

A Legend.

BY J. BYRON REEBELL.

It was the season of the feast. The sacrifice of bird and beast. To celebrate with solemn rite. Against the Hebrew paschal night. When the avenging angel fell. And smote the fates of Israel. That, from a distant city, came. Weary, and sad, and old, and lame. A pious Rabbi. 'Twas his will. The Sabbath's purpose to fulfill. To enter God's great house of prayer. And offer his oblations there. This done, he traced his way again. O'er burning sand and arid plain. Toward his home. At set of sun. One day 'twas reached, his journey done: And as he neared his home once more. His wife received him at the door. Said she—'O, Rabbi, ere you rest. Hear thou the grief that fills my breast. Hast thou forgot, or dost thou know. Of treasure lost us long ago? And now, behold this very day. The lender takes his gifts away, And they, alas! forever gone. That I had fondly called my own.' 'Nay,' said the Rabbi, 'coveit not: Hast thou the Lord's command forgot? Give back unto what'er they be, The gems thy friend hath lent to thee.' She to cut the Rabbi led. Drew wide the curtain, and she said, 'These are the gems: thy sons behold— Jewels more dear to me than gold. The Giver of all good hath sent. To claim the treasures he had lent.' With bowed head the Rabbi stood; And calmly said, 'The Lord is good; His grace declare; his word proclaim; And blessed be his holy name!'

Old-Fashioned Hospitality Out of Date.

I do not mean that it is out of use merely; I mean that it is not adapted to these times, and it is unwise to attempt to enforce it. Time was when every man's house was open to almost every other man. As population and wealth increased the necessity for this disappeared, and the custom largely disappeared also. Among Methodists, in particular, there grew up a style of hospitality almost peculiar. Their preachers were travelers, and, both from the necessity of furnishing them quarters, and the pleasure of entertaining them, families used to vie with each other in extending hospitalities to them. But the abandonment of the circuit system removed the necessity of such attentions, and the custom has measurably ceased. The extent to which this was carried forty to fifty years ago is almost incredible now with younger people. It was a luxury, indeed, but in many cases it became an expensive one, not to say a troublesome one. Not only the preachers officially connected with the circuit expected and received entertainment, but others, passing along on private business or pleasure, were entertained. Along some leading roads this became a large item. Camp-meetings of the old style were finally broken up by the demands for gratuitous entertainment by preachers and others. Conferences were entertained gratuitously as a matter of course; and it was no great burden when we remember the style of living a half or a third of a century ago; besides, it was then recognized as a necessity, because of the meager salaries of the preachers.

The extent to which this was pushed often became very embarrassing. I remember that at a Western conference, about a third of a century ago, a brother, feeling aggrieved at the disproportionately large salary of a Book Agent, asked in open conference that he specify the items that constituted it. In reply he itemized: "Quarterage, \$204; house rent, \$800; table expenses, \$1,000." That was the way it was done in those days. In apology for the enormous allowance for house rent and table expenses he said that a large house and expensive table were necessary, because he and his colleagues about the "Circuit" were expected to entertain the brethren that visited the city on business or pleasure, "which we do," he added, "very cheerfully; but it is an expensive luxury, which cannot be afforded on the average allowance of a circuit or small station." And he did not overstate the necessities of his case or the customs of the times.

In most cases the custom has passed away with the necessity for it. To some extent preachers stationed in central cities, and especially presiding elders, are yet required to be "given to hospitality" more than in really convenient or profitable, especially considering the drain it makes upon their time. But even this is gradually diminishing. But there remains one custom of olden time which has increased in its burdensomeness, both by the increasing demand and the diminished ability to bear it. I allude to the gratuitous entertainment of conferences, synods, assemblies, conventions, and the like. Formerly all kinds of conventions, even political, were largely entertained gratuitously. Grand Lodges of Masons, and Odd Fellows, and Good Templars, and Grand Divisions were migratory that they might be entertained gratuitously. In most of these this custom has been wholly abandoned, and the local lodges are taxed to pay boarding expenses. Sunday-school and Church conventions, conferences, synods, assemblies, and associations, yet, however, cling to the custom, notwithstanding that the necessity for it has ceased, and all in the face of the well-known embarrassment it causes, simply because it can be done. No preacher who has once obtained entertainment for a conference, or convention, or general assembly, ever desires to do it again. But since it comes only once in a life-time, (unless the lightning happens to strike a second time), and since only one in a score or so has even this much experience, in the absence of forcible remonstrance from the entertainers—which politeness or patience is presumed to forbid—the custom is continued, and conferences are migratory that this may be.

