educational institutions at New Brunswick, where he has one grandson in Rutgers College and another in the Grammar School.

Some three weeks since, Mr. Winants called on President Gates and laid before him his generous plan to build a dormitory to meet the growing needs of the College, the number of whose students has just about doubled within the last four years. The Trustees of the College met in special session to accept Mr. Winant's munificent pro-
position. President Gates, Rev. W. J. R. Taylor, D.D., and ex-Governor George G. Ludlow, were named a committee to confer with Mr. Winants, perfect plans, etc. Plans have been submitted by several architects, and at a conference of the donor and the committee on February 15th, the design of Mr. Van Campen Taylor, of Newark, N. J., was adopted, and Mr. Taylor will at once begin the preparation of specifications, etc., preliminary to letting the contracts. Work upon the building will begin in April.

The dormitory will be about one hundred and fifty feet long by sixty feet deep in the centre, and forty feet deep in the extensions; the basement and trimmings of Newark stone; above the basement, four stories of pressed brick and tiles, with slate roof. It will contain accommodations for over a hundred students, in rooms arranged in suites of parlor or study, with sleeping-room adjoining. A large assembly room, with library and reading-room, ample accommodations, home-like and convenient, will make this a most desirable residence for the sons of careful parents.

The building will be heated by steam, with some open fire-places; and careful attention will be given to ventilation and hygiene. The donor will furnish the building entire, lighting it with gas or electricity, and presenting it to the College as an evidence of his interest in the present and the future of Rutgers.

It will be erected on the beautifully shaded college campus, on College avenue, fronting on the campus, and at right angles with the main line of the college buildings, Kirkpatrick Chapel, "Queen's" College, Geological Hall and Van Nest Hall.

The new $40,000 Laboratory for the Experiment Station work connected with Rutgers (the State College) is now nearly completed. These two new buildings will add greatly to the facilities of the College, and with the four or five new professors added to the Faculty this year, and the large addition to the endowment proposed (to which a $25,000 subscription was recently made) show well the growing favor with which this honored institution of learning is deservedly regarded by the Reformed Church, which founded it, and the people of the State with whom its Scientific School, the State College of New Jersey, so closely connects its work.—Christian Intelligencer, Feb. 20, 1889.

OBITUARY.

REV. GEORGE WOLFF, D.D.

Through the several Church periodicals the death (on February 18th, 1889) of this estimable man, and faithful minister of the Gospel, has become generally known. Richly merited tributes of appreciation and regard also have been paid to his personal virtues as well as to his zealous efficiency as a pastor during forty years of active and successful service, twenty-eight of which were given to the Congregation at Myerstown, his last earthly home.

But in connection with the main work of his life, and, indeed, as vitally associated with that work, Dr. Wolff ever took a lively and active interest in the cause of higher Christian education. This interest was specially manifested by his hearty co-operation...
with other friends in the founding and maintenance of Ursinus College. As a Director of the Institution, he was not only prompt in attending the meetings of the Board, but wise, cheering, and earnest in its counsels, and, for his means, very liberal in his gifts. His devotion to its prosperity was inspired by deep intelligent approval of its evangelical principles and aims, and his convictions of the importance of its mission.

By his lamented death, the institution has been bereaved of a firm and most reliable friend, whose valuable services will ever be held in grateful remembrance.

And whilst the Bulletin, as a representative of Ursinus College sorrowfully lays its cypress branch upon his honored grave, it does so with the comforting assurance, not only that it is well with him forever, but that the inspiring influence of his life will prove a legacy of perpetual value to the School he so devotedly loved and served.

EXCHANGE NOTICES.

A rich mine of genuine good reading lies open to the college literary explorer in the February number of The Sibyl, coming from Elmira, New York. An article on Japan, sketches from travels in Germany, notes about the American Indian, and a large variety of other entertaining prose, together with several pleasant rhymes, make up a model issue of this sterling undergraduate journal. The department of "College Chit Chat" sparkles with just the kind of wit that students never fail to appreciate. It is true, one, or possibly two of the editorials are slightly vague and without clearly defined point, but the whole tone of the paper is excellent, and the energetic intelligence and good taste of which it gives evidence deserves high commendation.

The Bates Student for the same month, published at Lewiston, Maine, is entitled to an equal meed of praise. The Student has always shown an earnest purpose to attain to what is intrinsically best in the field to which it is devoted, and there is nothing in the edition before us to detract in the least from its enviable reputation in this line. It is filled with sound advice for the student's conduct and healthful food for his mind.

Like all new enterprises, initial numbers of college journals are sure to meet with adverse criticism, and the first issue of The Red and Blue, which has just reached our table from the University of Pennsylvania, cannot, and apparently does not, hope to escape the common fate. Nevertheless, we believe that the young exchange is made of the kind of stuff that will enable it to bravely survive all the reviewing, positive or negative, to which it may be subjected. Its beginning is such as invariably precedes a long and successful career. We are glad to find in its opening editorial the following paragraph:

"To the professors we shall look for considerable assistance in our literary work; articles of interest will always be welcome. And we shall not hesitate, as several can already testify, to call upon them for help."

