<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTENTS</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Editorial,</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Bicycle Tour in Europe,—IV.,—L. E. Custer, D.D.S., '84</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saum Hall,—Professor Tirza L. Barnes, '85</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Talk,—A Student, '94</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y. W. C. A. Notes,</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alumnal Notes,</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal and Local,</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y. M. C. A. Notes,</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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EDITORIAL.

Commencement is June 15th. The societies, alumni association, and other organizations are busily engaged in arranging attractive programs, and we are assured that the exercises will all be up to the high standard of other years. We hope to be able next month to give our readers a complete program of all the exercises. Look for it.

The spring term added to our number fifteen new faces, and they have entered upon their work heartily. There was less irregularity on the part of students in taking up their work at the opening of the term than for a long time. Absenteeism at the beginning of a term is a thing of the past, except, of course, in cases wholly unavoidable. The Aegis is inclined to think this is just as it should be. When the classes start off the first day of the term with a full roll, it is like pressing the button which puts in motion a thousand wheels. No time is lost making up back work; students and teacher advance regularly with the subject well in hand. Under this arrangement there is no excuse for hasty and superficial work on the part of the student, and the end of the term should find no delinquents. With an average term grade of 85 as the standard, final examinations will be few.

Law and order are as necessary to the college as to the state. The highest results can not be reached in either without them. It is true that in the college, as in society, the great body are order-loving and law-abiding. Only the few need the restraints of law and authority. Without these restraints it would be possible for the few to tyrannize over the many, and indeed to defeat the object and purpose of all education. Therefore do law-abiding students have rights that college authorities must protect. Lawlessness and vandalism in college life are disturbers of its peace, and every loyal student owes it to himself, his fellows, and the college of which he is a member, to help to the extent of his influence and knowledge in the suppression of everything unlawful and destructive. The destruction of property, whether public or private, is condemned by the student body.

Before the next number of the Aegis will reach its readers, the General Conference will have determined the educational policy of the church for the next four years. Much has
been written as to what that body should do and should not do. The legislation of the church in the past in matters pertaining to its institutions of learning has not been bad, but for the most part wise and practicable. The difficulty has been in the executive branch of the government of the church. The board of bishops and the general board of education must consist of men who will at least seek to carry out the legislation of the General Conference, even if they are not wholly in sympathy with it. Obedience to the will of the majority is the high duty of every man in official position, when that will as expressed in law is the result of wise and deliberate action.

There is nothing that brings more real gratification to the average student during these closing weeks of the year than the progress of our association building. Yes, it is ours, and built by our sacrifices, and that lends to it a double interest. Where other similar efforts have failed, this succeeds. The building committee have been prudent, and justly so. They have projected no plans that will ultimately involve the associations. Since the canvass that marked the beginning of the movement, no effort has been made to secure additional contributions from students, but the time has come when a second canvass is thought necessary, and we expect to report to our readers next month a flattering increase not only in interest but in hard, substantial cash. The spirit of Otterbein students accepts nothing but success.

Speaking of advancement, we are glad to note it on more sides than one. It might be interesting to students of the seventies and early eighties to know that Christian men of different societies speak to each other now when passing on the street. In extreme cases these same individuals walk arm in arm quite forgetful of the ocean-wide differences in their literary attainments. Loyalty is no longer a synonym for meanness.

We think it is due our readers to say that the editorial department is not responsible for the delay that has occurred in the last two or three issues, but that it has been due to the great amount of business that our publishers have at this time of the year. We hope that this may be remedied in the future, and that the items of news may come to our readers as fresh as we mean they should.

A BICYCLE TOUR IN EUROPE.

L. E. CUSTER, D.D.S.

IV.

Cologne is one of the beautiful cities of Europe. The chief attraction to the tourist is the cathedral. This structure on the left bank of the Rhine is next to St. Peter's in size and grandeur. Its towers are the highest in Europe, being 512 feet high. Our tourists spent what remained of this first day in a walk about the city, and under the pressure of their stylish citizens' clothes were not satisfied till they had secured front seats at the theater at night. They could not understand a word, but there they sat as though they had written the play.

Next morning, after a drive about the city, we secured a guide and visited the cathedral. The guide's description did not differ much from that laid down in our guide book as one would suppose. We took advantage of our second suits of clothes and had our cycle suits repaired and upholstered during our stay in Cologne.

The scenic and historic portion of the Rhine lies between Cologne and Mainz. Beautiful steamers which make the trip in a day ply between these two points, but it is better to take a longer time and visit some of the old ruins. Except in Switzerland, nowhere in
Europe can there be found as delightful a bicycle ride as along the Rhine from Cologne to Mainz. The roads are fine macadam and quite level, and every mile is historic and rich in scenery. This part of our tour seems today like a dream.