Just how a reformation is to be effected is not as plain as is the desirableness of it. The complainings are mostly silent, and the burden is borne this time in hopes that it may not be imposed again soon. Yet experiences like the following are not infrequent: A brother who had been compelled by what he called social blackmail to entertain four during a conference, said to me not long since that the actual cost of such entertainment, additional to the wear upon his wife, had been more than he had been able to pay for ordinary Church expenses the whole preceding year. Either of his guests was worth more money than he, and had received a larger salary the preceding year. A neighbor of his, a member of

another Church, had been compelled by an appeal to local pride to board two guests, whom he never saw, at a hotel. He was neither able nor willing to do it, but a pressure was brought to bear upon the community, which forced these and many similar results. Christianity is not promoted by such involuntary contributions. The brother's calling it a social blackmailing operation was harsh, but we have no better word to describe it with.

This becomes insupportably oppressive where such hospitalities are demanded for a month or more, as at a General Assembly or a General Conference. Occasionally there are cities of immense wealth, as Brooklyn, which can provide in a princely manner for a General Conference; but even Brooklyn Methodists will not clamor for another session until the local Church debt of several thousand dollars created in the entertainment is liquidated by that hard process which is known in the proverb as paying for a dead horse.

That the next General Conference will be held at St. Louis is now probably definitely settled. The noble little band of only a few hundred members have ceased to talk of asking that some other city accept the responsibility, and are already addressing themselves to the task of providing homes for those who should provide their own homes. By appealing to city pride, and the liberality of the hotels and other Churches, they hope to succeed in a manner worthy of the Central City. All honor to the backbone which they display! The General Conference's coming so soon after the General Assembly's meeting in the same city renders it the more difficult to provide homes, as the remembrance of the blessedness of entertaining strangers a month is not quite forgotten—for in the end we must be entertained by the same families that entertained that body. The layman who was chiefly instrumental in inviting us to meet there will not, himself, entertain a single delegate, and his confidant, a man of the biggest heart imaginable, can entertain but few, if any. The burden falls upon unwilling shoulders—upon those who were started at the announcement, and who for months talked more of repudiating than indorsing the invitation.

The remedy for these evils is not so plain. The cure will be general only as the overwhelming demands for hospitality at camp-meetings and in private circles were cured: a shutting of the door—rently, if that will do, but abruptly, if nothing else will do. All Churches are feeling it; all complain of it, yet for the present all submit. For one, I shall do my part, in this way. I expect to go to the next General Conference if my brethren are as willing as I am, but I shall secure boarding at my own expense; and if I can do it without giving offense to the good brethren who will have abored so hard to entertain the General Conference, I shall introduce a resolution, amendatory of the Discipline, which shall provide that the local Churches shall pay the board of the pastors at the annual conferences, and the conferences shall provide for the expenses of their own delegates, boarding included. There are enough of us who are willing to pay our own way at either the annual or General Conferences. While I should regret to confine the delegation to the rich members of the conference, I am of the opinion that any man who is competent to represent a conference can raise the necessary funds from a few friends rather than impose upon a stranger as a sponge for a month or more.

