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## Poetical.

### Spring Longing.

BY EMMA LAZARUS.

Lilac hazes veil the skies.  
Languid sighs  
Breathes the mild, caressing air.  
Pink as coral's branching sprays,  
Orchard ways  
With the blossomed peach are fair.

Sunshine, cordial as a kiss,  
Poureth bliss  
In this craving soul of mine,  
And my heart her flower-cup  
Lifted up,  
Thirsting for the draught divine.

Swift the liquid golden flame  
Through my frame  
Sets my throbbing veins afire.  
Bright, alluring dreams arise,  
Brim mine eyes  
With tears of strong desire.

All familiar scenes anear  
Disappear—  
Homestead, orchard, field, and world.  
Moorish spires and turrets fair  
Cleave the air,  
Arabesqued on skies of gold.

O, my spirit, this May morn,  
Outward borne,  
Over seas hath taken wing;  
Where the mediæval town,  
Like a crown,  
Wears the garland of the Spring.

Light and sound and odors sweet  
Fill the street:  
Gypsy girls are selling flowers.  
Lean hidalgos turn aside,  
Amorous-eyed,  
'Neath the grim cathedral towers.

Oh, to be in Spain to-day,  
Where the May  
Rocks no whit of good or evil,  
Love and only love breathes she!  
Oh, to be  
'Midst the olive-rows of Seville!

Or on such a day to glide  
With the tide  
Of the berylline lagoon,  
Through the streets that mirror heaven,  
Crystal paven,  
In the warm Venetian noon.

At the prow the gondolier  
May not hear,  
May not see our furtive kiss;  
But he lends with cadenced strain  
The refrain  
To our ripe and silent bliss.

Golden shadows, silver light,  
Burnish bright  
Air and water, domes and skies;  
As in some ambrosial dream,  
On the stream  
Floats our bark in magic wise.

Oh, to float day long just so!  
Naught to know  
Of the trouble, toil, and fret!  
This is love, and this is May:  
Yesterday  
And to-morrow to forget!

Whither hast thou, Fancy free,  
Guided me,  
Wild Bohemian sister dear?  
All thy gypsy soul is stirred  
Since yon bird  
Warbled that the Spring was here.

Tempt no more! I may not follow,  
Like the swallow,  
Gayly on the track of Spring.  
Bounden by an iron fate,  
I must wait.  
Dream and wonder, yearn and sing.

For the Gazette.

### Universities and Colleges.

Whatever pertains to universities, colleges and educational institutions generally, is of interest to students, and it may be interesting to some of the readers of the GAZETTE to know when some of the great institutions of learning in our own country and in foreign lands were founded.

The classical student, at least, has read of the schools of the Ancients, and he will easily recall the methods of instruction common among the Greeks and Romans. The schools of the Middle Ages were much different from the old Athenian Academy with its statues and temples, and its quiet, sequestered walks among plane and olive trees, laved by the perennial Ilissus, flowing down from Hymmetus. The universities of the present day likewise differ from those of Mediæval times.

While the origin of universities in Europe cannot be definitely fixed, it is quite likely that the 12th century is the date of their rise. It is certain that prior to the reign of Charlemagne Europe had sunk into barbarism, and the most abject superstition consequent upon the frequent inroads of the northern and eastern barbarian hordes.

To Charlemagne belongs the praise of having zealously striven to promote the cause of education. Learned men were welcome at his court; and, by the assistance of Alcuin, this monarch did much to awaken the people from their lethargy and arouse in them a desire for knowledge. In every convent and cathedral he established schools, which were intended for the clergy, but where the children of the nobility, who did not intend to take sacred orders, also might obtain the advantage of an education.

Apart from these convent and cathedral schools of Charlemagne, the University of Paris was among the first to be organized. This was about the year 1200. But it was not until the reign of Philip Augustus, toward the close of the 12th century, that immunity from the jurisdiction of the royal court was granted the university.

At Bologna, however, Irnerius was giving instruction in Roman law; and the establishing of the University of Bologna is usually placed at 1168. This, if this date is correct, would make the University of Bologna thirty-two years older than the University of Paris.

The division of students into four nations took place at Paris, and by the year 1206 had become well established. By this was meant the associating of those who were of the same nationality. While the division of the students occurred this early, it was not until the year 1259 that the faculty as such came into existence.

In these schools, of course, before the invention of printing by John Guttenberg in 1436, the teacher dictated and the scholar wrote what was dictated. After this manuals gradually came into use.

The English universities, Oxford and Cambridge, were established about the year 1200. They were greatly benefited by a disturbance which arose in the University of Paris in the year 1229, and which

caused many of the students to leave that school and go elsewhere. In consequence of this disturbance several distinguished teachers left the University of Paris and accepted the invitation of Henry III. of England to go to Oxford.

Among the oldest universities in Great Britain, besides Oxford and Cambridge, are Dublin, founded in 1320; St. Andrew's, founded in 1412, and Edinburgh, which has just celebrated its ter-century.

The first German universities established were those of Prague in 1348, and Vienna in 1365. They were established after the plan of the University of Paris. The Parisian division of the students into four nations was adopted by Charles IV., Emperor of Germany.

Through the instrumentality of John Huss and Jerome Prague the original division of the students into four nations in these universities was changed during the time of the Emperor Wenceslaus. This gave rise to some dissatisfaction, which resulted in the establishing of the University of Leipsic, in Saxony, in 1409.

The Popes, for about three centuries, claimed and exercised the right of protecting and superintending the universities. The first departure from this custom, on German soil at least, was the founding of the University of Wittenberg, in 1502, by imperial confirmation, instead of confirmation by the See. Even this university, however, at a later period sought the papal confirmation. When the University of Marburg was founded, in 1525, neither papal or imperial confirmation was sought.

But the idea of obtaining a confirmation from either the Pope or the Emperor had a strong hold; for we find that Göttingen, founded in 1734, procured imperial privileges.

While the Thirty Years' war was injurious to the German universities, it, nevertheless, did much to advance the cause of education; and we find that the Protestant universities of Germany are to-day way in advance of the Catholic universities.

Among the oldest schools of Europe are Padua, founded in 1228; Freiburg, founded in 1457; Jena, founded in 1557; Tübingen, founded in 1477; Halle, founded in 1694; Berlin, established in 1810; and Bonn, founded in 1818. The famous old University of Heidelberg, celebrated all over the world for its duels, was established in 1386. The University of Coimbra, in Portugal, founded in 1279, and the University of Valladolid, in Spain, established in 1346, are among the oldest European institutions of learning.

Schools were founded quite early in Scandinavia. Upsal was established in 1476, and can boast of Linnaeus and Wallerius, besides a number of other distinguished professors. Among the manuscripts in its library is the Codex Argenteus. Copenhagen, founded in 1479; Dorpat, established in 1632, and Lund, founded in 1628 are among the first universities of Europe.

