




12-1887

Ursinus College Bulletin Vol. 4, No. 3

Augustus W. Bomberger
Ursinus College

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Ursinus College

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Recommended Citation

Bomberger, Augustus W. and Fluck, Jonathan L., "Ursinus College Bulletin Vol. 4, No. 3" (1887). *Ursinus College Bulletin*. 30.
<https://digitalcommons.ursinus.edu/ucbulletin/30>

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URSINUS COLLEGE BULLETIN.

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URSINUS COLLEGE BULLETIN.

VOLUME IV.

COLLEGEVILLE, DECEMBER, 1887.

NUMBER 3

Ursinus College Bulletin

PUBLISHED TEN TIMES A YEAR, ON THE FIRST OF EACH MONTH FROM OCTOBER TO JULY INCLUSIVE.

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TERMS:

ONE copy per year, 25 cts.
FIVE copies to one person, \$1.00
SINGLE COPIES, 3 Cts.

All subscriptions cash in advance.

Address,

URSINUS COLLEGE BULLETIN,
Collegeville P. O., Montgomery County, Pa.

Persons wishing to discontinue their subscriptions should send immediate notice of the fact.

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.

THROUGHOUT a large portion of our favored country that particular season which fills the interval between Thanksgiving Day and Christmas-tide and marks the passing of nature from the cheerless realm of November,—with its dark, dead fields and barren branches, its chilly winds and cold gray skies—into the frigid, snow-clad confines of the land of the dying year,—a region bright with the sparkle of icy crystals and glad with the music of many bells,—forms a period of opportunity for college men whose value and importance

they do not always fully estimate and realize. This is emphatically the time for the hard study that brings the most substantial results, for the earnest mental application that is rewarded by the most encouraging returns. The previous efforts of the Fall Term, immediately succeeding the diversions of the long Summer vacation, are rather in the nature of preparatory exercise by which the mind is strengthened and put in good working order for the more effective activity that is to follow.

* *
*

We submit the opinion that in every sphere of human existence it will be found where any plan, project or undertaking is brought to a prosperous issue, that, as a rule, the object is finally attained by a brief but extraordinary out-put of energy for which the mind and body had been invigorated by a comparatively long course of training and development. And it is our belief that this same truth holds good most forcibly in the intellectual world. The best work in a student's life, and the work that most surely tells for satisfactory progress, is that which is carried on through short seasons of fervent, all-absorbing mental occupation to which the mind has been wrought by a long, quiet, steady expenditure of judiciously regulated study.

Recapitulation and summing up are indispensable processes for the honest toiler after knowledge, and the labors that precede them are but the means of gathering power for the blows that are to strike fire. There is the driving in of the nail and there is the clinching of it, and both must be well done that it may hold securely. The difficulty in this matter among students is that their intellectual strength is lavishly expended, and even seriously wasted, too soon after the opening of the college year in work that is really but preliminary; then, when the time comes for the important effort, their stock of patience is exhausted and the tired faculties of the mind are unequal to the emergency.

* *

If, however, college men have studied wisely and well since the taking up of their current duties, though so far it may have seemed to them that they made but slow and tedious progress, now is the time,—when evening fires burn warm and bright within and winter winds moan cold and sad without,—to pluck up courage for the final application that will as surely bear gratifying fruit as previous faithful toil seemed certain to be barren.

* *

The spirit of honest pride in the standing and principles of URSINUS which at present universally prevails among her students, is to be heartily commended. It betokens the existence of a healthy condition of affairs within her halls. A certain pro-

portion of inoffensive conceit is essential to a man of decided character. It adds spice to his make-up. There is no reason why (and humanity practically concedes it) an honorable, upright, Christian gentleman should not in a quiet way show that he deems himself every whit as good as most of his fellow-men, and considerably better than many of them. And the gist of the assertion is applicable as well to an institution of learning.

* *

You can judge the strength and worth of an organization by the animating spirit that pervades it. If the component parts of a body are earnestly concerned for the welfare of the whole, sincerely rejoice in the success it has achieved and heartily desire its continuance, there is conclusive evidence that that body is on a fair road to permanent prosperity. We therefore feel confident that the positive, reliant faith in the cause of their Alma Mater which the sons and daughters of URSINUS display, makes brighter her glowing hopes for the future.

* *

Apropos of this subject we take opportunity to drop the hint that the institution should have its distinctive college colors, as well as other seats of learning. They are desirable in so far as they foster that zeal for one's own side, which, if kept within proper bounds, is so productive of good results. The students would do well to consider the advisability of taking a step in this direction.

The great movement forward in the matter of Collegeville side-walks, which, under the efficient supervision of Mr. F. M. Hobson, treasurer of URSINUS, has just been brought to a satisfactory termination, should be a source of hearty congratulation to all concerned.

* *
*

Experience has shown us that a "Merry Christmas" a week after date always sounds extremely insipid and melancholy. We therefore offer ours now, with the promise that we shall try to wish our readers a "Happy New Year" promptly on scheduled time.

THE LITERARY SOCIETIES.

SCHAFF ANNIVERSARY.