I have said that the little Church in St. Louis is displaying wonderful backbone in preparing to entertain the conference after the old style. It would be a greater display of the same rare quality to publish a card stating their inability to provide gratuitous entertainment, their readiness to procure good boarding at reasonable rates, and leave those of other Churches to extend invitations of hospitality at their pleasure, rather than to require it as a matter of charity or city advertising. There never was a better time to do this needed thing. The whole Church (except a few delegates) would praise them for their frankness. The General Conference would adjourn in twenty days or less, and that inevitable debt, which even the wealth of Brooklyn has not paid, (or had not a short time ago,) would be avoided. The whole Church knows the feebleness of our Church in that city, and would rejoice that they had met the emergency in a frank and straightforward manner.

The subjects and matter of the graduating class betokened future usefulness. Another noticeable feature was the gymnastic exercises of the ladies, under the skillful management of the teacher of that department. Accompanying a good culinary department, they will account for the general good health among the students. The reception at the house of President Plank at the close of the term is one of the pleasantest features of this prosperous institution. Claverack College possesses many claims upon those seeking an education. It is located in a beautiful climate, and away from the temptations of large towns. The scholars are divided into two classes, according to age and culture, in imitation of the English schools. The president meets these forms occasionally, and by conversational lectures instructs them in habits of politeness, neatness, and health.

The commercial college is designed to prepare young men and women for business pursuits. Military instruction is made a recreative exercise; telegraphy is taught by a practical instructor. The baccalaureate degree is conferred upon ladies completing the four years' course. Languages, music, and painting, receive due attention at the hands of worthy teachers. The president makes special provision for young men preparing for the ministry.

ASA P. LYON, WILLIAM TRUSLOW, WILBUR F. BRUSH.

Wesleyan University.

REPORT OF THE EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

The examining committee, through their secretary, wish to report that they have attended the several oral examinations aforesaid, examined the written papers submitted to them, and given attention to the awarding of the various prizes. With the examinations, as a whole, they have been highly gratified. Exceptions there, indeed, are, some of which ought not to have been—yet the report, of which the registrar will communicate to each one his part, is, taken as a whole, an unusually good one. In every department there has been evidence of thoroughness and inspiration on the part of instructors, and of diligence and ability upon the part of students. Without any reflection upon other departments, the committee would say that they were specially gratified with the exercises in practical chemistry, geology, physics and trigonometry, logic, Latin, and the philology connected with the department of Greek.

In the judgment of the committee the system of written examinations, although it adds greatly to the labors of the faculty, yet, since it affords the most reliable test of the proficiency of the student, is to be highly commended. In passing judgment upon the papers submitted, it has not been forgotten that the nervous excitement and confusion of an examination may sometimes have caused a good scholar to fall, and that faithful work in the recitation room throughout the year ought to go far towards counteracting the failure of an hour.

The several prize awards will, doubtless, cause the usual amount of joy and sorrow, approval and disapproval, both reasonable and unreasonable. Some of them have been agreed upon with difficulty, owing to the high degree of excellence attained, often in different directions, by several competitors. The committee lays no claim to infallibility; they only wish to say that they have done the best they could. The favored ones may well be proud of their laurels; but there are those whose names will not be mentioned here to-day, whom the committee would like to assure, were it possible, that they too have done nobly. Let none, therefore, be too much elated, and none too much depressed.

Without expressing any opinion upon a question which at present divides the educational world—content, rather, to leave that to the verdict of fairly tried experiments—the committee are glad to recognize the ability evinced by the lady students. No comparison need be made between them and their gentlemen rivals; it is enough to say that in every department in which they appeared they did themselves very great credit. Both readiness and thoroughness were shown by them in a very high degree.

Three members of your committee were not graduates of this college; at their suggestion several remarks are added, in which the remainder of the committee heartily concur.

The location of the college upon the crest of this beautiful hill, surrounded by its charming natural scenery, with its remarkable facilities for botanical and geological investigations, its freedom from confusion and distracting excitements, is unsurpassed. They deem it far preferable, as a place for mental culture, to a location in a large metropolis, and would fair counteract the too prevalent opinion that Wesleyan University was unfortunately placed.

They were also much pleased with the present course of study. It seemed to them a happy compromise between the classical exclusiveness of the past and the extreme liberal views of the present. The opportunities afforded for practical work under the immediate supervision of a professor, and for an extended course of study in almost any branch, afford the student ample scope for consulting his own tastes, while the required studies secure a substantial foundation on which to build.