The colleges in the United States differ from those of Europe. But it is not necessary to enter into details on American colleges and universities. There were about 10 colleges in the United States in 1776, in 1858 about 60, and to-day they are in

the hundreds. Below are the names of some of the oldest and best American colleges, with the date of their establishment:

Harvard, 1638.  
William and Mary, 1691.  
Yale, 1700.  
Princeton, 1747.  
Columbia (New York city), 1764.  
University of Pennsylvania, 1754.  
Brown, 1764.  
Dartmouth, 1769.  
Rutgers, 1770.  
Hampden-Sidney, 1776.  
Dickinson, 1783.  
University of Georgia, 1785.  
Franklin, 1785.  
St. John's (Annapolis, Md.), 1789.  
University of North Carolina, 1791.  
Williams, 1793.  
Bowdoin, 1794.  
Union, 1794.  
Transylvania, 1798.  
University of Vermont, 1800.  
West Point, 1802.  
University of Ohio, 1802.  
St. Mary's, 1805.  
Hamilton, 1812.  
Washington (Lexington, Va.), 1812.  
University of Virginia, 1814.  
Alleghany, 1815.  
Amherst, 1821.  
Miami, 1824.  
Hobart, 1825.  
Western Reserve, 1826.  
Hanover, 1827.  
Denison University, 1831.  
Alabama University, 1831.  
Pennsylvania College, 1832.  
Haverford, 1832.  
Randolph-Macon, 1834.  
Marietta, 1835.  
Franklin and Marshall, 1836.  
Michigan University, 1842.  
Wittenberg, 1845.  
Beloit, 1845.  
Madison University, 1846.  
Otterbein, 1847.  
University of Wisconsin, 1848.  
University of Mississippi, 1848.  
University of Lewisburg, 1849.  
Oberlin, 1850.  
Ripon, 1850.  
University of Rochester, 1850.  
Louisiana State University, 1853.  
Roanoke, 1853.  
Cornell College, 1857.  
Newberry, 1858.  
Kentucky University, 1858.  
Adrian, 1859.  
Iowa State University, 1860.  
Bates, 1863.  
Vassar, 1865.  
Cornell University, 1865.  
Lehigh, 1866.  
Fisk University, 1866.  
University of Wooster, 1866.  
*Western Maryland College, 1866.*  
Hiram, 1867.  
Howard, 1867.  
Muhlenberg, 1867.  
Swathmore, 1869.  
Boston University, 1869.  
University of California, 1869.  
University of Nebraska, 1871.  
Vanderbilt, 1872.  
Johns Hopkins, 1874.  
Syracuse University, 1874.



## Air Castles.

This is a term used to denote some proposition that is ridiculous or unusual, and generally subjects the day-dreamer to the pity or ridicule of hearers. The great schemes of our prominent men, involving fortunes or numberless honors, and the dreams of childhood, fall alike under this heading, and alike generally fall to the ground. The late financial crash in New York ruthlessly dashed many air-castles and fond dreams to the ground. Men who in the morning were living care-free and in assurance of a future unclouded by stringent necessities, were in the afternoon penniless hangers-on in the great center of commerce. Men went in the morning and deposited their all in the great Marine Bank, and in the afternoon were stunned with the information that their checks were so many pieces of worthless paper. These, however, are the air-castles which have a probability of fulfillment, but are overthrown by the cruel fates. There is another and at most times unreasonable class, of which we will principally speak. Imaginative persons will sit and idly dream of progress and future greatness, when a practical, active man would see the great height of that tide "Which, taken at its flood, leads to fortune." They will dream of the great opportunities which will open before them while that opportunity veiled from their weak eyes promenades steadily beside them. Imagination has many evils, but sometimes it leads to a culmination that is beyond the wildest expectations of the dreamer.

One day long ago, in a rural district of France, a peasant was busy at work. His wife was indoors and his daughter out in the garden. Suddenly the daughter hastens toward him, disturbed in her manner and fright written on her every feature. He looks in surprise and inquires the cause of her agitation. She then tells him she has seen a vision, and relates that an angel appeared to her and told her she was the chosen instrument through which her country was to be delivered from the English. The old man stares at her at first in surprise, afterwards in sorrow and pity. He believes that the perilous condition of her country has shattered her reason. And he is not to be condemned for it would so appear to any other person placed as he was. That she, his daughter, a weak woman, was to free France from the threatened yoke of England, was a thought too preposterous to admit of entertainment by any one. He tried to soothe her excited imagination, but she continuing in the belief in spite of the many tears and adjurations of her parents and friends, departed for the center of war. The girl, undaunted, went before the war council, and such was her earnestness that all were impressed, and she received an appointment in the army. She rose rapidly from position to position, and finally succeeded in tearing France from the grasp of her enemy and died a martyr to her country's cause. The name of Joan of Arc and her air-castle will live as long as the records of modern language.

Another substantial air-castle was Harvey's theory of the circulation of the blood. All the older physicians and learned men set it aside as the idle dream of an inexperienced mind. They were confounded at the impudence of this upstart who would cast up to the fallacy of the science of ages and set before them in opposition his own personal views. It was not until that generation of fogies passed away and new men took their places, that the truth of his theory was allowed to assert itself. For years his air-castle was ridiculed and he considered fit to be the inmate of an insane asylum. Finally in a later age of reason

his claims were examined and established, and now they stand unquestioned in their perfection.

In the fifteenth century an Italian sailor with but little education announced a theory that was laughed at and put to scorn by the wise and simple. Since the beginning of reason the people had accepted the belief that the world was a flat plane, and now Christopher Columbus, the son of a weaver, made the startling announcement that he believed that the world was round and could be circumnavigated. After years of derisive treatment and disappointment he received the required assistance and started on his voyage across the unknown deep. Day after day and week after week they sailed on and on, with no guide but the will-o'-the-wisp of the leader's imagination. Land had been out of sight for weeks and the men grew fearful and threatened to turn back with or without the commander's consent. Meanwhile the wisemen in the old country waited in confident expectation, for the wanderers return from an unfruitful voyage. What then was their surprise when the ships came back announcing discoveries that set the whole country agog with excitement and put in every mouth the cry of the New World and its treasures.

On the island of Corsica was born a man who is perhaps the best example ever afforded of the construction and destruction of air-castles. As the lad matured in years he remained small in stature, but his head held a master mind, and in the quiet hours of his life dreams were dreamed and air-castles built that almost went beyond imagination. In his mind's eye he saw himself the ruler of boundless territory and surrounded by the best minds the world afforded. That dream became a fixed fact in his brain and staid before him till his death, leading him from success to success and at last to utter humiliation. At home, at his work, at the military academy, all through his life it haunted him. When he became the emperor of France and her numerous territories the ambition held him just as strongly as it did in his most sanguine hours of youth. Rapidly, indeed far too rapidly had he substantially raised the realized air-castle, for when he tried to raise the turrets still higher the whole structure fell upon his devoted head, and the man who but a short time ago was at the head of the most magnificent army in the world, became a miserable prisoner on the lonely island of St. Helena.

So it was in the American Revolution, and so it has been in a large proportion of the great events of the world. Let us then encourage air-castle building and its sister, ambition; but let it be held with tight rein when it interferes with duty and work. Remember that while many things are improbable nothing is impossible. Put your shoulder to the wheel and think constantly of some way in which you will be able to advance more rapidly. SAM.

There ought to be a thorough course of instruction in our public schools in the art of shutting doors. The first lesson would inculcate the elemental and simple duty itself. Boys and girls should be kept passing a doorway, each one opening and closing the door for themselves, until not a mother's son or daughter of them could leave a door ajar. Then the finer features of the accomplishment might be introduced. There are people who always slam a door; there are others who hold it open, and close it so slowly that a whole procession of diseases, including colds in the head, catarrh, sore throat, diphtheria, inflammation of the lungs and the epizootic can march through.

Knowledge comes but wisdom lingers.—Tennyson.

