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OTTERBEIN UNIVERSITY

WESTERVILLE, OHIO

CONTENTS

Baccalaureate Sermon, '91  PAGE  163
PRES. C. A. BOWERSOX.

Ideal College Journalism  PAGE  168
H. W. KELLER, '94.

Editorial,  PAGE  169
The Faculty Changes,
A Woman's Movement,
One Year,
Notes,

PAGE  169
169
170
170

Commencement  PAGE  170
Alumnal Day,
The Great Day of Days,
The Anniversary of the Literary Societies,
Christian Associations' Anniversary,
Baccalaureate,
The University Address,
The Junior Banquet,
Trustees' Sessions,

PAGE  172
172
172
172
172
173

Local Notes,  PAGE  173

Personals,  PAGE  174

1891
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The glory of young men is in their strength."

"Rejoice, O young man, in thy strength; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes; but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment."

These are the words of Solomon, the wise man.

Last year, upon this annual occasion, I chose for my theme an event in the youth-time of this monarch of Israel. He was then a minor upon the throne. Although he had not yet arrived at the period of his majority, he was the most striking figure upon the world's stage.

The scene was then laid at Gibeah, without the walls of Jerusalem. There, by invitation of the Almighty, he reached into the treasure-house of the universe, and took therefrom the one gem of rarest value: namely, an understanding heart.

Years thereafter, when he had attained the fullest measure of his splendid physical manhood, in the full vigor of his intellectual powers, ere he had lost any of the elasticity of youth, rejoicing in the powers of his perfect manhood, he wrote, "The glory of young men is in their strength." Still later in life, a comparatively old man, mental and physical vigor abated, youth-time gone to the returnless shore, looking backward along the journey across life's continent to the greenest valley of his boyhood, so near the shores of the beginning, out of all his wisdom and ripe experience, he wrote these words: "Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes; but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment."

Upon this occasion, in the presence of some who are spending their last Sabbath as students in this University, I propose, if I am able, to draw some lessons of practical utility from these two passages in the life of Solomon.

The first proposition is the assertion of a fact, and may be stated in this form: Solomon's conception of the glory of young men. In its discussion I shall refuse to be narrow and contracted in definitions. The glory of mankind shall not be greater, neither shall it be less than, nor shall it differ from, the glory of woman-kind. For, since woman-kind presses with such persistent eagerness for all rights and immunities of mankind, she shall not escape any of its responsibilities. Hence the definition can not be confined to any sex or conditions. It must of necessity, as it ought to be, be as broad and comprehensive as the race.

The logical discussion of this first proposition involves the advocacy of the highest physical development. How truly has an eminent writer said: "Undoubtedly it is a young man's glory to have a healthy, vigorous, stalwart bodily frame."

To be more specific. By this is meant the body, limbs, arms, chest, lungs, heart, nerves, head, brain — limbs well-rounded, muscles well-developed, nerves as steady as threads of steel, lungs of power, hearts that can throb and send the blood thrilling through the system, brain strong to think, perfect men, I must insist.

Educators bewail the tendency to underestimate the ethical, or higher element in the realm of learning, but to my mind there is even greater cause for alarm by reason of the prevailing tendency to underestimate, in the same realm, the importance of the highest physical development.

The material of these physical organisms, so little valued, so often abused, so universally neglected, is God's marble. The Divinity within us is the sculptor. Perfection is our model. Too often, imperfection is the result.

We may possess the highest mental culture, we may consecrate ourselves to the purest morality, yet, if we neglect our physical development, an essential element, in fact, one-third, of the superstructure is wanting.

What I plead for is people with thoroughly-developed bodies, controlled by the higher element as hereinafter defined. In that sense, the physical strength of young men is to them a glory.

If in most of our colleges, universities, academies, seminaries and common schools, the lack of this kind of training is not pretty nearly universal, then every-day appearances most woefully belie their seeming.

If dependent upon our schools of learning alone for our bodily development, without the mines, work shops and fields of labor, we would degenerate into a race of dwarfs, physically.

There is the greatest anxiety for the spiritual welfare; the most liberal and elaborate preparation for the culture of the intellect; absolutely no adequate provision for the development of the body.

The business is conducted as if the sentient element, the intellect, needed training; as if the spiritual element God manifests in the flesh, needed fostering; as if the body, the unknowing element, is wise enough to take care of itself.

I am not certain as to the origin of the prevalent belief that these physical organisms shall take no part in the life hereafter. Suffice it to say, no logic drawn from analogy, or inference from revelation, has ever been sufficient to overcome my own consciousness, and convince me that in the future my spirit shall suffer an eternal separation from my body. Rather, it is satisfying to my
mind to believe that this same body that has served me so well here, this same right hand so often grasped in greeting or farewell, changed, purified, in a manner which it is no part of this discourse to explain, shall perform like pleasant service in the land of the hereafter.

On this occasion, in the presence of some who might even highly esteem physical delicacy, I must assert that plain reason, the highest interests of humanity, the successful culture of the mind, a rational enjoyment of religion, all imperatively demand thorough physical development.

Whatever purity of heart our Maker will require at our hands, whatever culture of the intellect, of this rest assured, He will demand, just as imperatively, a corresponding development and purity of body.

In passing from this branch of the discussion, I may with great propriety, note in words of highest commendation, the increasing interest in this institution of learning in all those innocent games of amusements so well calculated to develop and strengthen the body. Already there are suggestions and discussions of plans, which God grant may end in full fruition, for the erection of suitable buildings, even a gymnasium, wherein young ladies and gentlemen, under proper regulations, shall be afforded the most ample facilities for the proper development, discipline, culture of their bodies, the dwelling place of the soul.

But I am not content to discourse, only, of the glory of the physical strength of young men. Inspiring as is the theme, it widens and rises to the higher plane of the glory of the intellectual strength of young men.

Here is a realm, a wealth of glory about which there can be no dispute. If there is any room for a difference of opinion as to the necessity of a thorough physical development, the importance of the highest mental culture is universally conceded.

Had the Apostle Paul written upon this subject, with all his wealth of metaphor and comparison, I fancy it would have been somewhat in this form: Great as is the glory of the physical strength of young men, it is not to be compared with the glory of their intellectual strength.

Young men, in the comprehensive sense, of mental power, with thought in the brain, with thought stamped upon their faces, with brain strong to think.

