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SEMI-CENTENNIAL COMMENCEMENT
OF
LAFAYETTE COLLEGE.

DR. HECKMAN'S ADDRESS,
WITH A REPORT OF THE
PROCEEDINGS OF COMMENCEMENT WEEK.
JUNE 25-28, 1882.

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AN ADDRESS

AT THE

SEMI-CENTENNIAL COMMENCEMENT

OF

LAFAYETTE COLLEGE,

Delivered June 27th, 1882,

BY

REV. GEORGE C. HECKMAN, D. D.,

Formerly President of Hanover College.

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SEMI-CENTENNIAL ADDRESS,
LAFAYETTE COLLEGE,

JUNE 27TH, 1882.

THE period in the midst of which fell the semi-centennial of the Republic was marked by activities and events thoroughly in sympathy with the Protestant genius of our American institutions. It is a section of our social and ecclesiastical annals of considerable interest to the student of the history of education. If that student is a Presbyterian, he will not need to blush for the mark his Church makes in that history. Just before 1825 the Presbyterians of Kentucky, true to the traditions of the Reformation and their denominational precedents, had laid the foundations of Centre College at Danville. During the national semi-centennial, and at the very time that the citizens of Easton, under Presbyterian leadership, were founding Lafayette College, the Presbyterian pioneers of Indiana, fresh from the work in Kentucky, in which they had shared, initiated the movement for a college at Hanover, and a few years after laid the foundation of another at Crawfordsville. Lafayette and Hanover Colleges both assumed full collegiate form in 1832, and were the twin children of the same Presbyterian mother.

At the head of all these almost simultaneous academic enterprises was that Scotch-Irish element which has done as much as any other nationality in diffusing and establishing the liberal ideas and progressive institutions of the Reformation among the Anglo-American colonies and States. Narrow provincial vanity must not be allowed to depreciate the just colonial prominence of these heroic and pious Scotch-Irishmen, who made their axes and swords, their learning, logic and faith, ring as creative potencies in formulating history and moulding States, from Nova

Scotia to Georgia. Let this eulogium go from one of another nationality as a passing but deserved tribute to these brave and sturdy Calvinists, to whom, with others of diverse nativity but common faith, our American civilization owes its birthright—a debt which posterity can pay only by preserving these free institutions from exotic infidelity and libertinism.

The penetrating and moulding idea of education, maintained by these founders of colleges, was GOD as the supreme conception of thought, the infinite factor in science, the highest aim of consecration, and the utmost boundary of reverence and love. Most diligent students of the material and spiritual creation, eager for truth from whatever direction, and quick to discover God in every imprint of nature and history, they knew nothing and accepted nothing about God which was not in harmony with His own inspired, infallible revelation. "A skeptic once requested pastor Fisch, of Lyons, France, to tell him the best book on the evidences of Christianity. His answer was: 'Read Paul's Letter to the Romans.'" There is a world of wisdom in this reply. The way to know God is to read His Book. Walter Scott, when dying, said: "Bring the Book." Some one said, "What book?" His reply was: "There is but one Book—the Bible."

Now, the typical distinction of the educational system of the Reformation and of American Colonial Christianity is the Bible. Nor was this Bible hidden as a saintly relic, nor worshiped as a pagan fetich, nor to be occasionally exhibited as an heirloom. Nor did they define its place merely as "the only infallible rule of faith and practice" for private life, though that is the very highest and best use that any man can make of the Bible; they also planted it in politics as the highest law of the Commonwealth, as in religion it was the sole foundation of creed. But, what is more and specially relevant now, they gave the Bible a distinct literary place in the academy as the highest educational force. They held that no study in the curriculum possessed even approximate power in the development of the natural faculties; that nothing could so educate the student into his possible breadth and strength of life; and that no arrangement of secular science could produce a physical and psychical *cultus* equal to that of the Bible, properly recognized as a text-book and in its

ethical place in other studies. Thank God! the created universe is large and multigenerous and pregnant with continuous births of knowledge, and we invoke Divine benedictions upon all honest and scholarly investigation and search through all the secret places of nature, and truth from any depository of creation is to us the voice of the Shepherd whom we follow. Ancient and modern literature, science and art, do not appeal in vain to our natural and acquired tastes and are potent instruments in the cultivation we have gained. Faith can read their pages without fear and rise from their study with freshened vigor and larger vision. But the Bible has ever been the *thesaurus* of that science which is most valuable in the bodily, mental and moral development of man, and to-day, when knowledge runs to and fro upon the earth, and the boundaries of human intelligence are spreading away with an eagerness and expansiveness which inspire awe, the Bible still holds its literary and ethical supremacy, its regal place among the ever-multiplying themes of human thought.

At a recent gathering of the Sons of New England in Philadelphia, the venerable ex-President of Williams College, Dr. Mark Hopkins, said: "The true aim of the highest education is to give *character* rather than *knowledge*; to train men to *be* rather than to *know*." Now just such is the education of the Bible, a consummation which in its highest degree is simply impossible without the Bible, taught in the honest and devout spirit of the Reformed Church. It is not said that manliness cannot be found among scholars outside of the walls of a Christian college, nor that a noble, admirable, exemplary character may not be formed outside of a Christian curriculum. Ancient and modern history has embalmed the names of many such amid your delightful recollections. But what is asserted is this: that we have no force in education that so naturally and commonly develops such manhood as the Bible, and that we have no literary institutions which are so eminently successful in forming the highest style of character as are those Christian schools the corner-stone of whose curriculum is the Bible, and whose motto is, SCIENTIA PIETATI ANCILLANS.

So, too, when it is said "that the true aim of the highest education is to give *character* rather than *knowledge*; to train men to *be* rather than to *know*," it is not meant that less attention is paid

to literary cultivation in the Christian than in the secular college. The highest aim implies all lower legitimate ends; superior culture involves all desirable elements of knowledge; and hence the Academy, the keystone of whose arch is the Bible, demands that its *curricula* should be exhaustive of all that is valuable in the literature of all science, not falsely so-called. The manhood at which the Christian school aims, then, embraces the most symmetrical and complete education of body, mind and soul, in which, by the right of nature and the will of God, the ethical shall ever dominate the physical and intellectual; and the instrument of this moral culture shall ever be the infallible dogma of the Word of God. Nor do we hesitate to declare that what is so plausible in theory has been abundantly demonstrated by experiment: that the Christian school, with a larger and sounder learning, imparts a more vigorous manhood and a more rounded and consequently richer character than the legitimate product of secular education; and further, any system of education weakens just in the ratio as the ethics of its *curriculum* depart from the moral principles of the Bible. Secularity in education, public and private, has impoverished and enfeebled the Academy by ignoring, of necessity, the positive instruction of the spiritual, the regal element of human nature. It is a Satanic inspiration, a madness of malignant atheism, with which our public education has been more or less inoculated; and, illogical and irrational as it is undevout and materialistic, it ought to receive, as it deserves, the anathema of every patriot and Christian and the determined opposition of American society.

The College of the Reformation is the guardian of those political and religious ideas which the Reformation conferred on European civilization; and to it is largely committed that development of human destiny whose unfolding began with that eventful epoch of history. The type of education evolved in that wonderful emancipation of mind, if so well, is nowhere better preserved than in the American Church College. Without vanity, and with a sense of the responsibility as well as of the glory of the fact, we assert that no better example of this system can be found than that which our honored Alma Mater affords.

Among the historic *memorabilia* that marked the close of the first quarter of this century was the arrival of General Lafayette

at New York, August 16th, 1824. This event, which stirred to their very depths the hearts of the grateful Americans, suggested the happy baptism of the infant college. My first and necessarily faint recollections of Lafayette College are connected with the opening of the institution in a large building on the south side of the Lehigh. It was in marching from this building that my eyes were fascinated by a procession of Lafayette students. The first great venture from the protection and guidance of the maternal apron-string was in following that bewildering and enticing march. You might call it a "boy constrictor," the way it drew me and others along Pomfret, now Third Street. It was on the Fourth of July, 1833, in the patriotic spirit of the times selected for the laying of the corner-stone of the first building on this site, Old South College. The faculty and students marched under the leadership of President Junkin and the Society marshals to the *rendezvous* in Centre Square. This "Grand Plaza" was quite different from what it is now. Instead of squaring the circle the later Eastonians have circled the Square. Then, the old English Court-House, built by the Penns after a British model, stood, where it ought to have been allowed to remain, in the centre now occupied by the beautiful fountain. The corners of the Square were great grass plats, across which ran diagonal paths, in dry weather used to cut the corners. On these green lawns the children romped, the military met for parade, political mass-meetings convened, and sometimes an open-air religious service was held. On the esplanade, if that is not too pompous a title for the broad brick walks surrounding the Court-House, hucksters would on court and election days and on the "Glorious Fourth" retail cakes and beer, oysters and chestnuts, peanuts and fire-crackers, according to the season of those varied and delicious fruits. The curbstones of this pavement were guarded and ornamented by great stone posts with pyramidal tops and of varying height, over which the boys of those times would play leap-frog, and no boy of spirit ever stopped until he could take the tallest pillar with a stand-jump. When ten or a dozen boys would round the Court-House in these leaps it was a spectacle on which Olympic athletes would have deigned to smile encouragement. The County House, a monument of the massive masonry of the

period, which has also been ruthlessly removed, stood on the southeast corner, and directly opposite, north across the Square, stood White's Hotel, the "Tabard Inn" of classic Easton. The only other public building was the market house, facing north on Third Street, toward College Hill.

Now you may form a picture of the scene in this American forum on that memorable July Fourth, on which the boy of eight years looked, not forgetting the fire-crackers and hucksters busily taking advantage of the patriotic prodigality of unsophisticated youth under necromancy of cake and beer. Ah! the dear old Square, with its green, triangular lawns and quaint hall of justice and rural sports, will never witness such a scene again. The noisy brass six-pounders, captured in the French war, had ceased thundering from Mt. Jefferson, and the merry bells from church and school-house had rung out the pealing welcome of "Independence Day." Here the faculty and students of the young College met the military companies, known as the "Greys" and the "Blues," and civil officers and citizens, men, women and children. These composed the grand procession which moved toward the proud elevation henceforth to be known as "College Hill." In the chief cities of our country I have witnessed and marched in many grand processions since then; but none ever appeared so novel, so wonderful, as this. Undoubtedly the notable man, the priest, seer and warrior of that moving crowd, a man truly great, was President Junkin, who stepped bravely on, as if his prophetic spirit beheld a vision of the scene we to-day witness. Many proud days did he have since that, days which gave him an honored name on the literary, religious and patriotic rolls of his country. But perhaps from Paradise he to-day looks back with us upon that Fourth of July, 1833, as the dearest, brightest day of his life.

The procession, the prophecy of the greater things of this semi-centennial, moved up the old romantic road, now obliterated, but which then climbed the side of the hill and led on to "Lovers' Lane," one of the delightful walks of tender hearts and contemplative minds, long since gone among the "things that were." May one revisiting these classic shades be permitted, as fond memory sweeps the harmonies of the past, to quote the language of the ancient Romans and cry, "*Ilium fuit*"? Ah! the "Ilium

fruits!" how they crowd with mingling smiles and tears upon the recollection. "*Tempus fugit*," as the ancient Roman professors were accustomed to say to their students.

On these heights the axes of my great-grandfather were the first to fall on the thick trees. Where the plows of three generations of his family had turned up the rich soil, Dr. Junkin, in the early June of 1833, broke ground for these foundations, and on the morning of the 27th, just forty-nine years ago to-day, the first stone was laid by the Hon. James M. Porter, another of the historic names of Easton and Lafayette. On the Fourth of July, one week later, surrounded by the beauty and chivalry, the piety and learning, the age and youth, of Easton, and by natural scenery not to be surpassed, President Junkin laid the corner-stone. I gazed upon him with boyish admiration; he was to me the one man illustrious in the scene, and it seems as though I even now feel the air vibrate with the thrill of that shrill eloquence, which, once heard, could never be forgotten. To my youthful eyes, as he stood by that corner-stone, he seemed an apostle and prophet, surrounded by a great crowd of witnesses representing all the martyred and patriotic dead of the Christian ages. There was no flinching then in fidelity to great Christian principles, no want of sublimity of faith amid those feeble beginnings, as with hope almost only in the God of the faithful and the charities of Jesus, he laid that humble foundation-stone which now bears the glorious superstructure upon which our senses dwell in these happier days. Not without the broad charity of Paul and Luther, and energized by their sublime belief, with all the religious patriotism of Elijah and Knox, George Junkin laid the walls of Lafayette College broad and deep on the only educational basis which is worthy the confidence of American citizens or the benefaction of Christian patriots. Though, with the exception of the present historic administration, his successors never rose to the glowing confidence of his inspired enthusiasm, they were ever faithful to the Christian origin and type of the College, and Lafayette, in *curricula* and class-room, on platform and pulpit, has ever been true to the sublime aim of its founders, to the principles of the Reformation and the spirit of American civilization.

