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# The Kenyon Collegian.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF KENYON COLLEGE.

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VOL. XXIII.

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No. 4.

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## Dr. Theodore Sterling.

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IN the extreme northwest of Connecticut, on the banks of the Housatonic River, among the undulating hills—the children of the greater Berkshires—nestles the little hamlet of Falls Village. Here, on the 8th day of February, 1827, Theodore Sterling, the retiring President of Kenyon College, was born. In the same year, in this then far-distant State of Ohio, Bishop Chase laid the corner-stone of Old Kenyon.

In Falls Village and the neighboring town of Salisbury, Dr. Sterling passed his boyhood, attending the district schools and academy, and, in common with New England boys, developed a strong character under the influence of the soft beauty of the Berkshire Hills and the stern discipline of Puritanic environment.

There comes a time, however, in every boy's life when his future success demands for him a wider horizon than that of a little New England manufacturing village. In 1840, therefore, when their eldest son was thirteen years old, Mr. and Mrs. Sterling moved to Geneva, New York, that they might secure for their children the educational advantages of a college town. After four years of preparation in the public and private schools of Geneva, Dr. Sterling was matriculated as a Freshman at Hobart College, and graduated four years later.

Going out from Hobart College, Dr. Sterling was recommended for the principalship of Rock Hill Institute, a school located at Ellicott City, Maryland, and it was here that he gained his first experience in the profession to which he was ultimately to devote his life. Even as a college student, however, Dr. Sterling had had the medical profession in view, and, at the end of his first year's teaching in Maryland, he returned north to enter the medical department of the Western Reserve University.

In 1851, as a young doctor of medicine, he began practice in Ohio City, since become the West Side of Cleveland. Dr. Sterling immediately took a high rank in the profession, and his skill, pleasant manners, and kindly heart soon won for him a large practice. During the cholera visitation in 1852 the young physician worked assiduously, principally with the poor on the West Side, and his success and devotion did much to extend his reputation.

Wishing to increase his knowledge and experience before settling down in Cleveland, Dr. Sterling spent the winter of 1853-54 in the hospitals of New York and Boston.

In the following October he was married to Charlotte Higgins, of Boston, whom he had first met in Cleveland, at the house of a friend.

From this time till 1859 the history of Dr. Sterling's life is that of a busy practicing physician on the East Side of Cleveland. In this latter year, however, at the solicitations of friends, he was induced to accept the principalship of the Central High School, in which position he remained until his call to Gambier in 1867. Dr. Sterling's policy while at the head of the High School was marked by a broad, progressive spirit: he aimed to make the school a stepping-stone to higher education, and to this end successfully resisted all efforts of worldly-wise ward-politicians to impoverish the curriculum by the banishment of Greek and kindred subjects. Under his administration, too, physical culture was introduced into the school. The unrelenting strain, however, of teaching Greek and Latin five hours a day, together with the worry naturally attending such a position, and these intensified by the antagonism that a progressive man is sure to encounter in a public school position, told heavily upon the doctor's strength, and he hastened to escape this undermining of his health by accepting the Peabody Professorship of Math-

ematics in Kenyon College, a position to which he had been elected entirely without his knowledge.

For the last twenty-nine years, Dr. Sterling has lived and worked in Gambier, devoting the best years of his life to the interests of Kenyon College. That his labor and devotion have been appreciated the college has not failed to show. When the Bowler Professorship of Natural Philosophy and Chemistry became vacant in 1870 by the resignation of Prof. Smith, Dr. Sterling was elected to fill the vacancy; and later in the history of the college the trustees gave evidence of their confidence in Dr. Sterling's judgment and ability.

For many years Kenyon College had been seriously handicapped in progress by the form of its organization. The number of students had alarmingly diminished, until at commencement, 1891, but twenty-seven students were left in the college, and four of these would go out with the graduating class. The future of the institution was enveloped in uncertainty, and its friends trembled for its welfare. But at this critical moment relief came in the form of a new constitution, which went into effect in August, 1891, and Dr. Sterling was called upon to act as President in place of Dr. Bodine, who had resigned. With the new order of things, however, came new life into the college. The tide of prosperity that had been so rapidly ebbing began again to flow, and Dr. Sterling, as President pro tempore, did much by his wise, quiet, progressive policy, to accelerate the current. The year 1891-92 was in every way a prosperous one, and at commencement the trustees showed their wisdom and appreciation by electing Dr. Sterling President of the college.

Since 1892 Dr. Sterling has managed the affairs of the college wisely and successfully, having graduated the largest class in the history of the college. Retiring now from the arduous duties of the Presidency, he will retain, in his capacity as professor, the honor and respect of all who know, and may ever know him.

### Editorial.

THE long vacation is over, and we are back on the dear old Hill once more. As we come up from the depot all appears the same as when we left last spring. But closer inspection reveals the changes, both in the college and the personnel of the students. Too high praise cannot be expended on the improvements in the college. These had, through the course of years, become necessary, and their absence was a drawback to the college. The improvements are described at length elsewhere in this issue. Suffice it to say here that few things have ever been done which will so increase the healthfulness, attractiveness, and desirability of Kenyon College.

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OF the changes in the student body we cannot think without sadness. Many of the old familiar faces are absent. The class of '96, which had so long been of our number, has left us; their brilliant commencement is passed. But the eclat with which they concluded their course is only the result of the loyalty of its individual members, who have made the influence of the class an epoch in Kenyon's college life. So, farewell to '96; her place is taken, but she is not replaced.