It is not my purpose to present, or to advocate, any elaborate or new theory of mental culture. It is better to pursue established lines, to follow the precedents, as lawyers say.

By mental culture is meant mind discipline, mind strength. It is to have learned to think. To have attained such control over the mind as to be able, at will, to direct it with unerring certainty to one subject, and to hold it there to the exclusion of everything else.

There is a difference in natural powers of mind; but the difference in strength in minds of equal natural powers, is simply a difference in power of concentration.

The difference between the power of concentration of two minds of equal mentality naturally, simply equals the difference between an educated, disciplined, and an uneducated, undisciplined, mind.

There is logical order in addressing myself first to such of my hearers as have made, and do make, a profession of our holy Christianity.

It is especially enjoined upon you to be ready with a good report of your stewardship, of how you have improved your talents.

It will not be sufficient to return your minds strengthened, enriched, only by what slight impressions have been stamped upon them by passing events, without any effort on your part.

This is God's law upon the subject of compulsory education: The requirement of a mental discipline, mind culture, thinking power, strictly proportionate to our facilities, as a necessary element of Christian character.

While we rejoice in the truth, as our right is, that the Christian religion is so remarkable for its simplicity, let us bear in mind, at all times, this accompanying fact, that it is just as remarkable for its intelligence.

Let us now enter upon the discussion as applied to all classes, to those in, as well as to those out of, the church.

Can ye not discern the signs of the times? Do you not know, have you not observed that at no time in the history of the race has there been such a demand for intelligent, cultured men and women as at the present? From every rank and profession, from every department of human industry comes the call for men, cultured men, men with thought in the brain, as imperative as the voice of necessity. And why should not we all press eagerly forward to join this innumerable throng of those whose glory is their intellectual strength?

It is barely possible, I will not consent to put it more strongly, it is barely possible that you cannot all secure that classic training so much to be desired; though many more of you could if you only would. For, in this country, the young lady or gentleman to whom a collegiate education is an impossibility is the exception. But there can be no sort of excuse for a failure to improve to the utmost the facilities you do enjoy.

Though, in the pressure of life's struggle, you may not have time to follow the master minds through all the mazy meanderings of thought; yet, it is your privilege to leap forward and secure to yourselves the conclusions of the sages.

While the duty may be theirs to cause the tree of knowledge to blossom and to bear, cannot you take time to pause beneath its shadows and pluck the rich fruit that grows so abundantly upon its branches?

What you now accept by faith alone, mental culture, this intellectual strength, will enable you to grasp as truths of actual demonstration. The student reads the handwriting of the Great Teacher. He needs no translation. It is his native language. As did Moses on Sinai, so doth he enter within the cloud upon the mountain-top, and receive the sublimest truths, written by the Almighty's own hand.

Certainly their are those here, who aspire to eminence in scholarship. It must be that there are many present, who are thrilled with a desire to enter into the full glory of physical and mental strength. If it be so, remember that the single sentence: "There is no royal road to learning," contains the summation of a universal experience.

There is a law, a reciprocal law. It is of Nature's enactment. It has been in force since the race began. It can have no repeal. It is universal and inexorable in its application. Its terms are: You must give an equivalent
for what you receive. It prevails in the realm of learning, as well as elsewhere.

If you would enter the temple of learning, you must bring offerings worthy the Genius who presides there. At the ancient portal a grim sentry stands. My young friends approaching the temple of learning: you may bring your gifts of wealth, of natural talents, for pretentious wisdom; but I say to you, that only when you come with thought in the brain, with thought stamped upon your faces, bearing upon your garments the odor of midnight oil, will the discerning sentinel stand aside, and permit you to enter.

As I go from this most delightful field of discussion, what can I say that may tend to increase the enthusiasm of my young friends, thrilled with the desire to receive this higher culture?

I see you standing in the effulgent glory of the morning. Youth-time, with its opportunities, like this morning, will never come again. You are walking upon the sands of the beginning, with foot-prints tending, and anxious faces turned toward the boundless continent before you, with a proper conception of its vastness and the labor as well as the pleasure of a thorough exploration.

The green fields, the fruitage, the mountains, the valleys, the rivers, crowded with wealth incalculable, all, all are before you.

Contemplate the realm of mental activity as surveyed by the Great Apostle under the light of inspiration:

"Whatsoever things are true.
Whatsoever things are honest.
Whatsoever things are just.
Whatsoever things are pure.
Whatsoever things are lovely.
Whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."

How boundless the field of mental activity, comprehended by the things that are true!

How vast the mind range among the things that are honest, supplemented by the things that are just! When could the mind grow weary among the things that are pure, the things that are lovely and of good report?

Forget not that the foot-prints of the learned tend but one way, namely, from the shores of the beginning. The pilgrimage of those who seek the glory of intellectual strength, extends along the highway that spans the continent from sea to sea.

I come now to discourse of the glory of the spiritual strength of young men.

This is the power of powers. It is the strength that strengthens. It modifies, limits, controls, ennobles physical strength. It strengthens, permeates, illuminates, glorifies the mental powers.

Here we now pass beyond the realm of nature, beyond the human to the Divine. Important as are physical and mental strength, they are paltry as compared with this spiritual strength. What the world needs to electrify it, is more young men possessed of the power of the Spirit.

Young man, if you have not religion, which is the power of the Spirit, you have no glory to speak of; there is no glory about you. "The highest part of your nature still lies waste and fallow." In a single sentence St. John tells it all: "I write unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and have the word of God abiding in you."

I state a fact here, proved by analogy as positively as are the conclusions of the syllogism. The success of the finite mind is based upon its harmony with the infinite mind.

And the analogy is very plain. In order to appreciate the paintings of the great masters, we must receive a kindred impression. To properly read the works of the standard authors, we must be in sympathy with those writers. The law is universal. The analogy is unfailling. The purest enjoyment of the master-pieces of Him, from whom all artists have borrowed their grandest ideals, demands the gift of the Spirit. Likewise, a thorough comprehension of the book of Nature is based upon a sympathy with its Great Author.

You may read His hand-writing in the rocks at your feet; in the flowers that blossom in the fields; in the brooks that laugh and leap down their way; in the greater streams that flow on unvexed to the sea; in "the deep that uttereth His voice, and lifteth up His hands on high," in the eternal hills His strength, the clouds His chariot, the lightening His arrows, the thunder His voice; in the glittering constellations in harmonious silence moving on. You may even give a literary translation, perchance; but that hidden, richest meaning comes alone to those who read in the spirit of the Great Author.