The seventeenth anniversary of the Schaff Literary Society will be held in the College Chapel on Thursday evening, December 22d. The exercises promise to be exceedingly attractive and entertaining. The following undergraduates will furnish the literary part of the programme: Salutatorian, I. C. Williams; Orators, John T. Wagner, Joseph K. Freed and Mayne R. Longstreth; Eulogist, Raymond F. Longacre; Schaff Orator, Albert S. Bromer.

The music for the occasion will be furnished by Knecht's orchestra, of Philadelphia. The committee of arrangements is: John Lerch, Harry Slotterer, C. K. Williard, H. W. Spare and C. H. Brandt. The music committee consists of E. S. Bromer, R. G. Magee and W. F. Ruff.

STUART ROGERS.

The Zwinglian Literary Society has secured the services of Stuart Rogers, the renowned reader and impersonator, who will give an entertainment in the College Chapel on Monday evening, December 5th. Mr. Rogers is said to display wonderful powers of imitation in representing the peculiarities and characteristics of different prominent individuals of the day, making all his changes from one subject to another instantaneously, in the presence of his audience. A general admission fee of twenty-five cents will be charged. Reserved seats thirty cents. The public should by all means avail themselves of this opportunity of passing an evening in profitable enjoyment.

The officers in the Zwinglian Society are at present as follows:

President, Isaac C. Fisher; Vice-President, Irvin F. Wagner; Recording Secretary, Henry Tesnow; Corresponding Secretary, H. E. Jones; Critic, C. U. O. Derr; Treasurer, Robert M. Fry; Editor, Wallace H. Wotring; Chaplain, Hiram F. Frantz; Librarian, Alfred Hughes; Janitor, E. W. Lentz.

COLLEGE CONTRIBUTIONS.

THE DESERTED WINDOW.

BY C. E. W.

Oh, window sad! Oh, window lone!
Where are those smiles benign,
That once from thee so brightly shone,—
And now we see no sign?

I oftentimes in passing by
Thy solitary place,
With longing heart and tearful eye,
Behold thy veiled face.

'Twas in the sweet and joyous past,
That from thy arch, one day,

A tender hand was pleased to cast
A lovely apple-spray.

That apple-spray makes thee so dear,—
Oh, window wan and pale;
For it doth ever with it bear
A gladsome little tale.

Oh, window sad! Oh, window lone!
No more despondent seem;
Thy charms may all some day return
With many a happier gleam.

THE WEEK OF PRAYER.

The International Committee of the Y. M. C. A. having set apart the week, beginning with November 14th, for the purpose of special prayer and supplication for young men, it was spent in Christian colleges throughout the land in the work of saving souls and in the consecration of them to the service of God. From examples in life it is obvious that the student's future depends greatly upon the Christian impressions he receives while at college. The most important phase of college work should be the forming in each individual of the conviction that "he hath eternal life." The doctrines of Paradise Lost and Dante's Inferno are as nothing when compared with the lessons which the lowly Jesus teaches. It is not power of intellect that saves but childlike confidence in Him.

The students of URSINUS, in order to stimulate a higher Christian life and bring those disinterested in spiritual things to an understanding of the importance of the Gospel, held meetings every night during the week, from November 14th to 19th,

inclusive. On Monday evening they were addressed by Rev. J. B. Shumaker, D. D., on the subject, "Victory Depends on Prayer as Much as on Activity." On Tuesday evening, Rev. H. T. Spangler spoke on "A Good Reason to be of Good Courage," and on Wednesday evening the President of the college, on "Success through Reliance upon God." Dr. Bomberger urged the young men to accept God by his Word, depend upon the Holy Spirit and be willing to do his work in the way the Word requires it and not their own way. On Thursday evening, Rev. J. I. Good, D. D., of Philadelphia, preached to the students in Trinity Church. His theme was based upon the latter half of I John, 1:14. The necessity of Christian manliness and moral courage was deeply impressed upon the minds and hearts of his hearers.

On Saturday evening a number of college men gathered in the Y. M. C. A. room in order to sum up what the Lord by his spirit had wrought during this week of prayer. A consecration meeting was conducted by the Holy Spirit and every one left the room saying "it was well to have been in the house of the Lord." Out of those present there were but few who had not devoted their lives to the service of the Master. The week of prayer brought many blessings to our college, and it is hoped that before the academic year is completed it may number many weeks of equal spiritual benefit.

O. R.

COLLEGE ITEMS.

THE ARION GLEE CLUB.

A musical organization has been lately formed at URSINUS which promises good work for the future. It is styled "The Arion Glee Club" and consists of eight male voices led by Prof. Hyde. The parts are distributed in this manner: First Tenor, O. H. E. Rauch and Chas. E. Wehler; Second Tenor, Prof. E. M. Hyde and Joseph K. Freed; First Bass, Prof. A. L. Landis and A. H. Hendricks; Second Bass, Harry E. Kratz and E. W. Lentz. The club held its first rehearsal on Thursday afternoon, November 10th, and was much encouraged by the results of its initiatory efforts.

