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## Ursinus College Bulletin Vol. 4, No. 6

Augustus W. Bomberger  
*Ursinus College*

Jonathan L. Fluck  
*Ursinus College*

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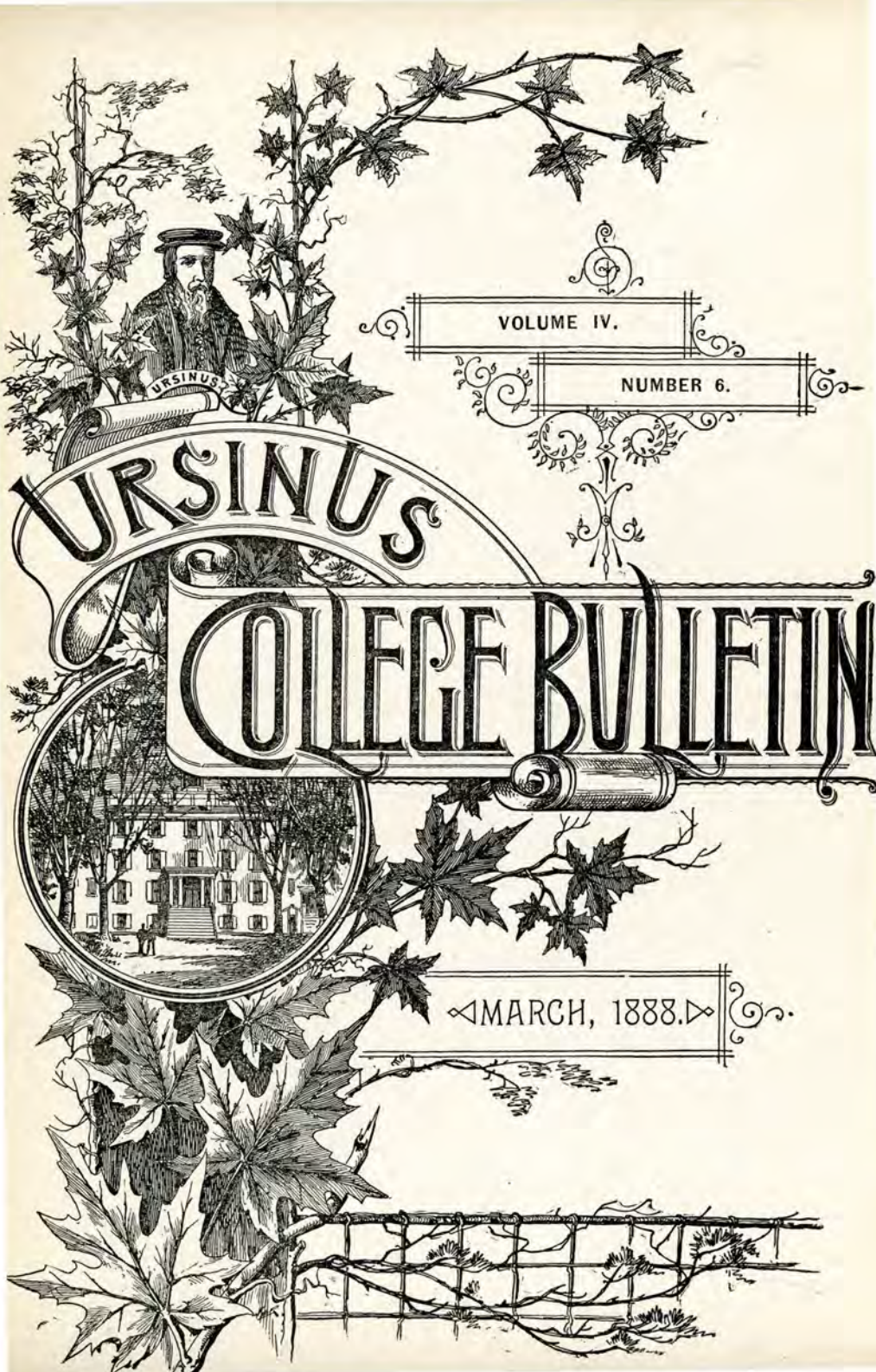
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VOLUME IV.

NUMBER 6.

URSINUS

COLLEGE BULLETIN



◁ MARCH, 1888. ▷



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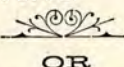
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# URSINUS COLLEGE BULLETIN.

VOLUME IV.

COLLEGEVILLE, MARCH, 1888.

NUMBER 6

## — Ursinus College Bulletin —

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College Contributors:

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ZWINGLIAN.

SCHAFF.

CALVIN U. O. DERR, '88.

JOHN LERCH, '88.

OLEVIAN.

EBRARD.

FLORA S. RAHN, '89.

I. C. FISHER, '89.

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All contributions and changes in advertising, to secure prompt attention, must be presented before the 20th of each month.

Rates for Advertisements sent on application.

Entered at the Post Office at Collegeville as second-class matter.

FINAL examinations, as generally observed by universities and colleges at the close of each academic term, have within recent years been the source of considerable agitation and discussion throughout the educational world. At irregular intervals they have been strongly criticised in the editorial columns of many leading under-graduate journals,—sometimes discreetly and with well-directed force of logic and argument, and again with little or no reason and an utterly reckless use of words. In addition, the faculties of

many institutions have given earnest attention to what are deemed fatal defects in present methods of measuring the results of prescribed periods of study, and have formulated plans by which it is hoped the demand for improvement in the matter may be met.