I have presented my first proposition; namely, the glory of young men, in this three-fold form. I have not attempted to present any new or startling theory. I have preferred to travel within well-established lines.

An improvement in strictest harmony with this great trinity is alone worthy the name. A perfect body, governed by an intellect purified. The illumination of the Spirit receives its highest glory by reflection from a mind polished by mental discipline. Its beams are made still more resplendent as they are thrown back from the clean walls of the dwelling-place of the soul.

An eminent author has written: "The character of Solomon is unique—one of the loftiest of the sacred volume. Grand in its stately strength, and towering height—sad in its demoralization and fall. A morning fair and bright as ever dawned on mortal vision, high noon golden and glowing, flashing its glories far and wide, and evening clouded and mournful, with wailing winds and muttering thunders."

Little wonder is it, with such a record, the springs of youth run dry, manhood's prime forever gone, at eventime, when it should be light, that Solomon, an old man, should furnish our second proposition in the form of an exhortation: "Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth."

The two passages, a proposition and an exhortation, might well be thus combined: "The glory of young men is in their strength"; therefore, "Rejoice, O young man in thy youth."

"There are gains for all our losses,
There are balms for all our pain,
But when youth, the dream, departs
It takes something from our hearts,
And it never comes again.

"We are stronger, and are better,
Under manhood's sternier reign;
Still we feel that something sweet
Followed youth, with flying feet,
And will never come again."
This exhortation of Solomon is fruitful of lessons of instruction, some of which it is proposed to state with brief discussion.

The first shall be the responsibilities of youth.

The boy is a prophecy of the man. Every boyhood holds a mortgage upon every manhood. The boy is lawgiver to the man. These are concise and elegant statements of the responsibilities of youth.

I venture to present the thought in another form. These are concise statements of the obligation that youth owes to maturity. So important seems this thought to me, that I do not hesitate to put it in reverse order. These are statements, in single sentences, of the claim manhood has upon boyhood; that manhood, old age has upon youth.

This truth, for notwithstanding the various forms of statement it is after all one truth, is not wholly a matter of revelation, nor is it an inference drawn from analogy alone.

It is the product of the inductive reasoning of the history of the race, which, after all, is but a collection of the experiences of individuals. The interpretation thereof is in the record of its demonstration. Therein is written the interpretation thereof in characters that must forever endure.

It is the universal and unreversed judgment of mankind, that every youth, whether boy or girl, in that formative period of life, in the habits formed, in the choices made, in the methods of thought adopted, is a sort of legislative body, enacting the laws that will inevitably govern in manhood.

This thought, to the youth just starting upon the voyage of life, is an appalling one; to one in manhood, it is a startling one. Even now, I find myself asking myself the question, Is it so?

Is manhood but the solution of the problem of boyhood? Are the struggles, the conflicts, the defeats, the victories of life, the life of manhood, is it simply a method to solve the problem, the quantities of which are placed in youth? To these inquiries the words of the world's history furnish the answer uniformly in the affirmative. In the presence of this truth, so limitless in its application, we may be impressed with the importance of this lesson, namely, the responsibilities of youth.

The next lesson shall be the possibilities of youth.

The exposition of this lesson involves all that has been previously said. It concedes and appropriates all that has ever been correctly said and written upon the subject. It comprehends all that has ever been correctly said and written upon the subject of a perfect manhood.

We have now entered the realm of enthusiasm; where hope supplants reason; where words are accounted for facts; where probabilities are accepted for actualities, and possibilities for probabilities.

Notwithstanding this tendency to enthusiastic assertion, there is a recognized mean, there are certain well-defined limits within which things are possible to the young.

This, however, is a varying, or dependent quantity, there are certain factors entering into the computation, that cannot be omitted; such as the natural talents of the individual, the circumstances, or environments of the individual, and a certain undefined and indefinable something, which, in our unguarded moments, when we speak our thoughts, is commonly called fortune; but which is probably more scientifically denominated the result of a nameless cause.

Within and subject to these limitations, it is possible for one in youth to lay the foundation for success in manhood. In that sense, subject to and within these limitations, and not otherwise,—rejecting that error, born of enthusiasm, that to him, who aspires, all things are possible,—man is the architect of his own fortune.

Would, my young friends, that I could draw aside every veil, and bring to your view the grandest possibilities of your lives. I would not excite within you aspirations for the impossible, the unobtainable; but I would so gladly point out to you every star of hope.

There are possibilities and possibilities. There are vacant positions and vacant positions. There are fields and fields of endeavor. There are worlds and worlds for your conquest, wherein you may eventually triumph. But remember at this moment, in youth's glorious morning, heeding the exhortation of the wise man: "Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth;

Would, my young friends, that I could draw aside every veil, and bring to your view the grandest possibilities of your lives. I would not excite within you aspirations for the impossible, the unobtainable; but I would so gladly point out to you every star of hope.

There are possibilities and possibilities. There are vacant positions and vacant positions. There are fields and fields of endeavor. There are worlds and worlds for your conquest, wherein you may eventually triumph. But remember at this moment, in youth's glorious morning, heeding the exhortation of the wise man: "Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth;" ere you enter upon your campaign, that the way to these open fields and up to these vacant positions is along the flinty, sun-scorched highway of bitterest struggle and right through the solid rock of opposition.

Success and position, which, to the extent attained, simply indicate and define the realization of the possibilities of the individual, are like property, whoever possesses them, must purchase them. Their purchase price is a tireless and unconquerable perseverance.

The last lesson shall be: The mistakes of youth. In the exposition of this lesson little else is possible than to take up the business of enumeration. The catalogue of mistakes is inclusive of such as are applicable to those of manhood.

It is a mistake for a young man to over-estimate his natural talents. It is a mistake, though less frequent, yet just as certainly a mistake, for him to under-estimate his natural talents.

It is a mistake for a young man to over-estimate his acquired abilities. It is a mistake, though one less seldom made, for him to under-estimate his acquired abilities.

In the practical affairs of life, in the struggle between men, it is error to under-estimate the strength of an adversary. Likewise, and in that same behalf, it is error to over-estimate the strength of an adversary.

The young make the fatal mistake of engaging in an important undertaking, without a proper estimate and conception of the work to be performed, and the labor of performing it.