These visitors from abroad have left us with a very high opinion of our Alma Mater, her location, her course of study, her students, and especially of her Faculty, whom they greatly commended both as teachers and as men. Indeed, one of these visitors, who has had opportunities for large observation, declares that no college in the land affords better facilities for a thorough education—and this statement is indorsed by the entire committee.

Hoping that the near future may bring to the college an endowment that will place it upon a satisfactory foundation; add to the number of its professors, thus lightening the burdens of its present faculty, and enabling them to carry into successful operation the full course of study already projected; bring to its halls the large number of students it so richly merits, and who so much need its advantages; and place it at the head of the foremost rank of American colleges—this report is respectfully submitted.

L. R. THAYER, Chairman. H. A. BUTTZ, HENRY LUMMIS, W. R. DAVIS, C. S. HARGREAVES, T. W. BURR, W. B. SILBER, ANDREW HUNT, W. W. BOWDISH, E. M. SMITH, Secretary.

June 21, 1875.

Rev. Alexander Dickson died at his residence in Middlefield, Mass., April 12, 1875, aged 75. He was born at Hartford, N. Y., in 1799. At the age of twenty-four he was converted. With a message upon his lips, and a loving heart prompting him to its utterance, he from the first labored zealously and continuously in the cause of Christ.

In the providence of God he moved at this time into a community of Methodists, where he found a home. Soon uniting himself with the Church, he actively improved his gifts, and labored effectively in every good word and work.

For years after his conversion he felt a strong desire to preach, but the magnitude of the work, and a sense of his own insufficiency, held him back from offering himself, until his brethren pressed him into the service.

In 1836 he joined the Troy Conference, and was immediately sent upon the circuit of Pollet, Vt., where the conference met that year. He traveled successively on the following circuits: Mt. Holly, Fort Ann, Bakersville, Swanton, North Ferrisburg, Milton, Berne, and New Lebanon. At Ferrisburg, while holding a camp-meeting in the heat of the secession controversy, several tents were set on fire, and Brother Dickson, in the excitement, exerted himself beyond

Fort Edward Institute.

Finding an institution of learning that, within a radius of fifty miles, is surrounded by several similar ones—of which some are less than thirty miles distant—and that has for twenty-one years fully sustained its popularity in character, usefulness, and the number of its students, we may be assured there are reasons for it that merit mention. In looking for those reasons we cannot in this case, nor do we care to, claim the attractiveness of an ornate and superbly furnished building, that shall invite languor and ennui. And yet the structure is large, solid, attractive to the eye, abundantly commodious, and supplied with all needed apparatus made as by busy activity. Neither can we attribute the steady successes to any false glare of parade and show, to extravagances of dress and forms of ceremonious etiquette. In these days of popular extravagances popularity does not always consist in right down good sense, strong thought, solid discipline, and excellence of scholarship; but here is an institution of learning of high academic grade that not only lives right on for more than a score of years, but flourishes on a plain and solid basis, whose large corps of teachers aim to educate rather than to adorn, and to instruct rather than to gloss over.

The principal, Joseph E. King, Ph. D., D. D., is a veteran in the work of education. Living in the building, eating, with his family and guests, at the same hours and in the same hall, supervising in person all the interests of the seminary, from the material supplies to the mental drills and religious influences, and aided by an accomplished preceptor, Miss Jennie M. Bancroft, he so far understands his life-work as to gather about him a full and competent board of helpers, a large number of advanced pupils, whose manly and womanly bearings indicate the elevated character of the institute; to satisfy hundreds of patrons from all parts of the country; to aid indigent and worthy young men preparing for positions of usefulness in the Church; and to keep his hands on all the cords that are necessary to make effective a large and successful academy. Interested alike in matters at home, in the cause of education at large, and in the Church, he comes and goes as the calls of duty are made upon him.

