"A Weaver's Spool Boy"

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No. 1
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I have been requested scores of times by former students, and friends who have not been my students, to write a history of the O.N.U. Many have asked me to give a sketch of my college days and my experience in the district schools. I long hesitated to comply with the wishes of my friends, for it appeared to me that what little I had done for humanity would interest very few; but as some of the most prominent educators of our state, and other states, highly complimented the work of the O.N.U. and requested me to give a history of the founding of the school, I presume it will be proper for me to do so. I will also give a brief sketch of my experience at college, in public school teaching and possibly some army reminiscences.

I was born on the 8th day of March, 1838, at Ohltown, now Mahoning County, then a part of Trumbull County, O. My father moved from Pennsylvania to Ohio in 1837, his farm was sold to pay the debts of other men. He charged his sons to never go security for anyone; but I heeded not and have several times paid the penalty. I have a record of my ancestors on my father's side for a period of one hundred and seventy-five years, but it would not interest the public to give it in the columns of the Herald. When I was two years old my father moved to Stark County, O., near New Baltimore. When about five years old he moved to Wayne County, where he died in 1873. My mother died in the fall 1861. My father was a weaver by trade. He wove carpets, coverlets, table linen, linen for bedding and dresses, flannels, satinets, etc. When I was eight years old I became a "spool boy." The family was large. There were twelve children in the family, and two of my sisters were invalids. My mother also had very poor health. This meant hard work for my father, and frequently in the fall and winter months, when we wove flannels and satinets, he would work till 10 o'clock and sometimes until 12 o'clock at night. In the spring and summer months the work would not be so urgent, and yet it was work every day.

I did not get to go to school until I was twelve years old. It was seldom that we had summer terms in our schools those days. The school year would consist of about three months during the winter. This was especially true in our district, which was quite small. It was called the "Dutch College," because every family in the district was Pennsylvania Dutch with one exception, and
that family was Irish. I could to-day name every scholar that went to that school while I was a pupil there. We never had over from fifteen to twenty scholars.

The summer months of 1852 and '53 and the spring months of '54, I worked out as a farm hand. I was small for my age, and when fifteen years old received $5 a month and worked 26 days for a month; but in the summer of '54 during harvest I got $12 for the harvest month. We worked from early morn until after dark. I never was strong enough to cradle or mow and was hardly strong enough to pitch hay; but there were few men who could beat me covering corn, binding wheat, cutting or husking corn, but I was not strong enough to do much heavy work.

I went to common school, all told, about one year, from 1850 to '54. In that time I learned to speak English, learned to read, went through Ray's Practical Arithmetic five times, went nearly through Mitchell's School Geography and Atlas, about half way through Pinneo's Grammar and studied some little algebra. When I first studied arithmetic I went through Ray's Third Part in six weeks. I remember that one Friday evening I got to Common Fractions. I took my slate and arithmetic home and on Monday morning I was half through Decimal Fractions. I had left three problems unsolved on the last page of Common Fractions. I went to the teacher for help. He said they were hard sums. He worked at them quite a while and at noon he called me aside and gave me the key to arithmetic and told me to take it home with me. In after years I concluded I understood them better than he did. I can say frankly that I did not use the key very much. I took pride in solving the problems without help. I loved arithmetic very much. I was also considered a good speller, but I think I never scribbled over a dozen sheets of paper to try to learn to write before I began teaching school. I could not hurry enough in learning to write, it was such miserably slow work.

I gathered chestnuts in the fall of 1853 on Kilbuck hills and sold them at six cents a quart and with that money I bought Mitchell's School Geography and Atlas. Many of these chestnuts I gathered by moonlight. I sketched many a chestnut tree by moonlight, and then opened the burrs whenever I had time, and early in the morning gathered those that had fallen out, that I might resume my day's work.