After tenderly consigning our citizens' clothes again to the trunk, it was forwarded to Leipsic, and at 3 P.M., June 24, we were off for the Rhine trip. We had not forgotten the instructions received from the policemen when we arrived; so we walked out till we thought the coast clear, when we mounted and were soon whirling in the direction of the Seven Mountains. On a level stretch of road John was teaching his steed the art of self-guidance, when suddenly, owing to a division of opinion, both found themselves floundering in the dust. John got up smiling, but the cycle's backbone was sprung. After a little delay at a blacksmith shop, we proceeded and reached Bonn in an hour.

Bonn is the birthplace of Beethoven, and in the market square there stands a beautiful statue of him. As we found it that day it seemed almost a sacrilege that the pedestal should have been given up to brawling auctioneers and vendors of quacking ducks.

Just beyond Bonn the hills, sometimes called mountains, begin, and our road was crowded down to the very brink of the river. For miles it led by villas and flower gardens and where the distance widened between river and mountain these villas were gathered into towns. Every prominent hill seemed crowned with a ruin, and we were so enraptured with the scenes about us that we rode till dusk was upon us, when we stopped at a hotel near Rheineck. Here Fred in wiping the dust from his machine undertook to revolve the wheel with his finger between the chain and the sprocket wheel. Fortunately no bone was broken, but a painful wound taught him never to repeat the experiment. We were stopping at a country hotel that night, and had all the advantages afforded by the country. The beds of Europe are unlike the beds of our country. A double bed is wide enough for one person, but a single one is about the shape of a brick set on edge. It is so high and narrow that its occupant, if an American, retires in about the same frame of mind as he would on the upper berth of a sleeping car. The foundation is a corpulent feather tick to take the place of springs and mattress. It is so well filled that the sleeper strikes an attitude much as though he were sleeping on a barrel. There are the proper number of sheets, and for a cover, even in midsummer, is another feather tick. There is one enormous pillow, perhaps half the size of the dainty feather-spread. Besides this there is an extra fixture not seen in America which we called the "wedge" from its resemblance to that mechanical power. Just under the pillow is a wedge-shaped hard mattress perhaps a foot thick at the head and decreasing in thickness toward the middle of the bed. The beds of this hotel not only had all these fixtures, but being in a land of geese, and in the country, we found the equipments not wanting in size and number. We were not in the habit of sleeping in a semi-sitting posture; so it was our custom to commence on these beds as though there was a fire in the house and reduce them to the American style as nearly as possible. It became a matter-of-fact operation upon retiring to reach down for the abominable wedge and fling it at the fellow nearest you. The next operation on hot nights was to strip the covering from the upper feather tick and utilize that portion only. On this occasion there were two beds in a room, and after these had been made habitable to Americans, the space between the beds was completely filled with these extras. Although we did no damage, we generally felt a little uneasy in the mornings and made sure to get away before the maid had taken an inventory of things.
At ten o'clock we arrived at Coblenz, where we obtained an early dinner preparatory to a climb to Ehrenbreitstein. We four cyclers never hear the name Coblenz but it calls to mind strawberries at $1.75 per quart. They were just in season at that time, and we called for a plate of strawberries at the close of the meal. The waiter gave us about a pint to divide among us. The reader can imagine how far a pint of strawberries would go toward satisfying the hunger of four half-starved bicyclers. That was only an aggravation; so we ordered another plate of the same size. When we settled for the meal, we found we had to pay $1.75 for our strawberries; this, too, in a land where they flourish. If you will examine a bottle of imported strawberries, you will see that it is marked “Coblenz.” Luxuries come high. This is only one instance of the tricks of European hotel-keepers. As soon as it is known that you are an American, double the ordinary charge is made. It was difficult to conceal our identity, and since it was useless to remonstrate, we found it best to accept these slight distinctions as though we were millionaires. With a feeling that we would like to catch the proprietor out alone, we made our way to the river. We crossed on a pontoon bridge and commenced the ascent to the castle. The road is probably a mile in length, and we were quite fatigued when we reached the castle, but were well rewarded for our climb. The view from the turret is simply grand. The Moselle joins the Rhine at Coblenz, and being opposite the confluence, we had a splendid view up the valley of the Moselle, as well as in either direction along the Rhine.

After an hour spent in looking about the old castle, which is now used as a garrison, we coasted down, and our tires were fairly smoking when we reached the river again. We did not cross, but made our way along the east side. The distance from Coblenz to the mouth of the river Lahn recalls a heated discussion as to whether or not we would take a little excursion up that river to Ems, the Saratoga of western Germany. During this debate, the other three members maintain, the writer was so beside himself that he ran against a shade tree. However that may be, a torn trouser and a bad cut were the result of the collision. But we finally decided to take the trip, and were well repaid for our delay, for the scenery was grand. While there we were chased by a policeman for riding on a certain street. We felt uneasy; so after a taste of the water and an investment in souvenir spoons, we returned to the Rhine, over which we were ferried.

We stopped that night at St. Goar, and were up early Sunday morning, for we were then in the most interesting part of the Rhine trip. It was some Catholic fête day. In every town there were decorations, processions, and bands. We passed that morning the Lorelei, the Mouse Tower, and many castles, and took dinner at Bingen, looking out upon the national monument on the Niederwald. Words cannot describe that morning’s ride.