Did time permit, it would be the grateful work of loyal rev-

erence and affection to speak with equal and deserved fullness of the distinguished men who stood by Dr. Junkin's side that day and gave him, in the same Christian and patriotic faith and spirit, that support without which his effort must have failed. Such men were the venerable and stately McKeen; the majestic Porter, Nestor of the bar of Northampton; the learned and saintly Jones; the faithful, evangelical Gray; the gentle, devoted Wolf, and others; men of ethnical diversities, but all Aryans, Americans and Christians, bound together as one by the highest and most durable ethical affinities. I leave them here all the more easily because they have found embalmment among the "Men of Lafayette" by the historic pens of Coffin and Owen.

As on that bright and memorable day the civic, academic and military procession withdrew from the sacred planting of a little seed-germ that in half a century was to become a great tree, surpassing their most sanguine hopes and most prayerful faith, the small boy, your speaker to-day, remained awhile, awed by the strange ceremonies he had witnessed and by the words of heroic faith and holy aspiration and hopeful prophecy that had fallen from the anointed lips of Wolf and Junkin, and, what was natural, sobered somewhat by the unfamiliar distance that stretched from the now sacred mount to his home, a whole mile away. Could he have had the vision of a seer, he might have looked southward far beyond the Musconetcong Mountains, and seen another boy playing out his Fourth of July among the pines of the New Jersey Salem (almost New Jerusalem), a son of Jesse, whom God was rearing to take up the arrested and languishing enterprise of our Samuel, and endow, by his theocratic faith and courage, these classic heights with the exceeding glory of the transfiguration we to-day behold.

My next vivid recollection of Lafayette College is in connection with the commencement exercises of September 26th, 1838. Again from the northeast corner of Third and Ferry Streets, where now stands Masonic Hall, I gazed upon a procession of students on their way to St. John's Lutheran Church. Then my heart awoke to the consciousness of a great aspiration, viz. : to become a student of Lafayette and march in such a procession. Young gentlemen, especially those of modest ambition,

you little know the greatness to which you may be born, the sublimity of possibility in the evolution of life.

“Some are born great, some achieve greatness,
and some have greatness thrust upon them.”

Some of us have experienced this thrust of greatness in a small way, in a narrow arena, so to speak. It was not among my modest dreams on that day of awakening ambition that in fewer years than Jacob served for the dark-eyed Rachel, I, arrayed in all the glory of a satin sash with *silk* fringe a foot long, and a satin covered baton with a miniature rosette on each end, fastened by a silver spangle—even I—should twice marshal longer processions, once to the Society Literary Contest and once during Commencement Week. Yet that achievement is a historic fact: *vide* the record of the Literary Society, the programme of the day, and the reports in the *Whig and Journal*, the *Argus* and the *Sentinel*. Alas! that such days are not immortal! What an *ignis-fatuus* is ambition! How ephemeral earthly grandeur! “Uneasy rests the head that wears a crown.” In the classic phraseology of “the ancient Romans,” if the quotation here is not a usurpation of others’ rights, *sic transit gloria mundi*.

There were but two graduates that day, David Coulter and Benjamin F. Stem. Dr. Stem received all his literary degrees from his Alma Mater, spent his life chiefly in the vicinity of his place of birth and education in civil and literary services, became well known at the annual college gatherings of late years, and died and was buried among the familiar scenes of his life. The Rev. Dr. Coulter became a pioneer in the then far off Missouri, and spent the whole life of an arduous and able ministry there, and died four years ago “greatly esteemed in every community in which he lived.” Something, not now remembered, in David Coulter’s commencement speech confirmed my purpose to prepare for college. I longed in after years to meet him, but never did. I have to thank him for the unintended but none the less real benefit conferred in the practical and valuable impression made by his graduating address upon an eagerly listening boy of thirteen. To-day in the reading-room I gazed on a framed copy of the programme of those far-off commencement exercises on which was printed this legend:

“Adieu, ye scenes, where noblest pleasures dwell!
Ye happy seats, ye sacred walls, Farewell!”

I was now becoming acquainted with the students, first as teachers in the Sabbath-school, attendants at church, and visitors at my father's house and elsewhere; afterward visiting them in their rooms and halls, until this literary intercourse bore fruit in my matriculation at sixteen under the presidency of Dr. Yeomans, just inaugurated. To President Yeomans I wish to pay a tribute of personal gratitude. With all honest deference to the scholastic ability of the successive faculties of Lafayette, I do not think any possessed a teacher superior to Dr. Yeomans. He was an educator in the true etymological sense of the term. His touch on a student's mind was like the rod of Moses on the fountain hidden in the rock. He could make more out of the native furniture of a pupil than any teacher I ever knew, and I have had some famous teachers, a fact without any reflection on them, for they have also had some great scholars. If there was any latent force in a student, Dr. Yeomans would educate it; you know what I mean—*educio, to draw out*. He left no waste, unemployed material in any of his boys. He educated and built up everything in them that had worth and use. I wish it would do to bring forward some specimens of his glorious and wonderful power. But as modesty has thus far been busy to restrain, so now charity and prudence whisper, “Silence is golden.” But this orator and scholar was indeed no common educator. If the preaching of Dr. Junkin inspired the hearts of his students with theocratic faith, pious courage and consecrated zeal, Dr. Yeomans quickened their rational nature to a sense of the nobleness of intellectual exertion and the glory of scholastic triumphs to a degree they had never experienced before. His mental touch was like the wand of a fairy, or better and truer in some, like the trump of a resurrection. It is a pleasure, almost worshipful, to dwell upon the memory of one of whom an alumnus writes me as “that truly great man, Dr. Yeomans.”

With tender and reverent affection does our recollection turn to President Charles W. Nassau, the learned Christian, the conscientious teacher, the saintly friend. In our day he was the Professor of the Latin and Greek languages. The unsophisticated boy is terribly frightened at the awful conditions by which

college authority barricades the gateway of the temple of knowledge. When Prof. Nassau gently drew the undersized boy of sixteen to his side, and quieted his fears and anxieties into that composure which made examination easy to one really prepared, and the narrow gate of the temple a royal highway, the grand, venerable, stately Christian gentleman and scholar made another of those many conquests of respect and affection which he so readily won and never lost. Many grown men, fathers and grandfathers now, still live to bless the benignant Providence which laid the moulding hand of Charles W. Nassau upon their character and life. Nor will your speaker forget that when, a youth of eighteen, he united with the Church, it was the hand of Dr. Nassau that first gave him fraternal welcome to the court of Christ.

If less is said here of President McLean, it is because I knew him less intimately, meeting him but occasionally during a vacation, but he was a man who would always make the meeting something pleasant to be remembered. He was recalled a few days ago by the reprint in the *Cincinnati Gazette* of the programme of the graduating exercises of his class in Ohio University in 1827. Whenever an alumnus of Lafayette College did meet Dr. McLean, he always received a most eager and genial welcome from one who could be young with the youngest and at home in any presence whatever, and whose unquestioned abilities and sincere services were ever at your command, as they were devoted with unwearied energy and brilliant, though temporary, success to our Alma Mater.

Whether it was because of different temperament in the distinguished gentlemen themselves, or because as an alumnus grows older he is admitted to presidential society on more familiar terms, the later presidents of Lafayette have appeared more genial and confidential. Dr. Junkin did not find social familiarity with students easy, and seemed much absorbed in abstracted consciousness of some larger world of thought and enterprise, where he lived much alone. Dr. Yeomans was respected even to fear, not of the man, but of his masterful will, and was one whom the student dreaded to encounter with an opposing view or wish; for he penetrated, measured and weighed every adolescent specimen whom the course of collegiate tides brought before

him; and he had a wonderful dialectic power of convincing a student against his will and holding him to his convictions, sending him away overwhelmed with compliment and defeat. If space allowed, it would be amusing and profitable to relate some instances of his gentle, persuasive, irresistible force. The only victory the writer ever scored was in a case where his consent to a contrary choice was necessary, and which he escaped by flight to the masterly inactivity of a secluded retreat among New Jersey hills. But if Dr. Yeomans was standing in the company of magnates of Church or State, and an old student happened by, there was no cold look of recognition, but the quick smile and friendly call and cordial hand. Now all this elaborate retrospect is intended to introduce President G. Wilson McPhail, whom we hold in respectful memory and fraternal regard. A courteous Christian and popular preacher, it was delight as well as profit to meet him in the walks of society or sit under his ministry. In the class-room of an institution which has always been favored with eminent teachers, he established a reputation for scholarship which will never be forgotten in the grateful affection and admiration of his students and will survive through all the future annals of the College. He also won the respect and secured the friendship of the alumni graduated under his predecessors. We look back with cherished remembrance to his ever prompt and genial welcome and to the frequent hours spent in the social hospitalities and the literary relaxations of his sanctum.

We enter the departments of instruction, and now the names crowd painfully on our difficult but necessary selection and brief mention—not less difficult because, thank God! so many of these eminent men still survive. In mathematics and natural philosophy we at once recall Charles F. McCay, LL. D., the first incumbent of the chair, an earnest Christian, a ripe scholar and a forcible teacher. Love and admiration are alike stirred at every recollection of the Hon. Washington McCartney, “the scholar, jurist, Christian,” whose lofty scorn would burst like lava on any attempt at deception or fraud in the class-room, but who was ever just and tender to sincerity, helpful and patient with struggling mediocrity, and fair and generous to faithful students whose tastes and talents led them to prefer other depart-

ments to his own. Even these his wide and varied attainments, his brilliant genius, and large, loving nature enabled him to give invaluable and ever-ready help. The venerated triad is complete with Dr. James H. Coffin, the glory of whose name and fame, known in every school of science, shall ever rest in halo over Lafayette. Last Saturday afternoon I stood by his grave and read, with uncovered head, the honest epitaph: "An original contributor to science, an enthusiastic teacher, and a consistent Christian." Full and deserved as this eulogium is, it yet gives but an imperfect conception of the wealth of character of this distinguished *savant*. As I stood by his grave a squirrel ran up the path to my feet and looked fearlessly up into my face, as if it felt no harm could come from one who had tears to shed over the tomb of the loving, generous Coffin. The remains of McCartney and Coffin lie near together, and, as I read the inscriptions on their monuments, I felt that there was much truth, after all, in monumental panegyric; here all that is graven is true, but how little, after all, of what was true in these two great lives is told here.

In the department of languages, besides the already mentioned Nassau, well remembered and cherished names throng upon us: the venerable Cunningham, whose tall form still lingers among the lakes and hills of his native Scotland; our martyred missionaries, Lloyd, of China, and Loewenthal, of India; and, looming grandly up among them all, the majestic Lyman Coleman, whose memory on last Sabbath night received from an able pen and loving heart the noble and elaborate tribute which it deserves from every friend of learning and Christianity.

The names of many distinguished teachers still living—and some of them still connected with the College, and some known and honored wherever science is taught—tempt the pen to eager praise of lives and learning that have given distinction to Lafayette in her past and present. But their presence commands a silence which respect and veneration find it hard to keep. This address could not be biographical, nor even strictly historical, and has been constructed so as to repeat nothing, if possible, which may be found in "The Record of the Men of Lafayette." You have already perceived, even if other qualifications were mine, how inadequate to semi-centennial demands is the brief

space into which this sketch must be compressed. Take the Board of Trustees, and passing now the venerated names already mentioned, what would an hour avail for the consideration of a roll which contains the names of Gen. Robert Patterson, Hon. Hopewell Hepburn, Enoch Green, Rev. Drs. Robert Steel and John Dorrance, Hon. Charles Sitgreaves, Joseph McElroy, D. D., and Jonathan Edwards, D. D., LL. D., Gov. James Pollock and Ario Pardee?