The teacher to whom I went to school in the winter of '53-54 was a son of one of the county examiners. He urged my father to send me to college, but he didn't have the means. I determined that I would quit working by the month and would go at something else. In the spring of 1854 I went to the village
school about one month. I had to walk quite a distance to attend school. A lady by the name of Cherry taught the school. It happened one day that a gentleman by the name of Joseph Garrigus visited the school and tried to sell a book to the teacher. After they had talked a while Mr. Garrigus came to me and gave me circular of a school at Marlborough, Stark County, Ohio, taught by Alfred Holbrook. It was prepared in Holbrook's best style. It told how much could be done in ten weeks at his school. In the evening the teacher said that I ought to go to school there, and she believed if I would go to school that fall term that I would be able to teach the next winter. I went home wild with excitement. I had quit my place of work about a month before and had no place to work, but I went to a neighbor that evening, and as it was nearly the time of harvest I hired out for one month for $12. I went to one of my brothers and asked him to loan me $25 in the fall. He said he would do so, although he was struggling to pay for the farm he had bought some years before. He borrowed the money to accommodate me.
That fall I went to school to Prof. Holbrook at Marlborough. I borrowed a carpet bag from one of my brothers to carry the few books and clothes I had. It was a real carpetbag, because it was made out of cheap carpet or such material as carpets are made of. I had a spelling book, Ray's Third Part Arithmetic, Pinneo's Grammar, McGuffey's Fifth Reader, Mitchell's School Geometry and Atlas and Ray's Algebra, first part. I borrowed a small dictionary from one of my brothers and an old English Reader. That was my stock of books.

I bought a cheap coat at Wooster, a cheap hat, and a pair of shoes, all my other clothes were home-made. My trousers were made in the good old Dutch way of seventy-five or eighty years ago. My mother had spun the linen. My father did the weaving and my mother and sisters fitted and made the clothes. They were really home-made.

I arrived at Marlborough on Saturday, and the school was to begin on Monday. I walked around town, and a good young Samaritan, by the name of Alfred Townsend asked me if I was looking for Prof. Holbrook's residence. I told him I was. I had taken the early train at Wooster and went to Louisville and walked from Louisville to Marlborough, a distance of seven or eight miles. I was dusty, thirsty and hungry. He said he would take me to the residence of Prof. Holbrook. As we were trudging along he asked me my name. I told him and when we got to the residence of the Professor he gave me an introduction to Prof. Holbrook and some of his teachers. I had never been introduced to any one and, of course, did not know what to say. I can now see Prof. Holbrook as he sat in his arm chair. I still can see how he and Miss Breckenridge looked at each other and smiled. He asked me what I wanted to study, and I named about every branch I had ever heard of. He laughed; but I thought he did not know what a smart fellow I was. But I soon saw I was not dressed like the other boys. My trousers were not made in the same style. Nearly everybody looked at my outfit and at my carpet bag.

I saw something in the room where I met Prof. Holbrook that was a puzzle to me. I was sure it was not a bed, I could see that, and I was sure it was not a table; but what in the name of common sense that could be was a mystery. I
have since learned that it was a piano. I had never seen a piano or an organ; in fact, I had never seen a carpet until I was about ten years old, and I was ten or eleven years old before I ever saw a cooking stove. All the people in our neighborhood cooked in old fire places. I had never seen a black-board, I had heard of black-boards but I did not know what they looked like.

I found a boarding place and bought a candle-stick and snuffers, which I still have in my possession, and I bought some candles. On Monday morning I started school. The professor examined us in arithmetic and grammar. I was sent to the board and given a problem to solve in addition of fractions. I got the answers to the sum before anyone else, but it was arranged in my way of working problems. The professor smiled; but I was put in the advanced class in arithmetic, the advanced class in geography, but in the B class in grammar. I saw that the students were laughing at me, and I was sorry that I had made up my mind to go away to school.

I soon found that my stock of money was becoming small. I left my boarding place, rented a room and boarded myself. I lived on bread, butter and water I was homesick and ashamed of my clothes, but I wanted to get an education. In the course of three or four weeks the teachers treated me remarkably well, and many of the students treated me kindly, in fact, I might say with respect.