Since the publication of the November BULLETIN Senior Orations have been delivered before the Faculty and students of the college as follows:—Tuesday, November 1st, C. U. O. Derr; subject, "Our Nation's Responsibilities." Wednesday, November 9th, Jonathan L. Fluck; subject, "National Standards: Our Own." Tuesday, November 15th, A. H. Hendricks; subject, "The Present Age." Wednesday, November 23d, Raymond F. Longacre; subject, "The Progress of Mankind."

Vice-President Super, D. D., gave his second Bible Talk before the Y. M. C. A. in its reading-room on Sunday, November 20th. He spoke on "Prayer." His remarks were filled with spiritual instruction and were listened to with much profit.

Dr. James I. Good, of Philadelphia, who was recently present in Collegeville for some time assisting in the revival services in progress at Trinity Church, delivered an earnest address before the students in the College Chapel on the afternoon of the 22d of November.

Rev. H. H. W. Hibshman, D. D., of Tiffin, O., who is one of the Board of Directors of URSINUS, lately paid a brief visit to the college during a trip East.

David L. Hain, of the preparatory department, not long since in a game of foot-ball fell and broke both bones of his left fore-arm. He bore the painful accident with the coolest nerve, and is now rapidly recovering from the injury.

M. H. Brensinger, of Sigmund, Pa., one of last year's graduates at Heidelberg College, Tiffin, O., is the latest addition to the URSINUS Theological Department.

PROF. HYDE'S ADDRESSES AT EASTON.

By the kindness of an URSINUS theological student, who was present at this year's Northampton County Teachers' Institute, held in Pardee Hall, of Lafayette College, Easton, Pa., November 14-19, we are able to clip from the Easton *Daily Argus* and *Daily Express*, respectively, the two following abstracts of addresses delivered before the Institute by Prof. Hyde, on Tuesday, the second day of its sessions:

In the morning, the *Argus* says,

"County Superintendent Werner introduced Professor E. M. Hyde, Ph. D., of URSINUS COLLEGE, who spoke on 'The Personal Element in the Teacher's Life.'

"The teacher's profession should be as real as that of any other, and should be as highly honored in this country as in others. The teacher must not alone know the principles of teaching, but also know how to apply them. The reason that the teaching in this country does not rank equally with the other professions is on account of the low standard required, and low remuneration.

"Every teacher must study some mental philosophy in a practical way. He must study the laws of thought. He must go into the child's heart. We must graduate our exercises in all branches judiciously in order to teach our children to think, doing everything step by step. This is gradually being done, the kindergartens leading on to higher effort. The teacher should be the intellectual and moral model of his pupils. Special attention should be given to the cultivation of the memory, which is under the control of the will. If we will to arise at a certain hour in the morning we can do so. If we really desire to remember a thing we can always do so. This exertion of the memory helps to bring out the other powers of the mind.

"Teachers must cultivate sympathy. If we touch a note on the piano we shall find that others vibrate with it. In like manner sympathy will reach and bring into action the deep-

est feelings in a child's heart. What the gardener can do for the little plants, teachers can do for the poor, dwarfed hearts of the children who come into the school. Let us, therefore, have sympathy for the little children. Make them to feel that we care for them.

"Reading is the great thing for the development of the child for good or bad. In Germany it is a common practice of the teachers to recommend a course of reading for the vacation months, and so there should be a definite course of reading recommended to our pupils. And the necessity of reading should be impressed on them. Give them an object for reading in connection with their studies.

"Each child has his limitations and cannot go beyond these. If we can make a child do all within his power, that is all we ought to ask of him. A few words of judicious praise will go a great way with a child, and a great deal farther than punishment. We can not do without punishment, but moral suasion is the idea of the day. If you can make a child understand that he must come under discipline for his own good and that of others, you will have accomplished much. Get the child to understand the idea of *right*. For those who do not respond to your ideas of discipline you must resort to heroic treatment, for dangerous diseases require such.

"The teacher must be patient in awaiting results, which must and will come. There is something in

the teacher's profession in common with that of the clergyman—the results of his work will become apparent in the future. Children are just. They will remember with gratitude the true teacher, and will also never forget the defects of the poor ones.

“Let us seek to build up an earnest character in our children to help them to a true manhood and womanhood. There is a little creature in the South seas which plants itself upon a rock and lives humble and forgotten. Its nourishment is drawn from the surrounding waters and there it grows steadily and slowly. No one would think it remarkable for beauty or strength. But, as the years go on, it advances until it rears its crest to the very surface of the main. Its outer covering passes gradually away and we behold the beautiful coral, so strong and so enduring, baffling the power of the tempest, lifting its snowy barrier and laughing at the whirling billow—a monument to untiring striving after the purpose which the Almighty had set before it. Let our aim as teachers be thus directed and our efforts will be crowned with like success. Our skillful hands will deftly touch those chords in human hearts which shall return harmonies of thought and morals which shall resound in our land, sending forth a hymn of praise to Him who has committed to our imperfect guidance those little lambs so precious in His sight.

“The doctor's eloquent tribute to the teacher's profession was received

with earnest applause by the audience.”