The reminiscences that crowd upon the mind in a retrospect of fifty years are so many, and naturally some so personal, that it is difficult to choose among them, and it is not easy to avert the suspicion of egotism in a literary duty like this. And the necessarily brief lines make it a hard task to memorize any without doing injustice to some worthy of semi-centennial mention whom you are yet compelled to pass in silence. So little time is left for the Alumni of Lafayette that the temptation, under a sense of justice to them, is to omit even the brief testimony to their worth which is alone possible now. Among my Sabbath-school teachers I recall readily, and with affection, these Alumni of Lafayette: Rev. Jas. W. Wood, D. D., of Pennsylvania, and Hon. A. G. Richey, of New Jersey, both surviving in vigorous usefulness; Jas. Snodgrass, Esq., who died at Great Bend, Indiana, in 1854, and W. C. Logan, Esq., of Maryland, who died while I was penning this anniversary address. Thus you perceive how the legal profession of our Alumni were during student life represented in Christian work. Let us remember that Lafayette College was inspired not only by the desire and duty to raise up a Christian ministry, but also, and better still, by the cherished obligation to provide that broader education and nobler training demanded by the sons of Christian sires and the electors of Christian States. Now let us here emphasize and make historic a fact hitherto, if not overlooked, yet not recognized in its importance. The graduates of Lafayette who have entered the ministry have with notable fidelity and honorable distinction fulfilled the expectations of the devout and patriotic founders and patrons of the College, and they deserve and receive due honor for their faithfulness, as a class, to the religious legends and traditions of their Alma Mater. But I submit for your thought that this happy result is not so remarkable, if

as congratulatory, as another fact, viz.: That those who have graduated into other professions and the varied vocations of the laity have been as generally and signally true as the ministry to the special genesis and type, purpose and development, of the College. These facts, and the principles they involve and their place in the history of American education, are worthy of more frequent mention and more elaborate consideration than this sketch allows. And none but an intelligent Christian patriot can appreciate the satisfaction which such results convey. They are at once the reward and the stimulus of self-denying labor and liberality in this fundamental duty of the Church of God.

But whither are active memory, filial veneration, eager gratitude and willing pen tending? Just here, more, perhaps, than before, do the requisitions and possibilities of a semi-centennial address fascinate and appall me. Who can do justice in an hour to the half-century's history of Lafayette College?

Anniversaries are usually occasions of congratulation and hope, if not of satisfaction. Many must be content with what has been heroic, faithful and noble in the past, with only submission for a suffering present and hopefulness for the future. We in this anniversary are happier. We lift up our hearts to God, overflowing with grateful congratulation, with devout thanksgivings and joyful anticipations, as to-day we contemplate the past, the present and the future of our Alma Mater. We come back from the past on this semi-centennial to see the heroic faith and fidelity of the origin and early history of Lafayette College crowned with material and academic glory, for which our faith long prayed almost against hope. Our words are feeble to express our gratitude to God for the Divine benedictions which have crowned the wise, watchful, indefatigable administration of President Cattell, and the munificent benefactions of Ario Pardee, William Adamson, John Welles Hollenback, John I. Blair and others. We have no tears to shed over some landmarks, immortal in our cherished recollections, but which have been swept from sight by the march of splendid and substantial improvements. We are only too glad in these filial visits to see our dear Alma Mater with youth and beauty renewed, with a growing vigor that makes her stronger than her sons, and in a more queenly dress

than in those days of trial and poverty when we drank learning, honor and piety from her bosom. We have never had any other than feelings of admiration and gratitude for the devotion, statesmanship and triumphs—financial, academic and religious—which must ever make the administration of President Cattell distinguished in the history of Lafayette College and of American education. But believe one who stood as a silent, observant boy at the laying of these foundations in those far-off days—though now seemingly so near—that what thrills us most and makes this semi-centennial a prolonged *TE DEUM* is this: that the administration upon which God has bestowed these successes and prosperities—through light and darkness, in ebb and flow, in joyful thanksgiving and glorious achievement—has ever been faithful to the Divine origin and aim of this Christian College. As we gaze upon these beautiful grounds, so harmonizing with the splendid setting of nature; as we look out upon these many stately buildings and study the academic equipment of our Alma Mater, we exclaim: “*ALL THESE, AND CHRIST WITH ALL!*” We bless God, and honor our noble President. We praise God, nor forget to thank those wise benefactors who here have laid their offerings at the feet of Jesus. We turn to the Faculty and Trustees in gratitude for the honor and glory with which they have aided to environ this literary homestead of ours. We look out upon our ancestral Easton, and crave her citizens to ever honor and cherish the institution which, of all their many noble enterprises, has most honored them. We turn to the undergraduates, and bid them to consecrate themselves to the future of their Alma Mater, that her centennial, which some of them will live to see, shall more than fulfill the glorious hopes and promises of this auspicious hour. And we, the Alumni of Lafayette College, pledge all we can and ought to do to maintain and augment the literary and religious fame and usefulness of the Mother of us all. While all of us, meeting and parting until we shall no longer meet on earth, looking out from these fading scenes of time, shall hope to meet and renew the friendships and associations of the present amid the gladder scenes of eternity, through the grace of Him “who brought life and immortality to light.”

REPORT
OF THE
EXERCISES OF COMMENCEMENT WEEK,
1882.

Taken from the Lafayette College Journal, July, 1882.

SUNDAY, JUNE 25TH—BACCALAUREATE DAY.

Could George Junkin have stood on the brow of College Hill upon the morning of this day which ushered in the Commencement week of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the College, his heart would have been filled not merely with common wonder and admiration at the vast changes which he here witnessed, but with sincere thankfulness to the Author of it all for the manner in which He had fulfilled, and more than fulfilled, his most ardent wishes. As he looked upon the manifold evidences of the material prosperity of the College, upon its magnificent buildings, the gifts of wise and liberal benefactors, or upon its campus adorned with all the beauty of nature assisted by art, his thoughts would doubtless have turned to the modest foundations which he and his fellow-workers laid in faith and love so many years ago, and his heart would have gone out anew in profound thanksgiving toward Him whose mercies have been so signally manifested in the past history of the College.

On this beautiful morning as the deep-toned chapel bell, the useful gift of the class of '79, sounded forth its summons, throngs began to wend their way toward the sacred place to hear the last words of counsel and wisdom from the lips of the President. In spite of the great heat, the chapel was crowded with an appreciative and sympathetic audience.

At half-past ten the graduating class marched into the chapel, followed by President Cattell in his official robes, escorted by the president of the class. The choir then sang the anthem, "Hark, the Song of Jubilee," by W. B. Bradbury. After reading of Scripture and prayer by Dr. Traill Green, the congregation sang the familiar hymn, "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name," and then

President Cattell commenced the Baccalaureate sermon. His text was taken from the sixth verse of the ninth chapter of Isaiah, "His name shall be called Wonderful:"

After a brief introduction discussing the significance attached to the various names applied to the Messiah in the prophetic writings, he discussed the person and character of Christ as given in the contemporaneous records of His life, which are now accepted as equally authentic with any historic documents that we possess. Taking the same point of view from which we regard the lives of all other men—even those whose careers have been most remarkable—the historic Christ was shown to be pre-eminently "The Wonder" among men. His personal force, as seen in all the subsequent history of the world, has been a subject of no less interest. Christianity was not merely a system of doctrines. The Doctor argued at some length in showing that Christianity, in its marvelous progress and triumph, was the development of the personal power of the historic Christ. From the examination of this unique and wonderful power of the Man of Nazareth over the lives of his brother men, His divinity could be as clearly established as by the miracles He wrought. If we do not admit this divinity, which He himself claimed, we are in the presence of an historical enigma that defies solution; but to acknowledge this Wonder among men as Immanuel—God with us—is to accept a divine mystery which, though above our reason, is not against it. No other explanation of the person and character of Christ can satisfy the mind and heart of men. He discussed the Arian and Socinian views of Christ, contending that they had never been derived from a devout study of the sacred Word, and though admitting Christ to be in one sense a wonder, these views had never fully met the religious consciousness of God's people. In conclusion, he held up Christ to his audience as the Divine Wonder among men, the object of their love and praise and worship, whose life was to be imitated and whose commands were to be obeyed.

Young Gentlemen of the Graduating Class :

This semi-centennial year of the College invites us to a retrospect of its history and an examination of the principles upon which it was founded and upon which it is now conducted. Others during this Commencement week will discuss these subjects in their relations to science and literature; they will point you to the noble array of cultured men the College has sent forth to the learned professions and into the business walks of life as the best illustration of what it has had in view, and also as demonstrating the success with which its lofty aim has been accomplished. And to these men Lafayette College, proud and grateful for their success and rich in possessing their love and loyalty, may point as the best promise it can give of continued success in the great and noble work before it.

But from this sacred desk to-day I may only refer to those religious principles upon which the College has been established. Its founders designed that it should be not only an institution of sound learning, but also a school of Christ. Its first president, many years before he entered upon his duties here, had devoted his life with rare enthusiasm to the special object of Christian education, and the first exercises upon the 9th of May, fifty years ago, in the humble house across the Lehigh, were opened by him in supplicating for the College the presence and benediction of the great Teacher. His successors in office have all been ministers of Christ; and its friends and patrons, rejoicing

at every enlargement of its appliances for secular instruction, still regard its work in advancing the kingdom of our Lord Jesus as the first and foremost of the lofty aims it has in view.

And therefore in these last words of mine to you I have spoken of Christ. It is the great theme upon which I have ever loved to dwell, and now, as you bid farewell to these halls, my heart prompts me to greater earnestness and urgency in this, my last message to you from this sacred desk. Many of you indeed have chosen Him to be your master and friend; your fellow-students can testify that the power of His grace has wrought with divine efficacy in the daily lives you have led among them. My prayer for you is that you may all choose this better part which shall never be taken from you, and that you may grow more and more in His knowledge and grace until you reach the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ. So shall you secure in this life the peace of God that passeth all understanding, and so shall you attain unto everlasting joy and felicity in the ages to come.

Last week I attended the funeral services of one of the trustees of this College, the venerable David Thomas, of Catsauqua, a man so honored and beloved by the people among whom his life had been passed that all places of business were closed and the whole community in their reverent love followed him to the grave. And men spoke of his rare endowments as a man of business, so modest and retiring yet so sagacious and energetic and courageous and enterprising; but uppermost in all men's thoughts was his humble Christian life that had been to them like a benediction from heaven. And let me remind you also of that great scholar who passed away from our midst since the last Commencement—my revered and beloved colleague, Dr. Coleman. Another will speak to us fully, in the memorial service this evening, of his long and honored life; I point you only to his faithful testimony for Christ, and remind you how the grace of the Master whom he loved and served made him strong and helpful to others and crowned his life with peace and joy.

The skeptic in human happiness has asked "Is life worth living?" Let this question be argued by those who have sought in this life only the praise of men and the things that perish in the using; it is answered for us in the lives of these two followers of Christ.

Go forth then, beloved youth, sustained and strengthened by Christ's grace, to meet in the busy world the duties that await you with their joys and sorrows. Your Alma Mater will lovingly follow you through all your career, proud if you shall win distinction among your fellow-men, but grateful above all if you shall possess the grace of Christ and shall show to the world its power to mould your lives like His and to make you triumph over sin and death.

But I must come to the final word; and now, in the name of my colleagues I bid you affectionately farewell.

Never has it been our pleasure to listen to a more impressive discourse than this. It was more than scholarly or eloquent; it was a message from the heart delivered personally to each of his hearers. At the address to the graduates the members of the class arose and remained standing during the rest of the service. After the sermon they sang most impressively the hymn, "My faith looks up to Thee." Dr. Cattell then made a prayer, and after the doxology and benediction the large audience dispersed.

THE BRAINERD EVANGELICAL SOCIETY.

The importance of this society to the cause of Christianity in Lafayette College cannot be overestimated. Quietly and effectually

it performs its appointed work, exerting a constant influence for good over the entire College community, and exemplifying in the outside world the principles of Jesus. Year by year it adds to its record of good service done in the Master's cause, and year by year it sends out devoted men to carry out, on a larger scale, the principles which they have here learned.

