What Are Our Alumni Doing?

DR. R. C. KENZIE.

A proper question, and deserving a candid answer. The graduates of a university are the fruits of such college, the representatives of the spirit and aim of the college. The old rule still holds good in judging of men and institutions, "By their fruits ye shall know them." Let us apply this rule by glancing at what our alumni have been and are now doing.

Dividing them up into groups according to the leading character of their pursuits, we find the industrial class outnumbers every other. In this class are Board of Regents, on the farm, in the orchard, the garden, the machine shop and the factory, the engineers and surveyors, and last, but not least, the wives who make the home a way station to heaven.

If we add to this strictly industrial class the 110 teachers in city, village and district schools, and the seventy-one who are professors and instructors in agricultural colleges, we find more than sixty per cent of all that ever graduated from this College embraced in this list. Out of 765 graduates the lawyers number 69, of whom one is an associate judge in Detroit and another in Oklahoma; one is regent in our University; another was regent for six years in the University of Illinois, and several have been members of the legislature. An alumnus was regent of the University of Nebraska, and three members of the Board of Agriculture are alumni, and a fourth attended the College for a season. The doctors among our alumni number 53, dentists 14, bankers 13, editors 8 and clergymen 4. In the employment of the general government—of the army, the signal corps, and in the department of agriculture we find over 30 alumni.

The largest alumnus ever known was a graduate of another college who travels over our State to sell choice microscopes and optical supplies for a Rochester house, reaped a large harvest 40 years ago in the chemical laboratory. "I find graduates of M. A. C. everywhere. They are strong men. They get good places and hold them." It might be expected that out of 765 graduates one black sheep would be found, but not one of them has ever filled a cell in the State prison or been prosecuted for grand larceny. As a rule they are men and women of high moral worth, and command the respect and confidence of the public.

Dr. Novy's Lecture on the Black Plague.

A large number of College people had the privilege of hearing Dr. Novy of Ann Arbor lecture on Friday evening on the Black Plague. Dr. Novy is one of the foremost bacteriologists in this country. We quote briefly from his lecture.

The ravages of war are not to be compared with the destruction caused by the plagues. There were 200,000 lives lost during the four years of our civil war, but the white plague, consumption, carries off 200,000 lives every year.

The Black Plague was known during the reign of Justinian, but nothing definite was known of its be done by inoculating a susceptible animal with the poison produced and then taking the serum from this animal and inoculating it. Dr. Novy had the germ growing artificially and also exhibited it on a slide under the microscope. He was able to get a good conception of it.

Baseball.

The opening of the spring term finds baseball enthusiasm at white heat in spite of considerable frost in the atmosphere. The arrival of Coach Gayle Thursday night and the fact that Manager Morrow has arranged a good schedule of games for the second nine, have brought out fully twenty-five promising candidates who hope to gain places on one of the teams.

Thursday afternoon an eight inning game with the Lansing high school resulted in a score of 10 to 7 in favor of the College. It was too cold to play very fast, which is sufficient excuse for rather poor fielding, but does not account for a lamentable weakness in batting.

Systematic work to improve batting should be one of the principal features of early practice. The schedule of games for the second nine is as follows: Eaton Rapids here, April 16; M. A. C. at Charlotte, April 23; M. A. C. of Keokuk, April 29; Charlotte here, May 21. On intervening dates several games will be played with Lansing high school.

The second nine should be well supported, not only because a strong second nine can carry the first nine to the best kind of home practice but also because it must furnish recruits for the first nine. Vacancies frequently occur in any college team and when they do occur the most natural place to look for replacements is among the men who have been playing regularly on the second team.

Enjoy the Science Bulletins.

ROGERSVILLE, MICH.
April 6, 1898.

The Secretary April College.

Dear Sir—Bulletin Nos. 1 and 2 of Elementary Science are received and I enjoyed reading them very much indeed, as I think every farmer who loves his work. Thanks for them. Yours truly, B. T. Scottian.

The M. C. E. Record.

VOL. 5. LANSING, MICHIGAN, TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 1898. No. 30.