“In the afternoon,” the *Express* reports, “Dr. Hyde spoke on ‘The Teacher's Preparation for His Daily Work.’ He said: This age has witnessed a wonderful advance in the preparation which a teacher receives before entering upon his profession. In the first place a teacher must recognize that he holds a definite place in the community where he is employed. That place is to represent education before all who meet him in his daily life. He stands there as the high priest of knowledge. Others may or may not be well informed in regard to the ordinary subjects which come up in intellectual directions, but the teacher cannot neglect improvements without stultifying himself. It is his profession to know, and if he is not accurate within the limits of his own department, he will be voted incompetent. No intellectual sloth is worthy of handling the destinies of the young. He will constantly fail to call forth their best energies. He will set such a positive example of inaccuracy that he may unwittingly form in his pupils the most slovenly and feeble mental habits and really dwarf their possibilities.

“Children observe the tastes of a teacher and are affected by them. Let a teacher decide what he wants to work up. Then let him endeavor to do every day a certain amount of careful reading or study. Let this be observed as a sacred duty, and the accumulation of knowledge will

be rapid. If a teacher is working along a course for himself, the progress that he makes will show itself in all that he does. It will help him in his illustrative work. It will show in the improvement of his English style. It will give him an air of brain power that will command respect. There is no excuse, in these days of cheap publication, for any one who is disposed to learn, remaining untrained.

"Whatever branch a teacher undertakes, his knowledge must be well beyond the amount contained in the text-book, and he must be ready to make use of this when occasion requires.

"There are certain principles that we can lay down at the outset. First. In our daily preparation we must look over each lesson which we are to hear. We must see that we fully understand each principle there brought up; not only this, but that we foresee the probable difficulties which it will present to the pupils, so that we can settle upon the clearest explanation in order to make it plain to them. This is the first step, without which much of our teaching may be over the heads of our children. Then we must draw upon our note-books and other tools for the materials with which to interest.

"It took many a well-aimed blow to forge the Damascus blade, and many an hour of toil to fashion the defensive armor of the knight of old before he could go forth to battle for the truth; and in like manner we need to see to it that we leave no

side unprotected in the contest which we are waging for the good of our fellow-men. If any one imagines that this kind of patient preparation will escape the notice of his scholars or their parents, he is much mistaken. Let a teacher count no pains too troublesome, no travail too sore, but let him show to his fellow-citizens that his profession is really to know and to impart.

"A teacher may not receive a great pecuniary reward, but the knowledge that he has helped so many to useful and honorable lives is a glorious satisfaction, and one which will help to sweeten many an hour as he sees so many about him whose sole aim in life is to win gold, which will not aid the world or gain over hearts to them.

"He will find that he is acquiring fact after fact and accumulating a mine of treasure for daily use. For knowledge is like the rain drops, so tiny and so weak, which sink down into the ground. There they rest unseen. But they gather in the dark recesses of the depths until they well up in sweet bubbling springs to refresh and rejoice the dwellers upon the face of the earth. They flow forth in silver rivulets, which purl in the green meadows or among the "hills rock-ribbed and ancient as the sun." They unite their waters and ripple on in the summer sun, sparkling with their flashing crests. The grasses incline their heads in the soft breezes and kiss the laughing brook, which going ever on and on, growing deeper and stronger with each

addition, rolls on to the sea a majestic river.

"Oh! set for yourself a goal like this; seek to round out such a magnificent future for yourself. For splendid as the river may be, knowledge, which frees from all trammels of time and distance, goes out from plain to mountain, from earth to revolving planet, and higher still to the boundless realms of space, to far distant suns, is the king of all human possibilities and the loftiest exercise of the human intelligence."

THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.

WHILE SABBATH SHADOWS FALL.

A SNOW-BOUND MEMORY.

'Tis the closing of the day-time,
 In the beauty of the May-time,
 And a cloud of crimson glory all the valley fills;
 As the evening's golden sky light,
 Touched by night's first magic twilight,
 Melts away in flaming splendor on Montgom'ry's hills.

Hallowed breezes, softly blowing
 Down by brooks thro' meadows flowing,
 Carry gently swelling murmurings from every side,
 That in holy cadence blending,
 In weird harmony ascending,
 Breathe the solemn Nature-litany of eventide.

Far across red fields of clover,
 Sweet with fragrance hanging over,
 Where La Trappe's grey steeples dimly 'mong
 the tree-tops rise,
 Saint Luke's swiftly fading spire
 Burns a sunlit beacon-fire,
 Flashing forth the silent signal that the Sabbath dies.

By the rippling Perkiomen,
 On whose banks fierce Mohawk foemen
 Once with yells of bloody combat chilled the forest air,
 Now is heard no other sounding,
 Save the noise of water bounding
 O'er the rocks below the classic groves of Glenwood fair.

Strains of mellow music, welling
 From the thrush's lonely dwelling,
 Rise commingled with the incense of the orchard's bloom;

Till on Skippack's ridges glowing
 Rays of silver brightness growing
 Tell that moonbeams pale are coming to dispel the gloom.