This year more than usual interest attended its anniversary, as being marked by the dedication of its new and beautiful session-room in South College, the room formerly occupied by the Washington Literary Society. The Brainerd Society has long felt the need of a more suitable place in which to hold its meetings, and early in the year began the task of raising funds for the purpose, appointing a furnishing committee to oversee the disbursement of them. How thoroughly they have accomplished their work is well attested by the beautiful and harmonious appearance of the room, with its handsome carpet of excellent material, its comfortable walnut chairs, arranged in semi-circular rows, its dark-brown papering, and its rich curtains and hangings, all uniting to form a pleasing and symmetrical whole.

At four o'clock on Sabbath afternoon a large audience gathered to witness the dedicatory exercises. C. A. Walker, President of the society, called the meeting to order, and after the College choir had rendered a "Thanksgiving Anthem," President Cattell invoked the divine blessing. Mr. Walker made a few remarks, dwelling especially upon the manner of conducting the work among the students. The singing of the hymn, "Come ye that love the Lord," was followed by the report of the furnishing committee, through Stanley Williamson, chairman. This report comprised a concise statement of the work and of the way in which it had been accomplished.

After singing the hymn, "Saviour, like a shepherd lead us," Rev. John Fox, '72, of Baltimore, made the annual address, taking for his theme the words of Martin Luther: "Three things are necessary for a theologian—prayer, meditation and temptation." He traced all things in science and art to theology, and said that it had ever been the burning question of the day. The power of prayer was unfolded, showing it to be the bulwark of righteousness and the mainstay against temptation. The speaker said that the prayer-meeting was in college the guard of a young man's morals. But we cannot do justice in a brief report to this most excellent address. It will long be remembered by the members of the society who had the pleasure of hearing it.

Rev. W. H. James, of Springdale, Ohio, being the oldest gradu-

ate of the society present, offered the dedicatory prayer. Brief, but happy and appropriate, remarks were then made by Rev. Dr. Heckman and Revs. Messrs. Sproull, Kellogg, Hart and Murphy, the latter gentleman having served for years as a missionary in Africa. After a hymn had been sung, Dr. Ballard dismissed the gathering with the benediction.

MEMORIAL OF REV. LYMAN COLEMAN, D. D.

Sunday evening, the time usually allotted to the annual sermon before the Christian Brotherhood, was occupied by the Rev. Alfred H. Kellogg, of Detroit, who had been invited by the Faculty to present a memorial sermon upon the life and character of our venerable and beloved Dr. Coleman, who died in March last, having served Lafayette devotedly for the past twenty years. No more fitting person than Mr. Kellogg could have been chosen to perform this last office of respect. From 1862 to 1865 he was pastor of the Brainerd Church, in Easton. During this period he lived with Dr. Coleman, contributing largely to the comfort and happiness of his friend. The sermon was delivered in the First Presbyterian Church. President Cattell, Rev. F. E. Miller and Rev. A. R. Stevenson also occupied the pulpit and took part in the exercises. Mr. Kellogg took his text from Zachariah i, 5, "Your fathers, where are they? and the prophets, do they live forever?" His sermon was a beautiful review of the life of the departed Professor. (Dr. Kellogg's sermon has been printed by order of the Trustees of the College, and upon application, a copy will be sent to any alumnus of the College. The synopsis which was given in the Journal is, therefore, omitted.)

MONDAY, JUNE 26TH—THE SENIOR CLASS DAY EXERCISES

Were given by a united class, and constituted, as of old, one of the most attractive features of Commencement week. A stage had been erected under the maples in front of South College, and long before two o'clock arrived, the seats which surrounded it were completely filled by a large and attractive audience.

Shortly after two o'clock the exercises were opened with an excellent selection by the Germania Orchestra of Reading, which furnished the music throughout Commencement. The divine blessing was invoked by President Cattell, after which Mr. E. D. McCulloch, of Peoria, Illinois, Master of Ceremonies, made a few graceful and appropriate remarks. The following programme was then carried out:

Salutatory	J. R. Strawbridge, York County, Pa.
History	M. B. Lambert, Bucks Co., Pa.
	Music.
Presentation	O. D. Skinner, Fostoria, Ohio.
Poem	J. P. Welsh, Orangeville, Pa.
	Music.
Class Oration	A. C. LaBarre, Slateford, Pa.
Mantle Oration	A. D. Light, Lebanon, Pa.
	Music.
Prophecy	C. S. Melvin, Oakland, Cal.
Valedictory	E. S. Herbert, St. Clair, Pa.
	Music.

The salutorian, J. R. Strawbridge, welcomed those who had gathered together to do honor to Eighty-two's Class Day. At this point of the exercises, just as the historian had taken his place, the traditionary class-day thunder-storm, copious in showers, arose, compelling the large audience to seek shelter in the neighboring chapel, which was at once filled to overflowing, crowds occupying the aisles, and many more standing at the doors and windows, unable to gain admittance, and eaves-droppers in the extreme sense of the term. As soon as this change had been made the master of ceremonies introduced Mr. M. B. Lambert, the historian. This is a most difficult office to fill satisfactorily, but Mr. Lambert performed its duties admirably, relieving the inevitable monotony with tact and ability. The presentation by Mr. O. D. Skinner, was one of the best performances of the day. Eighteen members of the class were in turn called to the stage to receive a variety of gifts, emblematic of their various personal peculiarities. The points were well chosen, and the remarks were decidedly witty, eliciting frequent applause. The poem by Mr. J. P. Welsh was a production of merit, manifesting much care and no little poetic talent. Mr. A. C. LaBarre, the class orator, a finished speaker, next delighted the audience with his oration. Mr. A. D. Light, in a few well-chosen words, handed down the mantle of senioric dignity to the class of Eighty-three, who, through their representative, Mr. F. H. Guffey, responded in fitting terms. The veil of futurity was then raised by the seer, Mr. C. S. Melvin, who with prophetic vision pictured the occupations of the members of the class in the year A. D. 1900. Mr. E. S. Herbert then gave a fitting close to the delightful exercises by graceful words of farewell.

PROMENADE CONCERT.

The annual promenade concert has passed out of its experimental state and has become an established feature of Commencement week.

And a most delightful feature it is, too, when the weather is favorable. The Senior Class was this year peculiarly fortunate in this respect. The showers of the afternoon had freshened and purified the air without rendering it damp or unpleasant. The maple grove of the South campus was again brought into use. Illuminated, as it was, by hundreds of Chinese lanterns, and filled with a gay and joyous throng of "fair women and brave men," it would be difficult to imagine a more perfect scene. Crowds roamed at pleasure over the beautiful grounds, listening to the notes of the magnificent overture from William Tell, or to the lighter though scarcely less beautiful strains of Boccaccio or the Mascotte. Many preferred to ascend to the second floor of the library, and from its convenient windows to watch the animated scene below, and drink in, at a greater distance, the strains of delicious harmony. It is estimated that at least two thousand people were present, a larger crowd, perhaps, than had ever before collected on the campus for a similar purpose. The music, under the leadership of Mr. P. Bissinger, of Reading, was excellent. The selections, which were good and were rendered with skill, were as follows:

PART I.

- Wedding March—from Midsummer Night's Dream Mendelssohn
 - Overture—Poet and Peasant Suppe
 - Waltz—Woman's Love Fahrbach
 - Clarinet Solo— Ngo Contidi Parigi Donizetti
 - Selections from opera—The Mascotte Audrian
 - DEDICATION MARCH—'32 GOLDEN WEDDING '82 H. M. Seem
- (Dedicated to Lafayette College, by Dr. H. M. Seem, Class '79.)

PART II.

- Overture—William Tell Rossini
- Cornet Solo—Eleonora Polka Wrigand
- Selections from opera—Boccaccio Suppe
- Waltz—Les Sirenes Waldteufel
- Clarinet Solo—Polonaise Brillante Ringlebere
- Potpourri—Florveret for everybody Bach

It was a cause of regret to all when the programme drew toward its close. But everything, however enjoyable, must have an end, and at about eleven o'clock the music ceased and the crowds returned to the town below, leaving College Hill silent and dark.

FRATERNITY REUNIONS.

After the promenade concert, the various fraternities held their annual reunions, all of them being most enjoyable affairs. We have space but for brief mention of each.

The Delta Kappa Epsilon held its banquet and reunion in its rooms, which have recently been elegantly refurnished. Rev. J. I. Good, of Philadelphia, '72, presided.

The Zeta Psi's had an excellent supper and a most delightful time at their rooms. E. D. McCulloch, '82, presided.

The Phi Charge of Theta Delta Chi held a large and enjoyable reunion and banquet in their rooms. C. B. Adamson, '77, presided.

The Sigma Chi's held their fifteenth annual banquet in the Grays' Armory, where they had a most enjoyable time. E. D. Wetmore, '82, presided.

The Theta Chapter of Phi Kappa Psi held its thirteenth annual reunion in its rooms, after which it adjourned to the Franklin House to partake of the excellent collation prepared by the proprietors. Samuel Sprecher, '74, C. E., of the Pennsylvania Railroad, presided.

The annual banquet of Phi Delta Theta was held this year at their rooms. Prof. A. P. Berlin, '76, of the State Geological Survey, presided.

The Rho Chapter of the Chi Phi fraternity held its reunion and banquet in Able's Hall. Dr. J. B. Heller, '74, presided.

The Delta Tau Delta's met in their rooms where they passed a most enjoyable evening. L. G. Shultz, '82, presided.

TUESDAY, JUNE 27TH—ALUMNI DAY.

At nine o'clock an audience composed of students, alumni and others, assembled in the chapel to listen to the SEMI-CENTENNIAL COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS. The usual chapel services were conducted by Rev. W. Henry Green, D. D., LL. D., '40, the eminent professor at Princeton Theological Seminary.

President Cattell, before introducing the orator, said he noticed that a spirit of inquiry had been aroused by the blowing of the mammoth class horn of '71, in addition to the ringing of the bell which was the ordinary summons to prayers. The blowing of a horn was not uncommon in this vicinity; but, in such a connection, it would doubtless need a word of explanation to the younger alumni. The older ones would remember that before the College came into possession of its first bell the horn daily aroused the students from slumber to attend chapel at five A. M., an exercise followed by two hours of manual labor before breakfast. Aaron O. Hoff, a venerable man of seventy-four, who this morning had blown the horn from the chapel steps, fifty years ago performed that office

in the old Lafayette, he being at the same time a member of the first Freshman Class.

Rev. Dr. George C. Heckman, '45, late President of Hanover College, Indiana, and now pastor of the Avondale Church in Cincinnati, was then introduced as the orator of the day. (The address is printed in full in the preceding pages, and the synopsis which appeared in the Journal is, therefore, omitted.)

WASHINGTON AND FRANKLIN REUNIONS.

Immediately after the Commencement address the two literary societies held their annual reunions in their new quarters in Pardee Hall. Both were fraught with interest, and were unusually well attended by alumni and friends.

FRANKLIN.

Never before was a greater number of alumni assembled in the rooms of the Franklin Society upon an occasion of this kind. Mr. O. E. Williams, president of the society, called the meeting to order and requested Rev. Joseph Beggs, '51, to lead the society in prayer.

Gen. E. L. Campbell, '55, of Trenton, was then introduced as the reunion orator. Choosing as his subject, "Higher Education as the Productive Cause of a Higher Standard of Citizenship," he eloquently and ably pleaded for a greater dissemination of knowledge as a means of elevating the moral tone of the community. Repudiating the idea that knowledge of any kind is dangerous, he showed how every advancement in philosophy and every discovery in science must infallibly lead to the divine Author of all science.

Mr. A. C. LaBarre, '82, then delivered a brief valedictory, and Mr. E. S. Horner, '84, responded in happy terms.

The meeting was then thrown into the hands of the graduates. Mr. G. W. Kidd, '36, Secretary of the Cotton Exchange and Board of Trade of Houston, Texas, and the first person on whom the diploma of the College had been conferred, was chosen by a rising vote to preside. On taking his seat, he made a few happy remarks, in which he stated that he was a member of the committee that drew up the first constitution of the society. He officiated throughout with much grace and dignity. Telling speeches were made by Rev. Joseph Beggs, '51; Rev. G. C. Heckman, D. D., '45; Judge Kirkpatrick, '63; Rev. W. W. McKinney, '57; James H. Neighbor, Esq., of Dover, N. J., '48, and F. W. Edgar, Esq., '71.

At 12.30 the meeting adjourned. Marked attention was drawn to "Father Beggs," as he recounted the history of the society, when—in 1850—he was for some months its sole member. He described his regular weekly ringing of the bell, roll-call and announcement of exercises, as he "held the fort" until reinforcements were obtained from the incoming class.