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NOW that we have returned to the daily routine of work, it is hard to realize that there is any change in ourselves. Yet the fact that each occupies a higher class cannot be overlooked; nor can the responsibilities which necessarily devolve upon us be neglected. With those of us who have returned, the duty lies of keeping pure the name of Old Kenyon. That our beloved Alma Mater will continue to occupy her high place among colleges there is no doubt; but whether her name may not be made to represent a still higher and nobler standard depends upon the exertions of each one of us.

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TO the class of nineteen hundred we give cordial welcome into Kenyon's classic halls. Perhaps we are especially glad to see you because of your number, which is more than that of any present class. Perhaps, also, because entering as you do, you have the opportunity of taking a prominent part in the college life of a few years to come, as Ninety-six

has done in the past. But to attain this end, every member of the class cannot realize too early that he is an important factor toward or from this result. The life you are entering upon is new to you. Be not therefore too ready to adopt all the customs and practices of the college. To some, we tender, therefore, words of caution, as being your first step into active life; to others, words of advice, as being unacquainted with the college; to most words of encouragement, for in this most democratic of colleges, true worth, and true worth alone, comes to the front. But to all alike we extend a hearty greeting.

THE COLLEGIAN board regrets to announce the loss of one of its most valued members, Geo. A. Straw, the business manager. In the future we will greatly miss his clear judgment and his effective management of the paper. It was wholly due to Mr. Straw's exertions that the Kenyon Collegian tided over the financial difficulties of last year; and the paper emerges from his control upon a much securer foundation. We believe his place to be ably taken by C. R. Ganter, '99. Mr. Straw was manager of the base ball nine of '96, and so skillfully did his work that at the end of the season the nine was considerably ahead financially, a result unfortunately rare in this college. He was also prominent in athletics and in all college duties. Mr. Straw leaves many warm friends, both among the students and faculty, who wish him success in his future career.

BUT the absence of old familiar faces is not confined to the ranks of the students alone. Several changes have been made in the faculty during the past summer. We have lost the Rev. Herbert M. Denslow, the chaplain. Mr. Denslow has been in Gambier three years and has been very active in the organization of the parish work. He has removed to Muncie, Ind., and carries with him the good wishes of the people of Gambier. His place is filled by the Rev. F. S. Moore, M. A., a graduate of Hobart. At present our acquaintance with Mr. Moore is slight, but we believe that it will soon be pleasantly and usefully extended. Perhaps the professor whose absence will be most felt is Prof. Russell S. Devol, who was the third oldest member of our faculty. For thirteen years he has been Professor of Mathematics in Gambier. He now will take, for a year, some long-desired study at Johns Hopkins. His place is

taken by Dr. Theo. Sterling, who formerly occupied that chair, and later that of Natural Philosophy and Chemistry. The chair of Dogmatic Theology is taken by the Rev. D. F. Davies, M. A., formerly of Mansfield, O., one of Bishop Leonard's examining chaplains.

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**D**URING the past summer death has carried off the illustrious F. H. Hurd, of Toledo, Kenyon '54. He was widely known and universally respected for his great wisdom and learning. Perhaps his most valuable quality was that of broadness of conceptions, his ability to examine a question from all sides. It is told of him, as of Everett, that while he was in the law school he would prove a case one way and then change sides and prove it the other. Yet he was not so great that he forgot the humbler classes of the people. All through Toledo and vicinity he is mourned by many lowly admirers. Nor was the deprivation deplored by them alone. Telegrams of condolence were received from President Cleveland, the Hon. John Sherman, Campbell, Foraker, and others.

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**B**UT though no large mention was made of it, nor telegrams of condolence received from the greatest of the nation, the faithful spirit of Miss Emma E. Wright passed away August 10, as quietly as we should hope to do when our time comes. She had been librarian for a number of years, and all recall her as almost the incarnation of kindness and sweetness. Her full knowledge of the books in the library, and her ever-willing assistance to those who sought information on any subject or topic will long be missed. She was for some time aware of the fatal nature of her illness, but though at times subject to severe pain, and latterly almost constantly so, she ever preserved a cheerful smile and pleasant greeting for those with whom she came in contact, and with remarkable endurance continued at her work until shortly before her death. Her kind and patient face will be much missed among the people of Gambier.

### Inaugural Speech of President Peirce.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Board of Trustees:

MANY thoughts crowd to my lips on this occasion. All that I have hoped and planned and desired in the past four years has been for Kenyon College, and presses for expression to-day. My residence in Gambier and my connection with the college has made me love it with an intensity of devotion of which I had before supposed myself incapable, and this affection, engendered during the years of my professorship, will be rendered yet more powerful by the new duties and responsibilities to which I am now called.

I look forward, therefore, with hope to the future, remembering the magnificent record of Kenyon College in the past and recognizing the large opportunities for educational development that Gambier affords. Did I not regard the future with confident anticipation I could not stand here this morning. I believe that these institutions are destined to become the educational center of the Church in the Northwest. Kenyon College, with its three departments—an ably-manned theological seminary, a well-equipped college, and an efficiently ministered preparatory school—ought to become a power in Church education and take its place among the best small colleges in America.

Many things conspire to make me regard the situation with hopefulness and the future as assured. The signs of the times show that the Episcopal Church is awakening to the needs and righteous claims of its educational institutions. Kenyon has the whole Northwest for its proper territory, and already the bishops of dioceses outside Ohio are devoting especial attention and interest to the work at Gambier. Kenyon never had a more loyal and devoted body of alumni than now, and its sons stand ready to yield it gladly, substantial support. Its trustees are zealous in forwarding its interests and eager to labor earnestly in its behalf. With the cordial support, spontaneously pledged, of such a body of men, I feel that my path will lead steadily and surely onward to the goal that we all yearn to see Kenyon reach.