Prof. Holbrook and Miss Breckinridge, one of his teachers, told me I ought to come back the next term. I told them I intended to keep school that winter. They smiled. Professor told me I was too young, I ought to wait until I was twenty years old. In my grammar class were two handsome girls, Hannah and Rachael Gaskel. They were cousins. They had black eyes, black hair, rosy cheeks and were full of fun. I saw them making fun of my trousers and of my shirt collars. In those days we wore what were called "dickies" for the shirt bosom. But in the course of a month I began to take revenge. When they parsed and made many mistakes my hand would be up instantly and my fingers snapping, I would criticize them most severely. In a few weeks they commenced to talk to me and finally one of them proposed a compromise and we became good friends; in fact, when I left school I was sorry I was not old enough to marry Rachael. I do not know how she felt about it. I formed some warm friendships that term, T. C. Mendenhall, now known all over the world as a scholar and teacher, was a student at that time. He was in the class in surveying.
Early Teaching Experiences

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The term closed about the middle of October. I started for home Friday forenoon when the school closed in the evening. I knew there would be an examination for teachers on Saturday and I wanted to be examined for a certificate. I had made up my mind to teach. I found if I would go to the nearest railroad station to take the train I would not have money enough to reach home. I walked to Canton, a distance of sixteen miles. I visited some orchards and ate apples for my dinner. I got to Canton in the evening. I spent three cents for crackers for supper. I stayed at the station and took a train about one o'clock, a.m., for Wooster. I had no money to go to a hotel, so I stayed at the station until morning. I went to a brook nearby to take a wash. I had a little wooden comb that had cost me a penny. I combed my hair, took off my coat and gave it a dusting, took a stick and knocked the dust off of my trousers as well as I could, went up town to a grocery and bought three cents worth of crackers for breakfast, as I had only five cents remaining after paying my fare to Wooster. I inquired where the examination would be. I learned it was in school house number 4.

The examiners were John McSweeney, a noted criminal lawyer, John Brinkerhoff and Edwin Oldroyd. The examinations at that day in Wayne County were oral. For a specimen of our penmanship we had to write our names on their roll-book. A gentleman by the name of Robert Downing stood back of the chair when I enrolled. He turned to some of the other candidates and said: "If that little fellow can get a certificate, we are all safe." When Mr. Brinkerhoff saw my name he asked me whether I had been a pupil of George Brinkherhoff the winter before. I answered in the affirmative. He remarked, "He frequently spoke about you." That was quite encouraging.

That day there were fifty-two applicants for certificates. We were seated on benches around the room, where we could have no desks in front of us and could use no books. I remember several questions that I was asked that day. The question, "What is ratio?" started near the head of the class. It passed over forty of the applicants before it reached me. Luckily, I had looked up the definition a few days before and readily answered. Prof. Holbrook introduced Covelle's Grammar the term I was in school and the definitions were rather new, and I observed that my definitions attracted some attention. In the evening, Mr. Oldroyd lectured the applicants for not making greater
advancement in their profession. He said there were applicants who had taught twenty years or more and pointed to an applicant and said, "That boy there will carry home the best certificate given today." The boy had only two cents to pay for crackers for his dinner. He did not have any money to pay for any laundry that week. He was not as neatly dressed as the other applicants. He was sleepy, tired and hungry, but that remark was very soothing. Many of the applicants failed. I still have the certificate that I carried home that evening.

I had to go home without supper and had to walk six miles. I was welcomed home and ate a very, very hearty supper. On Monday I looked out for work and had no trouble finding something to do. I had plenty of debts and needed clothing. I told my parents and my brothers and sisters that I intended to teach. My oldest brother said I was too little to teach school. But in about a week after I got home he told me he saw a friend, who lived about six miles away, who told him they were looking for a teacher, that they had no school the winter before. He spoke to me about the matter. I requested him to go with me to see the directors. He suggested that we would go in the evening and get there after night and not get off our horses, that the directors might not see how little I was. We took that plan. We saw two directors that evening, Henry Hiner and George Washington Howey. The third director was not at home. Hiner accompanied us to Mr. Howey's home. They employed me for three months. I was to receive $14 a month; agreed to teach twenty-six days for a month and board "round" with the scholars. The people would furnish the wood, but I had to start the fires and sweep the house. After I had taught three months I was employed to teach another month and the directors agreed that they would throw off four days. That gave me fifty-six cents a day.

Before I began teaching, the report was circulated that the directors had hired a little boy fourteen years old. As to the size, the report was correct; as to the age, it was not correct, I was sixteen.