\* \* \*

In the face of all this opposition, however, final examinations continue to exist to an almost universal extent in our schools of higher instruction; a fact which to our mind proves their utility and importance and furnishes good evidence that they are a part of the discipline and training of the mind for which there can be no satisfactory substitute. We believe that the difficulties connected with the system currently followed arise, not from final examinations *per se*, but from the circumstance that by common usage from time beyond memory they have been carried without their proper sphere to perform, unaided, an office for which they were never solely intended. In themselves they constitute an excellent and highly necessary factor in college work; but when they are made the only test of the amount of knowledge acquired by the student during a term as well as of his intellectual progress, they are required to discharge a mission more than equal to their apparent nature and design. And just

here lies the evil in the systems as now conducted.

\* \*

That the final examination should be an element in forming a correct estimate of a student's improvement and standing among his fellows is very clear. That it should be the only means by which such deductions are made is just as evidently wrong to any one at all acquainted with the subject. It seems unquestionable that in order to reach accurate results in determining a pupil's attainments during a term, his entire work for that period,—of which, in truth, the final examination is an important part,—should be taken into the account. Were this rule followed the objections now urged to this closing exercise,—which all turn upon the point that it is used to the exclusion of other methods to enlighten the professor as to individual merit and fix the particular grade of each member of a class,—would then lose their weight entirely.

\* \*

The idea of doing away with final examinations altogether, which some papers advocate, is of course extreme and not to be seriously considered; for they certainly draw forth the best efforts of the man and are a healthful discipline for the mind. To every honest toiler after knowledge they are indispensable. They give him the needed opportunity of making a thorough *resume* of the conscientious labors of a term, by which facts of uncertain tenure may be finally fixed in the memory and a clearer insight

be had into matters which,—previously doubtful because of but partial acquaintance with the subject,—are now made plain through the complete understanding of the whole matter with which a careful review is rewarded.

\* \*

To sum up: In our view of the case final examinations should continue, more thorough and exhaustive even than they have been in the past; but they should never be made the sole test of a student's progress, and this fact should be clearly impressed upon his mind.

\* \*

The printer informs us that we have enlarged to such an extent on this question of examinations that there is no room left in our editorial area for anything else; and we shall have to acquiesce in his decision. Other matters on which we desired to speak here at this time must accordingly be postponed, and increased variety in the future in this column be the apology for present sameness.

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#### COLLEGE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The Spring Term of the College will open Monday, April 9, 1888, and will continue twelve weeks, closing with the Commencement exercises on the 28th of June, next. Those intending to enter the institution at this session who are in want of any information with reference to charges or studies, should immediately address the President or Prof. A. Reichenbach, Collegeville, Pa. Correspondence is cordially invited also

with any other young men or women seeking a thorough education and desirous of knowing our principles and methods.

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A special committee of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors has been engaged for some time in perfecting plans for providing first-class musical instruction for the future at URSINUS, beginning with the coming term. The services of a competent professor in this branch of culture will be secured and complete arrangements be made by which those wishing to study music, either vocal or instrumental, will be amply provided for at reasonable rates. A full announcement as to this matter will be published in the April number of the BULLETIN.

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During the vacation which is at hand, provision will be made for the better accommodation of the lady students of the institution. What has been known as the old chapel room will be remodelled and put in order for this purpose and to meet the demands of increased attendance.

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#### THE LITERARY SOCIETIES.

##### ZWINGLIAN.

The eighteenth anniversary of the Zwinglian Literary Society will be held in the College Chapel, on Wednesday evening, March 28, 1888. The order of exercises arranged for the occasion is as follows:

#### INVOCATION.

Salutatory, . . . . . H. E. Jones, Easton, Pa.  
 Oration, . . . . . J. W. Bell, Shenkels, Pa.  
 Oration, . . . . . C. D. Yost, Hecla, Pa.  
 Oration, . . . . . I. C. Fisher, Myerstown, Pa.  
 Eulogy, . . . . . W. H. Wotring, Schnecksville, Pa.  
 Zwinglian Oration, C. U. O. Derr, Reading, Pa.

The music will be rendered by Unger's Orchestra, of Reading, Pa., Prof. O. H. Unger, Director. The programmes and invitations are being printed by a leading engraver of Philadelphia. A cordial invitation to the festivities is extended to the public.

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#### THE LECTURE ON JAPAN.

Rev. Ambrose D. Gring, the missionary of the Reformed Church in the United States, who, in response to an invitation of the Zwinglian Society, delivered a lecture on Japan, in the Chapel, on Friday evening, February 10th, was well received by the students and gave much interesting information relating to the land which he has made his chosen field of labor. Many of his facts with reference to the civilization and present condition of this wonderful heathen country were not only new but startling to his auditors. They were, consequently, heard with the deepest interest and attention, and left a lasting impression on the minds of those present. At the conclusion of the address the students crowded to the platform to be introduced to Mr. Gring and to inspect the many curious Japanese books, idols and articles of home life which the missionary displayed for their instruction and pleasure.



## SCHAFF.

The weekly meetings of the Schaff Society have recently been made more attractive than heretofore by improvements in the instrumental music of the literary programmes. Two clarionets, a flute, a violin and an organ, under the direction of E. C. Hibshman, '86, combine to make sweet melody each Friday evening for the gratification of Schaffite ears.

