Within the past few weeks, three prominent men once officers of the Agricultural College have ceased their labors and gone to their long home. Mr. George Willard, a member of the board of education from 1857-61 then in control of the College; Lewis Ransom Fiske, the first editor of the Journal, from 1855-62 and acting president; George T. Fairchild, instructor and the first professor of English Literature 1855-79, and during one year acting president.

GEORGE WILLARD.

The Hon. George Willard, editor of The Battle Creek Journal, was born March 30, 1811, in Bennington, Vermont, and came to Battle Creek in 1836. He died March 26, 1901, having passed his 77th birthday only the week before. He was a graduate from Kalamazoo and an excellent scholar. During his active life he was a member of the Episcopal clergyman, professor of Latin in Kalamazoo College, from 1856-60 a member of the board of education. For five years this board was in charge of the Agricultural College, and Mr. Willard contributed largely toward its establishment. At its fortieth anniversary in 1877, he delivered an address, the unqualified appreciation of which the College by contributing a fine address, full of the truest sense of the word; Mr. Willard was deserving of the high regard and esteem in which he was held by all whom he honored with his friendship.

Dr. Kelzie attended the memorial services and spoke upon "Political Leadership," and in reference to Mr. Willard said: "He became acquainted in the political campaign of 1856. He was a lover of liberty and believed in the right of all his brothers to speak, denounced slavery and the efforts made by some to stop him, met with opposition. In 1875, when he had become a personal acquaintance, he recognized the lofty purposes of Mr. Willard. No matter where he was, he was ever the advocate of education. He was a quick scholar and a patient philosopher. "Who ever meets with him, of course, will not shrink? "Why, gentlemen, what is our position? Were it not for this silent force, we should rush in and out, and crash. The world is richer that Mr. Willard lived and it is poorer that he died."

LEWIS RANSON FISKE.

graduated at the University of Michigan in 1856 in the class of 1856. In 1857 the same institution honored him with the degree of L.L.D. In 1873 a convention of the University conferred upon him the degree of D.D. In 1873. He was born in Pennfield, N. Y., December 21, 1829, and with his family moved to Coldwater, Michigan in 1835. He was the first great work of his life was performed at Albion, where he was from 1856-60. For five years this board was in charge of the Agricultural College, and Mr. Willard was largely instrumental in securing the support of all parties. A new man can do more for the College than an old man can. He was a wise counsellor. He was a man of strictest integrity, with "the courage of his convictions," a gentleman in the truest sense of the word; Mr. Willard was deserving of the high regard and esteem in which he was held by all whom he honored with his friendship.

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