## How Can the Masses be Interested in the Educational Work of Our Country?

X. in Roanoke Collegian.

This is a question which invites a great deal of study. It has gained the attention of learned men, and is now discussed all over our country. We do not think it ought to remain within the minds of the most refined thinkers, but it should have the earnest consideration of all who desire to see this great work prosper everywhere. Especially should teachers, and all those who have the oversight of this work, be energetic in devising plans to secure the interest of the masses, which will undoubtedly be a stepping stone towards raising the standard of education throughout the South.

Admitting that the subject is inexhaustible, yet we are at a loss, with our limited experience in this work, to know in what way we may secure the aid of the populace in bringing about general intelligence. This being the case, we will be compelled to jump at our conclusions.

1. We believe that we ought to bring to bear upon masses the fact, that the progress of the nineteenth century demands that everybody should receive a good, common education, if no more. We know that it is not the good fortune of every one to pursue a collegiate course, but, if the people all are thoroughly awakened to the many advantages, even of our common schools, then the question which is now at issue will be solved, and not until then. Again it is necessary to impress upon the minds of the people, that the result of all common schools, conducted in the proper manner, is the predominance among our people of average intelligence, which qualifies them for the discharge of their political duties, for the management of their religious institutions, and for the prosecution of all the common industries of life; that the ultimate object of education is the attainment of the highest possible worth; that when God created man in his own image, and gave him powers but little inferior to the angels, He intended him to live worthy of his high estate. Says Dr. Wickersham, "Education creates in the minds of the young an aspiration which tends to insure them against the temptations of a low sensualism to lead them away from an indulgence of debasing pleasures; it elevates in them the purpose of life, and the worth of the human soul." Says another writer, "It enables them to triumph over the difficulties of a long journey through this wilderness world, and see the Promised Land afar off." But we should not stop here. We should proceed a step further, and tell the parents that when they educate their sons and daughters, they prepare them to occupy the highest places of honor and trust; that upon the young, hinges the welfare of our entire country. "But," says some father, "my boy intends to be a farmer, therefore he does not need to be educated. He can follow his occupation with as much success, and even with more than many who are educated, and follow the same vocations." While this may be true to a limited extent, it is not true in a more enlightened sense. He who can be measurably successful without mental training, can be entirely so with it. Ye who cry down the honest efforts that are now being made to educate the masses, must be contented to drift along in that channel of life, which continually lowers as it winds its way through the expanse of ages.

2. No one should attempt to teach but he who is well qualified. Incompetent teachers are calculated to bring dissatisfaction into the communities in which they are laboring. The work that they do falls short of being first-class, and the result of such tends to decrease the interest of the

people in this noble work. Every teacher should remember that his correct work in the school room not only benefits the pupil, but benefits the country at large. His influence, if he understands his work, must be felt outside of the community in which he works. What a sad mistake it is in anyone, who is not preparing to teach, to attempt to impart instruction to the little children of our land, who need the best training possible, in order that they may be brought up free from wrong impressions, both intellectually and morally. Furthermore, every teacher can aid in gaining the interest of the masses, by being energetic in his calling. Energy is the great wheel which moves the world. It steered the ship across the restless waters of the Atlantic, and prepared a home in America for the wandering pilgrims of the East. Again, every teacher should be of a good moral character. It has been well said that "Religion is the daughter of heaven, parent of virtue and the source of all true felicity." She alone can give peace and contentment. Upon her the teacher can build his hopes with the assurance of success. By Christian example he can imbue his pupils with a spirit of truth and honor. We believe that a common interest of the people can be secured in this great work, if these few facts are thoroughly impressed upon their minds.

## Agnosticism.

A correspondent writes entreating us to conceal his name, but to let him know "what under the sun the 'agnosticism' and the agnostics," so often mentioned in the debates of the Pan-Presbyterian Council in Philadelphia, may really be. Our correspondent need not be ashamed of his query. Prof. Huxley claims to have been the first to apply these terms, formerly used, to designate a branch of the Donatists of early times, to the doctrines and the "doctrinaires" now so designated. Agnostics are persons who refuse either to affirm, or deny, or accept upon authority the doctrine of the existence of a God, the immortality of the soul, and, in general, anything in the theology, psychology or metaphysics, the existence of which cannot be scientifically proved or disproved. They are scientifically "know-nothings" in regard to such matters, and, since they will neither affirm or deny, they are, or should be, indifferent to them. In practice, however, these anti-believers and anti-Infidels are apt to be as hot as if they were baptized Christians or rank heathen.

[Agnosticism and agnostics are defined substantially as above in the supplement to the latest edition of Webster's dictionary.] *New York World.*

REMEDY FOR LOCKJAW.—Dr. J. G. Hatch, an old physician of over forty years' practice, recommends the following treatment for lockjaw, having tried it successfully both on himself and others.

If any person is threatened or taken with lockjaw, from injuries in the hands, feet, arms or legs, do not wait for a doctor, but put the part injured into the following preparation: Put hot wood ashes into water as warm as can be borne; if the injured part cannot be put into the water, then wet thick folded cloths in the water, and apply them to the part as soon as possible, and at the same time bathe the back bone from the neck down, with some powerful laxative stimulant, say cayenne pepper and water, or mustard and water, (good vinegar is better than water.) It should be as hot as the patient can bear it. Don't hesitate; go to work and do it, and don't stop until the jaws will come open. No person need die of lockjaw if these directions are followed.



**A Photographic Revolver for Amateurs.**

The apparatus which we are about to describe, and which is manufactured by Mr. D. Enjalbert, is very ingenious, very well conceived, and will, we believe, meet with great success. It is a true pocket revolver, with barrel, stock and cock, but instead of serving to throw deadly leaden balls, it is designed for taking very small photographic negatives four centimeters square. Upon pulling the trigger the sensitized plates succeed one another, and the operator can thus suddenly take ten successive photographs without touching his weapon. These small photographs may be afterward enlarged, and serve as useful documents for tourists, amateurs and artists.

With this little revolver there is no longer any focusing to be done, no more plates to be changed, and instantaneous views are obtained by an exposure of one-fiftieth of a second. The apparatus is always hermetically closed to the light, and it permits of following objects in motion with great facility, and without its being necessary to take accurate aim, as with an ordinary revolver, since it is merely a question of taking such a general view as is comprised within the field of the objective.

The apparatus consists of five principal parts, which we describe in detail.

1. **THE BARREL.**—In this is adjusted the rapid, rectilinear objective, which consists of two achromatic menisci that are symmetrically arranged to give a focal distance of 0.042 mm. The revolver may be used from a distance of 45 meters, since, owing to the combination of the lenses' curves, the different planes are then all in focus. The ever tedious operation of focusing is thus avoided. The diaphragms accompanying the apparatus are placed in the very interior of the objective, between the two lenses.

2. **THE CAMERA.**—This consists of a cylinder that contains a shutter and a frame holder. It is into the front end of this chamber that the barrel is screwed. The shutter is capable of revolving freely upon its axis. It contains an aperture equal to a quarter of its surface, and carries a small clockwork movement that gears with the pinion of the axis of the camera. This clockwork movement, when its spring expands during its revolution, necessarily carries along the shutter. The spring is wound up by revolving the cylinder when it is in place. At this moment, in fact, it catches and holds the end of the axle, which enters a square aperture in its centre. Upon pulling the trigger two teeth are thrust forward. The first of these, which, when at rest, stops the shutter, now frees it and allows it to make one revolution that opens and instantaneously closes the apparatus. The shutter, on reaching the lower end of its travel, abuts against the second tooth. The shuttle motion that occurs in the rear when the trigger is freed disengages this second tooth, and allows the first to engage with the starting notch again, so that the shutter is then ready to operate anew if the spring is sufficiently taut.