Success will surely crown our efforts for Kenyon, provided only that we have a definite ideal before our eyes and work zealously and untiringly toward its realization. The consummation of our efforts may come



slowly, but it is bound to come at last, and every passing year will mark a determinate step in advance. Kenyon must possess definite aims and ideals of development to direct its progress, but those ideals, if clearly conceived and earnestly striven for, must become real.

In the first place Kenyon ought to become a thoroughly efficient and successful small college, with high standards of admission and of work, with an assured position in the front ranks of American colleges, and with an intense and enthusiastic collegiate life. We have no desire to see at Gambier a great university, with multifarious degrees and elaborate technical courses. We believe that the ends of true education are best advanced in institutions small enough to keep alive intimate associations and organic connection between students and teachers. We believe that excessive multiplication of courses and of student enrollment leads to a dissipation of energy and to organic disintegration of the organic life of the institution. We are convinced that colleges of moderate size, if well administered and thoroughly equipped, provide the best opportunities for educating young men in the fullest and broadest sense. We believe that true manliness, the noblest end of education, is best matured in a college small enough to make each student feel that his personality is of real weight and influence. We shall embrace this ideal with greater earnestness knowing that the venerable founder of these institutions, the pioneer Bishop of Ohio, conceived it seventy years ago. The magnificent energy of Bishop Chase founded Kenyon College; our task must be to build upon that foundation and to realize its possibilities.

Kenyon's collegiate character should be thus clearly and definitely conceived, but it should also be remembered that Gambier is a center of church education. No narrowness of creed or doctrine should be tolerated within these academic walls, but a thoroughly religious atmosphere should invest all our work. If Kenyon is to succeed it must maintain a standard of morality and life that will command the confidence, esteem and support of churchmen everywhere. Every student who enters these halls of learning should emerge from them a purer, nobler, and more upright man, and should thus testify to the steadfastness with which we have adhered to the aims of our courageous founder.

If Kenyon can thus win by its intellectual, educational and moral spirit, the loyal confidence of the church its large future is assured. Successful appeals for endowment will then be made easy, for philanthropic

churchmen will see that the best possible disposition of their wealth is in creating endowment at Gambier. Kenyon should ask for funds, not to rescue a languishing institution from complete extinction, but to enable a college that is making the best use of its present means to enlarge its sphere of usefulness. Students should be sent to Gambier, not because the college must close its doors without them, but because the educative influences of this institution are the best for the sons of churchmen. Though we may love the college with a thoroughly romantic devotion, we must yet demonstrate to its natural clientage that it is worthy of complete confidence and deserves unhesitating support.

Kenyon must believe in itself if it is to induce others to believe in it. It must have confidence in its own ideals and methods of work, and in its ability to realize, in a large degree, its magnificent possibilities. Hope is an essential factor in success of any kind, and Gambier should face the future with confidence, awaiting that increase of usefulness that it deserves.

And so, Mr. President, I assume the executive chair of Kenyon College realizing to the full the many difficulties to be surmounted and the numerous intricate problems to be solved, but firmly believing that they can be successfully met and unravelled. I accept the Presidency, confident of the future and strong in your assured support, gentlemen of the Board of Trustees. I undertake the duties of the office, knowing their weight, but conscious that the burden will be lightened by the cordial support of you, who, with me, long for a larger and fuller life for this institution that we all love so devotedly.

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### Commencement Week.

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#### MONDAY'S EVENTS—FIELD DAY.

THE day dawned bright and clear, but shortly before nine o'clock it began to cloud over in a threatening manner. Although it did not rain at that time, this fact is largely accountable for the small attendance. The events were well contested, and the records fairly good. Williams, D. A., raised that for throwing the 16-pound hammer to 82 feet, and Hollenbach that for the pole vault to 8 feet 6 inches.

The successful contestants and their records are as follows:

Fifty-yard dash—Won by Doan; Hollenbach second; time 6 seconds; record, 5 3-5 seconds.

Putting 16-pound shot—Won by Sawyer; Crosser second; distance, 28 feet 8 inches; record, 35 feet 8 inches.

Pole vault—Hollenbach won; G. F. Williams second; height, 8 feet 6 inches; broke the former record, 7 feet 10 inches.

One-hundred-yard dash—Dead heat between Hollenbach and Doan; time, 10 4-5 seconds; record, 10 1-4 seconds. The heat was not run off.

Standing broad jump—Won by Wilson; Kennedy second; distance 9 feet 2 1-2 inches; record 10 feet 3 1-2 inches.

Half-mile run—Won by McNish; Crosser second; time, 2:39; record, 2:12 3-4.

Running hop, step and jump—Won by Hollenbach; Wilson second; distance 38 feet; record, 39 feet 4 1-2 inches.

Two-hundred-and-twenty-yard dash—Won by Hollenbach; Doan second; time, 27 2-5 seconds; record 24 1-2 seconds.

Throwing 16-pound hammer—Won by D. A. Williams; distance, 82 feet; record 72 feet 8 3-4 inches.

Putting 12-pound Shot—Won by Kennedy; Wilson second; distance, 35 feet 1 inch; record 37 feet 6 inches.

Running broad jump—Won by Doan; Hollenbach second; distance, 16 feet 9 1-2 inches; record, 18 1-2 feet.

Mile run—Won by Eckerle; Crosser second; time, 6 minutes 15 seconds; record, 5 minutes 17 seconds.