About two o’clock we were off for Mainz, which was reached in two hours. A little time was spent in riding about the city. We found this also in holiday attire. We crossed the beautiful bridge to Kastel and stopped that night at Hochheim. We had noticed that it was becoming warm weather; so we were up early next morning and off for Frankfurt, which was reached by nine o’clock. The day was spent in sight-seeing and a visit to Rothschild’s bank, which we patronized by securing enough money to take us to Berlin. It was well we did, for on this trip an unlooked-for incident occurred which could only have been met otherwise by exchanging what remained of our American money, and parting with our watches and souvenir spoons and whatever could be turned into money.

At 3 o’clock, with all the needed prepara-
tions, we started on a monotonous journey of 417 miles across Germany. While the scenery was quite ordinary as compared with that through which we had just passed, there were incidents connected with this part without which no bicycle tour would have been complete. It was hot weather, and we chose to ride early and late rather than in midday. Our first stop was made at Nidda that night without any incident except perhaps that we passed a mineral spring of remarkable qualities. This seemed to be unknown except to the natives. We saw men, women, and children gathered around an artesian well, filling vessels of all sorts and carrying them away. We stopped more from curiosity than from thirst, and found the water equal to Hathorn or Apollinaris; we drank of it as though that supply were to last till we reached Berlin. As much as we stowed away then, the hot day we regretted that we had not taken just one glass more—just as though that would have quenched our thirst then.

The next was what proved to be perhaps the most eventful day of our trip in the way of adventure. We were getting into central Germany in a section not only unfrequented by tourists but where the bicycle was comparatively unknown. With our brown faces and hands, bicycle suits which were wholly different from any costume ever seen there before, and our luggage carriers covered with hotel labels, we were regarded with considerable superstition. The natives reasoned that when a person mounts a machine with but two wheels which will not itself stand alone, he must be in league with Satan to not only stay on the machine but go like the wind without falling over. It was becoming quite hilly. By our cyclometers we rode up hills seven and eight miles in length. With feet on the coasters we went down the other side and through some of the towns like a flash. Irv maintains that we went so fast that when people heard us coming they would look in the direction of the first man but see only the last.

It was when riding rather fast through the little town of Englerod that we ran over an ox, as the officials at the next town tried to make us believe. We were aware of no unusual occurrence during our passage through Englerod other than the customary scurrying of pigs, geese, and children. Anything which might have taken place must have happened after we had passed. The only thing we could recall was a calf standing in the middle of the road, around which we all cautiously passed. We had learned that of all treacherous animals a calf has no equal. You can’t tell which way it will bolt next. It stands head down, and you think you can pass in safety, when suddenly it starts, and you are lucky if you are not the next moment sprawling on the ground. About ten miles beyond Englerod is Lauterbach. It was becoming quite hot, and we were quite hungry, so we stopped for dinner at the hotel. We had noticed that the town was unusually active and took great interest in our arrival. It looked somewhat as though they were expecting us and had everything but the band ready for our reception. The police force was composed of two men, who unfortunately were not mounted. It seemed as though ordinarily these policemen drank beer for a living, and hearing of our approach, had donned their uniforms, which were back numbers indeed. They were a little threadbare, but they had been brushed up. In the back of each coat was still a print of the nail on which it had been hanging for years. The chief wore one made originally for a much smaller man than himself. He could not button it as could the other member of his force, but a glance at the seams convinced us of noble efforts in that direction. It reminded one of a homemade baseball cover, well batted. The helmets were of
assorted sizes and shapes. The working body of the force had been to Berlin and secured a secondhand one from the Berlin police force. He was the envy of the chief. It seems they had not had time to put on the regulation trousers, or else had none, and while those which they wore were probably a better fit, they lacked uniformity of color and pattern. Instead of batons they carried short swords, which, being the only part of the state property which they could utilize, were used for cutting corn in the fall.

Not suspecting anything wrong by our reception, for we were accustomed to crowds, we went to dinner. At our table we noticed a native who attracted our attention by his peculiar glances toward us, but we thought nothing of it. After dinner we took a nap, for the day was hot and we did not wish to leave till two or three o'clock. When we were about to start, we were accosted in what seems to-day to have been a preconcerted plan of action. They were afraid to begin, it seems, and did not until they saw we were actually leaving, when the hotel proprietor said: "You haf a calamity caused." This was the end of his English, or else he forgot the rest of his speech. Between them they consulted a German-English dictionary, and becoming more fluent, he again broke out at the mouth: "You haf a oxen kilt, you haf a garden demolished, you haf a much calamity caused, you must a advocat haf,"—laying much stress on the "a advocat haf." Looking about the crowd, we saw the man who sat at our table, who had put on his Sunday clothes in the meantime, and he was brought forth as the "a advocat." The police force instead of serving the papers themselves were busy keeping the crowd back. We protested our innocence of any such accusation, but seeing we were actually arrested, and at their mercy, we thought best to bow to the law and employ the "a advocat" to manage our case.