## COLLEGE ITEMS.

## Y. M. C. A. CONFERENCE.

An inter-visitation movement that has sprung into existence between the URSINUS branch of the Y. M. C. A. and that of Franklin and Marshall College at Lancaster, resulted in the presence at Collegeville, on Saturday and Sunday, March 3d and 4th, of three delegates representing the latter association,—Messrs. Noss, Miller and Harner,—who came to participate in a conference for mutual improvement. Mr. McFarland of the University of Pennsylvania was also in attendance at the same time.

Four meetings were held during the session. The business meeting took place on Saturday afternoon, when methods of work and other subjects of interest were discussed and a "question drawer" was used with profit. In the evening, after a song service, Mr. Miller led a Gospel meeting. On Sunday afternoon Mr. McFarland conducted a consecration meeting. Many prayers were offered and hearts newly given to the Gospel work. On request received from the pastor of St. Luke's Re-

formed church, Trappe, to hold the "farewell meeting" there on Sunday evening, an invitation was extended to the neighboring congregations, and a large audience was present. After half an hour of singing and a few prayers, Mr. Miller gave an outline of the methods of conducting receptions; Mr. Rauch took up the subject of "Bible Training Classes"; Mr. Noss presented the nature of prayer, song, consecration, gospel and missionary meetings; Mr. Meixell explained the objects of inter-visitation movements, and Mr. Stauffer unfolded the relations of the Association to the Church.

After the members had given the usual impressions received at the meetings, they clasped hands and formed a circle around the altar, singing "Blest be the tie that binds." The services closed with the benediction by Rev. H. T. Spangler. The meetings were well attended, and it is hoped that the enthusiasm they inspired will incite members to renewed effort.

I. V. C.

## MISSIONS.

On Saturday, February 11, 1888, the day following the lecture by Rev. A. D. Gring, the students of URSINUS assembled in the Y. M. C. A. room to discuss the subject of Foreign Missions. S. P. Stauffer, '89, was elected chairman of the meeting. It was resolved that the president appoint a committee of three to solicit subscriptions from the students in aid of our missionaries in Japan. Messrs. Isaac C.

Fisher, '89, Ernest Clapp, '89 and H. E. Jones; '91, constitute the committee, which since then has been earnestly engaged at its work and has met with abundant success.

During the closing days of last month a conference with reference to the libraries of the institution was held in the President's room of the college. A number of plans for the improvement of library facilities at URSINUS were presented and discussed, but no definite conclusions were reached and the matter was postponed to a future day.

PERSONAL.

Vice-President Super, D. D., will deliver a lecture to the students of Palatinate College, Myerstown, Pa., sometime during the coming Spring Session of that institution.

James Leuba, 88, left the college in the latter part of February for his home in New York City. He has been chosen secretary of the French Y. M. C. A., soon to be organized there, and is now fitting himself for the work in a special training school in Massachusetts.

Professor Hendricks contemplates introducing shortly a new elective in the study of Ancient History.

Rev. Mr. Root, of Auburn, Me., a Yale man, is credited with saying: "President Dwight, of Yale College, is the only man I ever knew who could sit with his boots in the air and be a gentleman."

THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.

SUNNY SAN DIEGO.

BY REV. H. L. STERN, '77.

All day the golden cloud clusters shine  
Like the ripening fruit of heaven;  
They lift me with longing and make me repine  
To pillow my weary and earth-worn head  
Upon their silken and sunny bed,  
Until they dissolve at even.

The sun shines each new Winter's morn  
With undiminished glory;  
Like a god indeed of the warm East born  
That keeps alive the fervid spark;  
The mocking-bird and the meadow-lark  
Still warble their old, sweet story.

There rises the music of honey-bees,  
With a dreamy and spicy aroma  
From the orange and eucalyptus trees  
Far into the mellow and moonlit night,  
Where the lamp in the light-tower shimmers  
bright  
On the crest of high Point Loma.

The old Pacific shines smooth and calm  
Where the light-house high is looming;  
While he wafts his sunny and salty balm,  
I see his gleaming breakers all day  
As over the sand they send their spray,  
And at night I hear his booming.

There is peace on the placid, pellucid Bay,  
Where the loon, the wild duck and plover  
Dash with their wings the white-blue spray.  
The smelt and the rock-cod and gleaming trout  
Like submarine sunbeams dart about  
Down in their shell-reefed cover.

Away to the South in the Ocean's embrace  
The Coronados lie sleeping  
In uninvaded beauty and grace.  
As a greeting they send a luminous glow  
Across to the mountains of Mexico,  
Where the deer in the sunlight are leaping.

It is elysian to sit beneath  
The sunshine's perennial fountains;  
It is elysian forever to breathe  
The balmy air in its vernal glow,  
And dreamily think of the wind and snow  
That rage beyond the mountains.

And when at last the sun sinks down  
 From the sea-girt promontory,  
 And the gloaming envelops the terraced town,  
 And vespers are rung from the convent bell,  
 On the hoary top of San Miguel  
 Long lingers the vanishing glory.

*San Diego, California.*

---

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY.

BY REV. PROF. M. PETERS, '74.

In cheerfully complying with a request of the editor to furnish something for the BULLETIN on the above topic I shall take the liberty of going outside of my subject and touch only upon some features of it.

The adequate representation of society in the centuries of the past is perhaps one of the most difficult exercises of the mind. By the ceaseless inroads of modern life upon the traditions of bygone days, and by the onward sweep of thought in all departments of life, our hold upon the past is weakened, and yet we cannot afford to neglect its wisdom.