Running high jump—Won by Grier; Schneerer second; height 5 feet. Hollenbach fell and injured his elbow.

The hurdle races were declared off.

#### PROMENADE CONCERT.

ONE of the prettiest events of Commencement Week was the Promenade Concert Monday evening. The "Middle Path" from Old Kenyon to the park gates was one long course of varicolored Chinese lanterns, and the beautiful campus, under their kindly influence, revealed its choicest charms. From the Path a long line of lanterns stretched to the home of President Peirce, where, on their cozy veranda, President and Mrs. Peirce awaited to receive the Seniors and their friends. Another line of lanterns extended from the Path to Rosse Hall, where a profusion of

lanterns lit up its stately portico and softened the rugged lines of its structure.

Almost beneath the gigantic twin oaks, the pride of the Kenyon campus, was placed Neddermeyer's famous band, who rendered a most pleasing program. The excellence of their music and their pyrotechnic displays won them frequent applause.

The picture of fair visitors and happy students strolling leisurely up and down the prettily illuminated Path will long remain as one of the bright memories of Commencement Week, and the Promenade Concert of '96 will be remembered as one of the pleasantest events of a very pleasant week.

#### TUESDAY'S EVENTS—TENNIS.

THE tennis finals came off the morning of the 16th. The games and sets were close, and well played, and that in spite of the poor condition of the courts on account of the heavy rain the previous afternoon. C. E. Doan, '97, won the singles over H. B. Sawyer, '97. However, Sawyer repaired directly to the diamond, and by his steady pitching contributed very largely toward the winning for Kenyon of the last base ball game of the season.

In the doubles, C. E. Doan, '97, and A. J. Cummins, '97, defeated C. A. McNish, '98, and Prof. L. H. Ingham.

#### KENYON 8—MT. VERNON GREYS 1.

KENYON played by far the best game of ball on June 16 that she has played this season. There were very few errors, and the fielding was sharp. The nines were very evenly matched, but March went to pieces in the seventh inning and the Greys got rattled, and Kenyon scored eight times. Owen, third base, did some fine work for the Greys in catching fouls. Straw and Sawyer did the best work for Kenyon. Score by innings:

| SCORE BY INNINGS..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9   |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----|
| Kenyon .....          | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 0—8 |
| Greys .....           | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0—1 |

## HARCOURT COMMENCEMENT.

COMMENCEMENT at Harcourt is always a most enjoyable affair; but that of '96 outshone all previous attempts. The large assembly hall was crowded to the doors; the air was heavy with the odor of the fresh oak leaves which covered the walls. The "sweet girl graduates"; the stirring address by Dean Williams on "The Making of the Man"; the pleasant reminiscences of Bishop Burton; the happily worded introductions by the regent; and the affectionate address by Mrs. Hills, all conspired to make the day memorable to the friends of Harcourt.

After the exercises, a delightful reception was held in the parlor.

## THE SOPHOMORE HOP.

THE day's festivities closed with the Sophomore hop. The dance, though thoroughly informal, was one of the most delightful events of the week. Rosse Hall was decorated in pink and green, in honor of the Senior Class. Neddermeyer's orchestra, which was engaged for the entire week, furnished a series of delightful waltzes and two-steps until a late hour.

The scene was enlivened by the presence of many visitors, who will have reason long to remember Kenyon's delightful Commencement Week.

The hall, in spite of its size, was quite crowded with visitors and students. Ices and cake were served throughout the evening; and every effort was made to make the dance in the future a permanent feature of Commencement Week.

## WEDNESDAY'S EVENTS—BEXLEY COMMENCEMENT.

THE commencement exercises of Bexley Hall were held in the College Chapel. At five minutes past ten the exercises were opened by singing a processional, during which the Bexley students marched in at the east transept, followed by the faculties of both Kenyon and Bexley. Bishop Leonard and Bishop Vincent, of Ohio and Southern Ohio, and Bishop Burton, of Lexington. The graduating class wore black gowns and the professors were arrayed in their academic gowns and hoods. The service consisted of the celebration of Holy Communion and a sermon by the Rt. Rev. Dr. Burton.

After the service, President Sterling spoke a few words to the graduating class, and Dean Jones presented the diplomas, with a farewell ad-

dress. A recessional was then sung, during which the students of Bexley and the faculty marched out of the east transept.

#### SENIOR CLASS DAY EXERCISES.

THE class day exercises of the Senior Class in the afternoon were witnessed by a large and appreciative audience. The class, in caps and gowns, were assembled around their class monument, a massive boulder, which stands beneath the shade of Kenyon's ancient trees, almost in the shadow of the ivy-clad and stately walls of Old Kenyon.

The program opened with a selection by Neddermeyer's orchestra.

Mr. Thornberry, President of the class of '96, then introduced the class historian, Mr. E. G. Martin, who recited in glowing words the deeds of the class, reviewing many of the pleasant memories of the four years of their collegiate course.

The next speaker was the class orator, Mr. R. L. Harris, who delivered the class oration, on "The True Influence." He called up the historic associations of the place and reviewed the glorious past of Old Kenyon, vividly portraying the portion which her influence had played in the lives of Hayes, Stanton, and her other illustrious sons. He developed the true influence of Kenyon and pointed the place in the future which every loyal son should occupy. His closing words of admonition and farewell to the class were very touching, and these, coupled with his sympathetic voice and deep sincerity of manner, were so effective that when the applause died away at the conclusion of the oration, the eyes of many old alumni and more recent friends of Kenyon glistened with tears.

The program was continued with music, and then Mr. H. A. Barber, the class prophet, was introduced.