We could not even imagine what had happened at Englerod, for we saw nothing unusual, and wished first to learn the exact charge. The operator at Englerod was at that time hoeing potatoes and would not open the office again till 3 o'clock. During this time we were carefully guarded by the full police force, whom we kept uneasy by our uncertain movements. Business was entirely suspended in the town, and the burgomaster, who had quit shoeing horses and crept into his Sunday suit, was nervously pounding the bench because we did not appear.

Finally we received word that we had frightened an ox, which had broken a fence and demolished a garden, and to complete the work of destruction had killed itself by hanging between two pickets of the fence on the other side of the garden. Not satisfied with this, a third and more likely accusation was formulated to the effect that we had frightened an ox which became so unmanageable as to break its yoke. If we had been arrested for fast riding, we would have in a measure felt guilty. Or if we had been arrested for homeliness that would frighten an ox, we would have pleaded guilty; but we leave to the reader the equity and justice of an arrest and fine for frightening an ox with a bicycle. A man may frighten all the cattle he pleases with a traction engine, and nothing will come of it.

The lawyer, who had the learned name of Dr. Sommerlad and who acted his part in the outrage quite well, said the best he could do for us under the circumstances was that it would be necessary to deposit with the burgomaster two hundred marks ($50.00) or go to jail until the damage to the yoke was ascertained. Now a yoke such as is used in that country is quite a primitive affair indeed. It consists simply of a piece of wood running from the forehead of one ox to the other, having under it an old coat or garment for a pad. In the center is a hole for the tongue. The cost of a new one is about seventy-five cents. We
have no reason to believe that this yoke was gold-mounted or set with diamonds that we should have been compelled to deposit such an amount.

Although all four were arrested, only one of us was allowed to appear before the inflated dispenser of justice, the burgomaster, and plead the case. Fred was selected, and with our passports, he presented the case to His Importance as best he could. Fred says he had the passports upside down till he noticed the awkward position of the eagle, when he looked wise and reversed them. Nothing would satisfy the burgomaster until we had deposited with him the two hundred marks to cover the expenses of investigating the actual damage to the yoke or go to jail until the investigation was made, which would take at least a week. We would do almost anything rather than stay in their already well populated (by insect life) jails. We were told that only the amount to pay the damages to the yoke would be retained, and the balance promptly forwarded to Berlin. We were not allowed the privilege of returning to Englerod and settling with the owner of the ox or of buying a yoke there for the man. The burgomaster had not changed clothes for nothing; he might never have another such an opportunity to distinguish himself; the law had been outraged, and he must punish the offenders. So we reluctantly produced the two hundred marks, and from the actions of those interested we felt that that was the last of our fifty dollars. It seemed to us they had never seen that amount in one collection before, and while we were counting it out, they were mentally calculating how many kegs of beer it would purchase.

After about six hours' detention we were allowed to depart, which we did, but it was with an uneasy feeling that we had left something.

It may be of interest to the reader to know the result of the case. When we arrived at Berlin, a week later, Sommerlad had written the American consul that the damages were seven marks ($1.75), but instead of forwarding the balance as directed, had retained it and asked that he be allowed to prosecute the burgomaster for overzealoussness in the case. Sommerlad prosecute the burgomaster! The only prosecuting done would be a few kegs of beer between the two. Our answer to this was to let the burgomaster alone and send the balance to Paris. At Paris we found neither money nor intelligence. After our return home we informed the consul at Frankfort of our trouble. By his advice we reluctantly put the case into the hands of Sommerlad to secure and forward the money. After some weeks the following letters and a draft for $12.28 were received from Mr. Mason:

Consulate General of the United States,
Frankfort-on-the-Main,
February 4, 1893.

Mr. F. H. Rike, Esq.,
Dayton, Ohio.

Dear Sir: On receipt of your letter of the 7th of January, I wrote again to Dr. Sommerlad and pushed him sharply to an immediate settlement of your affair. He was slow in answering, as usual, but finally presented the enclosed account, in which his fee as a lawyer is put at 60 marks, and this, with the fine and expenses of his various trips to Englerod, eats the sum you deposited down to a balance of 51.57 marks, which we must either accept or fight by a long, costly process which would have but a negative result. I have therefore collected from him the balance, and the same is herewith remitted in a draft on New York to your order.

There is not enough in the balance to pay me for the trouble I have had with the case; so I make no charge at all. The case illustrates vividly the contingencies to which tourists are liable in Europe when they venture away from the beaten routes of travel.

Sommerlad has had a great deal of work, waiting, and trouble with the matter, and if you examine his account by items, I think you will say his charges are not unreasonable. The injustice is in the system which made all this backing and filling necessary in so plain and simple a case.

Very sincerely yours,
Frank H. Mason,
Consul General.

Inclosed in Mr. Mason's letter was the following communication from Sommerlad to him, which has been translated by Professor Werthner, of Dayton:
To the North American General Consulate.

In matters concerning the damage done in Englerod by American bicyclists, doubts have arisen in my mind as to what amounts I am to take into account in making any charges.