The Tercentenary of the University was celebrated in 1884. A history of manifold struggles, noble and pious endeavors and illustrious achievements thus found its fitting expression. The sturdy monarch of the forest that has defied many a winter's storms has struck its roots deep, and its strength is well nigh overpowering. In all this history a brilliant array of stars of the first magnitude have shone, and their setting has shed abroad upon the world of mind an undying lustre of renown.

I would put in letters of gold the heroic struggles of great and good men in the cause of truth and right

for the guidance of the inexperienced in the present generation.

Well does this city of famous philosophers and great thinkers deserve the classic title of Modern Athens. Its very atmosphere is pregnant with the spirit of thought. The romantic castle with its weird aspect in the gloaming one can still imagine as peopled with the resolute spirits of other days, and Holyrood Palace, where the ancient Scottish Kings were wont to be crowned, still more vividly recalls the tragic fate of Mary Queen of Scots.

The famous street from the castle to the palace contains the historic house of John Knox, that staunchest of Scottish Reformers. Residing for three years at Geneva when fifty years of age, profoundly influenced by the spirit and teaching of John Calvin, who can tell how much of Scotia's intellectual strength and greatness since then have been due to the noble work and character of her greatest Reformer? This beautiful Scriptural inscription in quaint old English spelling is found upon one side of the house,—“Lufe God, abuf all, and ye nychtbour as yiself.” Every now and then in threading our pathway through the grand old city or in longer walks midst castellated hills and charming scenery beyond, we come upon some noble commemoration. It may be the stalwart form of a Livingstone, carrying enlightenment to the Dark Continent, or one whose heaven-born genius has been celebrated in admiring strains of adulation.

One cannot see anything more befitting the character of a truly good people than the sight of the multitude with their Bibles and hymn books in their hands on a Sunday wending their way churchward. I think the poet Burns, in his inimitable *Cottar's Saturday Night*, very admirably expresses what all must feel to be true:—

“From scenes like these old Scotia's grandeur  
springs,

That makes her loved at home, revered abroad;  
Princes and lords are but the breath of kings,

‘An honest man's the noblest work of God:’

And certes, in fair virtue's heavenly road

The cottage leaves the palace far behind.”

The fame of other days, with its beautiful and benign influence, overshadows this fair city. With reference to the present life and growth of this great institution of learning, located in the midst of the city, I should say that its powerful and far-reaching influence upon the present generation of students is far greater than it has ever been at any time in the past. Every institution must be true to its own genius and life. We cannot dis sever its past from its present. If a student wishes to attain a fair amount of success in anything he must not spend his time in sleep or idleness or waywardness. You cannot take the man apart from his past connections. They will leave their impress upon him whether for good or bad.

Edinburgh University is great because the great men in the past have been true and loyal to its highest welfare, and because the same spirit has perpetuated itself in the men who

are guiding its destiny at the present time. I do admire the sterling worth of the Scottish character. It seems to me to partake of that enduring strength of which its own mountain-fastnesses are but a fitting symbol.

The lecture system is the feature of University instruction here. This is admirably carried out. Two days in the week are generally given to oral examination before the class. This becomes a severe test to the student who is called upon to answer the questions put to him by the Professor in the presence of two hundred or more students. This I think an excellent method for advanced students. I read some time ago an amusing incident that is said to have happened at Glasgow University. The Professor one day asked an Irishman a question away up at the back of the lecture room. He didn't know, and while turning over his notes he was prompted first by one neighbor, then by another, but prompted differently. He hesitated, and the Professor repeated the question, to which Pat hurled back the answer—“Plaze, sur, there's a difference of opanyon.”

I can speak in highest terms of the students with whom I have become acquainted and with whom I have the great pleasure of associating from day to day. I do not know whether every one when he leaves this University is, in the language of Horace, *Vitioque resolutus ab omni*. It would be a miracle if it were so. Yet I believe it would be difficult to find in any university, among such a large

number of young men, so many hard-working, earnest and conscientious students. Of course, student life here as elsewhere has its own peculiarities, which can only be learned by association and experience.

Perhaps one essential feature of difference from American colleges is that there are no large students' dormitories, and the three thousand five hundred members of the University are scattered through the length and breadth of the great city. Acquaintance, therefore, is only possible with a comparatively small number of the students. The same system prevails in the other Scottish universities, with this difference, that at Aberdeen and St. Andrews the number of students is much less,—the number at St. Andrews being about 220; and thus it seems more like an American college, and the place itself, by the ever-beating surges of the sea, with its fine old University buildings dating back to the Reformation, verges, in my view, close to a charming ideal retreat for academic pursuits.

It is my thorough conviction that the tendency to a spirit of true independence and self-reliance is fostered in the Scotch universities, such as we find in the noblest and best men that have been educated in them. The names of Chalmers and Guthrie, and many others whom I might mention, carry with them a charm such as all those must feel who are in sympathy with true Christian culture and beneficence in its most exalted form. It is said of Guthrie when he studied at Edinburgh that, although the son of

people in comfortable circumstances, "he commenced college life in a very frugal way, living in a single room at a rent of five or six shillings a week, and subsisting upon the plainest food."

How grand and noble a life he lived because fashioned after the one only Ideal and Pattern, and "when he was buried at Edinburgh, amidst the deep lamentations of thousands who had long admired his gifts, but had yet more admired his character and work, there were multitudes who mourned for the lost and who sympathized with the bereaved, from the Queen upon the throne to the lowliest in the 'wynds' of the city where he had labored."