Under such a supervision and regimen it is not surprising, but what may be expected, that this institute has no peer of its grade nearer than Cazenovia. The Board of Instruction consists of seventeen persons, who are assigned to their several departments of work. The whole number of pupils enrolled for the year just closed is four hundred and thirty-one, and the average per term is two hundred and thirty. The course of study requisite for graduation is sufficiently extensive to require three years, after the preparatory, for their completion. For the better accommodation of all there is a classical, a collegiate-preparatory, and a commercial course, either of which may be so modified by elective studies as to be suited to both sexes, to those who cannot complete either of the courses, and to such as graduate here and elsewhere.

The commercial department has all the advantages of a separate institution, and, what is of service, it has the indirect aids of academic studies and influences. At this anniversary six young men completed the prescribed course, and received attesting diplomas.

Notwithstanding the financial stricture of the times, the late graduating class was the largest in the history of the seminary, consisting of twenty-seven, of whom eighteen are ladies and nine are gentlemen, who represent eight different States of the Republic.

The anniversary exercises, consisted of a baccalaureate address on Sunday, June 20, by Rev. C. M. C. A. M., of Chicago; of a social reunion of faculty, students, and alumni on Monday evening; of public examinations on Tuesday and Wednesday in book keeping, commercial law, rhetoric, geometry, French, Honor, botany, and Elements of Criticism, with inspection of works of art, and of the exercises of the graduating class—all of which were good, while some were of a high order. As an inspiration and inducement to excellence prizes are offered in each leading department, particularly in letters and art.

Under the direction of the several teachers, and yet open to the questionings of the visiting committee, the examinations evinced a thorough devotion of the teachers and the pupils to their work. The department of music, vocal and instrumental, is also committed to a professor of merit, whose whole time is given to this special work. In the department of art, both penning and painting, the specimens were sufficiently many and excellent to give assurances of a degree of instruction requisite to develop the native genius of any.

A careful survey of the workings and adaptations of this institution to largely meet the popular want enables the committee to commend it to public patronage.

Though the conference within whose bounds this seminary is located may have, and as some think should have, an institution of learning, and of high grade, under its immediate auspices and direction, and the more so for the sake of restoring to its early status the academy at Poutney, yet the patrons and friends of this honored institute need have no fears as to its continued success and usefulness while the same brains and genius as now continue to plan for and preside over it.

We were pleased to find such ample and thorough provision for instruction in vocal and instrumental music, and oil painting and drawing. One hundred and fifty-nine have been enrolled in music, and twenty-five in the latter department. The herb-ariums exhibited great care in the labor and arrangement bestowed.

Some of the committee have had extensive acquaintance with other and similar institutions, East and West, and we are free to say we know of none whose buildings are comparable either for beauty of situation and grandeur of scenery, or for solidity, convenience, and beauty of structure. The rooms are furnished finely, and heated with steam; they are lighted with gas, and the sweetest, purest, soft spring water is carried to the top of the building. We think we do

and complete our building, which is needed. Shaw University is wielding a great influence in the State of Mississippi; it is spreading Methodism very rapidly in the State. Now, we hope our friends will help us all they possibly can; this will strengthen the cause of the Church. We hope our words will touch the heart of some person who is able to give Shaw University some thing. We, poor colored people in the South, need to be elevated in such an institution as Shaw University. We hope the time will come when we will be able to return it back again. We need such an institution to make us like other people, intelligent. We need all the aid which you can give us. By so complying the Lord will bless the giver.

M. ADAMS, P. E., Trustee.

Holly Springs, Miss.

Dickinson College.

The undersigned, appointed as visitors to Dickinson College for the current year, take pleasure in bearing testimony to the harmony prevailing among the members of the faculty, and to their efficiency in performing their duties. The condition of the college in its various departments is highly gratifying to its friends, and authorizes undiminished confidence in its management. The graduating class, numbering twenty-three, is the largest for a number of years.

The students will compare with those of any former year in character and proficiency in study. Their number, however, is far less than it ought to be. With so large and prosperous a territory as is embraced in the patronizing conference, and with the advantages offered to students by Dickinson—equal to those of any other first-class college—its halls ought to be filled. We recommend to all the friends of the institution earnest efforts to increase the attendance of students. We do not believe they can do better elsewhere.