I gave assistance to Messrs. Rike and companions on the day on which they were detained by the police, and in order to inform myself in regard to the matter and to come to an understanding with the injured parties, I had to make a trip twice to Englerod, 17 km from Lauterbach. Following are the trip costs, day-moneys, and other expenses accruing therefrom:

1. Writing to the general consulate in Berlin, 30th June, '92. .................................................. 70 pf.
2. Writing to the general consulate in Frankfort, 14th August, '92. .................................................. 50 pf.
3. Trip to Englerod, traveling expenses, 20th June, '92. ................................................................. 20 m. 40 pf.
   Trip to Englerod, day-money.............................. 12 m.
4. Trip to Englerod, traveling expenses, 20th July, '92. ................................................................. 20 m. 40 pf.
   Trip to Englerod, day money.............................. 12 m.
5. Payment made to the damaged party........... 26 m. 95 pf.
6. Court costs (fees).................................................. 88 pf.
7. Various postage expenses................................. 60 pf.

Total .................................................................................................................. 94 m. 43 pf.

The deposited 200 m. plus 6 m. have been paid to me. Now the question comes up, What fee is due me for services rendered my clients? Paragraph 89 of the imperial law code will probably have to be referred to. I believe I may be allowed to charge for my entire service in round numbers 60 marks, so that there remain in favor of my employers 206 m. minus 154 m. 43 pf. = 51 m. 57 pf.

If you are satisfied with these charges, please to inform me soon, and I will at once send you the money. In the negative case,—e.g., if you are not satisfied, etc,—on your suggestion, the pay due me will have to be determined by the president of the Hessian law court according to par. 493 of the R. A. O.

Very respectfully,

DR. SOMMERLAD, Attorney.

Comments may be made upon Sommerlad's letter without limit; as, for instance, the whole matter was settled June 30, as stated in the Berlin letter, which is in the possession of the consul at Berlin, and the damages amounted to $1.75. When Sommerlad had been given the case, they were raised to $7.00. His trips to Englerod we think were purely imaginary, and if he did go, the conveyances, from their cost, were finer than any seen by us in that neighborhood. He charges $3.00 per day; then a fee of $15.00. In conclusion we four fellows have been congratulating ourselves that we paid enough money at the time to start Sommerlad in business in that county, and that we did not afterward receive a bill from him for double the amount for his valuable services. To Mr. Mason we indeed feel grateful for his efforts in the matter, but if it is our misfortune ever to happen in Lauterbach again, we shall certainly hunt up Sommerlad,—for the sake of old acquaintanceship if nothing else.

[To be continued.]

SAUM HALL.

"Old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." Truly, history is being made with wonderful rapidity in this nineteenth century. Only eighty years have elapsed since the ringing tones of William Otterbein's voice were urging men to forsake their sins and become followers of Christ, and now the members of the denomination which he founded are building their modest churches in nearly every state of the Union, and even reaching out helping hands to those who sit in darkness in other lands. Much of this growth is due to the increasing conviction that the religious movement which does not also provide for the liberal education of its sons and daughters is sowing the seeds of its own failure. The growth and permanence of the church depends upon the enlightened care and wholesome nourishment given to its educational institutions.

The oldest school of our church was founded in 1847, and the first classes of Otterbein University met and recited to President W. R. Griffith in a little frame building formerly owned by the Blendon Young Men's Seminary. The increase of the school soon tested the meager capacity of its buildings, and in 1854, through the generosity of Jacob Saum, of the Miami valley, a three-story dormitory for
young men was erected. To say that Saum Hall was a plain brick building of no architectural pretensions is to give the substance, in a mild way, of many uncomplimentary remarks made by irreverent students of later years as to its outer beauty. But it afforded ample accommodations to the young men, and if in its appointments luxuries were unknown and comforts very few, they probably consoled themselves with the thought that some of the grandest scholars of history lived on scanty fare and slept on hard beds while winning their well fought battles with Greek and Latin verbs and mathematical equations.

At any rate all reminiscences go to show that those were happy days, and even now the eyes of learned doctors of medicine, law, and theology will sparkle with enjoyment as they relate experiences at Saum Hall in the fifties and sixties. That good and thorough work was done within these walls we know from the list of distinguished men who burned the midnight candle here in those days. Among those who in these rooms made their preparation for lives of usefulness may be mentioned Dr. I. L. Kephart, editor of the Religious Telescope, Bishop E. B. Kephart, Dr. G. A. Funkhouser, Dr. J. P. Landis, Major Geo. Bonebrake, A. D. Kumler, Daniel Surface, Judge John A. Shauck, and others.

Nor was Saum Hall the scene of student pranks and hard study merely; but here prayers ascended, and deep lessons of religious belief and experience were learned. Old students recall with pleasure the snowy night in ’70 when the present president of Iowa Agricultural College was happily converted, and ran first to Saum Hall to wake the boys from their sleep and have them join with him in prayers and songs of rejoicing.