I shall before closing refer to another feature of university life here,—the entire absence of all secret societies.

I should wish that this might be the case in all American colleges as it is already in Princeton. On the other hand, there are a number of excellent literary societies which meet weekly. The syllabus or programme of exercises is posted at the beginning of the session, with the parts each student is to perform at each meeting through the session. Any one, whether member or not, is privileged to attend any of the meetings of these societies, and even to take part in the debates.

The Philosophical Society meets every Wednesday evening for the reading, discussion and criticism of papers on philosophical questions, and in this department of work, un-

der the guidance and able instruction of Professors Fraser and Calderwood, with their assistants. Edinburgh is *facile princeps* of all the British universities.

In closing this necessarily brief sketch of some of the features of university life I wish to acknowledge the great kindness I have received from both Professors and students. I would express also my best wishes for the welfare of URSINUS, its Professors, students and all friends.

*Edinburgh, Scotland, Feb. 4, 1888.*

#### ALUMNI PERSONALS.

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

'73. Rev. F. F. Bahner, of Waynesboro, recently joined with his people in celebrating the centennial anniversary of the erection of the First Evangelical Reformed Church in Washington township, Franklin county, Pa., of which he is pastor. The services began on February 12th with the formal re-opening of this house of worship,—it having previously been renovated and improved,—and closed on the 26th ult. with the re-dedication ceremonies.

'74. Rev. M. H. Groh, of Landisburg, Perry county, Pa., has published an interesting historical sketch of his charge, a reference to which is made under Book Notices of this number of the BULLETIN. The sketch is a pamphlet of over four hundred pages, and the typographical work on it,—as well as that of printing and binding,—was done entirely by Mr. Groh himself, a somewhat re-

markable feat for a pastor of several large congregations.

'75. We acknowledge the receipt of the *Trinity Reformed Church Visitor*, a very attractive eight-page church paper in decidedly artistic covers, published by the congregation at Dayton, O., of which Rev. D. W. Ebbert is pastor.

'77. Rev. A. B. Stoner, of Mechanicstown, Md., a graduate of the Theological Department, and his wife graduated last year in the Chautauqua Scientific and Literary Circle. Besides the regular four years' course they have taken all of the seven seal courses, and are just now finishing the Garnet Seal Course for '86-'87, which when completed will entitle them to be enrolled as members of the highest of the various literary orders associated with the Chautauqua movement.

'84. Rev. Henry A. Bomberger, of Point Pleasant, Bucks county, Pa., has received and accepted a unanimous call to the pastorate of Heidelberg Reformed Church, York City, Pa. He will enter on the duties of his new field some time this spring.

'87. William A. Korn, of Mertztown, Berks county, Pa., will teach mathematics at Palatinate College, Myerstown, Pa., during the approaching Spring Session of that school.

The University of Pennsylvania will celebrate its Centennial in 1891. Professor F. A. Muhlenberg has resigned the chair of Greek in that institution, a position which he occupied for twelve years past.

**GENERAL TOPICS.**COLLEGE EDUCATION IN EASTERN  
PENNSYLVANIA.

Our nation is advancing at a pace that may well astonish the old world, and surprise us, amid our toil for its welfare. The restless energy of Americans is developing the resources of our matchless country in every direction; so that we can claim no prouder title than that of citizens of the Great Republic.

But if the material interests of our land are thus carefully attended to, the intellectual ones are also not forgotten. On every hand colleges and schools are rising to testify to our desire to belong to that splendid republic of letters, which knows no limits of space or time, and comprises the poets, artists, scholars, orators, scientists and thinkers of every class and age.

Our own state, too, can point to many an institution of learning, which is laboring for the education of youth. Many persons wonder why so many are needed, and why the number could not remain where it was twenty-five years ago. There are reasons which can be brought to uphold the views of those who would restrict the increase of the foundations of which we are speaking. We will grant this much of their claim; that no new college can demand general recognition and public support, unless it can show that it stands upon some new principle, or supplies a real necessity of the community or state in which it is established. We have, to-day, in the

United States a number of instances where this has been the case, and where the new claimant has been greeted with such a welcome that its success was immediate and decided; as, for example, the various technological institutions, which are endeavoring to furnish a technical training for the different kinds of engineering and the mechanic arts.

Now all schools of higher education range themselves under one of two heads, namely, those which give a special preparation for a particular profession, and secondly, those which seek to provide a certain region with that general culture which young people require in order to start on an equal footing with others in the race for success.

In this second sense, the educational problem must vary also according to the special needs of the region to be served. This is particularly true of Pennsylvania, where we are none too well supplied with first-class schools, whether preparatory or collegiate. Let us start from the principle, which we shall explain as we go on, that the training necessary for young men must depend in great part upon the defects in their early education. These defects must be overcome in order to place them where they may be upon the same intellectual level with young men coming from other parts of the country.

In Pennsylvania we have a large population of German origin, amounting to between five and seven hundred thousand. The large majority

are grouped in a few counties, so that they have retained their ancestral dialect; and even where English is commonly spoken, a large number of German idioms have been carried over into it, thus affecting its purity.

Now in view of this state of things, what is a young man to do, who, seeing the advantages of a good education and the prizes lying open to the well trained youth, is ambitious to better his condition? Is he to attend some institution where the instructors, being ignorant of German, do not understand the difficulties which one, who speaks that tongue only, has when he undertakes to learn English? He may do this, and by reason of special readiness in this direction, and by dint of hard study, he may come off victorious. Any one, however, who has learned to speak a foreign language, knows that without particular training from men who are well acquainted with the processes of thought and the exact value of the idiomatic expressions of both of these tongues, there will always remain many unsolved problems and not a few positive defects, which will betray the uncertainty of the speaker and put him in an unfavorable light.