The frame holder is hinged beneath and terminates above in a bent tooth, which causes it to advance or recoil a distance equal to the thickness of one of the frames, according as it has in front of it the upper or lower case. This motion is obtained by means of the rabet at the bottom of the cylinder.

3. **THE PLATE CYLINDER.**—This is divided into two rectangular compartments in which slide two plates that are thrust forward by spiral springs. The upper case contains the sensitized plates held in their frames, while the lower one collects them in measure as they have been exposed.

The cylinder revolves through the friction of its edges against the chamber.

When the upper case is opposite the aperture the tooth forces back the frame holder, the first frame enters the open space in front of it, and the glass is thus in place for the operation. In order to remove this glass and substitute the succeeding one for it, the cylinder is made to perform one entire revolution. The first glass remains in the aperture in the camera when the cylinder begins to revolve. Then, the revolution continuing, when the second compartment comes opposite this glass the tooth enters the rabet and the glass naturally enters the said compartment. The revolution still continuing, the cylinder takes its position again, and the second glass, now become the first, is, in its turn, made to enter the camera.

3. **THE MOVABLE BREECH,** which is fixed upon the stock by a dovetail, serves to shove the cylinder up against the camera. It carries a spring cock, whose extremity enters a recess in the back of the cylinder and prevents the latter from revolving, and also indicates the position of the cases when they are well opposite the objective.

5. **THE STOCK** connects the different parts of the apparatus with each other. The trigger actuates a lever that passes under the cylinder, and that terminates, as before stated, in two teeth. The small turn button beneath the trigger serves as a catch.

The manipulation of the apparatus is simple, and may be sufficiently understood from the foregoing description without further dwelling upon it.

The photo revolver offers but one drawback, and that is that in certain cases it may frighten those at whom it is directed. But it is easy to remedy this by covering it with a handkerchief so as to hide its terrifying aspect.—*La Nature.*

**Tempus Fugit.**

If the dial of the clock be observed as the minute hand records the minutes one after another as they slip by, time seems to take its departure very slowly. If the motion of earth on its axis be watched as the ruddy face of the setting sun sinks below the horizon, the motion is scarcely perceptible, and we would infer that the earth did not rotate very fast. But suppose our steady observation be suspended; the minute hand of the clock makes rapid circuits, and the hour hand records so swiftly as to make us think that it has been embraced by the minute hand in its headlong course. The sun rises, reaches its zenith and sinks to rest day after day, until at last we realize that weeks, months and years have passed in rapid succession.

The child is born, grows to manhood in a day, as it were, and in an incredible space of time manhood is visited with hoary locks, as forerunners to grim death that hovers near. Tempus fugit should be a steady reminder for man to improve the short life allotted him on this earth.

It seems to be a characteristic inherent in the nature of man to put off a duty until the very last moment. The oft-repeated quotation, "Procrastination is the thief of time," is wonderfully true in man's habits, and one almost might say in his nature. Every man can look back to some period of his life and remember the time when procrastination had but little hold upon him. But as age grew, so this ruinous and fatal habit, until he found it the "thief" of nearly all his time.

To students the careful opposition to this habit should be their every-day study and practice. They are in a situation peculiarly suited to the adoption of the habit of "putting things off." When they are engaged in any interesting game, or in a

pleasant talk with their schoolfellows, it is a very hard matter for them to conquer their inclination to stay where they are, and let duties take care of themselves. A boy at college is thrown with a great many companions, and in consequence of this, if much attention be paid to companionship, a great deal of his time is taken up. In this way procrastination begins to take root, and before long the student finds himself so well tilled that he affords a fertile soil for it.

Then again it is hard, or appears so, at any rate, to perform a duty when you are "feeling bad," as the excuse generally says. This seems a plausible and sufficient excuse, and indeed would be so, if such bad feeling were really the cause of the delay. But this is seldom the cause. The so-called feeling is nothing more or less than disinclination, and if the person would only begin his work, he would be surprised how very quickly this disinclination leaves.

Procrastination once yielded to becomes dereliction; and when once we have allowed ourselves to be drawn into the fangs of dereliction, we are sure to feel its deadly poison coursing through our veins and disabling our very existence. Soon we find ourselves becoming careless of every thing worth attaining that must be pursued by a rough road. The best things are always the most difficult to obtain, and if we feel ourselves indisposed to encounter difficulties, we are not only unworthy but sure not to obtain, any noble object. A young man of the present day, when many thousand men of brilliant talents are pressing towards one mark, when every profession is a composition of aspirants of no mean accomplishment surging hither and thither, wherever their ambition leads, and each seeking the best road to fame, when every business is full of men, whom years of experience have made reliable, when such a battle is before him to be fought, must expect, and indeed will meet, many difficulties and much opposition.

And yet, because such facts as these stare him in the face, there is no need for the young man to despair. Good men are just as much needed in the professions and other pursuits of life now, as they ever were. The need for professional men is growing and business is carried on in a more extensive manner, thus leaving openings for worthy and deserving men. To fit himself properly for such opportunities should be the duty of every young man if he desires to have his fondest hopes realized. But such preparation can never be obtained unless there be ever present the realization that the minutes are rapidly gliding into hours, the hours into days, the days into weeks and years that can never be recalled and are more precious than gold and silver.

**A BEE'S FEET.**—Naturalists say that the feet of the common working bee exhibit the combination of a basket, a brush and a pair of pincers. The brush, the hairs of which are arranged in symmetrical rows, are only to be seen with the microscope. With this brush of fairy delicacy the bee brushes its velvet robe, to remove the pollen dust with which it becomes loaded while rifling the flowers and sucking up their nectar. Another article, hollowed up like a spoon, receives all the gleanings which the insect carries to the hive. It is a panier for provisions. Finally, by opening them, one upon another, by means of a hinge, these two pieces become a pair of pincers, which render important service in the construction of the combs.

"Don't trouble yourself to stretch your mouth any wider," said a dentist to his patient, "I intend to stand outside when I draw your teeth."

Owing to a misunderstanding the account of the Philomathean entertainment was omitted in this issue. The account was written and will appear in the next issue.—EDS.

**Should the Students Play Dramas.**

This is a question often propounded by those interested in our institution, and the answers received are numerous and varied. Some say that it is perfectly proper. Some say it should be limited to one in a scholastic year. Others disapprove and say it takes the mind of the students from their studies and inspires them with a feeling that will culminate in their becoming actors. Still another objection is that it makes our students unpopular in the town. We will first take up the objections, 1st: It will make our students unpopular in the town. This objection is at first very plausible to the mind of our readers. It is very likely that if the people of the town have to support the students in this way and attend merely because of their interest in the welfare of the College they would soon tire of them and pronounce them an imposition upon their good nature and beneficence. But is this a fair statement of the case?