I was in Prof. Holbrook's training class about five weeks and I remembered that he said the teacher the first morning, and in fact every morning, ought to be at the school house first. He should see that the house was open and the room neat and clean. One of my brothers took me to my school on Monday morning. We were there early, although we had six miles to travel. I was there before any of the pupils and started a fire. I was not very well dressed. The coat I had bought in the fall was getting quite thread bare. I bought a cheap overcoat with the money I made husking corn and lifting potatoes. I had also bought a pair of new boots. I bought an old fashioned English watch from a
neighbor for which I was to pay $5 at the close of my school. It was the largest
watch I ever saw. The pupils laughed at it, but I made the best of it.

I had about twenty pupils who were as large and larger than myself, and quite
a number were older than I was. The school house was a log house. There
was one chair in the school building, and that was for the teacher. For desks,
there were holes bored in the logs, pins driven in and heavy boards or slabs
were used to write on. When writing, the pupils faced the wall and when they
studied arithmetic they generally faced the wall. There were little benches
placed around the stove for the smaller scholars. There was no blackboard in
the room. As I remarked before, I had been in Holbrook's training class and I
had learned something about school government. I was told by a director that
a boy by the name of Jack McCane, who was living with a family by the name
of Hoenshel, would come to school in a few weeks. The director told me that
Jack had made his boast that he would carry the teacher out on a chip. Every
morning a large jovial, big hearted fellow, weighing about one hundred and
eighty pounds, asked Miss Hoenshel, "When will Jack come?" Finally one
morning she said: "He is now coming up the road." I looked out and saw a
fellow with a red blouse and a white hat coming up the road quite leisurely. He
had a small face, small eyes and a narrow forehead. It was a very cold
morning in December. All the seats around the stove were occupied. When
Jack came in I got up from my chair, greeted him and offered him my chair
before the stove. He at first refused to take the seat, but I insisted that he
should sit down and warm himself. In a short time I called the school to order.
As was the custom, I went to him, asked him his name and then asked him
what he intended to study. He said: "Spellin', readin', writin', and devilment." I
tried to smile as best I could. I asked him whether he would not study
arithmetic. He said he hadn't any book and he didn't think he could learn it. I
told him I would loan him my book and that I would assist him evenings,
mornings and at noon, and if he would come to where I was boarding I would
help him evenings without any charge. He finally accepted the offer. I went to
my desk and got my arithmetic and handed it to him. I saw that the boy was
very uneasy all forenoon. I was afterwards informed that a Mr. Firestone
asked him at recess what he thought of the teacher and whether he intended
to carry him out on a chip, and he replied: "Do you think I am so mean that
after he treated me so kindly and gave me his chair and offered me his
arithmetic and offered to help me out of school hours that I would?"
I never had a truer or more faithful friend than Jack McCane. I am very sure he would have ventured his life in my defense. Poor fellow! He was killed at the battle of Shiloh.

"Boarding Round" has its advantages and its disadvantages. Generally, you get the best of fare and good treatment. The first week I boarded with a family by the name of Color. I was asked by a number of pupils to board with them that week, but Phoebe Color asked me first, so I boarded with her family the first week. I shall never forget the first supper. We had chicken, sweet potatoes, Irish potatoes, hot biscuits, different spreads, honey, grape pie and apple pie. I concluded that "Boarding Round" was just the thing. I will not give my experience in eating grape pie. It was the first grape pie I had ever eaten.

Some weeks later I boarded with a Pennsylvania Dutch family by the name of Ritter. They were very clever people. One evening they began to talk about the stars, and the old lady said she had heard that the stars were suns and she wanted to know about it. Luckily, a year or two before I had worked for a family by the name of Showalter, and they had in their library Dick's Works and I had read his article on Astronomy. I told them that some of the stars were planets and some were suns. They wanted me to point out the planets and some stars that were suns. I had never studied Astronomy, but I knew the evening and morning stars. I had heard that some of the planets were not visible at all times, and especially with the unassisted eye. I told them all I knew, and I presume much more. After we got back into the house, the old lady concluded that I had spent my whole life in going to school. They were not aware that I understood and could talk the Pennsylvania Dutch as well as they could. I learned what they thought of my teaching, government, etc.