But the old hall is most widely known as a boarding place for young women. United Brethren point with pride to the fact that they have always been advocates of coeduca-tion; and when the doors of Otterbein University were opened to young men, the young women received an equally cordial welcome. A ladies’ department was at once organized, and Miss Sylvia Carpenter, afterward Mrs. Professor Haywood, of beloved memory, became its principal; and when the first graduating class went out, in 1857, it consisted of two young women.

As the number of students increased it became necessary to provide a home for the young women, and in 1871, the old hall having been abandoned, the boys were turned out to the hospitality of the village homes, and the girls were domiciled in Saum Hall. The inmates were now different, but youthful jollity was not discontinued, earnest study was not given up, and the religious spirit never lost its foothold. One or the other of these elements usually predominated, but neither has at any time been wholly absent.

For nearly forty years Saum Hall has been the home of hearty, happy young life. A never-ceasing drama of joys and sorrows, victories and defeats, has been enacted here. Lessons from books form but a part of those elements usually predominant, but neither has at any time been wholly absent.

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come to us scarcely dry from the press. We have all the facilities of telegraph and telephone. We already hear in anticipation the cheerful hum of the electric car, and even look forward with hopeful enthusiasm to the not far distant day when our streets and homes will be lighted with electricity. The college has kept pace with all these improvements. The main building is one of whose architectural beauty we are justly proud; the society halls are models of elegance and refined taste. The library is becoming so well stocked with good literature that the increasing need brings to our minds the vision, some day to be realized, of a beautiful library building. Even the recitation rooms have not been neglected, and where formerly the student studied and learned in spite of his surroundings, and not because of them, he now enjoys in most rooms prettily papered walls and comfortable seats. The latest achievement, the product of consecrated enthusiasm among the students and friends of Otterbein is the handsome Christian Association building and gymnasium now under process of erection on the college campus.

Saum Hall alone has not kept up with the spirit of the times. True, some improvements have been made. The bare floors and straw beds are now things of the past, and although the outside observer might find it difficult to believe, the rooms are now cheerful and comfortable. The food served is of a quality and cooking far superior to that of most institutions of the same grade, and the neatness of the housekeeping has become a proverb; but with all this it must be confessed that Otterbein University cannot compete with other schools of the day in the attractions of the home offered to ladies. Because of the increased prosperity of the town, the rooms now rented to young men are for the most part quite as good as those they occupy at home and often better. Many of them are heated with furnaces, and all are supplied with conveniences and comforts unknown in a student’s room when Otterbein University was in its infancy. Should not the young ladies fare as well?

Of the three hundred and twenty students matriculated this year, one hundred and twenty are young women. Merely from the standpoint of material gain, can Otterbein University any longer ignore the question of better accommodations for her daughters? Allow Saum Hall, with all its associations, to become a memory and erect a new one in its place, or turn it over to the scientific department and allow the girls to find homes in town.

The site of Saum Hall is all that could be desired,—a corner lot, an acre in extent, with a dozen or more grand old forest trees. A commodious building with all the modern improvements of heating and lighting could be erected for twelve or fifteen thousand dollars. Such a building would greatly increase the number of students and promote the best and most lasting interest of the institution. From the beginning the girls have been an ornament and a help to Otterbein University. They have competed successfully with their brothers in the classrooms and the literary halls. As students they have worked earnestly and efficiently to the furtherance of every worthy enterprise; as graduates they have been ever ready to speak a good word for their alma mater, and to give of their means and their influence. They now ask that a building be erected for their use which shall be an honor to the school and an incentive to higher and nobler work. Shall their appeal go unheeded?

Tirza L. Barnes.

On April 4 Mr. Davidson gave his illustrated lecture on the South. This was the last regular entertainment of the Citizens’ Lecture Course, and at the close of the season we can say it has been a decided success.
A TALK.

"The diamond may adorn royalty regardless of personal worth, but jewels of thought render even poverty illustrious and sublime."

Although under the ebb and flow of this nineteenth century there is no doubt a steady current of progress, yet for the chronicler it would have been well had he been asked to make a report of what was given to us years ago in contrast to what is going on about him in the world to-day. The works of the new men were so fresh, so strong, so interesting, that for a time their defects were not seen; further the readers did not care to see them. The clash and unexpectedness made their predecessors seem tame. They played their part and played it well, but lingered on a stage where Irving, Longfellow, and their disciples had acted a similar part in our springtime literature and had said farewell, and now we were ready for a new set of players. It was possible to regret the change, yet those halelyon days were too serene to last long. True, the works possessed historical and artistic value. Nor can any turn in the wheel of fashion or of fortune ever make them seem less artistic to a future generation.

This was assuredly not wholly the fault of the men themselves; it was in great part the fault of their time. In the stir and rush and hurly-burly of these exciting days of revolution, when we are intoxicated with ideas for the new politics, the new social order, everything that is in harmony with the time becomes interesting. They are for the most part men who have come fresh from quickening study. When, in fine, they have worked off some of this effervescent delight in the new toys and have come back to first principles, there can be no doubt we shall see the higher art of the works supported by a great perfection in the minor arts. Just now they are overdoing almost everything, as the critic puts it. However, in the words of Long-fellow, "Critics are sentinels in the grand army of letters, stationed at the corners of newspapers and reviews, to challenge each new author."