Then, like burst of pent-up feeling,
 Nature's inmost soul revealing,—
 While the shadows settle thickly on the house-tops brown,—
 Lo! the robins' chorus-singing
 And the church-bells' vesper ringing
 Spread in chording wild, melodious through the leaf-clad town. A. W. B.

EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS IN INDIA.

[Extracts from a letter to the BULLETIN, written by Rev. F. S. Dietrich, '79, of Rajahmundry, India, under date of September 10, 1887.]

The common ideas now existing in America as to the present state of India are in many respects entirely incorrect. Too frequently in histories and the press the country is described in its garb of a century or so ago. Such a picture no more represents the India of to-day than would a portrayal of America during the Revolutionary war or of Europe before the Reformation of the sixteenth century, convey a proper knowledge of these continents as they are at the present time.

The man who would attempt to describe modern America or Europe under such forms would be ridiculed by all: but here and there persons are yet found who cannot mention India without introducing sutteeism, human immolation, religious persecution and ignorance. However true it is that these things prevailed in the country many years past, when we speak of its status in the current period of our Christian era,

we must leave out most of that which seemed so horrible in ages before the Gospel and western civilization came.

India has undergone numerous changes during the last century, and those changes have increased in rapidity as she has neared the present. The country is in a state of transition from the stagnation of Brahmanism to modern activity. The reformatations are affecting her from the Governor-General to the cooly, from the laws and religious systems which control the nation as a whole to those pertaining only to the individual. The country has been greatly influenced by the new ideas which western civilization has brought along. Though they have not put an end to many of the enormities which caste had imposed on society, they have at least broken their power and rendered them far less influential than before. We see them beginning to bear fruit in government, social and religious reforms. Caste was the lion of India. When he roared all other laws, customs and practices fled. Caste, however, has had its day and now seems to be mustering for its last defense.

The Government does not respect it, education has to a great extent destroyed its hold over the individual and it remains for Christianity slowly to wipe off all its remaining blemishes on society and religion. This it will accomplish, just as certainly as in the first era of its existence it crushed the strength of philosophy and Judaism.

A large portion of the natives having reached that state of development of mind which enables them to see the evils of many of their customs, are making great efforts to root them out. Hence we find now springing up associations to institute various reforms.

Among the first of these barbarisms which were put away were sutteeism and human immolation. The government had to seize them with a strict hand before the people would yield.

Though less than fifty years have passed since then, the native mind has disentangled itself to such an extent from the shackles of superstition and ignorance as to be able to see that other social evils, far less injurious than the two referred to, have a baneful effect on society and should be corrected.

This is especially true with regard to the total neglect of the intellectual and moral condition of the women of the country which universally existed up to a recent date. Female education is a question greatly agitating all India at present. The sentiment in favor of it, however, has made such enormous progress of late that the question may be regarded as solved. Even the Mohammedans, who are most fanatic in regard to their harem, have broken so far through the walls of superstitious darkness, as not only to allow, but to welcome female education.

I can easily understand the necessity of the zenana.* At first I re-

*The place where Hindoo caste people and Turks keep their females shut in from the outside world.

garded it all foolishness. The females had no education. Could not read or write a letter. Their chief desires were that they might have plenty of good rice and curry to eat, fine clothes to wear, and as much jewelry as the family could afford to procure. Behind the walls of the zenana all the conversation was senseless gossip regarding neighbors whom they may have been fortunate enough to see now and then, harangues on weddings that may have occurred—for these form *the* subject with them—and any thing else of which idleness is generally the author and ignorance the executor. The endless troubles which the females brought upon their fathers or husbands were constantly causing disturbances in the family circle. While once speaking in regard to this matter to an influential Hindoo, he remarked that we Europeans did not know what burdens their females were. That they could not read or sew, and so had nothing to engage their minds. Now if this was the case in the family circle, what would have been the consequences if such uneducated minds were let loose upon society in general. I say again that it was, therefore, necessary to have the zenana, or gosha as the natives call it. Take that away without introducing education and you endanger society.

After the Hindoos came to associate with the Europeans, and especially with the missionary families, they could not avoid seeing the vast difference in their home life, resulting

so largely from the influence of educated wives and mothers. This, of course, was one of the strongest pleas in favor of female education, and prepared the way for a warmer reception of it than most of the other reforms. In general it was looked upon with favor. Here and there a fanatic raised his voice against it and bemoaned the day of its introduction, because he knew that wherever it went the structure of superstition fell, and with its ruin his own strength was destroyed. In Rajahmundry alone, a town of about 25,000 inhabitants, where formerly no girls read in the schools, now no less than about five hundred read. This is certainly encouraging. If we remember the great power that mothers wield in forming their sons into good and honorable men, and also that where woman can efficiently perform her part in social life and even in the whole arena of human activity, that there we may expect progress and the rising of a state to a position among the first nations of the earth, we will appreciate the stride India has made toward becoming a great country and an important factor in future history of the world.