WASHINGTON.

Washington Hall was the scene of a large gathering, its beautiful new library-room being an object of universal admiration.

Mr. R. J. Phipps, president of the society, called the meeting to order and requested Rev. Charles Wood, of Brooklyn, '46, to invoke the divine blessing.

The valedictory address was then made in appropriate terms by F. V. Frisbie, '82, who was followed by Horace Heydt, '84, who responded on behalf of the undergraduates. Hon. Robert Snodgrass, '57, then delivered the alumni oration on "The Difficulties of Life." The oration was an admirable one, rich in fine thoughts, eloquently and forcibly expressed. After this the graduating class received their diplomas from Aula Washingtonia.

At the conclusion of the regular exercises, the Upper House, W. L. S., held its session, Rev. Dr. W. Henry Green, '40, presiding. After a few excellent remarks by the President, the following officers were elected by acclamation for the ensuing year:

Rev. Professor William Henry Green, D. D., LL. D.; Vice-President, Hon. Robert Snodgrass; Secretary and Treasurer, Professor D. B. King; Standing Committee, Rev. Professor T. C. Porter, D. D., LL. D., H. D. Lachenour, M. D., James K. Dawes, Esq., W. Gibson Field, Esq., D. W. Nevin, Esq., Professor D. B. King and Russell C. Stewart, Esq.

Prof. King made a report as Treasurer, and Dr. Porter, on behalf of the Executive Committee. A vote of thanks was tendered Mr. J. S. Rodenbough for his valuable services in decorating and furnishing the rooms.

Capital addresses, full of wit and wisdom, were then made by Hon. A. G. Richey, '40; Mr. John W. Hollenback (one of the trustees of the College); Rev. Thomas Thomas, '42, and Rev. David Tully, of Oswego, '47; after which the society adjourned.

GRADUATING THESES.

The Theses of the following members of the Senior Class—Students in the Technical Courses—were submitted to the Trustees,

Faculty and Board of Examiners of the Pardee Scientific Department, Tuesday afternoon, at 1½ o'clock, in the Civil Engineering Lecture-Room, in Pardee Hall:

1. Review of the Lehigh Valley Railroad Bridge over the Delaware River at Easton, Pa.—J. W. Nute, Easton.
2. Design for a new Wrought-iron Bridge over the Lehigh River, at Third Street, Easton, Pa.—C. H. Talmage, St. Louis, Mo.
3. Review of Ventilating Apparatus of East Mine Shaft, St. Clair, Pa.—H. S. Gay, Shenandoah.
4. Preparation of Pure Acids for Analytical Purposes—J. T. Baker, Scranton.

CLASS REUNIONS.

The quarter century meeting of "Young America," or the class of '57, was held in Newkirk Hall. An excellent dinner greeted these alumni. The meeting was convened by the Class Secretary, Rev. E. C. Cline. The class graduated twenty-seven men, four of whom have died. Ten were at the reunion and all the remaining ones were heard from but two. Personal reminiscences formed a chief part of the speeches delivered. Twelve of the class are ministers, six are lawyers, one a physician, one a teacher and the rest in various business. All of them are married and all have children.

Decennials.—The class of '72 met at the United States Hotel, partaking of the regular dinner in a body. A pleasant chat was had, and letters were read from various members not present. Some of them are down in Texas, some in Mexico and others in almost every State in the Union. Not a death has occurred among those who graduated. An election of officers was held, and S. C. Smith, Esq., of Phillipsburg, was elected president; C. A. Sandt, Esq., Easton, secretary. It was resolved to meet again in 1885.

Masters.—The class of '79 were largely gathered in attendance, but as their proceedings were more social than formal, no report has been prepared for our columns.

ATHLETIC SPORTS.

The third annual commencement contest of the Lafayette College Athletic Association was held on the campus, Tuesday afternoon, at two o'clock. The cool weather brought crowds of people to College Hill to witness the contest, which all anticipated would be a most interesting one. Scores of carriages filled with gayly dressed ladies

sporting the "maroon and white," occupied the drives surrounding the campus, while hundreds of pedestrians held the intervening space and filled the windows of the neighboring Halls.

Gold medals were offered in each event, and in addition to these the winner of the 100 yards dash, open to all, received a handsome silver cup, presented by J. W. Freeman; and the winner of the half-mile run, a similar cup, the gift of H. F. Seip, D. D. S., '76. We give the various events below, together with the names and records of the winners:

The 100 Yards Dash was won by J. J. Chester, '82, in 11 seconds.

Putting the Shot—W. C. Bond, '83; 33 feet and 1 inch.

Running High Jump—P. C. March, '84; 5 feet 2 inches.

Open 100 Yards Dash—B. W. McIntosh, '84; 10½ seconds.

Tug of War—First heat, '84 vs. '85, won by '84 by 10 inches; second heat, '83 vs. '84, in two minutes; '84 was pulled over by '83.

Throwing the Hammer—J. B. Hench, '83; 72 feet 2 inches.

Half-mile Run—J. L. Ludlow, '84; 2 minutes and 18 seconds.

120 Yards Hurdle Race—W. E. Schoch, '84; 22 seconds.

Pole Vaulting—A. D. Shields, '84; 8 feet 6 inches.

220 Yards Dash—J. J. Chester, '82; 25½ seconds.

One Mile Walk—G. N. Chalfant, '84; 8 minutes 41 seconds.

Running Broad Jump—P. C. March, '84; 18 feet 2 inches.

One Mile Run—Elwood Hay; 5 minutes 41 seconds.

440 Yards Dash—J. J. Chester, '82; 59 seconds.

The field officers were: Referee—Gen. Frank Reeder; Judges—M. H. Jones, Jr., T. A. H. Hay, '76, Dr. H. F. Seip, '76, E. D. McCulloch, '82; Timers—G. M. Reeder, Thomas Rinek, W. D. Holmes; Starter—B. W. McIntosh, '84; Judge of Walking—G. M. Reeder; Clerk of Course—Hunter Eckert, '83; Assistant Clerks of the Course—F. L. Fox, '84, J. M. McCortney, '85; Marshals—A. R. Fillebrown, '83, chief, C. P. Bassett, '83, D. S. Seitz, '83, A. C. Overholt, '84, E. P. Remington, '84, J. W. Keeler, '84, T. W. Grant, '85, W. J. Trembath, '85, F. M. Decker, '85; Measurers—H. W. Cattell, '83, C. E. Schell, '85.

SEMI-CENTENNIAL REUNION OF THE ALUMNI.

At four o'clock the alumni assembled in Pardee Hall auditorium for their Semi-Centennial Reunion. Rev. Thomas Thomas, of Stevensville, class of '43, invoked the Divine blessing. President Cattell, after welcoming the alumni in a brief speech, stated the object of the meeting to be the hearing of reports or remarks from a representative of each of the classes present. It was decided to select as chairman a golden mean between the older and younger alumni, and A. C. Trippe, Esq., '57, of Baltimore, who was here with his class to celebrate the quarter century anniversary of their graduation, was chosen to preside.

Mr. Trippe, upon taking the chair, made a few spirited remarks and presided through the meeting with courtesy, ability and dignity. He was particularly earnest in his remarks upon the necessity of the alumni doing more and better for the College; and frequently, in the course of the meeting in the afternoon, and the adjourned meeting in the evening, spoke felicitously and eloquently, referring particularly to the effect of religion upon education and the necessity of the young men of this country being educated under Christian influences, in order to counteract the bad element constantly coming into this land, settling here, and finally gaining equal grounds with the best of men, so far as civil rights are concerned. Such men possessing liberty, fail to know what it is, and it devolves upon the alumni of this and other colleges, and of all friends of education, to give every possible support to the right education of the youth of our own land.

In the class of '36, Mr. George W. Kidd, for a long time a merchant in St. Louis, and of late years Secretary of the Board of Trade of Houston, Texas, where he is also a ruling elder in the Presbyterian Church, was called to the stage as the veritable Adam of the assemblage, the holder of the first diploma issued by the College.

He said his business was that of a toiler and not an orator, one accustomed to work and not to take any part in the rostrum. "Last night," said he, "as I walked through the College Reading-room and looked about me, the lights in their brightness shone upon the portrait of Dr. Junkin, and a gleam so lighted up his countenance, that he seemed to smile upon the scene. His body rests in Laurel Hill, but it seemed to me that his spirit moved among us and approved the intent of our present gathering."

The scenes before him, and Easton itself—unvisited by him in forty-six long years—awoke many a memory and recalled many a line of Horace most vividly; but the presence of his juniors addicted to modern systems of Latin pronunciation, admonished him of the risk to be incurred in any attempt to give vent to his thoughts in the tongue of Rome. He then proceeded to speak of the fathers, the *presbuteroi*, their spirit of devotion and fidelity, and how they conquered the difficulties of their early course, and closed with a glowing tribute of respect to the first President of the College.

The class of '37 did not have a representative present. In announcing that no graduate member of the class of '38 was now living, the chairman said:

It was customary for soldiers of old, in answering to the roll after a battle, when a companion's name was called who had been killed in the fray for some one to step forward and say, "Died on the Field;" and he would, in honor of these departed scholars, say, in answer to the call: "Died on the Field."

E. F. Stewart, Esq., of Easton, was called upon to respond for the class of '39, but not being present, President Cattell read a letter from another member of the class, Hon. William A. Porter, LL. D., of Philadelphia, which we give in full at the close of this day's proceedings. The classes of '38, '41 and '44 were the only ones not represented in the attendance, although some of those present are not recorded in the following list of speakers, which we believe to be complete, although the report of their remarks is not as full as we could wish.

The class of '40 was represented by Professor William Henry Green, of Princeton Theological Seminary. He said :

He was proud to be a member of the class of '40. No member of the class has ever brought a stain upon his character. There were eleven graduates, the largest number thus far in the history of Lafayette. Seven survive and four are dead. He then spoke of the individual members of the class, giving briefly the history of each one. He further said : The class was a unit ; there never was any dissension in it. I entered during the middle of the Freshman year, and only one joined the class after that year. This class has given to Lafayette two Trustees, Col. Wm. Dorris and Hon. Augustus G. Richey, and one Professor, Dr. Porter.

Rev. Joseph Stevens, who was in early life Professor of Mathematics in Oakland College, Mississippi, and now for the last thirty years pastor at Jersey Shore, Pa., and the author of numerous published sermons and discussions, rose in answer to the call for the class of '42.

He referred to the numerous educational and missionary labors performed by his classmate, Rev. Darwin Cook ; his companionship with Athanasius J. Collyrus, the native Greek whom Jonas King sent here to be educated, now teaching in Athens ; and his intimacy with his beloved and scholarly room-mate, Bannatyne, whose memorial is carved in marble in the walls of the F Street church in Washington, where his earthly labors ended. His class, now mostly gone to their rest, had had a full share in the honors of a useful life well spent.

The Rev. Thomas Thomas, a man of venerable form and past seventy years of age, a native of Wales, replied for the class of '43. His son was an honor-man in '75, and a daughter is a missionary in Japan.

He briefly referred to the creditable careers of his classmates, all of whom were professional men, the majority of whom attained public positions, and commented on the pleasant relations existing between the students and the Faculty during his college days, under the second President, Dr. John W. Yeomans.

Applause greeted Dr. G. C. Heckman as he rose to the call for '45. He said :

There were at one time twenty-five members in my class, but only nine completed their course and graduated, of whom the following are now living, viz. : Rev. J. E. Miller, of Stillwater, N. J. ; Dr. W. M. Stephens, of Illinois ; Rev. George D. Stewart, D. D., of Burlington, Iowa ; Robert J. Wright, LL. D., the political economist of Philadelphia, and the speaker. Making affectionate mention of those who were deceased, he said he would not take the present limited time to eulogize them, much as they deserved a tribute to their worth, but would rather extend the eulogism to the many—living and dead—who were exponents of what a consecrated spirit in the members of a college Faculty, as inspirers and leaders of youth could accomplish in so giving a bent to their purposes and I directing their ambition, that a noble career could scarcely fail to be the sequel. He was impressed with the fact that Alma Mater's sons, if not all eminent in the paths of fame, were diligent and zealous workers in the brotherhood of alumni. A college whose history was thus sustained could always be accounted rich in its records, even though it lacked the princely endowment in money that would enable it to extend its benefits to a larger number of students.