Every valuable work in literature has a history which may be thoroughly known and felt by its author, and yet be unknown and unsuspected by its reader. Great men have said of their best works that it had taken them many years to prepare them, that they were the product of a lifetime spent in observation and study.

"The Raven," the wonderful production of Edgar A. Poe, was without doubt the result of a certain fierce personal experience. Bryant's "Thanatopsis" was written under renewed inspiration, and time after time was pruned; but it now stands as a magnificent monument of his literary career.

Excellent jewels of literature in prose and poetry are not often the fruits of the cool thought of men and women; they are rather the result of some inspiration resulting from deep personal feeling or from some important issue. Only the danger of a destructive result in the war of the Rebellion could have incited the mind of Abraham Lincoln to have produced the immortal emancipation proclamation.

What has been more frequently written upon in devoted and glowing descriptions than the flag of our country? To Francis S. Key great honor is due for the vividness and quickness of expression in "The Star-Spangled Banner," when after a night of exciting tumult dawn revealed it still proudly waving over the walls of old Fort McHenry. Since but few have been permitted to perpetuate many heroic acts, so but few authors have given to us "apples of gold in pictures of silver." Masterly indeed would be the artist whose pen-and-ink sketches could adequately portray the heroes, heroines, and their deeds that were enshrined in the hearts of the authors in the above named works. Leaders
have fallen, cruel mistakes have been made,— mistakes which would have proved fatal had the work been less godlike and the laborers less earnest,—but above the sighs over fallen standard bearers, and above the crushing mistakes and misunderstandings, sounds the cry, “Onward!” and the great march goes on.

Although there is just now no one especial giant against whom we are arrayed, the teachings help us to carry burnished armor for many foes. Life is so constituted that cooperation is necessary to maintain life. Each part of the body is dependent upon the other, and in the same way each part of the world’s great life is dependent upon some other.

Since the centuries produce men marked in their characteristics, it follows that we will never have another Irving. A solemn, almost grand, feeling follows the reading of Irving’s “Westminster Abbey.” It inspires a feeling of awe to think that notwithstanding the difference in our lives, or the difference in the future which we must unveil, one experience comes alike to all,—the rich, the poor, the high, the low, the worthy, and the unworthy,—death. Though great warriors have conquered worlds, authors written books which live long, long after the writers are dead, famous sculptors carved statues which for centuries view the crumble and decay of earthly things, what is it after all but a mere passing away of time until death shall claim us as its own? Kings to whom whole countries bowed, now lie as dust beneath our very feet; souls come and go, and yet the great, hurrying, crowded world goes on. A few hearts are wrung by the loss, but the rest of the world heed it not, and life and death seem to be drawn in with the same breath.

In conclusion, we concede that the choicest of works should be in the library of every home. The library is the shrine of an old ceremonial religion. As a whole, we have the decay of old principles, the service of books which are no longer seen with the quick eyes of youth, but are only dimly reflected in the memory and have long ceased to exercise a stimulus on our practical age. Its light still flickers before us as an image, but where it once lighted the student on his journey it can scarcely be seen in the electric light of to-day.

A STUDENT, ’94.

Y. W. C. A. NOTES.

On Saturday evening, April 15, the Young Women’s Christian Association celebrated its tenth anniversary. An interesting program was rendered by the active and ex-active members of the association. Miss Cora McFadden, class ’77, read a very interesting paper prepared by Mrs. L. D. Bonebrake, class ’84, concerning the founding of the association and its first work. Mrs. Nellie Miller, class ’86, the first state secretary in Ohio, presented a very instructive paper on our early state work. Miss Myrtle Miller, class ’83, spoke for a short time of the nature of the work done during the past year. Miss Etta Wolfe, class ’87, who is at present the city secretary of the Dayton Young Women’s Christian Association, spoke in a very pleasant and helpful manner about the work being done in cities in behalf of women. The music was furnished by the present active members, aided by Miss Sallie Kumler, class ’89.

The Otterbein Y. W. C. A. now has an active membership of fifty-five. The association of Otterbein University was the first formed in Ohio and the third in the United States.

The Y. W. C. A. International Convention will be held April 27-30 at Toledo, Ohio. Otterbein will be well represented. Misses Anna Yothers, Mabel Duncan, Alma Guitner, Mira Garst, and Edith Turner will attend.
G. L. Stoughton, '92, state lecturer of the F. M. C. for the state of Illinois, has been spending a couple of weeks with his father at this place. He reports his business as very pleasant and agreeable.

The local alumna! association of this place held two meetings recently; on the 26th and 30th of March. They conducted some very important business relative to the coming commencement. Our friends from abroad may expect to be entertained right royally.

