

LAFAYETTE COLLEGE.

COMMENCEMENT DAY.

INTERESTING PROCEEDINGS.

Addresses by Rev. Drs. Hickok, Junkin, Brainerd, Tustin, Plummer, and Others.

THE NEW BUILDINGS.

Alumni Meeting and Dinner.

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES.

Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc.

[EVENING TELEGRAPH SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.]

EASTON, Pa., July 25.

Lafayette College has probably the finest situation of any institution in our country.

Dr. W. C. CATTELL, on his accession to the Presidency, at once took steps to let our citizens see how the institution had been neglected.

The following are its Trustees, who have all proved themselves devoted to its interests:— Hon. James Pollock, LL. D., Hon. Alexander Jordan, Secretary.

The Synod of the Presbyterian Church appointed the following gentlemen as Annual Visitors to attend the examination:—Rev. R. M. WALLACE, Rev. ROGER OWEN, Rev. ALEXANDER REED, D. D., Rev. MATTHEW NEWKIRK, Hon. JOHN A. GAMBLE, SANDERS McCULLOUGH, Esq., Hon. SAMUEL LINS.

Dr. CATTELL is indefatigable, and the result is a vast improvement in both the treasury and the curriculum of the institution.

The Thirty-first Annual Commencement has afforded the citizens of Easton and the multitude of visitors a series of rare literary and social entertainments.

On Sabbath morning Rev. Dr. Hickok, of Scranton, preached before the students in the First Presbyterian Church on Psalms xviii, 30. "The word of the Lord is tried." It would scarcely do justice to the discourse to say, in the old phrase, that it was eloquent and able.

Then followed the Baccalaureate address to the graduating class, by President Cattell. This was considerable, affectionate, and touching.

At 4 P. M. in the old College Chapel there was held a religious conference on the topic "The Bible in College." Among the speakers were the venerable Dr. George Junkin, the founder and first President of the College, and the no less venerable Dr. Tustin, who for many years has been one of the Curators of the Institution.

These servants of the Church bore the testimony of more than "three-score and ten" to the value of the Bible, and urged its truths home upon the hearts of the young men with that power which comes from the trembling lips of the aged.

In the evening, the Rev. Thomas Brainerd, D. D., of Philadelphia, grand-nephew of the well known missionary, David Brainerd, preached the annual sermon before the Brainerd Mission-

ary Society of the College in the Brainerd Church; standing on the very spot consecrated by the self-denying labors of that early and successful preacher to the Indians. The text was—"Let no man despise thy youth;" and the venerable divine, in language of rare polish, gave words of counsel to the young men before him, that will long be remembered.

We should not be a faithful chronicler unless we referred to the splendid magnificence of the choir in both churches. All that magnificent organs, skillful leadership, and well trained voices could do was happily done, both morning and evening.

The friends of Lafayette College rejoice in the fact that it is a place of Christian education. It is secure, faithful, thorough religious culture, to be placed under the supervision of the oldest ecclesiastical body in the Presbyterian Church of the United States.

They were followed by Rev. George Burrows, ex-President, of San Francisco, Cal., and recently elected Professor of Biblical Instruction at Lafayette. This accomplished divine is well known for his valuable works upon the Bible, and his return to Lafayette (in which he was formerly a Professor) is hailed with delight by all the friends of the College and the Word of God.

Crowded church, of course, on Monday evening. No standing room even in gallery or aisles. Beauty and fashion in the ascendant. Bouquets and wreaths in no profession. Delightful music from the band. All these have characterized the junior exhibitions at Lafayette College for thirty years, and call for no special remark from your correspondent, except to say that the speeches were all written in good, sensible English, and delivered with manly earnestness.

On Tuesday, after the reunions of the Washington and Franklin Literary Societies (which were held in their respective halls on Tuesday, and were, of course, not open to the general public), came the Alumni Meeting in the chapel. Congratulations and pleasant speeches were the order of the hour, saddened only by the reading of the necrological record.

At every commencement since the accession of Dr. Cattell to the Presidency, the cornerstone of a new building has been laid. Year before last it was the noble Astronomical Observatory now crowning the highest part of Mons Scintilar; last year it was the magnificent Chemical Hall, the munificent contribution of Barton H. Jenks, Esq.; but this year witnessed the beginning of even greater improvements. It is well known that since the last Commencement, A. Pardee, Esq., of Hazleton, gave to the College the munificent sum of \$100,000, to endow a Scientific Course. The whole country has done honor to Mr. Pardee for this noble act, and his name will be held in grateful remembrance as long as science shall endure.

This munificent contribution has enabled the Trustees to increase the Board of Instruction to seventeen Professors, and to enlarge the curriculum of professional and technical studies fully equal to that of the first scientific schools of the country. The first requisite, then, is enlarged accommodations both for the new Professors and the increasing number of students. The citizens of Easton promptly subscribed \$20,000 as the beginning of a building fund, and other friends of the College have promised various additional sums.

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Major Lee and Dr. Plummer were also complimented by special toasts, and after other speeches the large audience reluctantly dispersed.

REV. DR. PLUMMER'S ORATION before the Literary Societies was delivered at Brainerd Church in the evening. It was a learned and masterly argument in favor of the study of the ancient languages.

After Dr. Osborn's address, the young orators spoke in the following order:— Latin Salutatory—By John C. Clyde, Belle Centre, Ohio.

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