On another occasion I was boarding with a Pennsylvania Dutch family and I learned some of their family affairs. They had been killing their neighbor's turkeys, because they were trespassing on their wheat fields. One morning I was sitting on the stair steps by a window reading the war news in the far East. There had been a great battle in Russia, and the English, French and Turks were defeated. While I was reading, the oldest son came into the room and asked his grand-parents where that "lazy one" was. They told him that he
was sitting on the stair steps reading. He brought his slate and arithmetic and said he had some sums he wanted me to work. I solved the problems and explained them as well as I possibly could. When all were solved the grandfather remarked, "Does the teacher always go to that much trouble in explaining the sums?" The boy replied in the affirmative. "Well then," said the grandfather, "why do you call him lazy?" The boy replied, "Because often when we go out to play ball at noon he stays in the school house to talk with Lid Barton." Lid Barton was my best scholar. Her father was dead and had left her quite a large sum of money, at least large for those days. She had fully $3,000 on interest. I thought she was rather handsome. She had bright, black eyes and was a good conversationalist. I played ball more frequently after that than I had before. This must suffice for my first term's teaching.

A few days after I had closed my term I started to school at Salem, O. Prof. Holbrook had left Marlborough and was superintending the schools of Salem, O. I paid some of my debts, bought some clothes and did not have much money, and therefore had to resort to borrowing again. I took some of my home-made clothes along with me. I did not wear them very much.

While I was there I got acquainted with Mr. T.J. Brooks, who in later life was for many years Vice-President of the Pennsylvania Railroad system and one of the leading attorneys for that road. About ten years ago, Mr. Brooks addressed the senior class on commencement day. He and I were classmates. His sister Lenora was very kind to me. At the time of the May picnic she, no doubt, observed that I was quite lonely, because I was not as well dressed as the other scholars and she asked me to take a stroll, and we sat down under a large sugar tree and talked the greater part of the afternoon. I am very sure she did it out of pity, because she saw my poverty and she was rich. On account of her I fell in love with her name and named one of my daughters Sarah Lenora. Mr. Brooks and I remained friends as long as he lived. Lenora is married and lives in Bennington, Vermont.

Prof. Holbrook remained at Salem only one year. In the fall he went to Lebanon, O., and took charge of the Normal School that was organized by the State Teachers' Association.
I remained at home that fall and worked on a farm as a hired hand. Sometime in September I took a day off, borrowed a horse and went out in search of a school. I went to the directors of the district adjoining the one where I had taught the winter before. The first director I met was a gentleman by the name of Ellson. He was plowing for wheat. He was rather gruff. He asked me my name, and when he learned that he remarked: "Well, you are the boy that taught in Dutch Flat last winter?" I replied in the affirmative. I might remark that the district where I first taught was at that time called Dutch Flat. It is known as Hickory Grove School. Mr. Ellson stopped his team and asked me whether I had ever studied the Western Calculator. I replied in the negative. He said he had some sums he wanted me to work. The first problem he gave was this: If the third of six be three, what will the fourth of twenty be? I solved it mentally by my proportion and in less than a minute gave him the answer. I observed that he was greatly astonished. He inquired, "How do you work that sum?" I solved it by proportion and he said that was not the way they worked it when he went to school, and I then solved it by analysis and he said that was all right. Then he gave me a problem that some years ago was the 100th problem in Ray's old edition, as the list of problems in the old edition had only twenty-seven instead of one hundred. Luckily I solved the problem without much difficulty. I solved it mentally and gave him the answer. He was satisfied. He said, "As far as I am concerned you can have the school." He called one of his sons to the plow and accompanied me to see the other directors. The first one we met, Mr. Rudy, was entirely willing. The third director, Mr. Donaldson, had two grown-up sons and a grown-up daughter; at least they were larger than I was, and he thought I was rather small and young to teach their school, but finally gave their consent. They engaged me for five months, at $18 per month, teach twenty-four days for a month and "board round" with the scholars. I was to be my own janitor. The fuel was the poorest. In those days the wood was furnished by the families sending children to school. The wood generally consisted of old oak tops, cut into any convenient lengths. I felt well satisfied with my contract. In 1852 I worked for $5 a month, the previous winter, 1854-55, I received $14 a month and by a raise of salary, twenty-five days a month and now a contract for five months,
twenty-four days and $18 a month, all looked large in my mental vision. I thought my fortune was made. Nothing more beyond. I felt more elated than in later years when the Normal was booming. Some good terms the Big Four, as the old managers are sometimes called, realized for their services $15 a day.