This is the only correct position for an undergraduate publication to occupy toward the members of the faculty of its alma mater, which it directly or indirectly cannot help but represent,
whether it professes to do so or not. Though many exchanges persist in holding the opposite ground, we have never been able to discover any good reason why the professors of an institution should not have a full share in working out the mission to which its recognized paper is devoted.

Salmagundi, an attractive stranger from Philadelphia, The Baker University Index, from Kansas, The Crescent and Yale Record, from New Haven, Connecticut, and a great array of other exchanges from well-nigh everywhere, are before us inviting more or less extended notice, but lack of space and time forbids our giving them more than the brief assurance that they one and all have been accorded a welcome reception.

GENERAL COLLEGE AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

Columbia has added 10,000 volumes to her library within the last year.

There are 12 American students in attendance at Oxford, 608 at the University of Berlin, and 200 at Leipsic.

"None of the college papers seem to have noticed the fact that Vassar and Wellesley have adopted the cap and gown—at night." — Mail and Express.

In the United States the Episcopalians have twelve colleges, the Methodists fifty-two, the Baptists forty-six, the Presbyterians forty-one, the Congregationalists twenty-six.

Of the members of Ex-President Cleveland's Cabinet, Fairchild and Endicott are graduates of Harvard; Whitney, of Yale; Dickinson, of Michigan University; Vilas, of Wisconsin University, and Garland, of St. Mary's College.

Japan is to have a new college for the education of women, which will be under the direction of a committee composed of foreign ladies. Two ladies will be chosen from each of the following countries: America, England, France and Germany.

A bill has been introduced in the Pennsylvania Legislature providing for the compulsory attendance of the public day-schools of Philadelphia, by all children between the ages of 7 and 12 years, who are in good health and are not pupils in a private day-school. It is said that there is a strong probability that the bill will speedily become a law.

John D. Rockefeller, of the Standard Oil Company, has given $100,000 to the American Baptist Education Society, payable at the rate of $10,000 a month, and subject to the condition that the giver be advised in advance as to the use to be made of his money and endorses such use. Payment begins with the present month.

Of the 1,400 students in Michigan University, President Angell states that the parents of 502 are farmers, 271 merchants, 93 lawyers, 83 physicians, 52 manufacturers or mechanics, and 61 clergymen; and that 45 per cent. belong to the class who gain their living by manual labor.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the College Association of the Middle States and Maryland occurred not long ago at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. The annual convention of the associa-
A number of the students of Amherst are openly attacking the rules in that institution establishing compulsory attendance at church and chapel services. It is stated, however, that the custom, which has existed over a half century in the college, does not seem at all likely to be shaken by the present opposition to it.

Hamilton College is located on a hill nearly a mile in length. Burdette, the humorist, gives vent to the following happy description of this hill during the present season of the year:

“'No student of Hamilton College walks down hill when there is any snow. All the sleds in this part of the country are tri-remes, built to hold three students. Descending trains have first-class rights, and everybody keeps out of their way. It used to be the custom for the pedestrian when one of these sleds, laden with classic lore, came plunging down the narrow path, to leap into the air and let the sled shoot under him. But one day a prominent citizen, weighing 350 pounds, in performing the feat, miscalculated his distance, and coming down like a land-slide, flattened out the unfortunate collegians until they appeared to be a silhouette engraving of the 'The Graces', or the Laocoon family in its famous snake feeding act. Since then, people have stood out of the way, swearing or shrieking as the sled shoots by, according to the sex of the pedestrian.”

In his recent work on the American Commonwealth, Professor James Bryce, M. P., of Oxford University, pays this enthusiastic tribute to American college students: “There is more zeal and heartiness among these men, more freshness of mind, more love of learning for its own sake, more willingness to forego the chances of fame and wealth for the sake of adding to the stock of human knowledge, than is to be found to-day in Oxford or Cambridge, or in the universities of Scotland.

“Diligence,” he says, “is the tradition of the American college, especially of those which are remote from the influences of large cities. Even the greater universities, as Harvard, Yale and Columbia, have never been primarily places for spending three or four years pleasantly, and incidentally places of instruction, as was the case with Oxford and Cambridge, during the last century. Every student at an American college goes to college with the fixed idea of learning something.

“The salaries paid to professors at American universities and colleges are very small when compared to the general wealth of the country and the cost
of living. The highest are those in Columbia, a few of which exceed $5,000 a year. In Harvard, Yale, Johns Hopkins and Cornell, they generally fall below $4,000.

