

500 invited guests assembled in the Armory for luncheon. At 2 o'clock in the afternoon the guests assembled in the new Library building, the body of students, Faculty, Trustees and speakers, with the Governor and Major-General Miller, occupying the main floor, and others, as far as space allowed, the galleries.

President Atherton, introducing the proceedings of the afternoon, said:

"I have great happiness in this day. It is not my part to speak, because speaking is, in a sense, superficial, while feeling is deep, and, in the times of deepest feeling, speech is inadequate. No speech could express the sense of deep and abiding gratitude that I feel today, and have long left toward the donor of this beautiful and useful building. I feel a still deeper sense of gratitude, if he will not think it unappreciative, for the times in which we live which make all this possible and for the light of civilization handed down from generation to generation which is preserved to a greater extent in books than in any other single institution.

"Just as some men flare up into a bright light and disappear, as some men shoot like a meteor across the skies and are heard of no more, while others burn on steadily like the planets, so the great intellectual and spiritual forces that move the world run in the deep and silent, the forceful and all compelling streams which draw together the best in humanity that we call civilization. There are books evanescent, books that have their brief day, perhaps cause a smile or a tear or a blush to pass across the face of humanity, and then are forgotten; but the great books which embody the great soul of humanity, are preserved and handed down in libraries; and, therefore, our guest and benefactor of to-day may well be happy that the inspiration came to him in due time to identify himself for all time with that great stream of human thought and human influence that not only preserves the best of what the world has done, but furnishes the guiding model and the guiding authority, as it were, for the generations to come. Here the young men who are very soon to join the ranks of those who are bearing the burdens of life may participate in this benefit and be brought into contact with that great flood of life of which we form a part.

"It was at first thought that the sum of \$100,000 would be adequate for the erection of this building; but, later, on finding from a very slight inquiry the growth of the institution and its promise for the future, Mr. Carnegie voluntarily added another \$50,000 without condition, saying that he would hold the College responsible for the right expenditure and use of it, and I should like, if time permitted, to show you how all this interior has been adapted to use without any sacrifice of beauty and how we have tried

to equip this as the great working Laboratory of the living soul of the Institution. We hope that it will be a laboratory in the truest and highest sense, and I now have the greatest pleasure and honor in presenting Mr. Andrew Carnegie, the donor of the building." (Great applause)

Mr. Carnegie said:

"Mr. President, your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen—and last but not least—the students of State College: Permit me to indulge in a few words, giving you my impressions, before we proceed to this other matter.

"It is twenty years since I was here and I feel like Rip Van Winkle after he had slept twenty years. (laughter) (applause) to come and see what we have seen to-day which has impressed Mrs. Carnegie and myself so deeply. This is a great evolution. This High



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School for Farmers'—Farmers' High School—(laughter) (applause) I find has now nineteen courses, embracing all subjects of human knowledge. Twenty years ago I found 170 students here and now I find between 700 and 800 and the cry is "suit they come." (laughter) (applause.) I rejoice amidst the great changes we see, that one thing has not changed and that is this gentlemen here (pointing to Dr. Atherton.) (Applause) I rejoice to see him supported by my lifelong friend, General Beaver. (Applause).

"One word to the students. I wish you would take down the Encyclopedia Britannica, if you choose, and read up Universities. I come here just crammed with knowledge on the subject. (Laughter) I could speak to you for an hour and you would say, 'What a man that Carnegie is!' (Laughter) I know all about them. The evolution which

education has undergone is very striking. You gentlemen of the caps and gowns know all about that. The pagan schools were swept away and the monastic and cathedral schools arose in their place. The one taught how to be monks and the other taught how to be priests and that was about all that civilization thought worthy of teaching in those days. That passed away. Then came the era of the universities. They got into trouble. Metaphysics and logic you know set the universities of the world fighting; there was an active warfare between them for two centuries; the realists held sway in Paris and the nominalists in Heidelberg, and so on. Then came the Italian Universities;—Gentlemen, that is all encyclopaedia (laughter) (applause). Don't forget to read that encyclopaedia and get it off you know. The result of it was, however, that they got into quarrels on metaphysics and that was the one thing then; all Paris was simply mad in the twelfth century on that new idea. Very well, you find traces of that to-day. There are two gentlemen that I know in Britain. One of them is the prime minister, Balfour, and the other is Mr. Haldane, both high up in metaphysics. One of them wasted his time in preparing lectures for St. Andrew's University of which I have the honor to be Lord Rector and, of course, he wound up in a mass of words and left the subject just where he began. Mr. Balfour has told us that we know nothing and what we do know we don't know that we know. (Laughter) (applause).

"Gentlemen, you get a good thing from a Scotchman now and then. (Laughter) Here is a definition of metaphysics. 'Edwin,' the young shepherd said to the elder, 'Edwin, what is metateesics?' 'Sandy, metateesics is when ye man is trying to tell other men all about a subject he canna' know onything about himself.'

"Now, gentlemen, we have gotten out of metaphysics, we have relegated that to the proper place but let us pay a tribute to the ancient classics, because, if it hadn't been for the ancient classics we could never have gotten into the earlier Universities anything but theology and metaphysics. That was the medium through which our knowledge of literature was obtained. Of course they have been elevated away beyond their deserts, because we had nothing else.

"Now I want to say how proud I am, standing here today, to hail the State College of Pennsylvania as one of the pioneers in the reform of education. Your President tells us that the English course is unusually complete and thorough and that that may be taken as the general character of the educational work of this institution, and he says to us, we teach the American literature first. That is right, to teach American history first (applause) and it is proper to follow that with the literature that your own race has produced wherever the English tongue is spoken. But what is