The winter term of 1855-6 was one I never shall forget. The enrollment was fifty-two, the average attendance thirty-eight. There were not very many small pupils. There were nine older than the teacher, and more that were larger and heavier. Most of the scholars were from twelve to sixteen years old. There was sleighing that winter from Christmas to March, and many were the sleighing parties to go to spelling schools, singing schools and big meetings. The little teacher was generally invited to go along and was placed in the middle of the big sled that he might not fall out or get lost. The size of the teacher suggested many witticisms and puns at his expense. But kinder and more affectionate scholars never entered a schoolroom and at the close of the term tears were shed by teacher and pupils and even some of the parents. Blessed Bunker Hill school! That was one of the most pleasant terms I ever taught in an experience of forty-six years in the schoolroom. What especially pleased me was that some of the boys walked four and five miles from the school where I taught the winter before, and my first school, to be under my instruction. One of those boys, now a wealthy citizen of Wooster, O., David Firestone, sent his only son to the O.N.U. some years ago. He is still my warm friend. Six of the Firestone boys came to school to me the first term I taught and all but one have at different times sent their sons to the O.N.U. Many other scholars who were my pupils in Wayne and Stark counties have sent their sons and daughters to Ada. In the early days of the O.N.U., Wayne and Stark counties were a welcome source of revenue by their liberal patronage. In my early teaching I did not want to put in only six hours. The days were too short to do what I found to do, and frequently we would have night schools to solve hard problems and do extra parsing. Young man, it pays to give the best service possible. The term closed Friday. I think it was March 17th and the following Tuesday I started for Mt. Seminary. It is now Mt. Union College at Alliance. Mt. Union then was a separate village nearly two miles from Alliance. I rented a room and boarded at the Hartshorn club. President Harshorn hired an old colored man, James Armstrong, to do the providing and cooking. The boys called him Uncle Jimmy and Prof. of Hiderubbathy, as he had a little bath room and for 25c would give you a good bath. He was more of an expert at hiderubbing than at cooking. His long, white apron was some whiter than his face. When I quit the club he wanted to kiss me and I a Democrat among Democrats. I tried the club two weeks and concluded I would board myself. I bought some muslin, made a chaff chad, or strawick, a bolster and two
sheets. My sewing and penmanship are of a kind. I sent home for a comforter, some butter and other articles. The butter at the club was yellow with age and strong as Sampson, and I therefore concluded Wayne county butter might be better than Stark county butter. The box came in due time and the average cost per week for the remaining part of the term, was forty-three cents. I used coal for fuel, but after I had eaten my supper, which generally consisted of mush or corn cakes, I would let my fire die out and would put on my overcoat while studying lessons. In this way I saved fuel. After breakfast I would go to the school building and would study in the study room.

Nothing unusual occurred that term, with the exception that I had my first debate on the stage. Some of my friends declared that I said, "Mr. President," and said nothing more and I stood there until the president excused me. I thought I was going over my speech. Possibly it was simply a mental affair. The second time I was put on the program the question for discussion was this: "Resolved, that all laws enacted by Congress should be obeyed until repealed by the same authority." At that time I was a strong pro-slavery democrat and I thought that the Fugitive Slave Law was all right. Of course, I took the affirmative. The leading debater on the negative was Mr. Lemmon. He was homely as he could be, but everybody liked him on account of his goodness and affability. He was one of the best debaters I ever heard speak. In order to prove that slavery was right, I brought up Abraham and the laws of Moses. Mr. Lemmon in his reply said that the gentleman might as well advocate polygamy as slavery. It was the custom of the society to allow twenty minutes for miscellaneous discussion. I replied to Mr. Lemmon by quoting Abraham, Jacob, David, Solomon and also remarked that Paul said that an elder and a deacon should be the husband of one wife, and of course by inference all the other church members might have all the wives they pleased. The school was largely republican and some of the other fellows yelled out, "Mormon, Mormon," others, "Joe Smith." And for some years after that, in debate, I was called the South Carolina Democrat. About fifteen years ago while visiting Mt. Union on some Commencement occasion one of the boys of the olden times came up and remarked, "How is the South Carolina Democrat?"
The next winter I taught the home school, then called Cedar Valley, now Overton. It was not the home school when I went to the country school. Dutch College District, which was quite small, was divided and added to other districts, and therefore but few of my former schoolmates came to me as pupils. As is my custom, I asked too small a salary. The wages of teachers was advancing, it was a hard school to manage and there were many pupils. I could board at home, and only asked the Directors $26 a month, twenty-four days for a month. I learned later that they would have paid $28 or $30.