But much as India has done, much remains to be accomplished. The reforms described do not thus far include the inculcation through the study of and faith in the Bible of those principles of morality upon which a state must be based in order to stand and prosper and fulfill its mission. Young men take their F. A., B. A. and M. A. degrees, and even some young ladies; but the in-

struction is all secular. They are left without a proper moral support. They are like a full-rigged vessel without ballast. The least agitation of the sea brings it into imminent danger. They enter upon public life only to yield to the first temptation that offers itself. As long as this is the case, India cannot produce her own rulers.

But just here it is that the great opportunity presents itself to those earnestly interested in the religious welfare of this wonderful heathen land. The youth of the nation by the time they have finished a course of study, which brings them closely into contact with western ideas, have lost all faith in their idolatry. The creed of their countrymen is but a farce to them and Christianity has not been put near enough to them to draw their hearts, and so they run wild as infidels and even atheists. At this point the efforts of the government cease, as it were, and the church must step in. It may be a slow undertaking, but it will also be a glorious one. I look upon this as the greatest work of our Christian churches, because upon it depends the temporal and eternal welfare of this nation, numbering about 250,000,000 souls.

ALUMNI PERSONALS.

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

'73. Rev. J. H. Hunsberger, of Fayette, Seneca county, N. Y., passed Thanksgiving day in his native village of Trappe.

'74. Rev. Prof. Moses Peters, who is now residing in Edinburgh, Scotland, has promised to prepare for the March (1888) BULLETIN an article descriptive of the University of Edinburgh. In it he will touch on the life, manners and customs of this great institution of learning.

'79. It is regretted that limited space forbids the publication in full of Rev. F. S. Dietrich's last India letter, of which an abstract appears in this issue.

'79. Rev. A. R. Thompson, a Theological alumnus, of Stone Church, Northampton county, Pa., recently enjoyed a two-weeks' vacation trip through the Shenandoah Valley and a large number of interesting localities in Virginia, North Carolina, and the District of Columbia.

'85. Rev. Samuel H. Phillips having accepted the call extended him by the Durham charge, Bucks county, Pa., has been duly installed in this his first field of labor.

'85. Rev. S. L. Messinger, pastor of Zion's Reformed charge, Perry county, Pa., lately remitted through the proper channel to the Treasurer of the Ursinus Union the sum of \$80 collected in his field for the cause of Home Missions. Mr. Messinger has just started four catechetical classes in his several congregations.

Miss Helen A. Shafer, M. A., professor of mathematics in Wellesley College, has been chosen its acting president, to replace President Alice E. Freeman, who will soon retire.

GENERAL TOPICS.

THE REFORMATION FESTIVAL.

Next to the devout commemoration of the great facts of Christianity,—the birth of the Saviour, Christmas,—His atoning death, Good Friday,—His resurrection, Easter,—His ascension on the day bearing that name,—the first special outpouring of the Holy Ghost, Pentecost*—and the creation and covenant of redemption, the antecedent ground and foundation of all historically considered, Trinity Sunday,—the Reformation of the 16th Century, as a divine revival of true Christianity and of faith in its fundamental facts and truths, merits the earnest remembrance of all who have learned by grace heartily to value them. Its claims to such remembrance have long been recognized. For although there may have been no formal ecclesiastical appointment of a special day for its commemoration, the celebration of the great event has been a marked festival of evangelical Protestantism for more than two hundred years. Indifference to it dates from the introduction of vain conceits as substitutes for the pure Gospel, and a consequent spreading indifference to evangelical orthodoxy.

As a check to this bad tendency, and a correction of its evils, the General Synod of the Reformed Church took measures a few years ago to revive interest in the festival and formally designated the third Sunday in January as a proper time for its

observance. Good historical and other reasons for the choice of that day were given at the time in connection with the action of the Synod, and have been often republished since.

But, like other religious matters, this one needs to be repeatedly urged upon the attention of the people, to secure proper regard. It is not enough that a Reformation festival has been instituted. Interest in it must be awakened. To do this it must be talked and written about, it must be advertised in the papers of the Church, and from the pulpit. Christmas and the other old festivals would soon fall out of use if no reference were made to them except in some casual adaptation of the sermon on the day set for its observance. The enthusiasm with which its annual return is hailed has been kindled by weeks of previous preparation. And if this has been of the right kind the preparatory work is commendable.

Why should not something similar be done for the Reformation festival? It is worthy of it, and if it were properly done the effect would be most salutary. No memorial celebration, apart from those of Gospel events, offers equally abundant and rich material for improvement and pleasure. There were great things attempted and done in those days; great and glorious in the power of God manifested, in the means and human agencies raised up for the accomplishment of the work, and in the fruits of the divine awakening of a

*Strangely and absurdly named Whit-Sunday by the Anglican Church, a designation at once unscriptural and unmeaning in any Gospel sense.

Christianity which had long been degraded by a recreant Church, or rather by base rulers of that Church, to an apostasy as abominable as that of Israel under Ahab. And that awakening was so deep and pervading that it not only delivered God's heritage from a new Babylonish captivity, but restored it in faith, worship and life to the purity and vigor of Apostolic times.