His prophecy proved a most amusing and witty production. The recital of what the horoscope revealed to his enchanted eyes concerning the future of the individual members of '96, called out many hearty laughs, and the popular prophet closed his prophecies amid a shower of applause.

At this point, the last speaker, Mr. L. H. Burnett, who was to dedicate the huge stone which the class has left as a memorial of their love for Kenyon, came forward.

The dedication was brief, but before the speaker had reached the middle of his address it was evident that he could hardly control his emotion. His last words, as he addressed his beloved Alma Mater, could scarcely be heard, and when the concluding words, "Old Kenyon, Mother Dear," were reached, the orchestra softly caught up the refrain and every son of the old College joined in that song so dear to every Kenyon heart.

The exercises were peculiarly beautiful and impressive, and it is to be hoped that this custom established by the class of '96 will in the future be revered and kept alive by succeeding classes, as one of the historic customs of Old Kenyon.

#### DRAMATICS.

IN the evening the students of the College gave the bright farce, "The Head of the Family," in Rosse Hall Gymnasium. At the farther end of the gymnasium a very tasteful stage was erected, the proscenium being formed of cloth in the colors of '96, over which a garland of roses was draped. The ceiling was also hung with drapery in the class colors.

Neddermeyer's orchestra furnished delightful music, and made the interval between the acts pass away quickly.

The play itself is pervaded delightfully with the spirit of the college. The two heroes are typical college men; and the first scene is laid in a typical room in Old Kenyon, with the broad window seat in the background.

The acting can scarcely be praised too highly. Mr. Burnett as the dashing young swell, and Mr. Martin as the bashful student, could not have been improved upon. Mr. Sipher and Mr. Mann made, to say the least, very attractive girls. Mr. Barber as "Rosilly" Wheatbury, "The Head of the Family," was excellent. Both Mr. Barber and Mr. Beach Clark, who impersonated Seth Wheatbury, deserve great praise for the care and art shown in their impersonations and make-ups. The most comical figure in the play was Mr. Blake as Sam Slocum, the hired man. His make-up in the farm scene could not have been made more ridiculous, or more characteristic of the farm hand. The maiden aunt, Miss Priscilla Havershaw, a typical old maid, whose hobbies were psychology and patent medicine, was splendidly represented by Mr. Henry

Stanbury Mr. Hathaway as the dude was very amusing. On the whole, the acting, costuming, and staging was far superior to that of most amateurs, and in fact to many professionals. The audience was very large, numbering at least six hundred, and was particularly appreciative. Much credit is due to Mr. Barber, whose liberal advertising drew so many to the play; to Mr. H. F. Williams, stage manager; to Mr. Irvin, master of properties; to the ladies of Gambier, and to Prof. Ingham, whose generous assistance did much to make it the success that it was.

#### THURSDAY'S EVENTS—COMMENCEMENT.

THE interest in the week largely centered in the graduating exercises held Thursday morning, and much of the interest taken in them was in the inauguration of Prof. W. F. Peirce as President. The exercises were preceded by morning prayer in the College Chapel, which was conducted by Rev. H. M. Denslow, after which the members of the graduating class, the college faculty, the board of trustees, undergraduates, and alumni formed a procession which marched to Rosse Hall, where the exercises were held. An enormous crowd was present, every seat in the vast hall and gallery being occupied, and many persons were obliged to stand. The visiting bishops, the members of the board of trustees, the college President and members of the faculty occupied the seats of honor on the platform, while the members of the graduating class were seated in the front rows of seats.

The exercises opened with a selection by Neddermeyer's orchestra, which was stationed in the gallery, after which John A. Sipher, who received the second honor, delivered the salutatory address in well-chosen language. His oration on the subject of "Helen and Guinevere" was ably handled, contrasting forcibly the characters of the two type of women.

Charles Follett handled the subject of "International Arbitration" in a masterly manner, his delivery being excellent. He believed in arbitration as the means of averting warfare and proved clearly that the bringing about of arbitration between nations would depend upon the manner in which the United States exerted its influence. In the past it had taken a firm stand on the subject and had prevented many wars, and he expected that it would do more and by its influence do away with warfare to a large degree.



"St. Francis of Assisi" was the subject handled in a thoughtful manner by Albert N. Slayton. The great influence exerted by the life and character of the man were brought out in a clear way by the speaker, who was listened to with marked attention.

After another selection by the orchestra, Martin Myers, in his oration on "The Great Triumvirate of the United States Senate," gave an excellent account of the influence exerted by Webster, Clay, and Calhoun during their careers in the Senate.

George Luther Clark chose for his subject, "A Second Reformation," in which he explained the steps leading up to the "Great Reformation," and he now looked forward to a second reformation, which would be characterized by the "Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man"—the ideal millenium.

The first honor with the valedictory address was awarded to Oscar Sherman Adams.

After another selection by the orchestra, President Sterling conferred the degrees upon the members of the graduating class, and announced the honorary degrees conferred as follows:

By the faculty of Bexley Theological Seminary: Doctor of Divinity on Rev. R. W. McCune, of Philadelphia. By the faculty of Kenyon College: Master of Arts in course, on Frank A. Yauger, A. B., '93; Doctor of Laws, on Charles Edward Burr, of Columbus, and John Brookes Leavitt, of New York City; Doctor of Letters, on George C. S. Southworth, of Salem; Master of Arts, on Rev. H. M. Denslow, of Gambier, and Bachelor of Arts, on John A. Strutton, of Norwalk. Mr. Strutton had been a member of the class of '87, but was compelled to leave shortly before he finished his college course.