It is a mistake to be prodigal of time and opportunity. The preparatory years of life seem to be of eternal length and fraught with opportunity. The senior year, though crowded with responsibility, with cruel brevity, bears us on in the awful sweep of destiny.

It is a mistake to disregard the details, the little things of life.

The young are too liable to look only at the aggregate and to overlook the parts, that made up the aggregate—to make the fatal mistake of regarding only the
sum, and disregarding the quantities; of considering only the product, and omitting to consider the multiplier and multiplicand; of regarding only the dividend, and disregarding the divisor and quotient, and even the remainder, in the problems of life.

It is a mistake to be too self-reliant. It is a far more fatal mistake to be too reliant upon others. I conclude the work of enumeration with the general statement: It is a mistake, young man, that may result in disaster, to falter in the presence of the greater obstacles that may confront you.

It is at the very moment of the greatest emergency that the manhood of the man ought to assert itself. While it is true as a general proposition, that "Peace hath her victories no less renowned than war," yet it is in the battle-storm that danger is and where courage is in demand.

So in line with my thought are the words of the poet, that, tho' they have done noble service on so many occasions, I cannot forbear to quote them here:

"In the world's broad field of battle,
In the bivouac of life,
Be not like dumb driven cattle,
Be a hero in the strife."

Victories are gained upon fields of battle; heroes are born upon fields of strife; marching right up to the shotted-cannon's mouth, planting the victor's flag upon rampart of the routed enemy.

"The glory of young men is in their strength." Therefore, "Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth." Remember, as the years, with their opportunities go fleeting by, "that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment."

IN CONCLUSION.

To the Senior Class:

Obedient to the time-honored custom, followed upon these annual occasions, it becomes me to address myself directly to you.

In college life, as in all things earthly, there comes a last time. The passing year, the swiftly passing year, has brought the last Sabbath morning, which, as students, you will ever enjoy under the authority and protection of this school of learning. Next Sabbath morning a change will have come. Though friendship, regard and love will forever endure, yet the intimate relations that exist between teachers and pupils will be severed.

Upon this occasion, so full of interest, so burdensome with responsibility, the past looms up like the real present.

The seventeen years since 1874 seem to vanish. Again that class of sixteen, including myself, six young ladies and ten young gentlemen, some of whom are present, others of whom have joined the silent majority, occupy the places now occupied by you, and another stands in my position. How the years have glided away, like swift ships! Seventeen times the seasons, in their bright round, have come and gone. Spring-time, with its budding trees, blooming flowers, blossoming orchards and every indication of fragrant life; summer-time, with its burning suns, its waving harvests, its golden grain and the merry song of the farmer gathering the harvest home; autumn-time, with its early frosts, its yellow leaves, its weird, sobbing sounds, that tell the anguish of the dying year; winter-time, cold, icy, dreary winter; and again the circle of the seasons is run.

History has written great chapters in the book of time. That mysterious tide has onward rushed, that bears upon its current, events, institutions, empires, all in the awful sweep of destiny.

Since then, sixteen other classes have graduated and gone forth from this Institution. More than a hundred young men and women, thoroughly equipped for life's struggles, are playing well their part upon the world's stage.

You are about to increase that number by ten. As you are about to assume the sterner responsibilities of the future, will you listen kindly to a few words of advice—a sort of summation of lessons of experience, gathered by one who has preceded you seventeen years along the way?

Do not pause here. However splendid your equipment, you will need it all, and need more. But do not spend all your time in getting ready. From this time henceforth combine business with preparation. Avoid an aimless preparation. Have a plan. In the gathering of material, have specific and definite reference to the building you propose to erect.

I would discourage in you any scarcity of equipment, or narrowness of thought. There shall be no conflict between me and all that has ever been said to you, as to the importance of the most thorough preparation. But I warn you that you are living in an age of specialties. Your broadest, deepest and most comprehensive preparation, after all, ought to have reference to the specialty you have in mind.

Be consecutive in business. If a minister, wait on your ministry. If a physician, practice medicine. If a mechanic, pursue you calling. If a journalist, follow journalism. If a lawyer, practice law. In short, whatever avocation you select, profession choose, calling accept, continue therein.

You will be flattered by others, and will exult yourselves by reason of your ability to excel in many things; but I say to you, that you can only do one thing best. Every year you spend outside of your chosen profession, you will see the hour when you will account it as time lost.

I would not be held to have said anything more solemnly in earnest, than when I assert, that the professions are jealous and exacting masters. Either of them will demand all there is for you.

Be a part of, and take a part in, the times in which you live. The tendency of the college graduate is to be a recluse, to surround himself with something of the grand, glowing and peculiar. He has a tendency toward the theoretical, rather than the practical; a disposition to wander in the dreamy past, forgetful of the living present, totally oblivious to the future. The past is important, the present is more important, the future is most important.

By the lights of the past, thrown upon the indications of the present, seek to discern the signs of the future.

But above all, high over all, most important of all, preserve your manhood and womanhood. By this, I mean the full stature of men and women in Christ Jesus.

When temptations assail, when the storm beats and roars until, as it will, it tries every fibre of your being, then the strength that will avail, the power that will prevail, is to know whom you have believed.
How impressive is the hour! What an occasion for resolutions that shall guarantee deeds immortal!

How inviting, how cloudless seems all the future! how the morning sun gilds with his golden glory every surrounding!

Every far-off sail that whitens the billows of the unknown sea, whence you come, carries congenial companions to join your joyous company. Every coming moment is fruitful soil, in which to plant good deeds, that shall continue to influence the race as time goes on.

As here and there in life's busy turmoil we meet you, may it be with lives as pure and aspirations as high and as noble, as those that inspire you at this moment.

Let us all so order our lives, that at the last reunion, the final gathering home, we may come, bringing our sheaves with us and greet each other in the full glory of the eternal morning.

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IDEAL COLLEGE JOURNALISM.

Foremost among the great arts of the nineteenth century stands that of journalism. In its infancy suppressed and restricted, and its exponents persecuted in every possible manner, it was pushed forward by its constituents with tenacious persistence amid opposition on every side, and eventually overcame all obstacles, and is at the present day unquestionably one of the most potent factors in our civilization.