The following summer I taught the Mechanicsburg School at $30 per month, twenty-two days for a month. Two pupils who came to me that summer, in later years, came to Ada. Many of the old Philos will remember the eloquent debater and cultured gentleman, J.F. Kimerline, then of New Washington, now of Bucyrus. The other pupil who followed me to Ada was a Miss Winkler, now Mrs. Doctor Warner of Congress, O. She joined the Franklin society. The Franklins own that name to Mrs. Hampton, nee Ida Lehr.

At the close of the term I returned to Mt. Union College accompanied by Elijah Boor. He now resides in California. He sent his daughter to Ada some years ago. We "kept hall." We took nine pounds of butter along with us from home and some bread and dried apples. Our board that term cost us 43 cents each, a week. Mr. Boor proposed that if I would cook, he would make the fires, wash the dishes, make the bed and sweep. I accepted the proposition. We concluded that mush would be a change from corn cakes. I mixed the cakes of corn meal, shorts or middlings, water and salt. We had a tin stewing pan in which I boiled potatoes and made potato soup. I concluded the pan would do for a mush kettle. One evening after the fire was started, I put water in the pan, stirred in meal until as thick as mush and sat down to study. In about fifteen minutes I called my room-mate to supper. Each of us had a spoon, a knife and fork, also a plate a piece. I set the stewing pan on the table, lifted the lid, but it did not look like "Mother's mush," nor did it taste like it. It was raw. I convinced the dish-washer that the fault was not in the cook, but in the stewing pan, that mush ought to be boiled in an iron kettle. He thought I was correct in my reasoning. I had studied logic, he had not. We had a skillet. I went and bought a little pork fat, put it in the skillet, fried it, and then put some
of the mush in with the meat and fried the mixture. It was a fine dish, and our salt and corn meal were saved. We had meat and fried mush for breakfast and dinner. I learned later from an old bachelor how to boil mush. The fault had been in the cook, not in the pan.

I was now reckoned among the old students, but was a beardless, bashful boy and very seldom spoke to any of the school girls; but one day coming from recitation, Miss Cornelia Anthony, a beautiful, mischievous blond, asked me to take her to society that evening. We were classmates, but as I now remember, we had never spoken a word together before that memorable occasion. I was too bashful to say no. I fixed up in my best, took a piece of tallow candle, blackened my boots and with beating heart made my way to her room. I found her ready to start for society. In those days, at Mt. Union College, the ladies were not allowed to invite gentlemen in to any of their rooms after the ringing of the warning bell. If the lady was not ready to start for society, or church, the boy waited at the door, rain or shine, until she was ready to start. Evilly disposed persons claimed that at some of the rooming houses that rule was often broken. We went to society. She was a great talker and full of fun, and I began to feel easier and more comfortable. After society I escorted her to her room, returned to mine, and began to study. After I was at work about fifteen minutes, some twenty-five or thirty boys came to my room and asked me to come out. They said they had a warrant for my arrest for robbery. They read the warrant. It was sworn to by Mr. Thurston. I was informed that Miss Anthony had a beau by the name of Thurston. He was a tall, red headed fellow. It was her intention to jilt him, and used me for that purpose. The boys caught on. They concluded to have some fun out of my first girl affair. They took me to one of the society halls, but the plaintiff, Mr. Thurston, did not appear. The trial was adjourned until the next day, Saturday, 10 a.m. Nearly all the students met in the chapel hall, even some of the professors were there. The trial was fun for the boys, and for Miss Anthony, but not so much fun for me, and much less for poor Thurston. Miss Anthony made no more proposals to me, and I was too bashful to try again.