College more than forty years ago adopted manual labor as a part of the curriculum. While the character of the labor of the past has necessarily changed to meet new conditions, yet the "labor system" is the one that has been tried and settled down before long. A man needs no learning to work very hard to learn a little. Farming, a man needs no learning to work very hard to learn a little.

The dead languages do not occupy a prominent place in the course of study, as is mathematics. These schools are turning out a class of men who have strong bodies, well trained minds, and the skill of hand necessary to apply the truths of science to practical life.

This system of education is in harmony with present day progress. It repudiates the old idea that education is for the uneducated. With an increasing interest in the world does not remain stationary.

Three to six years required in college to secure a good education, is not in any sense to be considered a loss of valuable time, but it is rather a thorough preparation for the best kind of work, and enables the person to overcome difficulties and win success sooner than otherwise. It is thus not losing four years of one's life but rather adding four years or more to the life of the successful person to come so much sooner.

The times now are very different from when they were young, and the opportunities for acquiring an education are much better. The civilized world does not remain stationary. The men who make the best preparation win the best positions.

The person who has to work hard to learn his lessons, is likely to acquire the habit of industry, and continuation of industry will be the best thing to help in these undertakings. Careful estimates have shown that promotion in business and in life is far in advance of that of those who keep pace.

The instruction is thorough and systematic in laboratories fitted for the purpose and presided over by persons who are well trained and well read, each in his specialty.

There are few with any aspiration for positions of honor or trust, he should know that a college training will give him a wider knowledge of the world and is just the best thing to help in these undertakings.

The instruction is thorough and systematic in laboratories fitted for the purpose and presided over by persons who are well trained and well read, each in his specialty.
On the contrary, “There may be annul that is more soul-destroying, but never known any that caused such evidently acute suffering as the form which seizes upon workmen in hours of enforced idleness. A day which shuts them within doors, furnishes awful evidence of the poverty of their lives. Most of the men [in the lumber camp] can read, but not to one of them is reading a resource.”

Wallace D. Wyckoff, in Scio Press for Nov., 1897.

If these statements be true, then every man who enjoys the privilege of education has excellent reason for urging all of his young friends to persist in training mind and hand to fit themselves for enjoyment and usefulness.

Literary Culture.

HERM G. THOMPSON, TREASURER SOCIETY.

Few can tell accurately what the future will hold for them and often their preparation for that future is sadly at fault. It is an excellent plan, then, to read the phase of work which Fortune deals out to us, be it theoretical or practical, men or women, but no matter what branches we specialize, or leave out entirely, good literature is necessary for our minds as good food is for our bodies. Literary culture enables us to study and become familiar with the wise men and women of both past and present, and in studying and absorbing their good thoughts we cannot help but generate similar ones in our own minds.

Literary training enlarges the compass of the mind, elevates the standards of life, and gives one an idea of what is going on around him, of the men and women in other cities, states, and countries and what they are doing for the world. As in all other things, there is a distinction between good and bad literature. This should be observed carefully, for of all things, cheap or trashy reading is to be avoided; and in order to be able to distinguish it, one should be familiar with the names of authors who write good, clean, wholesome thoughts. The mind is a storehouse and each one is responsible for the kind of merchandise he puts there; whether it leas his thoughts and actions to a better standard, or stays in his brain to poison the good which is already there.

What does it mean to be a student of literature? Merely to know that? Or does it mean getting acquainted with authors by analyzing their thoughts, by reading their biographies, by studying their characters? We should try to imagine what such a man or woman would think on such a subject and form our opinions according to our estimate of the author's character. It is not just to judge a writer's expressions according to our own narrow ideas. It is not enough to know that Lew Wallace wrote Ben Hur; but we should learn what lessons he taught in his book, what principles and what contrasts he gave us to think about.

When one has studied the thoughts of others, he naturally has thoughts of his own, and, feels a desire to express them, but perhaps he is timid and has not self-confidence enough to speak them, or he feels his inability to write and arrange them correctly. Then, is the time that he needs training and practice which can only be obtained in a club or society of young or old, folks, gathered together for the same purpose, each one helping and strengthening his fellow workers with the same great aim—to be better, nobler, truer men or women.

At the College.