It seems that the American people, at large do not have an adequate conception of the power and strength wielded by journalism. They do not seem to realize the importance of this vast institution. They regard it as some rather inferior calling. When a young man enters some other of the learned professions he is commended for his choice and receives the good wishes of all. But when a young man signifies his intention of entering the journalistic arena seldom does he receive any commendation, nor is he regarded as having devoted his talents to a worthy cause. By this prevalent erroneous conception the standard of journalism has been to some extent lowered. Many of the most intelligent young men with natural literary tastes and abilities have been influenced by this common belief to reject journalism and seek some other profession, while many of a much inferior type have taken up this profession with the belief that they would be fully capable of attaining distinction in this line. By true journalism is not meant the large quota of inferior sheets with half, or sometimes all, boiler-plate matter, rat-office printing, and with editorial and reportorial staff of ignorant and uncultured thugs, dead-beats and heelers. Such are not worthy to be dignified with the name of journalism. True journalism means a publication with a high literary standard, matchless printing, able editorials, unquestionable advertisements, and all else worthy of commendation. Nowhere among the numerous learned professions is there a greater demand for men of proficiency, culture, and refinement than in the ranks of journalism. Proper qualification for this profession requires the broadest knowledge of any profession. To be a really successful journalist, a man must have a moderate knowledge of everything. He must write for all classes of individuals from the most illiterate to the most cultured. He must write on every variety of topics. To be a journalist, in the true sense of the word, means much more than the ordinary conception of the term.

Certainly of all the various forms of journalism which abound in the various vocations of life that of college journalism should be of a most peerless character, and pure moral tone above all others. The period youth is eminently the most fitting for acquiring habits of model manhood and womanhood. Habits contracted during this period adhere to them most persistently in after life. Then every influence thrown around them should be of a most elevating nature. Model journalism should exist here if anywhere. Students as a rule have the aesthetic nature and finer sensibilities more fully developed than any other class of individuals. Their tastes are refined and cultured, therefore college journalism should be of a nature to satisfy their literary tastes. Certainly the necessity of a high plane of college journalism is established beyond peradventure. Probably what constitutes model college journalism is not so readily determined, but there are a few qualities which are indispensable in the make up of the ideal college paper.

One of the prime requisites of any publication, and fully as much so in college journalism as anywhere else, is first-class printing. The art of printing is one of the greatest arts of to day. On the typographical appearance of a literary publication mainly depends its degree of success. Poor printing is indicative of poor taste and poor literary form. Many able literary productions have lost their force in blurred, illegible, inartistic typography.

A most essential qualification to model college journalism is able editorials. Editorials are one of the most essential elements of any publication. They are likewise the most commonly neglected and overlooked part of our publications. In fact they are most grievously ignored by some would-be first-class publications. They are also held by many in a mistaken conception. An editorial is comment and original opinion of the editor upon some current topic of general importance. Mere statements of facts, petty personal disputes, thanks for favors bestowed, and many other forms which may be so often seen in editorial columns, are entirely out of place there. Editorials should be brief and to the point—not long and exhaustive treatises. Many editors expend all their energies upon one lengthy, tiresome editorial. Such is not the best form. No better place for imitation could be found than in our most prominent metropolitan dailies, the editorials beginning rather short and pithy and gradually lengthening until the climax is reached.

A matter which cannot be overlooked in considering the essential qualities of college journalism is the nature of its advertising matter. The advertising columns of a college paper should be kept as free from objectionable matter as any other part. The advertisements are necessarily read by the same class of individuals as its other matter. Nothing but reputable business firms should be represented in its columns. It is a matter of much regret to see the character of advertisements which many otherwise excellent college papers publish in their advertising pages. It should not be tolerated by their readers. Reputable business firms should refuse to patronize papers which accept and disgrace their columns with objectionable advertisements.

As to the body of contributed matter no comment is
necessary. In most college papers this is of a high grade, generally consisting of articles by the alumni and other friends of the institution—articles from the pens of men who are profound thinkers and instructive writers—articles by which any individual may be benefited in reading.

The amount of benefit accruing to a college from a creditable journalistic organ is not generally fully appreciated. Its value cannot be over-estimated. It serves to keep prominently before the public the college which it represents, and its many advantages. It advocates every interest. It keeps up an interest and enthusiastic spirit among the institution's alumni, which would otherwise to a great extent die out. It affords the students of literary taste and merit opportunity for literary drill and training in connection with their college work. Lastly, in the general dissemination of knowledge, it is by no means without value. The many contributed articles of genuine literary merit may be read even by the most profound with profit.

Let it suffice to say that these are only a few of the many benefits derived from college journalism by the college, its clients, and the people at large. Great progress is being made yearly in college journalism. Yet the lofty ideal has not yet been reached. When it has, still more benefit will accrue. We know the standard of the ideal is high. The aim of college students should be high. They should be the instruments of enlightenment. That is their intended mission. Then they should strive to make college journalism a worthy example for imitation. Let those who are interested in the welfare of college journalism strive to remove the partial pall which has overspread much of our journalistic literature and eventually all together to mount the pinnacle of ideal college journalism.

H. W. Keller.

The open sessions of the societies this spring were of even more than usual interest. The ladies held their sessions Thursday night before commencement, and the gentlemen's societies the next evening. The Philomathean hall being not yet ready for occupancy, the session of that society was held in the chapel. All the others occupied their halls. Each of the four programs had marked features of excellence.

Otterbein has made application for admission into the Ohio Inter-Collegiate Athletic Association. Our chances for entry seem first-class. If our boys are admitted, our friends may rest assured that we will be "in it" when State field day comes around. Several of our records this spring were better than those made at the field day of the association at Columbus.

Men's minds are as variant as their faces. Where the motives of their actions are pure, the operation of the former is no more to be imputed to them, as a crime, than the appearance of the latter: for both, being the work of nature, are alike unavoidable.—Washington.

The every-day cares and duties, which men call drudgery, are the weight and counterpoises of the clock of time, giving its pendulum a true vibration, and its hands a regular motion; and when they cease to hang upon the wheels, the pendulum no longer swings, the hands no longer move, the clock stands still.—Longfellow.
Garst is returned to the chair of Mental and Moral Science, to which is added the work of the English Bible, which will be extensively taught in our curriculum hereafter. Grand advance! Prof. Zuck resumes the duties of the English department.

Most of our faculty will be open to engagements for institutes, lectures, addresses, etc., this summer. Our friends should see that these men have opportunity of meeting the people.

A WOMEN’S MOVEMENT.

An organization worthy of the attention and help of every member of the United Brethren church is the one formed here on the afternoon of commencement day. It grew out of Mrs. Shrom’s speech on the subject, “She,” at the alumni meeting the night before.