Westminster has a population that wishes entertainments as much as those in our larger cities. It cannot support a good theatre or second class troop's expenses if one were to come; consequently the players who visit the town are of a class that are usually more of a disgrace than a favor to the citizens, and ought not to be encouraged. They are mostly stage struck aspirants of small ability and professionals who have been discharged from respectable companies and fly to these poor companies as a last refuge to escape toil. Only a short time ago a troop came here that got an audience and then left with the money, leaving seven-eighths of the bills unpaid. Such results as these the people of town have never been called upon to witness from the students and consequently do not expect them. But let us take up another objection: It creates a feeling that is likely to culminate in their becoming stage struck. This may probably be the result in one case out of a hundred. But where this is so seldom the result many benefits accrue. Nearly all the dramas played by students are those of intellectual tone, and from the pen of our best authors and dramatic writers, such as Dickens, Robertson, Boucicault, etc. In consequence of this the student becomes intimately associated with their style of thinking and with their characters, most of which are true representations of real life. Thus he not only becomes acquainted with these authors, but is also gaining an insight into human nature that he would not probably otherwise have gained. While thus far we have considered this question in favorable points of view, still we think there is a limit to this as well as to other things. Too frequent appearance before the public is not advisable and the authorities of colleges should prevent their students from so doing.

And finally to take too active a part in such numerous exhibition does have a tendency to take the student's mind from his studies and thus cut away the prime cause of his college career. We have looked at this carefully and have come to the conclusion that a moderate participation in dramatic exhibition will not be detrimental to the student.—THE EDITORS.

Teacher, to class of girls, "Now what do we learn from this parable on the wise and foolish virgins?" "That we shall watch hourly, that we miss not our bridegroom when he comes."



THE  
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WILLISON & MOORE, - - EDITORS.

WESTMINSTER, MD., MAY, 1884.

As we take up our pen we realize, for the first time, that the last regular issue of the GAZETTE for this scholastic year is being prepared. This realization brings to us feelings of both joy and sorrow. The former, because we feel and congratulate ourselves upon the fact that the *Irving Literary Society's* paper has added another year to its existence. No doubt those Irvings who left us last year, both as graduates and otherwise, looked with anxious eyes to welcome their Society's paper during the first few months of this school year. When the closing term of '82-'83 was ended many clouds of doubt hovered over the GAZETTE's prospects for the coming year, for with last year's Senior class were graduated many of the Society's best members, boys upon whom the burden of the paper's success and sustenance had rested for a long time. In fact, we saw those depart from us who had been the real organizers of the project and who had cradled the IRVING LITERARY GAZETTE and nourished it through its childhood; consequently we could well be excused for indulging in fear and trembling when our College opened last September and we realized that another year's duties were inaugurated. But, through the strenuous efforts of the editors and loyal members of the Society, the paper has lived and prospered during another year, and no little has been the assistance rendered us by the flattering compliments and encouraging words, both of ex-actives and other subscribers; and on account of their endorsement we have been influenced to believe that the GAZETTE still has a prosperous future before it.

But why should we feel sorrow when we contemplate the drawing to a close of another scholastic year? There is no student who is worthy the reputation of manly characteristics and good sense that will not make many friends during the whole ten months which he spends here. Friendships will be formed which will last probably a life time. Associates will be increased and multiplied until a little world, a harmonious family is gathered together within the College walls. And when the closing exercises approach, there is almost the same feeling to the boy that there was when first he left his home fireside, his parents, and his friends, to take up his abode with an aching heart at College. This causes the sorrow, and we can see it present in his moistened eye and sad look as he gives his friend's hand a final grasp

as the train moves off which is to carry him back to that home which he so reluctantly left.

Already we notice many boys preparing for their summer vacation. Book agencies are being contracted for, and various other occupations are being planned. Some students, as there always are in every school, are compelled to work for their education, and, in consequence of this, grasp every kind of work that pays for their summer occupation. Others, feeling it detrimental to lie in inaction for two months, have prepared for various pursuits to pass away their leisure time. And many are the supposition for glorious old times during the vacation. Boys, we wish you all a grand time, and hope to see you all with us again next September.

Ever since the founding of the College the entertainments of our ladies have been the object of especial interest to the people of Westminster. From year to year they have assembled in our College Chapel to enjoy the treat and in such crowds that there were always some turned away for want of room. There is only one draw back to the perfect enjoyments of the evening and that is the crowd of hoodlums and small boys who gather not to see the entertainment but to make all the noise and trouble in their power. They assemble in the back part of the room sitting upon the backs of the benches and around the doors. In any and all places their behavior is disgraceful and excessively annoying. Can we not remedy this in some way in the future? We have had suggested to us several times by the town people a plan that is to us very plausible and we think could be worked with perfect success and satisfaction. It is this. Let there be a nominal charge of admission fixed by the Faculty. This would keep out the greater part of that noisy mob and would enable those coming for proper purpose, to witness the features with satisfaction. All to whom we have mentioned the plan say that it is the best thing possible and assert their preference to pay rather than be annoyed by the rowdies as they have been heretofore. We state this briefly with hope it will meet with the approbation of our Faculty and the young ladies.

We have noticed, on many nights during the past two or three weeks, lights in the Faculty-room, and upon inquiry, find that our Faculty is hard at work writing letters to the friends of our College, soliciting them to put forth strenuous efforts during the coming vacation to increase the number of students for the next scholastic year. Our Vice-President is a hard worker, and it is with him, we believe, this idea of solicitation originated. We indeed trust his efforts may be successful. It seems nothing but right that our College should be filled to overflowing. The institution originated in the Methodist Protestant Conference, and is under the immediate auspices of that body. This Conference has only one other College to care for and foster. In consequence of this, it would

seem nothing but a fair supposition that among all the children, both boys and girls, of the members of the church, enough could be found to fill both Adrian and Western Maryland Colleges. We see no cause why a parent should hesitate to trust his child's education to our College. If he will take the catalogue and compare it with those of other colleges, he will find that we are behind none, either in the style or the amount of our work. And we can certify, as students, that the Faculty carries out to a letter every thing the catalogue asserts. We sincerely hope that the efforts of the Faculty may be crowned with a grand success, and that next year may find every dormitory filled.

As this term is drawing to a close, we think it would not be much out of place to give a few words of advice to the friends of the I. L. Society, and of its organ, the IRVING LITERARY GAZETTE. You know the name of our organization is the Irving Literary Society and the word "literary" carries with it a suggestive meaning. We should never forget that we are members of a society which has literary attainments in view, and to further this purpose should be the bounden duty of every one who calls himself a member, either active or ex-active. Therefore boys let us combine our energies during the coming vacation in obtaining books to increase our library and papers to file for our Reading Room. There are many books and papers that can be easily procured if only the attempt is made. We would especially call your attention to the GAZETTE. During the coming months do all you can to increase our subscription. You surely have many friends who are interested in you and in the institution at which you are preparing yourself for active life, and if the case only be presented, many subscriptions can thus be procured. Our ex-actives should also concern themselves on this subject, and those who are not as yet subscribers should immediately send in their names.

Not long since we had a practical experiment with a most satisfactory result, of the cooperative action of the Faculty and the students in suppressing disorder. An act had been committed by one of the students which was entirely wrong and if it had gone unpunished would have had a depreciating effect upon the orderly reputation hitherto enjoyed by our college. The Faculty called a meeting of the students and after several good addresses by its members asked the young men to express their disapproval of the act and to help punish the culprit. "For" said a member "you can do more to make him feel the error of his ways than the Faculty. If you show him that you disapprove of his deed he will feel it far more deeply than if we were to use our severest measures."

One after another the students arose and expressed their disapprobation of the act, freely giving their opinions. The result was that the guilty one acknowledged his fault and gave his earnest determination to prove himself worthy in the future of any

leniency shown him. We had an editorial in a back issue advocating the joint government of the Faculty and students. Already it is successfully practiced in many of our sister colleges and we sincerely trust that in the near future we will have representative students in to all the deliberations of the Faculty.