Now let us look the matter in the face and ask the question whether the German portion of the population of Pennsylvania is not suffering under just this class of disadvantage. There cannot be found a more steady, industrious, and thrifty class of our citizens than that of which we are speaking; and yet they are not receiving the recognition which they deserve. Here and there some one forces his way to the front, by virtue of unusual ability or energy, and commands the attention of the country at large. It will be found, however, that many of these men have come from localities where they had better advantages in the direction of English.

In view of the facts already brought forward, no one would be so foolish as to assert that the children of the Germans who settled here in a body have inherited feebler mental powers than those of men who took up their residence in the midst of the English-speaking settlers. No, it is simply this, that in the country at large, where only English is used in business and in the home, bad English is regarded as a mark of a deficient education or of an inferior degree of ability. If a candidate for a position cannot write a letter correct in spelling, in the use of words, and in grammar, he is distanced by competitors who are not his equals in any other respect, in talent, in general knowledge, or in character. Our Pennsylvania German youth is handicapped at the outset. He does not have a fair chance. Furthermore he cannot obtain the training which he needs in institutions designed primarily for those who have never spoken anything except English. The care which he requires cannot injure and may help the latter class, but they can do without it and he cannot.

Pennsylvania must strengthen the



hands of the colleges which are striving to do this great work; and no one can do a greater service to the cause of education in this commonwealth than by contributing to give to so valuable a part of our population their rights as American citizens.

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THE SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL FEATURES  
URSINUS COLLEGE OFFERS EASTERN  
PENNSYLVANIA.

URSINUS COLLEGE was founded eighteen years ago to help solve the fundamental problem of education in Eastern Pennsylvania. Its foundation was a labor of love, because those who established it entered upon their work with insufficient pecuniary means, but with firm faith that it was needed, and that time would justify their struggles and sacrifices.

That our honored president and his colleagues acted wisely is shown by the present position of the college with its eminently respectable body of alumni. It has furnished no inconsiderable part of the present clergymen of the Reformed Church, and has its representatives in the other learned professions and in other walks of life. URSINUS has never before had so large and enthusiastic a body of students as it now has; nor has the work done here ever before reached so high a level.

It may be worth our while to glance at a few of the causes which have operated to bring about these gratifying results. In the first place

the faculty are able to understand and appreciate the position and needs of those of our students who are troubled with the difficulties which the English language presents, because they all have a personal knowledge of German, acquired either here or in Germany. Thus, without changing the usual course so as to make it unsuitable for those who do not require such training in English, they are enabled to observe and assist the individual students in correcting defects and to aid them in becoming masters of a pure pronunciation and of a more perfect style, which are of the utmost value to them. These opportunities are attracting young men continually to URSINUS.

In the special department of the English Language and Literature, the drill takes it for granted that the student desires to learn the subject from the beginning. It starts with the phonetic elements and goes out into the complete words. Dictionary and text-book alike are pressed into service, and a sure structure is built upon the elementary ideas of grammar, which have been acquired in the academy. Rhetoric is taught in practical applications as well as in theory; and the careful practice had in themes, orations and in elocution, enables the youth to express with accuracy and deliver well the thoughts which he may develop. Nor must it be imagined that this is at the expense of the knowledge of the laws which govern the mind. Courses in logic, psychology and

the history of philosophy, with moral science, go side by side to teach him to bring out and employ those higher powers which the professional man must be able to use if he would be a great thinker.

Besides these means, there are well managed literary societies conducted by the students, with careful provision for criticism, where they may test their degree of progress, and try their mental wings before they are called upon to take the ambitious flights of later years.

It is not our purpose to review in detail the other lines of work; one only shall receive a few words. In German this institution offers advantages which are of especial value to those who expect to make practical use of this language in the pulpit or elsewhere. Thus a student may pursue it during four years and become thoroughly acquainted with the masters of German literature. Conversation and theme writing are not neglected, and, if he enters the German literary society, whose meetings are held each week, he may attain to readiness and fluency in the spoken tongue. This is not possible in the ordinary college. Here, however, the previous knowledge of the student is utilized in order to give him this coveted accomplishment. In the other departments the work is conformed to the standards received in our oldest and best institutions. The mathematical and physical sciences have their due representation in the courses; and history is made quite prominent.

Besides the linguistic studies described above, French is offered for two years, and Hebrew also to those who intend entering the seminary.

The departments of Latin and Greek are held up to the highest standard that the time allotted to them in the college curriculum permits, and are made further interesting by means of additional lectures, some of them being illustrated. The electives are designed to make it possible for those who desire, to carry these branches beyond the ordinary limit, to become proficient in them and competent to give instruction in them after leaving the college. It is intended to carry this still further another year.

The academy, besides the normal and English courses, gives sufficient preparation for entering the Freshman class, and accomplishes this in three years; because most of the students come to us at an age when they intend to do the best work in their power, and thus cover more ground in the same time than the ordinary boy.

Thus URSINUS has accomplished a great deal with the means at her command. Friends of the college would be gratified if they could but see what earnestness of purpose and intense devotion to duty is displayed by the students in general. It is perfectly evident that what our district of the state needs is to have a fair chance, and our boys will be found climbing to eminence in all professions and adorning every station in life.