A Philadelphia grammar-school teacher gives the following peculiar results which were wrought out through the minds of a number of boys under her charge by the advanced educational facilities of the city of Brotherly Love. The occasion was a stated examination of the scholars in her department. They were furnished with lists of words on slips of paper, and were asked to give written definitions of each word, without the aid of a dictionary. At the same time they were required to form sentences containing the words so defined. Here are some of the more brilliant efforts handed in. The definitions are reliable, and have never before been published. They are almost worth copyrighting.

"Procrastinate."—First boy: "A sleeping room." Sentence: "The boy had a small procrastinate." Second boy: "A drunkard." Sentence: "The man at last came to be a procrastinate." Third boy: "To put off." Sentence: "Some people have to be procrastinated from the train."

"Edible."—First boy: "Eatable." Sentence: "The man was very edible in his appearance." Second boy: "Generous." Sentence: "The old lady was very edible."

"Recreation."—Definition: "To recite." Sentence: "The boy will recreation his lessons well."

"Ambidexter."—Definition: "A flood." Sentence: "The ambidexter often rises to a great height."

One young hopeful defined a proper noun to be "anything belonging to an indivisible."

MONTHLY SUMMARY.

CONGREGATIONAL.

The new building of the Friends' Cove congregation, Bedford county, Pa., was dedicated on Sunday, Dec. 30, 1888. The audience room is 36 by 50 feet in size. The inside is finished throughout with black walnut. All of the windows are in memory of deceased members of the church.

The beautiful church of the German congregation of Dayton, O., was dedicated on Sunday, February 3rd. The edifice is a solid, substantial piece of work, with a seating capacity of six hundred. The cost of erection was $70,000. The windows are of stained glass. Rev. H. A. Meier is the pastor. The young peoples' society purchased the organ from the German church of Cincinnati and presented it to the congregation. The carpets were procured by the ladies' society, which contributed $700 besides.

The new house of worship of St. John's congregation of the New Bloomfield charge, Perry county, Pa., was dedicated on Sunday, Feb. 3rd. It is a frame building, 32 by 50 feet in size, with a bell of 609 pounds weight. Cost, $2,250, all of which is paid. St. John's is a small congregation, numbering only thirty-seven members and poor in worldly goods, but rich in faith and good works.

SYNODICAL.

The minutes of the Potomac Synod give the statistics of that body as follows: Classes, 10; ministers, 144; congregations, 267; members, 31,681; unconfirmed members, 19,400; baptisms, infants, 1,919; adults, 252; confirmed, 1,547; certificates, 773; communicants, 25,570; dismissed, 502; excommunicated, 5; names erased, 185; deaths, 786; Sunday-schools, 269; Sunday-school scholars, 22,966; students for the ministry, 47; benevolent contributions, $36,727.53; congregational purposes, $123,768.47.
A. Andrews, resigns Anna charge, Anna, Ill.

Beck, J. H., resigns Mt. Eaton charge, Ohio.

Coon, C. H., installed as assistant pastor of Trinity Reformed Church, Philadelphia, Pa.

Edmonds, L. C., dismissed to the Congregational Church.

Groh, William H., resigns Boalsburg charge, Boalsburg, Centre, county, Pa.

Hackman, G. W., died at Brown Oak, Mich.

Heineman, A., accepts call to First Reformed Church, Chicago, Ill.

Horstmeir, W. F., address, 1317 Sullivan Avenue, St. Louis, Mo.

Huber, T. A., installed pastor of the Towamensing Charge, Carbon county, Pa.

Hucker, J. C., address, New Cassel, Fon du Lac county, Wis.

Kessler, Tobias, resigns Jonestown charge, in Lebanon county, Pa., to take effect May 28th.

Kershner, L. M., address, North Lima, Ohio.

Lackey, R. R., address, Akron, Ohio.

Lauray, S. F., resigns Marietta, Lancaster county, Pa.

Leader, Daniel H., resigns St. John’s Reformed Church, Williamsport, Pa.

Lefevre, D. P., installed pastor of the Ridgeley charge, Md.

Peters, Joseph D., address changed from New Hanover to Fegleysville, Montgomery county, Pa.

Runkel, S. L., resigns Dakota, Ill., to take effect April 1st.

Schieds, Edward, address Scotland, Dakota.

Seibel, Geo. B., Harrisburg, Pa., accepts call to St. John’s Reformed (German) Church, Lancaster, Pa.


Wagner, J. S., address changed from Bloomsburg to Glade, Pa.

Wienand, P., address is 920 N. Sixth street Philadelphia, Pa.

Zipf, C. G., address Wheatland, Iowa.

Wolff, George, D.D., died at Myerstown, Pa., February 19th, 1889, aged 67 years.

BOOK AND LITERARY NOTICES.