In addition, however, to the general themes for thought and thanksgiving thus supplied for the memorial service, the occasion supplies many special topics of most stirring interest. There is Zwingli's personal preparation for the work; Zwingli at Glarus laying the Scriptural foundation for the reform, breaking up the fallow ground; Zwingli at Einsiedeln fastening theses of vital religious truths on the hearts of 200,000 pilgrims to the idolatrous shrine of the holy virgin; Zwingli in Zurich at Marburg, and at Cappel; Zwingli toiling five days a week for more than a year with six co-laborers in the translation of the whole Bible, the first edition of which was published by Froschauer, Zurich, in 1530; and kindred themes in numbers sufficient to meet all demands. All that is needed is to wake up to the interests and importance of the festival—especially in these times when foundations are being sapped, the faith exposed to new assaults, and tendencies are craftily set in motion which lead to a relapse into the bondage from which the Reformation set the Church free. (Galatians 5:1).

GENERAL COLLEGE AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS.

The eighth annual convention of the Inter-Seminary Missionary Alliance was held at Alexandria, Va., October 27-30.

Professor Drummond, the young Scotchman who has been visiting some of the leading American colleges, says that to him their most remarkable feature is "their Christian tone." Their general atmosphere, he says, is Christian. "They are religious institutions."

There are about three hundred students at Wellesley College, and they perform its household duties. Every girl is trained to do one kind of work and to do it quickly and well. Forty-five minutes out of the twenty-four hours is allowed. Co-operation accomplishes wonders.

At the fall meeting of the Trustees of Princeton College held November 10th, Rev. Dr. James McCosh resigned the presidency of that institution. He will, however, retain his office until the opening of the third term of the current college year. Dr. McCosh has held the position he is now about to vacate since the year 1868. His administration has been a brilliant success. During his connection with Princeton it has made more rapid progress than any institution of its kind in the country. In that period the number of students has increased from 264 to 603; the teaching force from 10 professors with 7 tutors, to 37 professors with 3 tutors; and the buildings and appliances have been trebled.

EXCHANGES.

The new-comers among the college publications which have reached us since November, are, *The Yale Record*, *Muhlenberg Monthly* and *The Messachorean*. Old friends whose arrivals at our sanctum have been so far this year unnoted are, *The Signal*, *The Sunbeam*, *The Johnsonian* and *The Cadet*.

The last issue of the *Dickinson Liberal* contains a poem entitled "Gathering Sea Shells," which is excellent, certainly ranking with the very best current efforts in that line of any undergraduate journal in the country.

More extended exchange notes must be reserved for our next issue.

MONTHLY SUMMARY.

COLLEGIATE.

Northern Illinois College, located at Dakota, Ill., advertises for a President to take charge of the school December 1st. Address the present incumbent, Rev. F. Wetzel.

Rev. J. H. Good, D. D., President of *Heidelberg Theological Seminary*, Tiffin, O., on account of his continued ill health, has been elected President emeritus of the institution, and Rev. J. I. Good, D. D., of Philadelphia, has been called to succeed him in the chair of Dogmatic Theology. The latter's acceptance of the call is undecided.

SYNODICAL.

The Eastern Synod at Sunbury, Pa., October 19-25, over which Rev. D. E. Klopp, D. D., of Philadelphia, presided with dignity and despatch, agreed to the sale of the real estate of the Board of Publication and the lease of the publications to private parties, and appointed a commission to act on the editorship of the *Messenger*. The subject of Foreign Missions evoked extraordinary interest and discussion. Home Missions are to be continued under the district boards, but a committee was appointed to consider the advisability of acceding to the action of General Synod looking to the unification of missionary operations under the General Board. Orphans' Homes, Educational Institutions, and all other operations of the church were commended. The number of religious services was large, and all were well attended. The Order of Worship was used in full.

CONGREGATIONAL.

St. Paul's Church, Kansas City, Mo., Rev. R. L. Gerhart pastor, was dedicated October 2d. The lot cost \$5,500, one-third of which is paid, and the building \$5,000, all of which is provided for.

The Reformed Church at Somerset, Pa., Rev. H. King, dedicated a new church on October 23d, which had been erected at an expense of \$6,500.

The corner-stone of a new church was laid at Mann's Choice, Bedford county, Pa., October 18th. The charge is under the pastoral care of Rev. S. C. Long.

A number of congregations in Southern Dakota have organized themselves into a new Classis. Five of the charges are German and one English.

The Board of Foreign Missions is calling for another lady missionary to go to Sendai, Japan, May 1, 1888. Applicants address the Secretary, Rev. A. R. Bartholemew, Pottsville, Pa.

MINISTERIAL.

Loose, N. H., removed from Bellevue, O., to Plymouth, Ind.

Otting, E. H., Wadsworth, O., settled at Harmony, Pa.

Slagle, C. S., settled at Westminster, Md.

Schneder, D. B., missionary to Japan, was married October 20th; sailed for Sendai November 29th.

Thomas, J. D., ordained and installed at Cochranon, Pa.

BOOK AND LITERARY NOTICES.