B. V. Leas, '91, was married to Miss Marie Smith, a former student of Otterbein, March 30, at the home of the bride, East Lincoln Street, Columbus. Their “at home” card has been received for April 1, at Delaware, Ohio. Mr. Leas has a very prosperous hardware business in that place, and the Aegis predicts for them a long and happy pilgrimage.

We note with pleasure the fact that S. J. Flickinger, class '72, has been called to fill a very important position on the Associated Press. Mr. Flickinger has been the successful managing editor of the Ohio State Journal for several years. In consequence of his resignation, another of Otterbein’s worthy sons has been called to fill the vacancy in the person of D. L. Bowersmith, class '71.

PERSONAL AND LOCAL.

J. R. King has been admitted to the junior class.

O. L. Shank spent several days at home recently.

Rev. Swain delivered a lecture at Harrison, Ohio, on the 8th instant.

Miss Cook was visited last week by her mother, who lives in Dublin, Ohio.

Miss Laura Smith, '93, spent a week during the early part of the month visiting friends in Columbus.

Chapel exercises were conducted on March 30 by Rev. Schenck, of Marysville.

M. B. Fanning was down with influenza for a few days, but is now convalescent.

Sardis Bates has been confined to his room on account of an injury to his knee.

Quite a number of students took advantage of the Easter vacation to visit their homes.

Miss Lowes, of Dayton, was here a few days visiting her sister, Miss Blanche Lowes.

Miss Bookwalter, of Dayton, has been in Westerville for a few days visiting her brother Alfred.

S. C. Markley sprained his ankle while practicing on the athletic grounds, but he is able to be about again.

The freshman class continues to increase in numbers. J. E. Koepke is the latest one promoted to the rank of tyro.

On the resignation of “Doc” Miller as captain of the baseball team, C. W. Stoughton was elected to that position.

Warren Thomas, of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, was here from March 24 to 28, visiting his sister, Miss Katherine Thomas.

Rev. and Mrs. Brandenburg, accompanied by their daughter, paid a visit to their son, E. B. Brandenburg, from April 8 to 10.

Mrs. I. L. Oakes, who had been taking a private course of study, is now in college. Mrs. Oakes enters as a junior, increasing the already large class of '94.

The spring term has opened very auspiciously for Otterbein. About a dozen new students have enrolled, and but few of the old ones have dropped out.

Dr. Sanders has been chosen judge on a contest in debate, essay, and declamation, to be held at Delaware, Ohio, between the Ohio Wesleyan University and the Denison University, May 26.
The end of the winter term witnessed the graduation from the business department of Misses Parent and Pugh and Messrs. Felger, Morningstar, King, and Wright.

President Sanders has been appointed a member of the advisory council of the World's Philosophical Congress, and honorary vice president of the Department Congress of Higher Education at the World's Fair.

The managers of the football team are having a very fine silk quilt made. Their friends will now have the privilege of having their names worked on this quilt by one of Otterbein's fair maidens for any cost ranging from ten cents to ten dollars.

The installation exercises of the gentlemen's literary societies were held in their respective halls on the evening of March 31. The officers of the Philophronean society were D. N. Scott, president; J. A. Shoemaker, critic; Harry Milliman, chaplain. Their orator was F. S. Minshall, whose memorable speech on the "School-Teacher" brought down the house. The new officers of the Philomathean society are J. B. Toomay, president; A. C. Streich, critic; Alfred Bookwalter, chaplain. The orations of T. G. McFadden, on "The Young Men of Ohio," and of J. B. Toomay, on "Effort Crowned," were able and eloquent. Both halls were well filled, and the exercises are the only encomium which our societies need.

CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION NOTES.

New faces are seen in the weekly meetings.

While athletics are being pushed, let each man see to it that the association work receives its full share of attention.

The enthusiasm for Bible study is not as high as it has been. It is to be hoped that a zeal for a knowledge of the good old book may not be wanting in Otterbein's students.

The International Convention of the Young Men's Christian Association will be held May 10 to 14 at Indianapolis. We are entitled to two delegates, which it is to be hoped we may be able to send.

The following are the names of those who have paid their subscriptions to the new association building in part or in full during the month: Lela Guitner, $50; Flora Speer, $10; W. W. Moses, $25; Henry A. Flickinger, $50; W. O. Knox, $5; J. A. Weinland, $50; Mrs. C. Merchant, $25; A. B. Shueck, $20; J. R. Williams, $25; W. A. Garst, $50; C. W. Hoppard, $15; D. L. Rike, $250; I. G. Kumler, $25.

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I have been entirely cured of CONSUMPTION by the use of Piso's Cure. The doctors said I could not live until Fall. That was one year ago. Now I am well and hearty and able to do a hard day's work.—Mrs. Laura E. Patterson, Newton, Iowa, June 20, 1892.

I suffered with CATARRH for years, and tried all kinds of medicines. None of them did me any good. At last I was induced to try Piso's Remedy for Catarrh. I have used one package and am now entirely cured.—Philip Lancrey, Fieldon, Illinois, June 22, 1892.

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SCHEDULE.

IN EFFECT AUGUST 7, 1892.

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