At Kalamacon next Saturday the boys play their first scheduled game of baseball. Miss E. Pearl Keelie has been chosen commencement orator to represent the Women's Course. Miss Anna Campbell, daughter of Representative Campbell, visited Mr. and Mrs. Gunson last week.

There will be a meeting of the Record board of editors this evening (Tuesday), at 6:30, in the English office, College Hall.

Lost, last Tuesday, four dollars, supposed to have been dropped in the post office. Finder will be suitably rewarded upon leaving it at the Secretary's office.

The King's Daughters will meet with Mrs. Snyder Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Subject, “The Risen Christ and His Disciples,” John 21, 1-14. Text, “Keep.”

The whole interior of the bathroom will be being remodelled. When completed there will be four tubs and six showers; the floor will be concrete and the woodwork southern pine.

Prof. J. C. Bartholf, editor of the Youth's Instructor, Battle Creek, Mich., delivered a very able lecture to the students Sunday evening. His subject was the Gospel of Individualism. He showed that self is developed best by striving to help others and that the true gospel of individualism is a gospel of love no less than that of Christ. Mr. Bartholf is a very pleasing earnest speaker, and if he should devote his efforts to platform work he would certainly take a high rank among popular platform orators.

The Tuberculin Test.

During vacation week, the 4th annual test of the College herd was applied. Ninety-eight animals were tested. Excluding the animals previously condemned and now isolated in the experimental barn, there was only one positive response to the tuberculin injected. This cow was of the grade dairy herd and was tested last fall, when purchased, without any positive reaction. A post mortem examination of this animal revealed tuberculosis in its incipient stage.

Of the previously condemned cattle in the experimental barn, we have reason to feel encouraged that some of the best cows will eventually throw off the disease under careful hygienic treatment. Five of the eleven reacted.

Some interesting results were obtained from the study of normal animals previously condemned and now isolated in the experimental barn, and if so, you should build right. By consulting.

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News from Graduates and Students

B. F. Bain, '93m, is at Oil City, Pa.

Lery King, with '98, was on the campus Saturday.

W. W. Tracy, '67, called at M. A. C. last Tuesday afternoon.

Mrs. A. F. Gordon of Grand Rapids visited in Lansing last week.

Prof. W. M. Munson, '88, of Muskegon, was called at M. A. C. last Tuesday.

Leander Burnett, '92, of Kalamazoo, spent Sunday, April 3, in Lansing.

Prof. A. A. Crozier, '97, is at Honolulu, where he expects to remain for a time.

The College Year Book.

Seldom, if ever, has the College made such a happy combination of advertising material with the dissemination of valuable information as is found in the "Year Book," just now coming from the press. The Year Book is an almanac, a collection of up-to-date recipes, and a source of valuable hints and suggestions on a wide variety of topics. There are suggestions for the culture of sugar beets; for the management of the dairy, farm, garden, and orchard; more than half a hundred recipes and hints for the housekeeper; tables of weights and measures; of quantities of seed to sow per acre, of distances for planting vegetables; of balanced rations for livestock; spraying formulas; remedies for the most common diseases among animals,—in short, a small cyclopedia for the farm man or homemaker.

To quote from the Year Book: "Every item, unless credited otherwise, was furnished by some department of this College, is fresh, up-to-date, accurate and reliable." This book will be sent to any address and at a cost of four cents in stamps, as long as the supply lasts.

The Wandering Singer and His Songs.

One of the handsomest College souvenirs ever published is the book of poems by Professor Frank Hodgeman, '92, entitled "The Wandering Singer and His Songs and Other Poems." The book is bound in polished white cloth with blue and gilt trimming, contains 155 pages, and is lettered on excellent paper with full gilt edges. It is beautifully illustrated with half-tone engravings of College and other scenes and with sketches by Geo. W. B. Halsey, '93, and E. D. Thayer, '95. In that part of the book devoted to College poems there is hardly a line that does not carry sweet memories of days gone by, not only for those who were the authors of the stanzas but for the student of the classics, who is often delighted with it.—M. A. C. RECORD, Feb. 12.

Price 85¢, by mail add 6 cents per copy for postage.

F. Hodigman, Publisher, College, Mich.

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