The class of '46 was represented by John Sandt, M. D., who excused himself from protracted remarks, and gave brief statistics of his class that numbered nineteen on graduation.

Rev. Robert B. Foresman, of New Jersey, said that '48 had graduated twenty-four, of whom thirteen studied theology, and the remainder other professions.

He made special mention of those who had made teaching their profession, among whom were James T. Doran, of Berwyn, their valedictorian, and Wm. W. Cottingham, who has been thirty years in continuous service as superintendent of schools, a term of office unequalled by any other in the State.

'51 was represented by Rev. Joseph Beggs. He said :

His class was a small one, but the proverb *multum in parvo* has been marvelously proved in the history of our class. I am not ashamed of our class, for we were all honor-men. There were only three who graduated, and then we had one we called "irregular." The class of '51 was here during the darkest days in the history of Lafayette College. He spoke at length of the trying times that threatened the College and how from that darkness she had come forth prosperous and better fitted to perform the great task of educating young men for their life-work. He then paid glowing tributes to some of the professors of that time. He said a more godly man than President Nassau I never knew. A greater man than Dr. Coffin I never knew, nor do I expect to find. In the class were two ministers and one physician. I was surprised when I went into the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia to see some excellent mechanism on which our irregular man had received a prize, and I thought our irregular was coming out at last.

The chairman announced the class of '52, and called upon Rev. D. M. James, of Bath, to respond.

He spoke briefly of his classmates, of their pursuits and character. He said, thirty-six years have passed since I came to Easton. When I think of all the men of this town, the teachers, preachers and lawyers, and learn that all these with whom I was acquainted have passed away, I begin to think how time has flown. He gave a special exhortation to young men to enter the ministry, claiming that it was the noblest of professions, and far from scanty in either the nature or the number of its rewards. This College grew out of a pastor's desire to have young men equipped for this great work. He stated that he had now preached for thirteen years on the ground where David Brainerd labored among the Indians.

As the hour for the close of the afternoon session drew near, Prof. Selden J. Coffin, the Secretary of the Alumni Association, arose and requested leave to present to the assemblage a number of letters, which were ordered to be recorded as a part of the proceedings. These consisted of messages of cordial greeting from Hon. N. B. Smithers, '36, of Dover, Del., ex-member of Congress; Hon. John W. Garrett, '37, President of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad; Rev. Dr. Brakeley, '39; Rev. P. Camp, '41; Rev. Geo. D. Stewart, D. D., '45, of Iowa; Hon. Henry Green, LL. D., '46, of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court; Rev. Charles J. Jones, D. D., '46; Rev. P. W. Melick, '49, North Carolina; Rev. Dr. Davis, '52; Hon. H. G. Fisher, member of Congress, '55; Jesse H. Crane, '57, Topeka, Kansas; Wm. S. Everett, '57, Chicago; James A. Laughlin, '57, Cincinnati; Hon. S. P. Galt, '60, St. Louis; Rev. John B. Grier, '64, Danville, Pa.; Rev. James Roberts, '65, Coatesville, Pa.; F. Doremus, '70, Galveston, Texas; Rev. Wm. H. Filson, '67, Jefferson County, Pa., and James Gayley, '76, of St. Louis.

A profound sensation was produced when he added to the above a cordial and tender letter of greeting from a former member of the Faculty, Prof. Robert Cunningham, eighty-two years of age, written from Stranrear Castle, Scotland, previously the home of the famous arctic explorer, Parry; also letters from two of the three surviving members of the original Faculty of Lafayette, viz., Charles F. McCay, LL. D., now of Baltimore, ex-President of Georgia State University, and the eminent Surgeon, Samuel D. Gross, LL. D., D. C. L. (Oxford). He presented, also, a letter from the poet, Mrs. Margaret J. Preston, of Lexington, Va., daughter of Dr. Geo. Junkin, which was greeted with loud applause. He also laid before the meeting the following

NECROLOGICAL ROLL.

The officers and alumni of the College, whose deaths are known to have occurred during the past twelve months, number twenty-three. Among them are not a few whose names will be read with tears, because of a career altogether too brief to fulfill the hopes and ardent expectations of friends who admired them for their virtues and promise of extended usefulness. The list is headed by three honored men, who were remarkable for their clearness of intellect, power of will and vigor of execution, displayed for years after they had passed fourscore :

Trustees.—Major-General Robert Patterson, the last survivor of the original board of trustees, nominated in the charter granted to the College in 1826, and for some years prior to his death the president of the board, died in Philadelphia, August 7th, 1881, aged 89 years.

David Thomas, Esq., died June 20th, 1882, aged 87 years.

The following tribute was paid to his memory by President Cattell at chapel prayers, on Friday, June 23d :

It is fitting that I should officially and from this sacred desk refer to the death of Mr. David Thomas, one of the trustees of the College, who will be buried to-day from his late residence in Catasauqua.

The daily papers have given you the particulars of his long, useful and honored life. I need not dwell upon them, nor will I speak of my own personal loss in the death of this friend, revered and beloved by me for many years.

But I desire to point you to his manly Christian life as one that every young man should study, that he may make his own the principles that governed Mr. Thomas, and which moulded his character to such high excellence and made his career one of such almost unexampled success. Born in humble circumstances he won riches and distinction. But it is not this that is most worthy of your notice, but the fact that he was honored and beloved wherever he was known, and most of all where he was best known.

He lived to be nearly ninety years old, and it seems to me never was an old age more beautiful. Until within the last few years he was active in the management of the many and important business enterprises in which he was for so long a time engaged, and when finally he gave up many of these the remainder of his life was passed amid the devoted attentions of his children and their children, and the love and honor of the entire community, where he was always spoken of as "Father Thomas." I could not ask of God anything better for you, my young friends, than that you should live such a life as he lived and that your end should be like his.

In his death the College has sustained another great loss. He was one of its most active and devoted friends, one of its wisest counselors and one of its most liberal benefactors. His beautiful memory, precious to his family, honored by the Church and by the world, will ever be cherished in the hearts of all the alumni and friends of Lafayette.

Faculty.—Rev. Lyman Coleman, D. D., Professor of Latin and Biblical Geography, and founder of Biblical prizes, died March 16th, aged eighty-five. (See under the head of Sunday's proceedings—memorial sermon, preached by his friend, Rev. A. H. Kellogg.)

Alumni.—Class of '37—William C. Logan, died in Philadelphia, May 24th, aged sixty-eight. He was admitted to the bar of Northampton County in 1839, and spent most of his life in Bedford. For the last ten years an active citizen of Federalsburg, Md.

Class of '40—Wm. E. Barber, a leading member of the Chester County Bar, died April 13th, at West Chester. He filled numerous offices in the Church and community, and was the author of the essay on "Political Organization" that obtained the first prize of \$500 offered by the Union League of Philadelphia, in 1868.

Class of '41—Hon. John Cresswell, lawyer, died at Hollidaysburg, January 29th, aged sixty-three. While he was Speaker of the Pennsylvania Senate, in 1859, he was at one time supposed to have succeeded to the governorship, because of the reported fatal termination of the severe illness of Governor Packer, which was generally telegraphed through the State. For some years he was in Washington City, law partner of Mr. Puleston, afterward a member of the British Parliament.

Class of '44—Abraham B. Weller, a teacher and farmer, died in Easton, March 13th, aged fifty-two years.

Class of '46—Rev. Austin Craig, D. D., a leading divine of the Christian denomination, a preacher of great power, and successively president of Antioch College, lecturer in the Meadville Theological School, and for the last thirteen years of his life president of the Biblical Institute, Stanfordville, N. Y., where he died suddenly, August 27th, aged fifty-seven.—Lieutenant-Colonel Nathaniel Michler, U. S. A., during the war chief engineer of the army of the Potomac, and for thirty-three years in continuous military service, chiefly engineering; died at Saratoga, July 18th, aged fifty-four.

Class of '57—George Gilbert Gibbons, lawyer, died in Chicago, Ill., December 10th, aged forty-seven.

Class of '62—Edwin Shalter, attorney at law and city solicitor of Reading, Pa., died at Tuckerton, March 8th, aged forty-two.

Class of '63—Stephen V. B. Kachline, lawyer and candidate for Congress in 1874, died on Mount Jefferson, Easton, January 24th, aged forty-five.

Class of '65—Clarence D. Biddle, in coal and iron business, died at Danville, August 1st, aged thirty-six.

Class of '66—Robert M. Bertolet, M. D., Surgeon United States Army, died at Santa Fe, N. M., May 10th, aged thirty-five.

Class of '68—Abram P. Garber, M. D., died August 25th, at Renova, Pa., aged forty-three; discoverer of the plant *Garberia fruticosa*, and a large contributor of botanical specimens to Lafayette and to the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences.

Class of '69—William F. Patton, a prominent lawyer in Franklin County, died at Greencastle, May 12th, aged thirty-five.

Class of '70—Seth P. Dalton, merchant of Phillipsburg, N. J., died in Easton, February 16th, aged twenty-eight.

Class of '72—Benjamin Chambers, lawyer and inventor, died at Chambersburg, October 30th, aged twenty-four.

Class of '78—William P. Taylor met with a painful death by a boiler explosion, while in the discharge of his duty as Collector of Internal Revenue, Danville, Pa., March, 1882.

Class of '79—William J. Jones, lawyer, died in Easton, September 29th, aged twenty-five years. Edward P. Micke, died in Easton, December 5th, aged twenty-three years.

Class of '82—C. E. Ludington, of Albany, N. Y., died at Seneca Lake, April 11th, aged twenty-four years.

Class of '84—James McGalliard, a member of the Sophomore Class, a young man of talent, died at Bridgeton, N. J., October 8th, 1881.

EVENING SESSION.

About 8 P. M. a large audience again assembled in the auditorium.

The class of '53 was first called and T. G. Gayley, of Philadelphia, said one of their number died in the war. The history of each classmate was briefly given. At that time there were only thirty students on the roll of Lafayette College!

The chairman then varied the proceedings by calling upon some of the younger alumni.

Rev. John J. Pomeroy, of Rahway, N. J., responded for the Quarter Century Class of '57, which was largely represented, seven of those present being ministers.

He said there were thirty-seven in his class, twenty-seven graduated, four are dead, twelve have become ministers and the rest are all busy to-day in professional life. After referring to what had been accomplished by the members of the class, he gave way to Rev. W. W. McKinney, of the same class, who added that all who had sought the Bachelor's Degree had ceased the bachelor's life, and were married, and all had children.

For '55 Hon. Robert P. Allen, of Williamsport, a trustee of the College, said:

We do heartily rejoice to see the improvements made here. Much has been done for the advantage of the students since we attended college. In those days we had not the apparatus, the libraries, the museum, or even the curriculum of to-day. But thanks to our ardent Professors, we received an education that has served us well. He then showed that Lafayette had made up all these deficiencies, and now stands foremost in the State. The appliances here equal those of the New England institutions, and all of the alumni heartily rejoiced in her prosperity, and wished her continued and increasing

success, and, he added, we hope to aid her. Our class were all Pennsylvanians. Were we here for the purpose of story-telling, I should love to narrate the Munchausen career of my classmate, who was last on our roll, but most under our eye; a man who has been in all the professions, but that of the ministry, and dwelt in every nation of the globe, verily a bird of passage who lights in every wood. I am compelled to state that three of our class have been overtaken by the deplorable fate of being assigned seats in the State Senate, or in Congress.

When Prof. Coffin was called upon for the class of '58, he made an assignment of his time to the Hon. John I. Blair, of Blairstown, New Jersey, who had just entered the hall. When this liberal donor to the College funds was recognized, he was greeted with deafening applause. This was the first time he had been on College Hill since his last gift, by which the chair of the President had been permanently endowed in the sum of \$40,000. Preferring to be a listener, he made but a brief speech, in his usual felicitous manner.

'61 was represented by F. A. R. Baldwin, Esq., of Allentown.

He said his class numbered thirty in all, and stood high in its record for scholarship. Graduating when the cloud of war was hanging over our nation, no class furnished as many men for the service of the country. Of physicians we have none in our number, but we will do what we can to keep our Alma Mater in health and vigor.