We are enabled to do this work, in part, because we are removed from the distractions and corrupting influences of a large town; so that while it may be a fact that the evil-disposed will find means to accomplish their wishes anywhere, the tendency is against this. The surroundings, breathing the pure air and simple life of the country, are not calculated to develop the unworthy side of a young man's character.

Then, too, URSINUS has made it possible for a youth, whose means are slender, to receive a good education. There is no institution in America where a student can live more cheaply and unpretendingly and receive such advantages. It is true there are others which appear to do so, upon paper; but those who are acquainted with the older colleges of our land, know that there are a thousand and one unwritten laws among the students, which each feels bound to obey. These cover dress, societies, entertainments, subscriptions to all sorts of things, and various personal expenses which swell enormously the cost of a college course. Now in a rural district this is brought down to the minimum.

Thus from every stand-point, whether moral, intellectual, financial, or hygienic, URSINUS can claim a decided mission. The generous and philanthropic, who desire to use for good the wealth of which the Almighty has made them stewards, can rest assured that their gifts to the college will be applied at once for the real benefit of the common-

wealth. Remember that there are only four colleges in eastern Pennsylvania which attempt to provide for the German population, and that these do not contain over six hundred students from all the hundreds of thousands we have mentioned above. It will be no experiment to aid a tried institution like this. We need larger buildings to accommodate our rapidly increasing numbers. We lack the proper endowments for our professorships. We should have scholarships in order to aid a larger number of those requiring assistance in order to get through their education. We are looking to the friends of the college to help us to a better library and more adequate apparatus.

To young men we offer a training calculated to enable them to hold their own in the fierce competition for place now going on in our land. Educators everywhere are beginning to see that proficiency in English is absolutely essential to success. Whether a youth has always spoken English or not, careful, accurate training in the vernacular of the country must be of the greatest benefit to him.

We are situated in the midst of a large population where the educational opportunities have never been adequate; and we are striving to give to the youth of Pennsylvania, whether of German origin or not, a good, solid, education at the least possible expense.

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President Fairchild, of Oberlin College, Ohio, is 90 years of age.

GENERAL COLLEGE AND EDUCATIONAL  
NEWS.

The attendance of lady students in the Swiss universities is rapidly decreasing.

Rev. Dr. Patton accepted the Presidency of Princeton College, on the first of March.

Lafayette College has 280 students, of whom 142 are professing Christians, 37 have the ministry in expectation, and eleven are pledged to missionary work.

James K. Mosser and Thomas Keck recently added \$10,000 to their previous gift of \$20,000, for the endowment of the Greek Professorship in Muhlenberg College, Allentown.

On a recent Sabbath, Rev. George W. Smith, LL.D., President of Trinity College, Hartford, Conn., preached an eloquent sermon in St. James P. E. Church, Philadelphia, in support of religious training in colleges.

Prof. Asa Gray, the eminent botanist, and professor at Harvard for many years, died at Cambridge, Mass., January 30th, aged 77. He was the author of many text-books on Botany and elaborate works on the flora of the Northern and Southern United States, besides numerous articles and papers.

H. J. Furber, Jr., a young man not yet 20, is preparing to found a great university in Chicago after that of Heidelberg. He will devote \$1,000,000 as an inducement for other citizens to join in the movement. He is a graduate of the late Chicago University, and is now in Berlin studying philosophy under German masters.

## MONTHLY SUMMARY.

## COLLEGIATE.

The new college building of the *Mission House*, at Franklin, Wisconsin, has been put under contract at \$14,625, and will be erected during the coming summer.

At *Franklin and Marshall College*, Lancaster, Pa., recitations were suspended on Ash Wednesday, and a special service was held in the College Chapel, at which the Rev. Max Hark of the Moravian church preached the sermon. A service is held every week during Lent, on Wednesday afternoon at four o'clock.

## CONGREGATIONAL.

A church costing \$1,000 was dedicated at Lawrenceville, O., January 15. Rev. D. R. Taylor, pastor.

The congregation at Orangeville, Columbia County, Pa., Rev. A. Houtz, pastor, has renovated and beautified its church building.

Grace church, Tiffin, O., Dr. Hibshman, pastor, recently celebrated its fifth anniversary. The church has grown from eighty members to one hundred and ninety-seven, and the Sunday school from sixty to two hundred and ten, since its organization.

The committees appointed by the Reformed church in America and our church to confer on the subject of a union of the two bodies, will hold a public conference in the city of Philadelphia, for which the following programme has been announced:—

Tuesday, April 3. First (German) Reformed Church. 3 p. m., "The Historical and Doctrinal Relations of the Two Denominations." "The Canons of Dort." 8 p. m., "The Present Condition of the Two Churches."

Wednesday, April 4. Second Reformed (Dutch) Church. 10 a. m., "The Obstacles to Union." 2 p. m., "The Advantages of Union." 8 p. m., a German meeting in Salem's Reformed Church.

Brethren who intend to come to the Conference are requested to notify Rev. James Crawford, 1106 Mount Vernon street, Philadelphia, before the 20th of March, so that entertainment may be provided for them by the Philadelphia churches.

## MINISTERIAL.

Carnahan, B. R., installed at Keedysville, Md.  
Derr, Tilghman, installed at Millersburg, Dauphin County, Pa.

Danner, John, ordained and installed at Loyal Oak, O.

Dechant, F. W., died at Reading, Pa., February 17th.