After conferring the degrees upon the graduating class, President Sterling made a short and timely address to the members, in full keeping with the occasion.

After conferring the degrees came the inauguration of Rev. William Foster Peirce, the newly-elected President of the college, one of the most interesting events of the week.

The retiring President, Dr. Theo. Sterling, made a short address to the board of trustees, in which he laid aside the duties of President of the college, which he did, he said, with mingled feelings of pleasure and

regret, and handed over, temporarily, to Bishop Boyd Vincent, president of the board of trustees, the office of President of Kenyon College.

Bishop Vincent, in accepting the charge, alluded feelingly to the honor and dignity with which President Sterling had filled his office and expressed the satisfaction with which the trustees had regarded his work and also the spirit he had manifested at the decision of the trustees in making a change in the head of the institution. He complimented him on his success as President for the past four years, taking charge when new and untried plans were to be experimented with, and the success with which he had followed them, the present graduating class proving the wisdom of them.

He then welcomed Mr. Peirce as President in the name of the trustees. It was, he said, a rare thing to select the President of such an institution from the corps of professors, and rarer still to select one of his years to fill so responsible a position. But the unanimity with which he was elected, on account of the knowledge of the trustees of his abilities and of his possession of so many of the qualities requisite to success in his new duties, gave him perfect confidence in the wisdom of the selection. It afforded him, he said, great pleasure in extending him a cordial welcome as President and to invoke the blessing of God on his administration.

He then presented Mr. Peirce as President, and as he did so the vast audience arose as one man and gave President Peirce a magnificent ovation, the cheers lasting for several minutes, at the conclusion of which the students gave the inspiring college yell.

President Peirce's inaugural address (an abstract of which is printed above) was delivered in a touching manner, showing the appreciation he felt for the great honor bestowed upon him, and bearing the impress of his love for the college.

His address was received with frequent applause, and at the close he was given three hearty cheers. For his first official announcement he stated that through the generosity of some of Kenyon's friends, over \$4,000 had been given to repair and modernize Old Kenyon, and that work would be begun at once. This announcement was received with applause and pleasure by the students.

He then called for an address from Rev. Mr. Chase, of Philadelphia, a son of the founder of Kenyon, and a retired chaplain of the U. S. army, and who had been given a seat of honor on the platform. He responded

briefly and touchingly, recalling some incidents in the lives of his honored father and mother.

Rt. Rev. Lewis Burton, Bishop of Lexington, was next called on. He responded briefly, referring eloquently to the broad foundation he had received for his career in life by his collegiate course in Kenyon, from which he had been graduated twenty-three years previous, and pledged his hearty support for the college in the future.

Bishop Burton then pronounced the benediction, and the alumni and friends of the college were invited to the alumni luncheon, which had been prepared in Philomathesian Hall, where many repaired and enjoyed a pleasant time.

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#### THE SENIOR RECEPTION.

THE different events of the week had passed off in most graceful succession, and yet to all the brilliant Senior reception was a fitting conclusion. Elaborate preparations had been made that, in this last act, the class should live up to its history. Rosse Hall, of course, was the scene of the dance; and the stage being removed, the long festoons of color from the ceiling looked as picturesque as could be desired. The refreshments were good, the dancing excellent, and the music fine. The latter was played until morning; and only when the lamps were dimmed by the rising sun, did the ball break up and the dancers follow their chaperons home. Thus ended in a "blaze of glory" the sixty-eighth commencement of Kenyon College.

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#### Frank H. Hurd.

A NOBLE life is ended. A kindly, gentle heart has ceased to beat, and the people—not alone those bound to him by ties of blood or endeared by long association, but the common people, those for whose interests he worked, and whose wrongs he tried to redress—these are the saddest mourners. His personality was that peculiarly magnetic quality which drew to him the respect, admiration, and love of his fellows. And it was the same to-day, to-morrow, and always. Frank, sincere, honest, with his daily life an open page which all might read, and upon which was nothing but love for home and country; what wonder that the people

were his friends and gave him in return fealty and devotion that few men enjoy, few inspire? It is true he had enemies, and many of them, but when they reviled him most, they could not help but admire him in his steadfastness and purpose.

As a politician, Frank Hurd was a hero. History records few cases where a man in public life has thrust the crown from him, even though its acceptance meant a sacrifice of principle. He was a pure theorist, and therein lay his political doom. He believed in free trade because he was a student and because the very nature of his life kept him aloof from the practical workings of the tariff. A pioneer in the movement, he held steadily to his course, taking a victory as a natural consequence, a defeat as an evidence that the people are always slow to adopt a new faith. But he lived to see a Democratic President elected on a tariff platform that approached as near to his idea, perhaps, as he could hope for. In the earnestness of his belief, it must have been no little disappointment that the people repudiated at the very next election the doctrine that he had fought so long to perpetuate.

From '72 to '84 he was re-elected to Congress under the free-trade banner. And this in the face of the fact that the protection sentiment, even among the Democrats of his district, was very strong, and to win against this handicap was a great honor, reflecting strongly the personal popularity of the man. Time and again he was urged to make his tariff speeches on his campaign tours, being assured that this alone would open the way to decisive victory, but each time he refused. A victory won in this manner was to him more humiliating than defeat.

As a member of Congress, Mr. Hurd won much fame for himself; whenever he talked the galleries of the house were filled with an audience thrilled with the rhythm of his oratory and the fervor of his utterances.