The plan, as presented by her, has for its nucleus idea the attempt to secure small contributions from every member of the church. The organization is known as the Women’s Co-operative Circle of Otterbein University. Membership is conditional on the payment of one cent a day to the funds of the institution, the amount to be sent in every six months. It is proposed to organize circles in every congregation. Mrs. M. A. Fisher is president, Miss Tirzah Barnes, secretary, Mrs. J. A. Weinland, treasurer. A vice-president is to be chosen from each conference and there are five vice-presidents at large—Mesdames L. R. Kelster of Dayton, H. H. Smith of Columbus, W. P. Shrom of Pittsburgh, and Huddle Martz of Greenville. The executive committee will soon issue circulars explaining the plans in detail. Not women alone, but children and even the men are expected to co operate.

ONE YEAR.

The Ægis with this number begins its second year. The past year has been, we are glad to say, gratifyingly successful. The support which we have received from all parties connected with the University has been worthy of gratitude which we have no words to express. We have made no money, but we are not complaining of that, for we are not running a money-making institution. So long as our finances come even we are content. If we have done any good for the school, we are profoundly thankful. Our next year will continue in the same lines. We solicit humbly your support, dear readers, for still another year and pledge our best efforts to promote the interests of our beloved school in every way that our judgment may suggest and our resources enable us to accomplish.

Our readers will remember that the Ægis does not issue during the Summer vacation, and that the next number will appear about the 20th of next September. We bid our readers good-bye for the Summer and wish them the happiest of happy Summer-time weeks.

Look out for this. Next year we will print a series of articles on “How a College Education Benefits a Man in Actual Life.” All the occupations will be represented. The articles will be written by prominent alumni. Dr. Funkhouser, Judge Shauk, S. J. Flickinger, W. M. Fogler, and Mrs. Laura Shrom will be among the contributors.

COMMENCEMENT.

THE GLAD SEASON COME AGAIN.

COMPLETE REPORT OF THE WEEK’S FESTIVITIES.—THE SENIORS “IN IT” NO LONGER.—LARGE ATTENDANCE OF ALUMNI AND VISITORS.—MANY WISE SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

ALUMNAL DAY.

Alumnal day, as Wednesday of commencement week may fairly be called, was of very unusual interest this year. The alumni were present in greater force than they had ever been before. The special effort put forth to secure the attendance of alumni at this commencement bore excellent fruit, and the college has derived from it an advantage almost immeasurable.

The business meeting of the Alumni Association was held at 2 o’clock in the afternoon. The announcement of Rev. E. A. Starkey’s resignation as alumni member of the board of trustees had been made on the previous day. Rev. Starkey, who has been a most efficient member of the board, resigns on account of his anticipated removal to the Pacific coast. The nomination of candidates for the vacancy being taken up, Hon. W. M. Fogler, of Vandalia, Ill., was nominated. Some one discovered that the alumni are entitled to two visiting members of the board of trustees, and for these positions Rev. A. E. Davis, of Galion, and Hon. S. E. Kemp, of Dayton, were proposed. These gentlemen were afterward unanimously elected.

A committee was also appointed to petition the Legislature to so alter the charter of the college as to give the alumni ten representatives among the trustees instead of three, and to insert in it provisions making women unquestionably eligible to these positions. These measures it is proposed to carry into speedy effect.

After the business meeting, about sixty of the alumni, with members of their families, gathered at an informal tea at the Hotel Holmes. It was a most highly enjoyable occasion, enhanced by a pleasant social hour afterward in the hotel parlors.

The public meeting in the evening in the chapel brought together a class of people of which any body of students might be proud. Men of distinction in law, medicine and theology, journalists, teachers and merchants, with women whose influence in Christian work and in social reforms has extended to other States than our own, mingled in a happy company. A very unique program had been arranged, and was opened by an Alumnal chorus—“All Together Again.” Rev. G. M. Mathews, ’70, then pronounced the invocation. This was followed by an address given by Rev. Dr. G. A. Funkhouser, ’68. His subject was “He.” He explained something of his ideal alumnus, and then gave some very practical hints to that alumnus. His outline of work to be done for the institution was deeply suggestive.

An alumnal orchestra, led by Dr. L. E. Custer, ’84, rendered a medley of college and national airs, warwhoops, etc., much to the amusement of their hearers.

This was followed by an address by Mrs. Laura Gard­ner Shrom, ’71, on the subject, “She.” What the
women could do to help on the college work, was the burden of her theme, and it was her forcibly put suggestions that instigated the woman's movement of the next day, which is elsewhere described, and from which so much good seems bound to flow.

A duet was sung by S. E. Kumler and Hon. J. A. Shauck, '66, "The Larboard Watch." Hon. W. M. Fogler, '78, had been assigned the subject, "It," "The mission of Otterbein University," said he, "is to secure to man the highest, noblest and sublimest culture." His eloquent address was stirring and full of enthusiasm.

Next, music, violin cello solo by Dr. A. A. Kumler, '88.

Pres. Bowersox then spoke on the subject, "We." Very briefly he reviewed and commended the work of the college in the past year and its plans for the future.

A quartette composed of Messrs. Kumler, Graham, Brown and Shauck closed the program.

The meeting was a magnificent one distinguished by the profoundest loyalty for the old and honored mother and a spirit of making words crystallize into actions.

THE GREAT DAY OF DAYS.

Thursday morning opened bright, clear and hot. This day for which all other days are made, was the fairest of the week. Crowds began early to congregate in the chapel, and its immense seating capacity was entirely occupied when the exercises opened. The faculty ascended the platform, the president-elect among them, and the seniors took seats in front of them. The band, which was stationed in the gallery and rendered all the music of the occasion, played an overture. Rev. Dr. Funkhouser pronounced the invocation, and after another selection, the exercises proper opened.


We would gladly give abstracts of these orations, did our space permit. As it is, we can only say that every production displayed a high order of merit, and was delivered almost faultlessly. The whole performance was of very equal excellence and that of very high grade. A commencement more creditable to class and faculty could not well be imagined.