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

The following books have been received from the Presbyterian Board of Publication and Sabbath-school Work, 1334 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia:

The Westminster Question Book for 1889. This annual lesson manual is ready for this year. It is on the same plan as the former volumes. It covers the International Lessons for the entire year, giving the full lesson passage, daily home readings, golden text, lesson plan, explanatory notes, questions, practical teachings, general review questions and Catechism, as well as valuable maps. Price, 15 Cts., postage prepaid, $12.00 per hundred.

Bits About India. By Mrs. Helen J. Holcomb, of Allahabad, India. This little book is full of interesting facts about India, its people, its customs, its worship, its private and social life—the very things that really tell most concerning a country, and yet the very things which most writers are apt to overlook. 16mo; fully illustrated; pp. 272. Price, $1.00.

Ruthie’s Story. By Charles Stedman Newhall. It is the story of Jesus told by a child to other children. There are six chapters—Ruthie and the Baby Jesus, Ruthie and The Boy Jesus, Ruthie and the Dear Christ Jesus, Ruthie and the Sleeping Jesus, Ruthie and Risen Jesus, Ruthie and Jesus Now. The book is designed for little people. It contains more than forty illustrations which will help to make the story real to the children.
The Altar of Earth. By Mrs. T. S. Childs. There are many people, whose ideas of the Old Testament sacrifices are very vague and inadequate. The object of this excellent volume is to teach the meaning of these sacrifices and their typical relation to Christ as pictures of his one great sacrifice. The book is one that will prove very instructive particularly to young Bible students. 16mo, pp. 207.

Some Useful Animals. By Ella Rodman Church. The "Elmbridge" books make no pretensions to exhaustiveness as scientific treatises or manuals, but aim only to give such information as all intelligent young persons should have concerning the various objects considered, and to give it in a pleasant way that makes the task of reading an easy one. The present volume treats thus conversationally of "some useful animals." 16mo; fully illustrated; pp. 366. Price, $1.25.

Practical Religion: A Help for the Common Days. By J. R. Miller, D. D. It is not necessary to speak of this new book further than to say that it is designed to be a companion to the author's "Week-Day Religion" which has met with such kindly and continued favor. "Practical Religion," as its title suggests, is meant to help its readers to live out the religion of Jesus Christ in their daily common lives. It consists of twenty-six chapters. 16mo, pp. 320. Price, $1.00.

Missionary Enterprises in the South Sea Islands. By John Williams. With an Introduction by Rev. Wm. P. Breed, D. D. This intensely interesting volume takes us back to one of the earlier stories of this century of missionary heroism. For twenty-two years John Williams wrought with apostolic fervor and success in the islands of the South Sea. At last he fell as a martyr at Eromango. This was about fifty years ago. And not long since word has come from Eromango that a monument has been erected there to the memory of John Williams, and that the man who laid the corner-stone of that monument was the son of the murderous savage that dealt the martyr the deadly blow. This narrative of the missionary work of John Williams is full of thrilling heroisms and wonderful successes. 12mo; pp. 416. Price, $1.25.

Mr. Darwin's Daughter. By Helen B. G. Williams. Miss Williams has already won for herself the character of a good writer. Her "Dorothy Dorchester," "The Hastings," "Dr. Trent's Cousin," etc., have been widely read and have done good to many lives. The present volume is at least no whit behind the former ones. It depicts a life of struggle with difficult circumstances. The lesson of the book is, not how a girl may live a brilliant life, but how a girl in the hard conditions in which the heroine of this story lived, can make something of her life and grow continually in spiritual beauty and in moral strength and stature, emerging at last a noble woman from her long discipline. There is nothing else that girls need more to learn and this book will help in teaching the lesson to those who are able to learn it. 12mo pp. 365.

The Flaw in the Iron; or, The Weak Place in the Character that Failed in Temptation. By the Rev. J. A. Davis. This book explains in its title its mission and message. Few lessons need more to be learned by boys in their school-days than those which are here taught. There are temptations to leave flaws and weak spots in character covered up in the growing life. For a time they are not discovered, but there comes a day when the stress falls at the very point of weakness and the man fails. The only way to be safe in all life's testings is to make the character perfectly honest and good throughout. This story illustrates this vital truth, and also shows well how such character may be formed. 16mo; illustrated; pp. 384.

A Hungry Little Lamb. By Helen E. Brown. This is a simple story simply told. Without any perfunctory preaching in it, it preacheth through all its pages by its tender and elevated spirit and by the beautiful exemplifications of the mind of Christ in its incidents. The book is one which will interest quite young children, as it is written in plain and easy words and its story is natural and true to life. It cannot fail to leave healthful impressions upon young readers. At the same time it is a book which will prove helpful and very suggestive to older people, especially to teachers and to those who are interested in work among the children and among the poor in the mission fields of our thickly populated cities. 16mo; illustrated; pp. 336. Price, $1.15.
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