For '72 Rev. John Fox, of Baltimore, pastor-elect of the North Church, Allegheny City, said:

That, although representing a class of seventy members, they have not been out of college a sufficient time to present a history. Our class, he added, was rather jovial, enjoying plenty of mirth and having good times generally. This afternoon the very heartiest congratulations were extended to Alma Mater in our class reunion. We feel in these reunions a force that rejuvenates us; and we should all have more college patriotism. We should be more zealous in our endeavors to aid her, for she has done noble work in every department. He then spoke of the financial condition of the College, referring to the printed tables accompanying the President's annual reports, and showing the wonderful growth of the College during the present administration, notwithstanding the exceptionally hard times through which the country had passed. It is our duty to do more than we have ever yet attempted for our Alma Mater, and I hope the day will come when every one will esteem it an honor and a privilege to contribute to her resources. The crowning glory of Lafayette is her able and noble Faculty. I hope the work will be revived in our hearts, and that when we come to the fiftieth anniversary of our class, we shall be " hale and hearty yet."

Rev. Charles Wood responded for '46.

He said he was not posted in the history of his classmates, but wished a more close and definite organization of the alumni might be effected, so that they could help the noble workers in the College, the Faculty and the Trustees.

The chairman, Mr. Trippe, here said that the Lafayette Alumni truly had their hearts in her work. He spoke earnestly and forcibly of the noble work done toward the endowment of the College. His eloquent remarks, to which we cannot attempt to do justice, were received with loud applause.

For '62 Reuben Haines, Esq., of Elkton, Md., responded. He said:

There were nineteen graduates in our class. We had the oldest man of the College, the youngest, the handsomest, the homeliest, the wisest and I think the most stupid. He gave some reminiscences of his first meeting with the great and noble scholar, Dr. J. H. Coffin, and others of the Faculty. After his examination by Prof. March, he asked the Professor some questions, but the Doctor gently replied that he was not on examination! He gave an amusing account of his own appearance upon the Commencement stage upon his graduation. His was the last class that received their diplomas from President McPhail, to whom he paid a warm and well-deserved tribute.

Rev. M. L. Cook, of Missoula, Montana, spoke of the class of '73.

Forty-six years ago, said he, a sturdy young man, who was not afraid of toil came over the mountains from Bradford County to Easton, on foot, to seek an education. Here he studied and worked, and under the manual labor system of that time gained the most of his support by the labor of his own hands. For nearly forty years he has been an untiring pastor of a widely extended charge in the mountains of Pennsylvania, and has sent to this College more than thirty boys who were prepared for entrance in his own study; among them his oldest son, who now would thus give expression to his aged father's devotion to Alma Mater. Forty-four years ago came from the same vicinity another, whose voice has been heard here to-day (referring to the Rev. Thomas Thomas), who, in like manner, made his yearly journey on foot between the college and the Bradford hills; and a useful career, too, has been his. His oldest son, the valedictorian of '75, sits by me. One daughter he has given to the missionary work in Japan; another he gave to me to cheer my distant home three thousand miles away—a home where Alma Mater is thought of daily, as we look upon our first-born son and count the years until he, too, following in the footsteps of his grandfathers, shall set out on his longer journey over all the mountains that lie between, to find the family Alma Mater, than which I want no better destination.

This brought out the class of '75 in the person of Rev. W. E. Thomas, just alluded to by the preceding speaker.

Thirty-three men had received diplomas in his class. He spoke briefly of what they had achieved since graduation, and of the joy he and his classmates felt at this grand reunion of the sons of Lafayette. He was proud of the College. In Ohio, where he lived, there was no college equal to it—it was an inspiration for him to stand once more among these eminent scholars and teachers, and to look around upon these magnificent buildings and grounds and upon the unrivaled scenery.

'81 was represented by Mr. Thomas C. Clark, of Union Theological Seminary, who in a few well-chosen words pledged his class to work for the College they all loved so well.

When the class of '71 was called there were repeated calls for Prof. D. B. King, who arose and told the audience that Mr. F. W. Edgar would respond.

Mr. Edgar gave interesting reminiscences of his class. They had contributed to Alma Mater one member of the Board of Trustees and three members of the Faculty; and the older members of the class had occupied positions of influence and usefulness; and paid a compliment to Prof. King's recently published articles upon the Irish question.

Rev. W. A. Jenks spoke for the class of '55.

He referred to the great gathering of the sons of the College to-day; and though many of them are old in years all are young in heart and full of life and joy, and all are ready to lend a helping hand to the mother that nurtured them. He emphasized the great work Lafayette had accomplished in training ministers of the gospel.

At this point of the meeting, as the hour was late, on the motion of Rev. Dr. Heckman, the further call for class representatives was discontinued, and the

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

was convened, Hon. A. C. Trippe remaining in the chair. A committee of three was appointed to nominate a list of officers, viz.: Rev. J. J. Pomeroy, '57; Rev. W. A. Jenks, '55, and S. J. Coffin, '58.

When this committee retired, the chairman made a stirring address on the duty of an alumnus to his Alma Mater.

We should awake and bring our offerings to the institution that nourished us. There is now a great demand for Christian education. America calls upon her favorite colleges to teach their young men better philosophy, to point out the source of more enduring happiness and make them abler men. He dwelt with great earnestness upon the importance of the study of the Bible in our colleges and rejoiced that this was still the fact at Lafayette as it was in his day a quarter of a century ago. The Faculty should be the pole of the battery, and we, the alumni, the wires distributing the strength and influence of the battery over all the land. Though classes fall yet Alma Mater lives. She is like a live oak on the mountains which sends its roots down deeper and deeper gathering nourishment and strength from the soil, and light from the skies.

This address was frequently interrupted by loud applause.

The committee reported the following nominations of officers of the Alumni Association for the ensuing year: President, Rev. G. L. Shearer, '57, New York; Vice-President, J. C. Mackenzie, '78,

Wilkesbarre; Treasurer, David W. Nevin, '75, Easton; Secretary, Prof. S. J. Coffin, '58, Easton, with an Executive Committee of all the resident alumni (the last recommendation made favoring a limited number), when on motion of the Hon. R. Snodgrass, '57, the Executive Committee was limited to five in number, who were suggested by the house as follows: Judge W. S. Kirkpatrick, '63, chairman; W. Gibson Field, '62; Francis W. Edgar, '71; Hon. R. Snodgrass, '57; Edward F. Stewart, '39. To which the four officers above were added.

After a spirited discussion as to the form that the next gathering of the alumni should take, and whether a supper or other collation should be prepared, the meeting closed.

The following is the letter of Hon. W. A. Porter, of '39, referred to above. It will be read with great interest by all the alumni, who will ever hold in honor these fathers of the College of whom it speaks:

PHILADELPHIA, June 20th, 1882.

Rev. William C. Cattell, D. D., President of Lafayette College:

DEAR SIR: I have mentioned to you that I expect to sail for Europe on the 28th inst., and that I shall, therefore, be unable to attend the semi-centennial celebration of the College. On this occasion much will doubtless be said, and much ought to be said, of the men who have labored within its walls to produce the great results which have come about. If I were able to attend, I would say something in regard to a few of the men who helped to originate it, and who did their work, not so much in the College as outside of it, in the community in which they lived. I have often thought of the little meeting which took place at White's Hotel on the 27th of December, 1824, and wondered whether, but for that meeting, any college would ever have existed at Easton. It was convened by means of a circular written by James M. Porter. Its chairman was Thomas McKeen. The committee appointed to prepare a memorial to the Legislature for a charter of incorporation were James M. Porter, Joel Jones and Jacob Wagener. I would speak of these gentlemen in this order.

1. Mr. Porter entered on his profession as a lawyer, equipped with all the learning appropriate to it; and during his entire life he was a diligent student of the law. His briefs showed the most elaborate preparation in regard to dates, amounts, distances, names of parties and witnesses and especially of the decided cases. He had great faith in the close investigation of the facts of every case in which he was employed, and where the controversy related to any place or particular tract of land, he never failed to visit it in person. He seemed to trust to nothing but preparation. When, however, a new point of fact or law arose during a trial, he appeared to be more at home than ever; and here his quickness of perception gave him the greatest advantage. It was always a matter of doubt whether he was more able in the discussion of a question of law before the court or a question of fact before the jury. He certainly was one of the ablest advocates the State of Pennsylvania ever produced. When

he appeared in the Supreme Court, his arguments commanded marked attention, and he took rank there with the ablest men of his day. It seemed to be impossible even for a court to put him down or to disconcert him, and such was his humor and skill in repartee that the judge who entered into a controversy with him had seldom much to boast of when the contest ended. When he entered the cabinet of President Tyler as Secretary of War, he became one of the associates of Mr. Webster. A conversation which I once had with that gentleman showed me the high appreciation which he had formed of his colleague.

It would be difficult to give any adequate idea of all Mr. Porter did for Lafayette College. He served twenty-five years as President of its Board of Trustees, and during all this time his pen was diligently employed in enlisting public interest in its behalf. He gave to it largely of his own means: but this cost him little effort, for no man ever had a more supreme contempt for the acquisition of money. He went further and encouraged others to give, who had larger means. He lectured, without charge, as professor of jurisprudence, and his reputation as a jurist attracted students from a distance. It is to be hoped the time will never come when such unremitting efforts on behalf of the College, commenced in its very infancy and continued through its darkest days, shall cease to be remembered by those who rejoice in its final success.

2. Colonel Thomas McKeen, then one of the first citizens of Easton, was properly selected to preside at the meeting at White's Hotel. He became the first treasurer of the College, and acted as such for many years, keeping its books and accounts with a regularity and accuracy in which few men could have excelled him. He gave to it liberally of his means and frequently made advances to help it in its extreme needs. He was a man of dignified appearance, and kind, gentle and winning in his manners. Where his judgment was asked, he gave it promptly and decidedly, and in every matter of business his conclusions were eminently sound. He accumulated property that he might do good; and many of the men who have contributed to the development of Easton and its institutions, received from him their first aid. His home was the seat of generous hospitality, and strangers who came to see the College or introduce their sons, seldom failed to become his guests. It was the Church, however, that had the first place in his thoughts. For two-thirds of a century he was a consistent member of it, and, for the larger part of that time, an efficient ruling elder. He died in profound faith in its teachings, and in that peace which the world cannot give and cannot take away. Whenever I wish to think of one of the finest models of an upright citizen and Christian gentleman I turn, naturally, to Colonel McKeen.

3. Joel Jones was a man of large legal knowledge. When appointed with Mr. Rawle and Mr. Wharton to revise the civil code of the State, those gentlemen expressed to their friends surprise that a man of so little prominence should have made such acquisitions in the law—little knowing how many wearisome years he had spent in that small office in the northwestern corner of your public square in studying the principles of jurisprudence. He did good service to the State as one of the revisers of our code, and some of the reports of the commissioners, which make the most important suggestions, were written by him. Some parts of the new system were remodeled and

rewritten exclusively by him, as, for example, the disposition of the estates of intestates, and having been passed by the Legislature without the change of a word, they have scarcely been touched down to the present day. He was subsequently appointed an associate judge and then president judge of the District Court of Philadelphia, and his memory is yet cherished by the bar of that city and the community, who remember the firm, impartial and dignified but kindly manner in which the law was administered by him as a judicial magistrate. Girard College never did a better thing than when it made him its first president, and the career of usefulness on which that institution entered is largely due to the wise manner in which he interpreted the will of Mr. Girard and the legal provisions enacted concerning it. In a few years he seemed to have found the office of president irksome, and returned to his favorite pursuit of studying and practicing the law. Immediately thereupon he was nominated as a candidate for Mayor of the city of Philadelphia, and was elected by a large popular vote. On retiring from this office he returned again to the law, and the force of his speech and his pen was frequently felt in our courts. He also wrote for the magazines of the day on literary, philosophic and religious subjects. The volume published after his death, which he had modestly entitled "Notes on Scripture," will long attest the thought which he gave to the profoundest themes with which the human mind can become conversant.