**TIDINGS.**

Charles Reade, the novelist, is dead.  
The Protestant College has 178 students.  
Allegheny has an endowment of \$200,000.  
Wellesley College has 502 students registered.  
The University of Pennsylvania has an endowment of \$475,000.  
Rev. E. F. Bartholomew has been elected President of Carthage College.  
At the Edinburgh University tercentenary 120 degrees were conferred *honoris causa*.

The Emperor William University, at Strasburg, during the present semester had 844 students.

Professor Cyrus Northrop, of Yale, has accepted the Presidency of the Minnesota State University.

Edmond About, the author, is said to have earned the \$1,000,000, if which he is possessed of, entirely by his writings.

The University of Texas has an endowment of more than \$5,000,000 and 1,000,900 acres of land. There are 40 ladies in attendance.

Prof. R. C. Jebb, the distinguished Oxford scholar, will deliver the Phi Beta Kappa oration at the next commencement at Harvard.

A summer school, for the study of languages, is to be conducted in the buildings of Amherst College this year, commencing on the 7th of July.

Emily Rogers, an authentic lineal descendant of John Rogers, the martyr burned at Smithfield in 1555, died in Lowell, Mass., recently.

Of the 25,284 students enrolled last year in the German universities, 6,172 studied medicine, 9,117 philosophy, 5,626 law, 3,558 Evangelical theology, 811 Catholic theology.

Miss Beatrice Parsons, of London, was the winner of the highest honors in the recent Cambridge University examination. No less than 3,000 British girls competed in this examination.

According to the latest returns the number of volumes in the British Museum is just over 1,300,000. There are 160 miles of shelves, and 20 more miles to be filled. It is estimated that about one ton of literature a day is sent into that institution.

President Eliot, of Harvard, reports a falling off in the number of students from New England, but states that there is an increased attendance from the Middle States. The Treasurer shows investments of \$4,624,000 and an income of \$228,000.

In May of the current year the Catholic University of Leyden will celebrate its fifteenth anniversary. The old university, which was suppressed by the French in 1797, was founded in 1425. It was revived in 1834, and now has 1600 students in attendance.

In an article on "Gifts to Colleges and Universities," by Charles F. Thwing, published in the Bay State Monthly, it is stated that the amount contributed to college and university education in the United States in the past ten years is \$35,622,000, and the total amount given since 1847 has not been less than \$50,000,000.



## College Locals.

May.

Pleasant.

Grove lovely.

Have you seen the Soph hat?

Commencement is only five weeks off.

Just think of summer, home, old friends and good eating.

Everything looks beautiful in our campus. Even the old oaks in the grove, which are so loth to recognize the presence of spring, have had to submit and are now in full leaf.

Our big Prep said a few days ago that he swept so much that he had fever-blisters on his hand. Next it is supposed that he will paste his moustache upon his cuffs.

Pitching horse-shoes is at present the favorite pastime. The boys are becoming expert, and challenges have been flying around promiscuously. At all hours in the day the equine pedal trappings may be seen whirling through the air.

Junior:—"I attended a great many balls while home at Christmas."

Freshie:—"Why, I didn't know they played base-ball in the winter."

It is astonishing how numerous Mother Partington's disciples are becoming.

We are very much pleased to hear from our old college-mate E. H. Flagg. He is now on the stage and takes leading characters in his troupe. Our readers will remember that he showed a remarkable talent in that line while here, and we predict for him a bright future.

**CORRECTION.**—In our history of the college in our last issue we omitted the names of the following persons who participated in the oratorical contests: Irving—Stanley R. Still, C. R. Miller, L. M. Kuhns, twice, and G. W. Todd. Webster—W. F. Roberts, H. L. Elderdice, twice, and E. A. Warfield.

The Sophs have adopted a class hat and cane for this spring. They have secured them, and now a Soph strutting along as though his clothes don't fit him, with a ten-cent straw hat and a ten-cent cane in his immense hand, is the picture of self-conceited happiness.

The following significant letter was found on the steps in Ward Hall, May 1:  
WARD HALL, April 24, 1884.

MISS ———: Your note asking for the return of your letters has just been received. Don't you hope you may get them? X.

P. S.—Send mine first.

Here is a case for peace-makers. X. should have gone to the teachers and begged them to "please let me see her—only for a minute. She's mad at me, and I want to tell her something."

It is simply astonishing to observe how the matter a person reads enters into his life. Our readers will remember a few issues back the announcement that a Soph was studying negro jokes. He has pursued a full course at it, and now from morning till night he is constantly getting off stale jokes and laughing at them boisterously while others study up the point.

The Theologues have left us, and the Seminary looks as though it should have the significant "To Let" hung up in front. There have been twenty students there in the last year, and the outlook for '84-5 is greatly assuring. Some of the Sems have gone home to spend the vacations, others have temporary charges during the summer, while several have left us entirely to enter into their chosen field. Norris is stationed in Harford county and Warfield is stationed at Harper's Ferry. We feel certain they will prosper.

How is this for pure, unadulterated cheek. Two of our Juniors were walking along the road a few days ago, when one of them espied some pretty flowers hanging through the fence. It was at once decided that one should go and *hook* them. The Junior started, but when he looked up he saw the face of the mistress of the house at the window. She must have heard the agreement, but Junior, not at all abashed, doffed his hat and courteously asked if he might have a few flowers. She smiled and gave the permission, and the Junior coolly plucked the nicest and walked away.

The Senior examinations are over, and now that haughty, nameless creature, half student, half alumnus, strides along the road taking a last look, as a part student, at the old college. Then, casting a contemptuous glance at us poor, unlucky undergraduates, he departs to the land of milk and honey.

A certain Freshie of local fame recently astonished his mathematical friends with the following question: "What is the volume of the area of the base of a cone?"

Prof. Hering has had the Sophs out surveying for the last week, and it is amusing to see the air of importance they assume as they march back from the field of labor. They forsake social conversation, and now all their speech is of chains, land marks, lines, offsets and compass. To hear them talk one would suppose they had surveyed every line in the State, instead of a half mile or so about the college and vicinity.

We were down at Baltimore a few days ago, and after business had been attended to, started out to see some of our old students who are in the city. At Bryant & Stratton's we saw E. H. Norman and T. J. Shreeve. Ed. is the same jovial, kindly spirited man he was while here, and has changed but little in any respect. Jesse is looking better than we ever saw him, and now gazes at you through a "daisy" pair of eye-glasses. He is just as free-hearted as ever. Mr. W. H. Eichelberger is there also, and looks fine as ever. At the Maryland University we saw J. T. Hering. Joe cordially welcomed us, and took us through the Hospital. He is kept busy, and is assistant in the Eye and Ear Dispensary. We imagined something was in our eye, just to see him cure it.

Some of our ardent seekers after practical knowledge recently made an excursion into the country and succeeded in capturing some live snakes and a number of frogs. They were taken into the laboratory and Prof. Simpson made several interesting experiments. It was amusing to see the way a snake writhed and struggled when it was subjected to an electric shock.

A certain Freshman prides himself upon the fact that he has a Junior for a "fag." Upon inquiry we find that the duty of the fag is to comb out the Freshie's side-whiskers every morning. Mr. S. is the Freshman's name. This we think it necessary to give, as the designation immediately preceding would not be sufficient to make it clear to our reader whom we mean. We would like to make the request that the next combing take place in our office, in order that we may see how our brother Junior goes about such diminutive work.