While there has been of late years an improvement in the financial condition of the college, its endowment is altogether too meager to enable it to do the work expected of it as one of the oldest and leading colleges of the Church and country. We take this opportunity to urge upon our wealthy members and friends the needs and claims of Dickinson.

We also call attention to the approaching Centennial of American independence as a fitting occasion for special effort in the conferences to add to the endowment a sum not less than two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The trustees will submit to the conferences practical suggestions for realizing this object; and, as the General Conference commends to the Church our educational interests as specially worthy of their generous assistance at this time, we sincerely hope that our college may share largely in the gifts of an appreciative people, under the patriotic and Christian impulses of the Centenary observances.

Phila. Conf.—J. Dickerson, W. I. Mills.

Bolt. Conf.—Wm. S. Edwards, L. T. Wideman.

N. J. Conf.—B. C. Lippincott, C. S. Vanderve.

Newark Conf.—J. O. Winner, R. L. Daishell.

Wilmington Conf.—Wm. P. Davis, J. H. Caldwell.

Central Pa. Conf.—J. Benson Akers.

Carlisle, Pa., June 23, 1875.

The Commencement at Newark Conference Seminary.

Came off June 20 to 25, inclusive. This first Commencement was an occasion of great interest to all concerned, especially to those patrons and friends who for seven years have given and labored so efficiently and beautifully. The following is the Report of the Examining Committee.

The committee met on Monday, June 21, 1875. There were present J. L. G. McKown, D. D., Col. Wm. Holt, D. B. Harvey, Esq., Rev. C. E. Little, and Prof. H. A. Buttz. The committee organized by the election of Dr. McKown as President and Professor H. A. Buttz as Secretary. Sub-committees were appointed on the several prizes to be given. That they labored faithfully and honestly, and that hard, honest work had been done by pupil and teacher, were evident from a single fact. In every instance the student or students to whom prizes are given, and of whom honorable mention is made, are persons whose class standing warranted such decision.

The committee report that the mode of conducting the examinations by the several professors and teachers was rigidly honest and singularly free from anxiety as to the success or failure of the pupil. The impression left on the mind of your examiners was about this: "I have done my best by these students; the success or failure of each is the necessary result of honest improvement or the criminal carelessness of opportunities afforded." We must say that this examination, if it impresses the pupils as it does us, plainly says to every one of them, and with an emphasis which is remorseless, "We have no room here for idlers; carelessness is at a discount, and honest, faithful work commands a premium."

The uniform method of instruction and of kind Christian courtesy between pupil and instructor impressed your committee. We felt that there was a head to the institution, and that associate instructors vied with each other in executing the plans laid down. The written examinations were similarly free from favoritism so far as we saw. Those who competed for the President's prize in rhetoric, for example, were seated apart, so as to be free from communication one with another. The questions were written on the blackboard. Three hours were silently spent in writing the answers, which were marked with the letters of the alphabet. Similar methods were followed in all the classes, though details differed.

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In 1836 he joined the Troy Conference, and was immediately sent upon the circuit of Pollet, Vt., where the conference met that year. He traveled successively on the following circuits: Mt. Holly, Fort Ann, Bakersville, Swanton, North Ferrisburg, Milton, Berne, and New Lebanon. At Ferrisburg, while holding a camp-meeting in the heat of the secession controversy, several tents were set on fire, and Brother Dickson, in the excitement, exerted himself beyond

his strength, and received injuries which gradually impaired his health to such a degree that he was in 1850 compelled to resign the active work of the ministry.

For many years after retiring from the circuit he continued to preach, as his health allowed. He loved the work, and though he made business sacrifices on entering the ministry, and was obliged to retire comparatively early, he never for a moment regretted the choice.

In his declining years the remembrance of his former labors, and of God's signal blessing in the conversion of many precious souls in every place of his ministry, was a source of heartfelt joy and gratitude. When ability to labor is providentially denied, happy are they who can say, "We did what we could, and our lives have not been in vain."