President Bowersox conferred the degrees as follows: A. B., Messrs. Hippard, Jude, Leas, Pumphrey, and Resler; Ph. B., Messrs. Kumler and Weinland, the Misses Scott; B. L., Mr. Pottenger. Besides these, the following members of class '88 received the degree of A. M. in course: G. R. Hippard, Columbus; Olive Morrison, Sugar Grove, Pa.; W. L. Mathers, Fostoria. Upon Rev. F. P. Sanders, of Lorain, was conferred the Ph. D. degree. Further—the announcement being received with cheers—Rev. W. M. Beardshear, D. D., of Ames, Iowa, was made a Doctor of Laws.

After this, a piece of side play not on the program came in with good effect. Louis A. Thompson, of '94, had won the championship in the contest of the day before to determine the best all-round athlete. '91 had provided the medal, a magnificent affair in heavy gold. The president called the blushing victor before the cheering audience and presented the medal in a happy speech. Then in graver vein, the president spoke of his retirement from the faculty. He expressed his thanks for courtesy received from the school, its officers and students and with words of highest compliment introduced his successor. President-elect Sanders seemed deeply affected. He arose amid great applause to say, "I can only assure you that my whole being, heart, soul, mind, and body, for what I may be worthy, are in this cause." The benediction was pronounced by Rev. Dr. Ervin, of Union City, and the vast assemblage dispersed. The class of '91 were alumni, and the thirty-fifth annual commencement of Otterbein was a history.

THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE LITERARY SOCIETIES.

The anniversary of the literary societies was held Monday evening, the 8th. The entertainment was opened by an oration, "The Hope of Alsace," by the Cleiorhetean Orchestra. After prayer, by Rev. G. S. J. Browne, the president of the evening, Nolan R. Best, made a few introductory remarks, and the Philalethean quartet rendered "Legends." The first speaker of the evening, Miss Ida Miller, representative of the Cleiorhetean society, spoke of "The Uses of Adversity." Said she, This is a life made up of joy and sorrow. God tries us for our own good. Misfortunes and trials are great educators. Every good that was ever wrought, every empire that ever rose and fell, came through adversity.

The next speaker was Pres. W. M. Beardshear, D. D., of Ames, Iowa, representative of the Philomathean society. His subject was "The Sage's Mother of True Success." He drew his theme from a line of Aeschylus, "Obedience is the mother of success, bringing safety.” He enforced obedience to all that is noble and true, as the prime duty of life. Success in any condition is due to a conforming to the requisites of truth. In obedience may be found the solution of the knotty problems of to-day.

The Otterbein Quartet next rendered a double number consisting of "Annie Laurie" and "Catastrophe."

The representative of the Philomathean society, Mrs. S. W. Keister, of Dayton, as "one of them," told of "The Minister's Wife." After ministerial fashion, she divided the subject into two heads—what the world expects of her, and what she can do. She spoke in half-humorous vein of the trials which a minister's wife endures. But she must keep them locked in her heart, so that her husband may give his mind to his work.

Prof. T. J. Sanders, Ph. D., of Warsaw, Ind., representing the Philophronean society, spoke of the "Habit of Mastery." After analyzing the character of habit and its power over men, the speaker proceeded to impress the importance of cultivating a habit of overcoming. Man ought to reach out toward the infinities. He ought to
press on through the universe of chaos between himself and his ideal, and reduce it to a universe of order. So he comes to sit even on the throne of God.

The evening closed with the rendition of a dance, "The Darkey's Dream," by the Philomathean orchestra.

CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS' ANNIVERSARY.

The Christian Associations sought as their representative this spring a man who was connected with the distinctively associational work. Such a man was found in Mr. G. N. Bierce, of Dayton, chairman of the State Executive Committee of the Y. M. C. A. and president of the last convention at Springfield. He kindly consented to deliver the annual address before the associations. He was greeted by a full house on Sunday evening of commencement week. Miss Daisy Custer, president of the joint association of the college, presided. The chapel choir rendered a beautiful anthem, Dr. Swain led in prayer, and a double quartet, a combination of the two popular male quartets of the college, rendered appropriate music. The president, with a few graceful remarks, introduced Mr. Bierce. He said that he wished to speak of great army of 700,000 young men of Ohio, and their needs. He showed how few were members of Christian churches, in what danger they stand from three great evils—intemperance, gambling, and the social evil. He demonstrated the inability of church and school and family influences to reach them, and the necessity and growing success of the Y. M. C. A. were emphasized. The four-fold development of man in social, physical, intellectual and spiritual lines is its ideal. He spoke in high encouragement of the gymnasium plan for Otterbein. It was a very helpful and inspiring discourse.

BACCALAUREATE.

Commencement week opened with the dawn of Sunday morning, warm but not clear. It was raining about as hard as June rains ever fall when morning broke; it had been raining for more than half the night, to say nothing of several preceding days of dampness, and it continued to rain for several hours thereafter. Happily, the rain ceased by Sabbath school time, and when the hour of morning service had arrived, streets were passable. An audience of moderate size was gathered in the chapel, when faculty and seniors passed up the aisles, the former to seats on the rostrum, the latter to chairs arranged for them directly in front of the pulpit. Rev. Dr. I. L. Kephart, editor of the Religious Telescope, sat with the faculty.

The service opened with the Te Deum by the choir. Rev. G. S. J. Browne, '69, of Bowling Green, offered invocation. Dr. Garst read the twelfth chapter of Romans, and after singing, prayer was offered by Dr. Kephart. Another hymn followed, and President Bowersox arose to deliver the baccalaureate sermon. It will be found printed in full elsewhere. It was a discourse of magnificent power which held the rapt attention of his hearers for over an hour. His effort was one of distinguished credit to himself and the school. The assembly was dismissed with the benediction by Dr. Thompson.

THE UNIVERSITY ADDRESS.

Tuesday evening's event was the annual university address by Pres. Beardshear. The opening prayer was offered by Rev. F. P. Sanders, of Lorain, Ohio. The theme of the lecture was, "A Youth's Vision of Life." He referred in an anonymous way to his own experiences as a youth in Otterbein, and the influence upon his life of the words of the Lord to Baruch—"Seeketh thou great things for thyself; seek them not." The lecture took a very practical form. The speaker told negatively what life is not, spoke of the illusions that hold the mind of youth, of the way in which these illusions must be dispelled. He showed, however, how important the value of these illusory hopes in life, Self-respect is one of the keys to successful life. This does not mean conceit, but self-confidence. After concluding, the lecturer took occasion to express, touchingly, his thanks to the college, its faculty, its trustees, and the people of Westerville for what he said they had done for him. His especial reference, not then comprehended by his audience, was to the conferment of the LL. D. little upon him.