Mr. Wm. P. Andrews and wife were up a few days ago to visit their son, Harry, who is attending college here. They spent a day or two with us, and departed leaving all who had the pleasure of an introduction well pleased with them. They brought with them their little daughter, to whom some of the young ladies took quite a liking. Mr. Andrews has paid us visits before, and has made many friends among the boys.

On Friday, May 9th, the third Joint Exercises of the year were held in the Chapel. The programme was opened with an instrumental solo by Miss Mamie Nicodemus, and during this performance the participants took their places upon the platform. The Junior class was represented by Misses Carrie Roach and Belle Orndorff, and Messrs. J. H. Cunningham and J. W. Moore; Freshman class, Miss Ada Trumbo and Messrs. H. H. Slifer and Hugh Miller; Preparatory department, Misses Hattie Stevenson and Nannie Hyde, and Mr. Chester Ames. Mr. Miller began the literary portion of the exercises with a recitation entitled, "Funeral Oration of John Quincy Adams." After this the regular programme was carried out as follows: Recitation "Little Jim," by Miss Nannie Hyde; "Too Utterly Utter," by Mr. H. H. Slifer; Instrumental Solo by Miss Jennie Wilson; "Little Johnnie's Neighbor," by Miss Ada Trumbo; "Little Stow-away," by Mr. J. H. Cunningham; "Alfonzo and Imogene," by Miss Belle Orndorff; Instrumental duet by Nicodemus and Newman; "Palmetto and Pine," by Miss Hattie Stevenson; "Spoopendyke's Bicycle," by Mr. Chester Ames; "The Boss Mason," by Miss Carrie Roach; "Gone with a Handsomer Man," by J. W. Moore. The exercises were closed with a vocal trio by Misses Bell, Newman and Wilson. The audience seemed to depart well pleased with the entertainment and we would pronounce it a success.

**Tragic Scene.**—One of the most tragic and blood-curdling scenes ever witnessed on the campus of W. M. C. appeared on Wednesday last. It was the lynching in cold blood of a certain young and brilliant Freshman by his fellow-students. Some of the students say the reason of this horrible tragedy was that the lynched Freshie was rather handsome, had very attractive manners, and was the possessor of a voice exquisitely toned, which might be heard distinctly above the sound of the College organ, and the persistent efforts of the other boys to drown it. With the addition of many other attractions he was necessarily popular among the ladies and there is a faint report that he held at the time of his death in his sole power the greater number of the hearts on the other side; whence the jealousy of his schoolmates. Although the cause of this act is not entirely known, it is a true assertion that he met his fate with the greatest composure, crying only when the noose was being fitted to his neck and that dangerous face enveloped in a black cap; in proof of this the following are his last words delivered in firm and steady voice: "Since, Fellow Students, you seem decided in carrying out your sentence upon my innocent body, I beg of you this small boon! 'Tis simply this: Let no man vindicate my character. When posterity shall read an account of this day's proceedings, my innocence will be established. For the benefit of posterity transmit these my dying words to them. I die innocent. I forgive you, my enemies. I depart in peace. Blessed are they, who die for their country. Ego sum stultus. E Pluribus unum. Sic semper tyrannis. World without end. In the sweet bye and bye. St. Jacob's Oil. Perry Davis' Pain Killer. Rough on Rats. Amen. At this juncture the rope was slipped, his feet left the ground, his legs dangled in the air, a moan, and his spirit was numbered with the departed.

We notice in the columns of the *Advocate* of this town a notice of an entertainment to be given by the Irving Literary Society on Friday, 23rd. This is a mistake, and was due to the misinformation of the editors of the *Advocate*. The exact date of the Irving's entertainment is not known, but will occur some time soon.

A few evenings ago an exciting scene occurred on our Campus. One of our excitable Sophs. had been grossly insulted by one of his fellow-students, a Freshie. In the course of his conversation a certain young lady's name being mentioned by the Fresh., towards whom the Soph. had a softness, angry words ensued. The result was, a challenge was issued to fight a duel with deadly weapons. Seconds were chosen by the Soph. and Freshie, pistols were selected and the ground marked off just behind Ward Hall. After the pistols were examined the duelists took their places, and, in the presence of a large and excited audience of students, the bloody work began. At the signal the loud report of the pistols rang out upon the evening air, and the Freshie fell, mortally wounded. Down went the Soph's murderous weapon, and scarcely a second elapsed before the wounded man was clasped in his arms and borne towards the College. He was put to bed and various liniments applied to his wounds, while the Soph. returned to his room, locked the door, and what he did no one knows, the only evidence of his suffering being the lamentable groans that floated out upon the stillness of the night. The Freshman is recovering slowly, and seems heartily ashamed of his conduct. This is the first duel W. M. C. has ever witnessed, and the terror it inspired makes it evident she will never become a Heidelberg in this respect.

During the past week our town has been visited by a troupe of street performers, under the proprietorship of Prof. Lorman, who is selling an Indian Oil. Every night the people were favored with a concert. A good audience was gathered together each night, and the students formed no little part of it. Reports for "out after ten," we guess, were numerous.

We have a certain Soph. who struts around the ground and whiles away his leisure hours by cracking meaningless jokes upon the immensity of his classmate's feet. We would suggest to the latter that he might find an excellent storage for his old shoes in his tormenter's biscuit receiver.

#### Commencement at Westminster Theological Seminary.

The first commencement exercises of the Westminster Theological Seminary were held in the Methodist Protestant Church of this city, on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, May 5th, 6th and 7th. On Sunday morning Rev. Dr. Lawrence W. Bates, of the Maryland Annual Conference of the M. P. Church, preached the annual sermon, taking for his text II Tim., 4 chap., first clause of the 2nd verse—"Preach the word." His discourse was a masterly one, and was replete with good advice to the students. The inaugural exercises, Sunday evening, were opened by Prof. B. F. Benson, of Western Maryland College. Dr. J. T. Murray, President of the Maryland Annual Conference, and Rev. T. H. Lewis, President of the Seminary, followed with interesting addresses. On Monday evening, the Stockton Society of the Seminary celebrated its first anniversary. The programme was as follows: Organ solo, by Miss Nannie Davis; quartette, "Hear Our Prayer;" prayer, by Rev. T. H. Lewis; chorus, "I will Praise Him;" President's address, by E. A. Warfield; address on the motto of the society, Kata Skopon Dioko, by E. J. Wilson; chorus, "On the Shoals;" reading, by L. R. Dyott; solo, by E. A. Warfield; recitation, by G. W. Pool; quartette, "Hear the Angels Coming;" anniversary thesis, by S. C. Ohrum, on the subject of Gnosticism. After Mr. Ohrum's thesis A. H. Merrill, Professor of Elocution in the Seminary, read, by request, a humorous



selection, which was much enjoyed. The entertainment was closed with another chorus, entitled, "Rejoice Evermore." The singing, which was done by the members of the society was a very enjoyable feature of the programme. On Tuesday evening the regular commencement exercises took place. They were opened by Rev. E. J. Drinkhouse, of Baltimore. Dr. J. T. Ward and Rev. J. D. Kinzer, pastor of the M. P. Church of this city, followed with addresses, setting forth the successive steps which led to the establishment of the Seminary. After music, Mr. E. A. Warfield, graduate of Western Maryland College, and who has been for the last two years a student in the Seminary, read his graduating thesis on the subject of Pelagianism: Ancient and Modern." Mr. Warfield is the first graduate of the Seminary, and is alone in his class. He received from President Lewis and the Board of Governors of the Seminary the diploma of the institution, conferring upon him the degree of Bachelor of Divinity. The ceremony connected with the conferring of the degree was both interesting and impressive. The services were closed with the doxology and benediction.