Fort Edward Institute.

Finding an institution of learning that, within a radius of fifty miles, is surrounded by several similar ones—of which some are less than thirty miles distant—and that has for twenty-one years fully sustained its popularity in character, usefulness, and the number of its students, we may be assured there are reasons for it that merit mention. In looking for those reasons we cannot in this case, nor do we care to, claim the attractiveness of an ornate and superbly furnished building, that shall invite languor and ennui. And yet the structure is large, solid, attractive to the eye, abundantly commodious, and supplied with all needed apparatus made as by busy activity. Neither can we attribute the steady successes to any false glare of parade and show, to extravagances of dress and forms of ceremonious etiquette. In these days of popular extravagances popularity does not always consist in right down good sense, strong thought, solid discipline, and excellence of scholarship; but here is an institution of learning of high academic grade that not only lives right on for more than a score of years, but flourishes on a plain and solid basis, whose large corps of teachers aim to educate rather than to adorn, and to instruct rather than to gloss over.

The principal, Joseph E. King, Ph. D., D. D., is a veteran in the work of education. Living in the building, eating, with his family and guests, at the same hours and in the same hall, supervising in person all the interests of the seminary, from the material supplies to the mental drills and religious influences, and aided by an accomplished preceptor, Miss Jennie M. Bancroft, he so far understands his life-work as to gather about him a full and competent board of helpers, a large number of advanced pupils, whose manly and womanly bearings indicate the elevated character of the institute; to satisfy hundreds of patrons from all parts of the country; to aid indigent and worthy young men preparing for positions of usefulness in the Church; and to keep his hands on all the cords that are necessary to make effective a large and successful academy. Interested alike in matters at home, in the cause of education at large, and in the Church, he comes and goes as the calls of duty are made upon him.

Under such a supervision and regimen it is not surprising, but what may be expected, that this institute has no peer of its grade nearer than Cazenovia. The Board of Instruction consists of seventeen persons, who are assigned to their several departments of work. The whole number of pupils enrolled for the year just closed is four hundred and thirty-one, and the average per term is two hundred and thirty. The course of study requisite for graduation is sufficiently extensive to require three years, after the preparatory, for their completion. For the better accommodation of all there is a classical, a collegiate-preparatory, and a commercial course, either of which may be so modified by elective studies as to be suited to both sexes, to those who cannot complete either of the courses, and to such as graduate here and elsewhere.

The commercial department has all the advantages of a separate institution, and, what is of service, it has the indirect aids of academic studies and influences. At this anniversary six young men completed the prescribed course, and received attesting diplomas.

Notwithstanding the financial stricture of the times, the late graduating class was the largest in the history of the seminary, consisting of twenty-seven, of whom eighteen are ladies and nine are gentlemen, who represent eight different States of the Republic.

The anniversary exercises, consisted of a baccalaureate address on Sunday, June 20, by Rev. C. M. C. A. M., of Chicago; of a social reunion of faculty, students, and alumni on Monday evening; of public examinations on Tuesday and Wednesday in book keeping, commercial law, rhetoric, geometry, French, Honor, botany, and Elements of Criticism, with inspection of works of art, and of the exercises of the graduating class—all of which were good, while some were of a high order. As an inspiration and inducement to excellence prizes are offered in each leading department, particularly in letters and art.

Under the direction of the several teachers, and yet open to the questionings of the visiting committee, the examinations evinced a thorough devotion of the teachers and the pupils to their work. The department of music, vocal and instrumental, is also committed to a professor of merit, whose whole time is given to this special work. In the department of art, both penning and painting, the specimens were sufficiently many and excellent to give assurances of a degree of instruction requisite to develop the native genius of any.

A careful survey of the workings and adaptations of this institution to largely meet the popular want enables the committee to commend it to public patronage.

Though the conference within whose bounds this seminary is located may have, and as some think should have, an institution of learning, and of high grade, under its immediate auspices and direction, and the more