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

HOLIDAY BOOKS.

As blue-birds and robins herald the approach of Spring, so in these favored times of energetic and intelligent publishing companies, new attractive books of every variety of form and matter to please the taste, improve the mind, and help the heart and will, are rapidly multiplying as harbingers of approaching Christmas and tributes to its sacred lessons and holy joys. This may not be an absolutely new thing under the sun. But it is relatively such. It is a bright peculiarity of these later decades of the nineteenth century. Fifty, sixty or more years ago there were, indeed,

busy preparations for the social pleasures of the welcome season. But, apart from the religious features of those preparations, they were of a very different sort, and almost wholly limited to the products of the bakery, confectionery and kitchen, set off, when practicable, in most homes (especially German homes) with the evergreen and glittering Christmas-tree, as the glorification of all else. How simple, how frugal, yet how satisfying to those who knew of nothing better were the provisions of those days made by ready hands and loving hearts! Let their memory be blessed! There were no splendid holiday editions of interesting and instructive books—large and small—for youth and adults, at prices to suit all classes, and in styles of surpassing beauty. Nevertheless there were gifts and gladness—shouting boys, merry girls, and happy homes! Our Protestant fathers in renouncing the noisy, lustful carnivals of Rome by no means spurned the purer pleasures and holier delights of a restored Christianity.

Now, however, holiday literature, and especially books have pressed into the front ranks of traffic and art, and successfully compete with all other efforts to monopolize the market. And it is particularly gratifying to note, as a good sign of the times, that in this competition the publishers of volumes of a positively moral and religious character display a laudable determination not only to keep abreast of the most enterprising of their craft, but outdo them. In paper, typography, mechanical execution, tasteful and strong binding, cheapness, and all the more essential qualities of good books they may challenge comparison with the best on sale.

And among publications of this moral and religious class those of the *Presbyterian Board*, No. 1334 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, merit specially favorable notice.

As a sample of the books issued by the *Board* the following five will answer for the large number they always keep on hand:

THE SOLDIER'S WARD; OR, SAVED FROM MARTYRDOM. A sequel to "Walter Harmsen." 16mo. 410 pages. \$1.25.

It is another story of the persecutions suffered by our Reformed brethren in Holland at the hands of Romish Jesuits. Jesuitical popery is ruling the Romish Church to-day, and in principle and spirit it is the same to-day as it was three centuries ago. It changes its mask to suit the times and the countries, but its heart and spirit never change. Let its true character be exposed

that its own deluded votaries as well as people generally may know what papal Jesuitry is. Of course some will denounce such exposures as flaunting "the bloody shirt." Men whose garments are crimson with the gore of victims, guilty of nothing but fidelity to Christ and his gospel, or men who laud the deeds and doctrines of such persecutors, are apt to affect abhorrence of attempts to warn the present generation by lessons drawn from the history of the past. But the truth should be frankly told, however distasteful it may be. The telling of it need not, should not, incite hatred of our Roman Catholic brethren and fellow-citizens; rather the opposite. And yet no false charity towards them should be turned into a deceptive covering of the real character of those who are confessedly responsible for atrocious crimes perpetrated under the profane pretence of zeal for Christianity.

RESCUED FROM THE STREETS. A story for boys.

By Margaret E. Winslow. 16mo. 280 pages. \$1.

In this interesting volume the author suggests a practical solution of one of the most serious problems of the times, how to reach and help the neglected poor. Who would not learn the lesson, and aid in the blessed work?

BROKEN PITCHERS. By Mrs. A. K. Dunning. 16mo. 266 pages. \$1.

A book for girls, and one well worth their reading if they would learn how to make the most of their gifts and graces, and their opportunities of living to some high and blessed purpose.

IN THE HOSPITAL AT ELMRIDGE, and SUNDAY EVENINGS AT ELMRIDGE. Both by Ella Rodman Church. 16mo. 288 and 304 pages. Each \$1.

Admirable volumes, like the others, for homes and Sunday schools—and Christmas or New Year presents. All are finely illustrated.

Dr. Good's History of the Reformed Church in Germany, noticed at length in the November BULLETIN, well deserves a second special mention. In making out a list of gift books for the holidays, this volume should by no means be overlooked. It may indeed be thought too sober reading for youth, but there are thousands of men and women in the Reformed Church in this country who would find profit and pleasure in perusing it.

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
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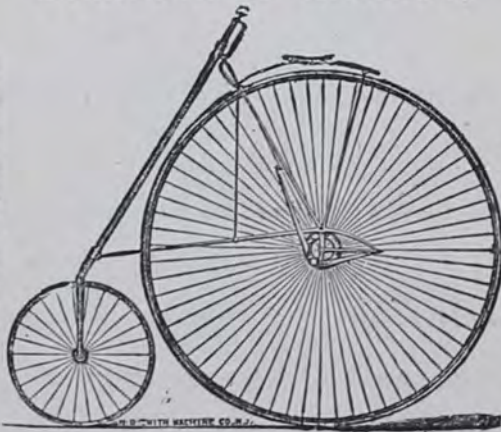
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