The presence of Drs. Murray, Bates and Drinkhouse during all the above services added largely to their interest and success. All the services, except the anniversary of the Stockton Society, were interspersed with excellent music by the M. P. choir, assisted by several from the M. E. and Lutheran choirs. The anthems and solos rendered were exceedingly appropriate, and were admirably sung.

The Seminary is the only school of theology in the State, and the only Methodist Protestant theological seminary east of Michigan. The institution is owned and controlled by the Methodist Protestant Church, and is under the special patronage of about twenty annual conferences South and East. It was organized in September, 1882, and was incorporated by the Legislature at its recent session. It has had twenty students during the year, and the first year closes with flattering prospects to the Seminary. Rev. Thomas H. Lewis is the President of the Seminary, and there is a full corps of professors.

The inaugural of President Lewis on Sunday night was interesting as setting forth the position in theology to be taken by the new institution. The theme was "Permanence and Progress in Christian Doctrine," and was discussed in its bearings upon the method of theological instruction. That method was approved and emphasized which assumes that the great doctrines of Christianity are to be considered as finally settled in and by the Word of God, while admitting progress in doctrine, but not towards it.

#### Personals.

Messrs. Amoss and Arringdale, two of the students of W. M. C. last year and since then of Bryant & Stratton's Business College of Baltimore, graduated from that institution last month.

Miss Ruth Edelin class '84 left on Wednesday May 14. She has been a student three years and is a member of the Browning Society. She goes home to prepare for graduation and will return for the commencement exercises.

Miss Ella Wilson class '84 on Saturday May 17 took her departure for her home on the Eastern Shore where she will remain until Commencement week. She entered the Freshman class in September '81, remaining here for three years. She was a prominent Philomathean and is well known to the citizens of Westminster, from her appearance among the leaders of the

society at its public entertainments. We trust she takes with her many pleasant recollections of her school life and that she will never forget her college sisters and brothers.

On Wednesday, May 14th, Miss Carrie V. Roach, one of our most talented and popular young ladies left college to return no more as a student. She entered college in September '82 and was in the class of '85. Miss Carrie was one of the brightest members of the Philomathean Society and has always taken a prominent part in the society exercises and entertainments. She leaves many true friends at Western Maryland College who present their best wishes for her future success and hope that happy anticipations may lead her on and fullest joy attend her throughout her whole life.

We were much pleased to hear once more from our old friend and school-mate, Harry L. Wright, of Santos, Brazil. He was a member of the class '84 but left W. M. C. in September '82. He entered into the employment of a large commercial firm in Santos in the capacity of under clerk, and since then has risen rapidly until at present he is cashier of the firm. Harry was very well liked while at college and we are glad to hear of his good success.

F. H. Schaeffer '83 left Westminster on April 22 for the Great West. When last heard from he was on his way from Kansas City to Denver, Col. Harvey was one of our most popular students, and during his five year course made warm friends of all his college-mates. He was a staunch Irving and represented our society on various occasions as Contest Orator and at its Anniversary. He is also an ex editor of the *Irving Literary Gazette*. All the students join in hoping his life may be one of great success.

#### An Algebraic Genius.

Ardmore, on the line of the Pennsylvania Railroad, just outside of the city, has a butcher, whose father was a butcher before him, and whose four brothers are butchers, not to say that there is anything remarkable in that. This butcher individualizes his existence by the inherited name of Duncan, and with the name Duncan all that there is strange, old, and mystical is intimately associated within the hearts and minds of all the good people of Ardmore. And the reason of this is obvious. His fame was disclosed first through the impetuosity of some college youths, whose admiration for him can be explained upon a basis more practical than honest.

A great problem was given out in the University of Pennsylvania, some time ago, and the Ardmore butcher enjoys the distinction of being the only person who holds the key to its solution. The problem is this: Take a room forty feet long and thirteen feet wide, what is the longest piece of carpet, one yard wide, that can be laid on it without cutting?

To find the hypotenuse of the rectangle formed by the given dimensions of the room is a very simple process in measurement, but to find the exact length of a roll of carpet that will fit in it without cutting off the square corners is what has disturbed the tranquility of a college professor. The example is really a puzzle, in which a person is liable to over-look one or more of its hidden factors in an attempt to reach a correct solution. It is therefore impossible to demonstrate it clearly by any known rules of algebra.

The problem when given out at the University was shown to Samuel Duncan, the Ardmore butcher mentioned above, by a student named Gross, and in exactly forty minutes Mr. Duncan reached, by a

theoretical solution on paper, a result that can be proved by actual measurement to be accurate. The answer is 42.06. How to obtain the decimal fraction is the subtle point in the problem, and it is said that it cannot be reached by algebraic rules.

And this is just where Mr. Duncan steps upon the scene with a record more than usually brilliant as a natural borne mathematician. He has been known by reputation to the teachers of adjacent parts of Montgomery County, as well as to the students at some of the excellent colleges in that vicinity, for several years as a person capable of succeeding in almost any task in mathematics. On several recent occasions he has astonished people by propounding difficult questions in arithmetic and finding the correct answers in less time than the most expert calculators are capable of. It has been the custom of college pupils to bring examples to him when they were unable to solve them, and his popularity among students is commensurate with the amount of assistance which he is always willing to give them.

After Mr. Duncan had found the result of the problem about the strip of carpet, several persons applied to him to be shown the work by which he reached the answer. The calculation is spread over three pages of foolscap paper, and for these pieces of paper Mr. Duncan has been offered by a college student, near Ardmore, \$15. But the offer was refused, because some students of the University have agreed to pay \$25 for the demonstration.

The remarkable talent of the Ardmore butcher is associated with some curious freaks. He can perform one which an ordinary man would attribute to the mysteries of second sight or some other hidden power. This is nothing less than to sit down and do an example on a sheet of paper with his right hand, while he performs simultaneously a different example on another sheet of paper with his left hand, reaching the correct answers of both of them in less time than it would take another person to do either one of them separately. Another talent he has is to multiply backward. The mathematical genius can write a row of figures reversed and multiply them by three or four integers, reaching the answer with lightning-like rapidity. The work can be proved by holding the paper up to the light and transforming the figures to their normal position.

The Ardmore butcher is thirty-nine years old. His four brothers know no more about figures than is common with most men. He left school at the age of thirteen, having progressed, up to that time, as far as bi-quadratic questions in Green's algebra. When he first took up the study of algebra he performed his work so readily that his teacher, Mr. Haas, requested him to get up and demonstrate on the blackboard an example which he had solved correctly. He was unable to explain it, because he was not acquainted with the rules of algebra, and he paid the penalty for his precocity by staying in after school ostensibly for disobedience.

He has a whole trunk of papers, containing the work of examples done by him for several years, and many of them have been incorporated in text books on algebra. —*Philadelphia Times*.

The laziest man is on a Western paper. He spells photograph "4tograph." There have been only three worse than he. One lived out in Kansas, and dated his letters "11worth", another spelt Tennessees "10eC," and the other wrote Wyandotte "Y&."

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