THE JUNIOR BANQUET.

The evening of May 27th was the time, and the Holmes Hotel the place, of '92's banquet in honor of '91, their invited guests. The evening was a delightful social event and the spread in the dining hall was among the finest that Westerville has seen. President George Stoughton, of class '92, was toastmaster, and the toasts did credit to the powers of both classes in post-prandial oratory. The juniors did themselves proud, and now in smiles of approving consciences await repayment from '93.

TRUSTEES' SESSIONS.

The meeting of the board this spring was well attended, and the sessions were marked by the utmost harmony. The absorbing topic of discussion was the presidency, Pres. Bowersox resigned unconditionally, and the matter of selecting his successor was most carefully considered. After long deliberations, choice fell on Prof. T. H. Sanders, of Warsaw, Ind. Prof. W. J. Zuck was re-elected to the faculty, and Prof. Earl Hill, of Sugar Grove, Pa., a musical graduate of '83, was invited to the department of music. Profs. Sanders and Zuck have signified their acceptances, but Prof. Hill has not yet done so. The remainder of the faculty continues as this year. A threatened effort to secure the removal of Prof. Guiter, happily for the reputation of the school, came to nothing. It was a very poor day for the chronic kicker.

The finances are in promising shape. Our financial agent, Rev. S. M. Hippard, will probably spend a good part of the year in the field, while the books of the institution will be in the hands of one of the professors.

Amidst a wealth of personalis this month, we have written up almost none. There are too many to even make a selection. Suffice it to say that a great deal over a hundred visitors were in town during graduation week. Alumni, old students, patrons, relatives and friends of graduates, relatives and friends of other students, and many others beside made up a company in whose presence Westerville was glad.
LOCAL NOTES.

Our gymnasium is still coming on.

College avenue will be paved next year.

J. E. Hill, the energetic agent of Fostoria Academy, spent several days in town this week.

B. F. Cokely, of Union Biblical Seminary, spent commencement week with his former classmate, Rev. R. L. Swain.

'88 and '89 were particularly well represented in the commencement attendance. '90 had four members back to see their performance of a year ago emulated.

Rev. G. S. J. Browne, '69, with wife and daughter Esther, were entertained at the home of Prof. Haywood during the past week. Mr. Browne filled the Presbyterian pulpit on Sabbath evening.

The Philomathean and Philophronean societies banqueted their visiting alumni and other friends Wednesday night, the former in their newly decorated hall, the latter at the Hotel Holmes. These were very pleasant occasions, affording old and young members a chance to come in close and agreeable contact.

Judge J. A. Shauck, of the second judicial circuit of Ohio, is so situated in his work that he can seldom attend commencement. This year, a docket at Springfield for the disposal of which two weeks had been assigned was cleared away in one, and the Judge came to commencement happy as a school boy. No man here enjoyed himself more than he did.

The Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. will issue, immediately after commencement, a little hand-book, which will be distributed among new students next fall. It will contain all kinds of useful information, just such as every new student, and many an old one, will desire to secure. Any prospective student wishing to obtain a copy of this hand-book before the opening of school next fall, can do so by addressing, with stamp, Mr. T. G. McFadden, Westerville.

The Town Street Club, of Columbus, having been twice defeated by our boys during the spring, came up on Wednesday, the 10th, with blood in their eyes, and a determination to retrieve their injured reputations. They brought along a new battery—a pitcher said to be the best amateur in Columbus, and a catcher who is reliably reported to have had a taste of professional ball. On the other hand, our boys were broken up all around. Two men had gone home, and this necessitated the playing of two unpracticed men. The features of the game were the heavy and opportune batting of the visitors, and the rank errors of the home men at critical times. The right fielder seemed particularly unfortunate in his inability to get any cinch on the ball. The game was witnessed by very many of the commencement visitors. In fact, so engaging was it to the alumni, that the alumnal business meeting in progress at the same hour, was deserted by all except a mere handful. The score, which we could not bring ourselves to print if we did not hope that it might rise up to be a warning to next year's team, is as follows:

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NORTH STATE STREET, WESTERVILLE, O.
On the 10th instant in lieu of the usual class day exercises, a contest was held under auspices of the seniors among the athletes of the school for the championship of the college. The contestants, six in number, were tried in ten of the principal college sports. The purpose of the affair was to find the best all-round athlete in school, to whom the senior class were to award a handsome gold medal for his prowess. The medal was won by Mr. L. A. Thompson. It is needless to say that “Jack” is quite a lion in school just at present. “There are no flies on the class of ’94.”

PERSONALS.

Miss Cora Scott entertained her father during commencement days.

Mr. Pumphrey, of Clayton, heard his son Elgar’s graduation oration.

Miss White, of Richmond, Ind., was the guest of J. A. Weinland’s family.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Leas, of West Manchester, were here in honor of Bertrand’s graduation.

Fred Rike, ’88, of Dayton, had his friendly air and his wheel with him at commencement.

S. E. Kumler, wife and children, of Dayton, were present to grace Irvin’s debut into the big world.

The Misses Pottenger, of Sater, were the guests of their brothers here during the week of commencement.

Miss Blanche Zehring, of Delaware, State Secretary of the Y. W. C. A., visited the association here, May 29.

Miss Lora Weinland, of Darke county, who was an O. U. student in ’88–’89, was visiting among old friends commencement week.

Rev. W. O. Fries, the Fostoria pastor, former principal of the Buckhannon (W. Va.) academy, was in attendance on commencement.

Rev. W. E. Adams, Prof. S. H. Maharry, and E. M. Best, of Centerburg, listened to the graduating exercises with interest and appreciation.

J. P. Martin, ’61, of Milford Centre, twenty-six years absence from Westerville, renewed his allegiance to Otterbein during this commencement season.

Irvin Kumler, with his cornet, assisted his father in leading the music of the late Sunday school convention of the State at Marietta, in the early part of the month.

D. L. Rike, the ever faithful trustee and liberal benefactor of Otterbein, with his wife, herself no less active in the good work than her husband, were of course on attendance at commencement.

Miss Elma Bittle, last year with ’93, visited her sister, Mary Bittle, of the art department, and attended commencement. Miss Bittle expects to sail for Africa in the fall, as teacher in the U. B. missions on the east coast. Her presence in the Y. P. S. C. E. missionary meeting at the college Sunday evening, the 7th, lent especial interest and feeling to the meeting.
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