But it was in the latter part of his life that Toledo people learned to know Mr. Hurd best. For the last ten years he has eschewed an active participation in politics and confined himself to the practice of his profession. He loved it and made it a study. He prided himself on being a lawyer of the people, rather than an attorney of corporations. Here he found a field that was to his liking—a field that brought him in contact with the people and gave him an opportunity for using a mind rich in legal resources in behalf of the oppressed.

Mr. Hurd was a man of whose personal acquaintance any man might be proud. While somewhat reserved and thoughtful in manner, he was always courteous, always kind, and always ready to impart to others any desired portion of his vast fund of information. Unkind or bitter utterances never fell from his lips, and his action toward all creatures was that of a loving brother. He had great charity for the faults of others and was always ready to lend a helping hand to those who wanted to be freed from them. His purse was as open as his heart. He never permitted any creature to suffer for sympathy or for the material needs of life when it was in his power to aid.

Mr. Hurd was possessed of a brilliant mind, as well as a generous heart. All nature was his text-book, and he constantly pored over her pages. When he was imparting information to others, he was at the same time studying them. He was the bulwark of his party, an honor to his country, his profession, and himself, and as such he left upon his fellow-men an impress that will never be effaced, and a void in the hearts of those who knew him best that can never be filled.

He was born at Mt. Vernon, Knox County, Ohio, on December 25, 1841. His father, Judge Hurd, took great pains with his education, and at an earlier age than is usual he was sent to Kenyon College, at Gambier, where he was graduated when but seventeen years of age, taking the highest honors of his class.

The next four years were spent in his father's office, and at twenty-one he was admitted to practice, and from the beginning took a high place in his profession. In 1863 he was elected prosecuting attorney for Knox County. In 1866 he was sent to the State Senate, and in 1868 he was appointed on the commission to codify the criminal laws of Ohio. In 1869 he went to Toledo. His congressional career began in 1872.

Though the great minds of this age with whom he was associated will mourn Mr. Hurd's death, they will do so no more than many in the humbler walks of life, to whom he has been a sympathetic, loving, generous brother.

### Improvements in the College.

THE fall of '96 witnesses great changes in Old Kenyon. For many years the lack of modern conveniences in the college has been greatly felt. During the past year, through the efforts of President Peirce, about \$6,000 was raised for the purpose of improving Old Kenyon, and by the 1st of August work was begun. The basement, formerly used as the home of Bishop Chase, had long fallen into disuse, except for the storage of wood and coal, and the windows and fireplaces had been walled up. Windows have now been cut on both front and back and a cement floor has been laid. Stairways have also been made leading to the basement from the wings and the three divisions. On the south side of the basement is a large hot-water furnace, water-closets, and bathroom. The furnace is a Spence hot-water furnace. It is in two sets, to be used according to the weather. Radiators are placed not only in all the students' rooms, but also in the halls, so that these will be warmed throughout the winter, and not to be cold and cheerless as they were sometimes formerly. The room east of the furnace and under the middle and east divisions contains bathrooms and two shower-baths for the use of the athletic teams. A room under the east wing has also been fitted up with lockers and coils of hot-water pipes, for drying out uniforms, etc. This is for the exclusive use of the teams.

Running water is supplied all over the building from the cisterns in front of Old Kenyon. Taps and sinks are placed in all the halls. The water is pumped up to tanks in the top of the building by a hot-air engine in the basement. All the rooms and halls have been papered and put in repair.

Many interesting discoveries were made in remodeling the basement. The old fireplace, ten feet wide, and the Dutch oven alongside, used by Bishop Chase for cooking, were found. The fireplace, unfortunately, had to be bricked up, but the Dutch oven will be preserved as a relic of the pioneer days of the college. Parts of the old stone water trough, in which milk pans were set to cool the milk, were also found.

Ascension Hall has also undergone repairs. Through the kindness of Mrs. Van Nostrand, of New York, the floor of Philo has been polished and the walls tinted.

Much credit is due to President Peirce, through whose efforts the improvements for Old Kenyon have been secured, which make it one of the best-equipped and most desirable college dormitories in Ohio.

### The Sophomore-Freshman Rush.

THE sleepy echoes of Kenyon's quiet campus were awakened suddenly September 18, upon the occasion of the Sophomore-Freshman rush. The spirit of peace which had presided over the Hill during the summer months took sudden flight upon the advent of the wild cries of Ninety-nine! and Nineteen Hundred!

The first outbreak occurred about one o'clock, when a crowd of Sophs attempted to capture the Fresh of the French class. These they caught and bound securely. Their succeeding plans were frustrated by the spirited charge of the Fresh into the French room to release their classmates. A hot fight ensued, in which the Freshmen proved more than a match for the Sophomores, but through the mediation of Dr. Benson an hour truce was declared. All the afternoon squads from either class were to be seen moving uneasily about the campus, seeking to pick up a stray man from the opposing class, but avoiding an open encounter. A few stragglers were picked up, bound hand and foot, and carefully conveyed to such places where they could in solitude commune with nature undisturbed by the noise and confusion of the busy world. All, however, managed to escape in season to join their classmates in the Rush.

According to Kenyon's unique and ancient custom, the Rush was to take place at 9:30 P. M., on the first Friday of the term, in the presence of the upper classmen and such members of the faculty as desired to see fair play. The scene of the struggle was also graced by the presence of many of the fair sex—more than the usual number.