Hoy, W. E., and Miss Mary B. Ault, missionaries to Japan, were married at Tokio, December 27, 1887.

Herbruck, E., editor *Christian World*, Dayton, O., sailed February 22d, for a five months' tour through the East.

Heisler, D. Y., D. D., died at Easton, Pa., February 5th, in his 68th year.

Kieffer, Moses, D. D., died at Sandusky, O., February 3d, in his 74th year.

Kieffer, J. S., D. D., celebrated the twentieth anniversary of his pastorate at Hagerstown, Md.

Ruhl, P., removed from Prospect to Kenton, O.

Shaw, S., settled at Liberty Center, O.

Stahl, J. P., called to Marshallville, O.

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#### MISSIONARY.

Miss Emma F. Poorbaugh, of Berlin, Pa., has been elected missionary to Japan by the Board of Foreign Missions.

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#### BOOK AND LITERARY NOTICES.

THE FISHERMAN'S ALLEGORIES, by Elder H. Leonard, of Basil, O., for many years the energetic financial agent of Heidelberg College, are designed to portray especially the evils of intemperance and of the traffic in intoxicating drinks. Originally they were lectures by the author, who has a peculiar gift in the line of argument and illustration he adopts, and have often been delivered by him with great effect. Having grown old (though by no means decrepit) in the itinerant service, it has been thought desirable to give permanence to his work, and gain for it a wider sphere of usefulness, by publishing the *Allegories*. This has been well done by the *Reformed Publishing Co.*, Dayton, O. The book is gotten up in good style and makes a handsome volume. Price, \$1.50. It has been very favorably received, and welcomed with many warm commendations. Thousands of people who heard the lectures will doubtless be glad to get them for perusal in this more permanent form. All the profits secured from the sale of the book are pledged by the esteemed author to the benefit of Heidelberg College.

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A BRIEF HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE LAN-  
DISBURG (PERRY CO., PA.) REFORMED CHARGE.

By Rev. M. H. Groh, A. M., present pastor of the charge. This is a valuable contribution to the local history of the Reformed Church in Perry county, Pa., and the author merits praise for the care and toil bestowed upon the preparation of it. It deserves special notice that in this case *the author is his own printer and publisher*, the book in typography, printing and binding being the work of his own hands. His example in all these respects should stimulate others to like enterprise and diligence. If all could not find time for the mechanical work involved, they might at least gather and arrange facts to serve as reliable material for histories of their respective charges, which, combined, would supply a basis for something more general and comprehensive. Copies of the book can be had on application to the author, Landisburg, Perry county, Pa., at a moderate price. It deserves liberal encouragement.

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From the *Presbyterian Board*, No. 1332 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, Pa.

THE BOYS OF RIVERTON. By Emily Gilmore. 16mo, pp, 270; illustrated. Price, \$1.

This is a story of the way the minister's young wife helped in the church work by gathering the boys whom no one was caring for, and who were not anxious to be cared for, and organizing them into a little society of their own for self improvement. The results of the effort were very satisfactory.

THE HEIR OF ATHOLE. A story. By Julia McNair Wright, author of "Almost a Nun," "Roland's Daughter," etc. 16mo, pp. 320; illustrated. Price, \$1.15.

Really this is the story of a tramp. That is, Barry the tramp is more the hero than Philip the heir of Athole. The author has given close study to the class she here paints so graphically. Barry is not an antic play of fancy. He represents the intense heathenism that marches side by side with the splendid enlightenment of the nineteenth century. The book has a purpose—to call attention to the problem of the tramp class. The story is well written.

---

THE LIVING GOD,—a plain, instructive argument for the Being of the true, personal God. By a Layman. It is written in an earnest style, and is highly worthy of circulation. A tract of twenty-two pages. Published by O'Neill Bros., No. 123 S. Third street, Philadelphia.

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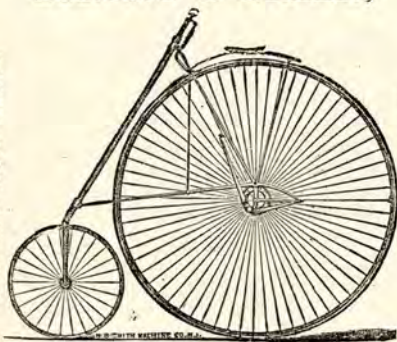
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5. IT FACILITATES EXTEMPORE PREACHING.

There is a fascination in using the machine from the first, and it is an immense relief from the drudgery of the pen.

When the key-board has become familiar it is a constant pleasure to write, while the time saved is profitably spent in reading and other pursuits. The manuscript is so easy to read that the speaker can catch the words readily at some distance, so that he need not feel trammelled in the slightest degree in using the manuscript that he has written.

After one has become accustomed to the use of the machine, the operation becomes mechanical, and its rapid use has the effect of a mental stimulus in the process of composing.


The machine has also helped me in the matter of extemporaneous preaching. These two effects I account for in this way: The more rapidly thought can be set out in words, the more rapid and vigorous the succeeding thought, and the very method of thought to which one becomes accustomed in the use of the Typewriter, together with the careful study and preparation in this way, gives one a readiness in the use of language which is the best preparation for extempore preaching.

Since "reading makes the full man, and writing the exact man," the Typewriter affords every advantage to the public speaker, for it secures to him time for reading, and he has more opportunity and better facilities for writing.

Very truly yours,

THOMAS J. SHERRARD,

Pastor Presbyterian Church.

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