4. Jacob Wagener was in early life a merchant. He had not the advantage of early collegiate training. From boyhood he devoted a part of his time to the study of English literature, and his editions of the works of the best authors in prose and in poetry, which remain in possession of his descendants, show how diligently and critically he studied these works. As soon as he had acquired in his business a suitable competency, he gave up business and applied himself with renewed vigor to literature and to science. He devoted much time to the study of mineralogy, and read the works of the best authors on that subject. He made a collection of the minerals, first of Pennsylvania, and then of the other States. He entered into correspondence with the representatives of our government abroad, and by their aid and the expenditure of considerable sums of money, he enriched his collection from foreign countries. His cabinet is now in possession of the College. In botany he made some progress, but the specimens which he collected have not been preserved. He was a quiet, refined and polished gentleman, conscientious in every act, and he sympathized heartily in the wants and sorrows of others. He was one of the small number who met in December, 1824, at the hotel of Mr. White, and took part as one of the committee appointed by the chairman to draft a memorial to the Legislature for a charter. His fine, critical powers aided the committee in their work, and he employed his pen in correspondence with the members of the Legislature who were to act on the proposed charter. He became a member of the first board of trustees and continued to act as such, until his health began to decline. When no longer physically able to serve in the board, his good wishes followed those who were endeavoring to put the institution on the foundation which it has since reached.

In conclusion, my dear Doctor, I can only add to these meagre sketches, my own best wishes for the success of the College in all time to come.

Yours, very sincerely,

WM. A. PORTER.

THE COMMENCEMENT ASSEMBLY.

On Tuesday evening the seventh annual assembly was held in Able Hall, under the patronage of Mrs. F. Michler, Mrs. C. F. Chidsey, Mrs. W. H. Davis, Mrs. J. C. Kent, Mrs. W. W. Marsh and Mrs. H. D. Lochenour. Rarely has such an assemblage of youth and beauty graced any similar social event in Easton. The music, as rendered by the Germania Orchestra, was perfect. At twelve o'clock elegant refreshments were served. All the arrangements were admirable and reflected credit upon those who had the matter in charge.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28TH—COMMENCEMENT DAY.

The forty-seventh annual Commencement of Lafayette College was appointed to be held on the front campus at nine o'clock, Wednesday morning. Before that time arrived, however, threatening clouds rendered it expedient to remove the exercises to Pardee Hall, and soon the great auditorium was filled to overflowing with one of the most brilliant audiences that has yet graced that most beautiful hall, and a pleasant breeze, which blew in through the open windows, rendered the room far from uncomfortable in spite of its overcrowded condition.

The Germania Orchestra throughout the exercises discoursed most exquisite music. The Senior Class occupied the seats reserved for them immediately in front of the stage. Upon the stage with President Cattell sat members of the Faculty and Board of Trustees. After invoking God's blessing upon the proceedings, Dr. Cattell announced that in answer to a petition from the students, the Trustees had extended the summer vacation two weeks; the first term of next year thus beginning Thursday, September 14th. The announcement was received by the undergraduates with no small enthusiasm.

The programme of orations was as follows:

1. † Honorary Oration *Latin Salutatory*
Marcus Bachman Lambert, Stouts, Pa.
2. Oration *Æstheticism*
Robert Henry Agnew Boyd, Belvidere, N. J.
3. Oration *Novel Readers and Novel Writers*
Judson Perry Welsh, Orangeville.
4. Oration *The Restfulness of Truth*
John James Chester, Columbus, O.

† Equal in rank.

5. † Honorary Oration (Classical) *Insufficiency of Nature*
Orrin Serfass, Easton.
Music.
6. Oration *The Master Art*
Wallace Scott Harlan, Coatesville, Pa.
7. † Honorary Oration (Astronomical) *Telescopic Distances*
John Wesley Nute, Easton.
8. Oration *Abuse of the Legal Profession*
Louis Gustave Schultz, Phillipsburg, N. J.
9. Oration *Silent Forces*
Edward Lambert Herbert, St. Clair.
10. Oration *Out of Darkness into Light*
Albert David Light, Lebanon.
11. Oration *Anti-Chinese Legislation*
Quincy E. Cookman Kendall, Lenox, Mass.
12. † Honorary Oration (Philosophical) *The Ground of Obligation*
Frederick Vanduzor Frisbie, Orwell, Pa.
Music.
13. Oration *The Present Need*
Samuel Johnson McCulloch, Erwin Centre, N. Y.
14. † Honorary Oration (Philological) *Study of English as a Means of Culture*
Milton Jacob Bliem, Slatington, Pa.
15. Oration *Literature Disenthralled*
Henry D. Maxwell, Easton.
16. Oration *Control of Monopolies*
Joseph Ross Strawbridge, New Park, Pa.
17. Oration *Economy of Time*
Charles Herbert Talmage, St. Louis, Mo.
18. † Honorary Oration (Mathematical) *Higher Uses of the Mathematics*
William Adam Seibert, Easton.
19. Oration *Science and Religion*
Frederick Starr, Auburn, N. Y.
Music.
20. Master's Oration *A Teacher's Indictment of Public School Education*
Elliott C. Armstrong, Easton.
Music.

PRIZES CONFERRED.

- The Fowler Prize*—M. J. Bliem.
Astronomical Prize—J. W. Nute.
The Harvey Prize—S. Williamson.
The Early English Text Society's Prize—E. M. Green.
The "New Shakespeare" Society's Prize—F. J. Grant.
The Junior Mathematical Prizes—E. M. Green (Classical), G. G. E. Datesman (Technical), H. H. Pounds (Honorable Mention).

† Equal in Rank.

The Junior Orator Prizes—G. S. Herring, first; C. A. Walker, second; H. H. Pounds, third.

The Lyman Coleman Biblical Prizes—Division A—J. T. Green, first; H. M. Berkly, second. Division B—J. B. Shaw, first; H. F. Marx, second.

Music.

21. †Honorary Oration *Positive Convictions*

With the Valedictory Address.

Lewis Redner Dalrymple, Lock Haven, Pa.

Music.

Degrees Conferred.

Benediction.

The orations were well delivered, and, throughout the long programme, were listened to by the audience with the closest attention. At the conclusion of the speaking, President Cattell assumed his official robes and conferred the degrees as follows:

Degree of A. B.—R. H. A. Boyd, N. J.; J. W. Campbell, Pa.; J. J. Chester, O.; L. R. Dalrymple, Pa.; J. F. Day, Pa.; M. Frazer, Ill.; F. V. Frisbie, Pa.; W. J. Fulton, Pa.; W. S. Harlan, Pa.; E. S. Herbert, Pa.; Q. E. C. Kendall, Mass.; A. C. LaBarre, Pa.; M. B. Lambert, Pa.; C. H. Lerch, Pa.; A. D. Light, Pa.; E. D. McCulloch, Ill.; O. D. McHenry, Pa.; H. M. Marple, Mo.; H. D. Maxwell, Pa.; J. B. Myers, Pa.; G. W. North, Pa.; G. F. Sandt, Pa.; W. A. Seibert, Pa.; O. Serfass, Pa.; O. D. Skinner, O.; J. R. Strawbridge, Pa.; R. D. Walter, Pa.; J. P. Welsh, Pa.; E. F. Mordough, M. D., '77; R. H. Hamill, M. D., '78.

Degree of Ph. B.—M. J. Bliem, Pa.; J. C. Edgar, N. Y.; J. C. Patton, Pa.; L. J. Schultz, N. J.; W. F. Victor, N. J.

Degree of B. S.—P. Carskaddon, Pa.; E. Lewers, Pa.; S. J. McCulloch, N. Y.; C. S. Melvin, Cal.; W. B. Myers, Pa.; F. Starr, N. Y.; G. D. Thomas, Pa.; E. D. Wetmore, Pa.

Degree of B. S. in the Chemical Course—J. T. Baker, Pa.

Degree of B. S. in the Mining Course—H. S. Gay, Pa.

Degree of C. E.—J. W. Nute, Pa.; C. H. Talmage, Mo.

President Cattell then announced that the Board of Trustees, at their meeting on the day before, had conferred the following honorary degrees:

LL. D.—His Excellency Henry M. Hoyt (class of '49), Governor of Pennsylvania; Professor Edward A. Bowser, of Rutgers College.

D. D.—Joseph Stevens, class of '42; Rev. Joseph Beggs, class of '51; Rev. Alfred H. Kellogg.

Ph. D.—Lemuel G. Grier, class of '56, Principal of the Mountain Seminary; James C. Mackenzie, class of '78, Principal of the Wilkesbarre Academy.

A. M.—Dr. Thomas Wistar, Philadelphia; Rev. Mungo Fraser, St. Thomas, Ontario, Canada.

† Equal in Rank.

The audience was then dismissed with the benediction by Rev. J. W. Wood, D. D., '38, of Allentown, Pa., the oldest living ministerial graduate of the College.

COMMENCEMENT DINNER.

Immediately after the Commencement exercises, a procession was formed under the trees in front of South College to march toward Able Opera House, where the annual Commencement dinner had been prepared by the ladies of Easton. Marshaled by Prof. Youngman, the procession moved in the following order :

1. Ringgold Band.
2. Senior Class as an escort.
3. Trustees.
4. Faculty.
5. Clergy.
6. Alumni, in order of classes, and their friends.

Upon arriving at the Opera House the Senior Class separated into two lines, allowing the rest of the procession to pass between them, and falling in behind passed in this order to the Hall above. Here stood five tables extending the whole length of the spacious room, surrounded by a bevy of Easton's fair ladies, whose kind hands had prepared the viands which loaded them down, and arranged the beautiful flowers which decorated them. We cannot sufficiently express our thanks to these ladies, who undertook and so successfully accomplished the task of providing for the large number who were present on this occasion.

Rev. George C. Heckman, D. D., '45, said grace, after which all did ample justice to the good things set before them.

During the toasts which followed the dinner, Dr. Cattell presided. After the singing of 122d Psalm, the President made a few happy remarks, concluding by proposing the toast "Ario Pardee," the great benefactor of Lafayette. Mr. Pardee arose amid loud and long continued cheering and made a brief speech, remarkable for its characteristic modesty and good sense. Hon. John I. Blair followed in a speech replete with ready wit and amusing incident, keeping the audience in a roar of laughter from beginning to end. He concluded by proposing to the alumni that they should make the professors "cheerful" by endowing two or more professorships, himself offering to give one-fourth of the amount, provided eighty thousand dollars was raised. This proposal was greeted with loud cheers, in the midst of

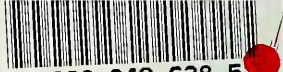
which, Mr. Blair sat down. Mr. G. W. Kidd, of Houston, Texas, the holder of the first diploma given by the College, was the next speaker. He gave many interesting reminiscences of the early days at Lafayette, closing with a glowing tribute to the ladies of Easton. He was followed by David M. Stiger, '39, of New York, and Dr. G. C. Heckman, '45, ex-President of Hanover College, Ohio. The Quarter Century Class found a worthy representative in Hon. Robert Snodgrass, '57, Deputy Attorney-General of Pennsylvania, who made a spirited address full of earnestness and loyalty to Alma Mater, and especially commendatory of its curriculum of studies.

Coming to more modern times, capital speeches were made by Rev. John Fox, '72, pastor-elect of the North Church, Allegheny City, who responded for the Decennials; and by Elliot C. Armstrong, of Orange, N. J., '79, for the "Masters." The familiar Latin Song *Lauriger Horatius* was then sung with fine effect, and L. R. Dalrymple responded for the graduating class. Rev. Dr. W. O. Johnstone, of Philadelphia, was called upon to speak to "the ladies," which he did gracefully, and then the benediction was pronounced by Rev. George L. Shearer, '57, Secretary of the American Tract Society, President of the Alumni Association, after which the large assemblage dispersed.

THE PRESIDENT'S LEEVE.

The President's reception on Wednesday evening was a splendid affair, thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended it. We extract the following notice of it from the Easton Daily *Free Press*:

A more beautiful scene, a more delightful spot could not have been found about Easton last evening than that presented at the handsome residence and grounds of President Cattell on College Hill. Arches of Japanese lanterns towered about the winding entrances to the grounds, scores of the same lights hung from trees peeping out from every branch—veritable Christmas trees. Long rows of them were suspended about the porches and porticoes. With the flood of brightness from the illuminated dwelling and the monstrous torches which gave light for the band, the place was made bright as day. The moon's rays beaming down from a sky hazy enough to give greater beauty completed the gorgeous scene. President and Mrs. Cattell received their guests in the parlors, members of the graduating class acting as ushers. The guests, after paying their respects to the host and hostess, wandered about the halls and grounds, occupied the many inviting chairs on the lawns, listened to the excellent music of the Bethlehem band, or partook of the bounteous entertainment provided to tempt their appetites. In all respects the levee was a most pleasant affair and a fitting close to the festivities of the week.



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