Long before the appointed time, the Freshmen had assembled at Bexley Hall and organized their ranks. Soon after nine, in the distance could be heard the new class yell of 1900, together with the class song. Urged by the upper classmen, the Fresh sang out lustily, and gave their yell with all the force of mingled terror and excitement. Down the campus they came, marching steadily until suddenly the Sophs sprang upon

them, and soon all that could be seen were the prostrate forms rolling one over the other. Cries of '99-1900 rent the air as the tide of victory wavered to and fro; but the advantage of numbers was soon apparent and the Rush was declared to be won by the Freshman.

"Nineteen Hundred" rang out from the throats of the Fresh, half frantic with joy, as they hastened to Old Kenyon to kindle the customary bonfire. The new system of heating having made useless the great oaken wood-boxes which had rendered such time-honored service in the past, and had endeared themselves to the hearts of the alumni, who had been graduated under the old regime, these boxes were piled high on the proper site of the bonfire. The elated Fresh soon surrounded these with a circle of cordwood. Here habit got the better of the old '96 men, nearly two-thirds of whom were present, and they leaped into the circle to show the Fresh how to construct a bonfire.

The whole pile was duly soaked in oil, and fired simultaneously in several places.

The flames, gathering impetus with their ascent, leaped higher and higher, while the happy Freshmen formed a circle about the fire and leaped about giving their class yell and singing their song with all the enthusiasm of victory. Their yells were answered by those of '99, '98, '97, of the undergraduates, while the once familiar yells of '96, '95, '94, '93, and '92, once more re-echoed through the halls of Old Kenyon. At short intervals the attempts to drown out rival yells were laid aside, and all joined in the soul-inspiring yell of their Alma Mater, until the whole valley rang with Hika! Hika! Old classes gathered together as the flames threw their shadows upon the stately, rugged walls of Old Kenyon, and once more beneath its shadow rendered tribute in song to the ever-dear memory of their college. Old men rejoiced again that they were permitted to gaze upon a scene so typical of Kenyon. And as they heard, with both joy and sadness in their hearts, the enthusiastic cheers for Old Kenyon and for her new President, they felt, as they went forth to battle for the honor of their Alma Mater in active life, that they left her in the hands of an administration loyal, able, and enthusiastic.



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Alumni Notes.

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'84 and '85. We are in receipt of the annual catalogue of "The Samuel Benedict Memorial School." From it we learn that the Rev. George E. Benedict is president and rector; and that Ernest M. Benedict is principal. The former occupies the chair of Bible and Religious Instruction, the latter that of History, English, and the Classics.

'92. Guy Buttolph is spending a vacation of a few weeks in Gambier.

'92. W. P. Carpenter, of Cincinnati, spent a week at the opening of the term visiting the college.

'95. L. A. Sanford and Arthur Dumper spent a few days of the new term in Gambier.

'96. Quite a number of last year's Senior class returned this fall to be present at the commencement of work, and to examine the improvements. Of the number were: Willson, Barber, Little, Follett, Myers, Sipher, Eckerle, Thompson, Burnett, McAdoo, Stanbery, and Wright.

'97-ex. C. W. Phellis and Albert Metzger returned to the Hill about September 20.

'98-ex. G. W. Dunham likewise visited the Hill at the same time.

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News.

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THE evening of the 24th a meeting of the Assembly was called for the election of officers, and for the election of new members of the executive committee. H. B. Sawyer, '97, was elected President; P. B. Stanbery, '98, vice-president, Arthur Brook, '97, retaining the secretaryship from last spring. C. E. Doan, '97, Southworth, '98, D. A. Williams, '99, constitute the executive committee for the ensuing year.

R. B. B. Foote left for New York about September 23.

Harry St. C. Hathaway has been seriously ill at his residence in Tiffin, O. He enters Bexley this fall.

W. D. Blake, '97, has resumed his studies with his class, after having been out of college for a year.

The foot ball practice is going on in an excellent manner. The number of candidates is large and the material promising. With Capt. Sawyer and Coach Stuart to train the team, the outlook is very favorable.

At Harcourt for the ensuing year, Miss Young will succeed Miss Ransom as teacher of music. Miss Young has taught in both England and America, and has studied altogether four years at Leipsic. She has just returned from the latter place to teach at Harcourt. Miss Fagan, a graduate of Vassar, will take the place of Miss Gilmore as teacher of Latin and Greek. In the English department Miss Anna Plympton will succeed Miss Pond.

The class of '99 elected officers for the year as follows: President, Leo W. Wertheimer; vice president, David H. Crosser; secretary, W. H. Mann; treasurer, L. H. Conger; foot ball captain, F. B. Schneerer; base ball, F. G. Wright; master of ceremonies, C. R. Ganter; poet, E. R. Bigler; historian, L. R. Fleming; steward, W. H. Watts; butler, R. V. Shaw.

The class of 1900 elected officers as follows: President, Braddock; vice president, Hayward; secretary and treasurer, Grier; historian, Stanbery; poet, Oliver; toastmaster, Bramwell; prophet, Southworth; base ball captain, Hamilton; foot ball captain, Daly; orator, Huston.

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### K. M. A.

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WE have decided to devote a considerable portion of the Collegian in the future to the Kenyon Military Academy, but having no correspondent at the Hall at the opening of the term, that department could not be represented in this issue. In our next number, however, we propose to publish a picture of the K. M. A. team, and also a full account of their foot-ball and other interests.

Mrs. Brian, of Salem, O., spent a few days in Gambier visiting her son, Keith, at the K. M. A.

There have been several changes made in the faculty of K. M. A. this year. Mr. M. T. Hines left, to the great regret of the pupils, as well as of the masters, as did also Mr. L. C. Williams and Capt. Blackford. Their places have been taken by H. F. Williams, F. R. Ayer, and Col. Baker.

September 19, 1896.

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