Sometime during the winter of 1857-1858, a Bostonian by the name of Underwood was engaged by the Republican club to lecture to the students. His subject was, "The Blighting Sin of Slavery." It was a convincing lecture. I well remember his comparisons between Massachusetts and Virginia, New York and North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Georgia, Ohio and Kentucky. He stated that Massachusetts was settled in 1620; Virginia in 1607. The one has an area of little less than 8,000 square miles, and the other had 70,000. He compared the soil, climate, mineral resources, water power, forests, navigable
rivers, commerce, wealth, public schools, and colleges. He quoted from the
census and other statistics. He followed the same line of argument in regard
to the other above named states. He stated that the same was true in regard
to every state in the Union. The comparisons were presented so logically and
eloquenty, that my faith in human slavery as a Divine institution was greatly
shaken, he said: "Young men, do you expect to go to the fertile plains of
Kansas and buy eighty or one hundred and sixty acres of government land,
and settle down on a farm like your forefathers did in Ohio fifty years ago? If
you do, remember that Kentuckians and Missourians, and rich men from other
Southern states, will go there and buy from four to five
thousand acre farms and raise Negroes to sell to the sugar and cotton
plantations in the extreme Southern states. You will be surrounded by slaves
and slave owners. Your children will have no public schoo-
l facilities. You will
be styled small fisted farmers or greasy mechanics." He talked in this strain
about two hours.

I went to my room, examined the statistical tables in Mitchell's School Atlas,
and found what he has said in his comparison of the states to be only too true,
and about one o'clock a.m. I retired to bed a Republican. My roommate still
remained a Democrat until 1862. He served in the Union Army three years as
a true soldier.

During the spring of 1858 Prof. Peck, and one or two other professors of
Oberlin College were arrested by the U.S. Marshall for violating the Fugitive
Slave Law. They were accused of assisting some Negroes to escape to
Canada. They were imprisoned in the city of Cleveland. The arrest of the
college professors created an intense excitement throughout the Western
Reserve. The Republicans called an indignation meeting to be held in
Cleveland. The students of Mt. Union College chartered two cars to go to the
indignation meeting, and I concluded to be one of the excursionists. We got to
Cleveland about nine o'clock in the morning and took in some of the sights of
the city. It was a wonderland to me, I had never been in a city before.
There was a certain space reserved for college students, and this gave us a good chance to hear the public speakers. I heard Joshua R. Giddings, Thaddeus Stevens, Ex. Lieut. Governor Brown of Southern Ohio, Rufus Spalding, Gen. Wade and Governor Chase. The occasion was a great one and the speeches were eloquent and fiery. There was danger of a riot. The Governor counseled obedience to the laws of Ohio and the United States. He said he believed that the Fugitive Slave Law was wrong, but while it was a law, it had to be obeyed. He said that he would have to use every means in his power to suppress law breaking and rioting. Mr. Brown followed Governor Chase. He remarked:

We will obey the laws out of respect for our government, but the law is unjust, and by the eternal, it will one day, and that very soon, be removed from the statute books. Boys, be ready, and keep your powder dry for the fight will soon be on.

Some of the speeches were rather much for a young converted Republican. I came very nearly going back to the Democratic party. I thought some of the men were encouraging treason.

As there were no night meetings, we got back about three o'clock the next morning. My first recitation was in Olmstead's Mechanics. I had not prepared the lesson. The class was divided into two sections, A and B. Luckily, it was not our turn at the board that day, but the A section failed to solve a difficult problem. The teacher called for volunteers. No one was willing to try it. Newton Anthony, a brother of my girl, spoke in his piping voice and said, "Call on Lehr; he thinks he knows it all." The class laughed. Anthony was a hard student and fairly good in all his studies. He belonged to the A section and had not been in Cleveland, but had failed to solve the problem. The teacher asked me to go to the board and try it. I went but soon found I could not solve it. I put a mass of work on the board and got the answer. The teacher called for the demonstration. There was a fusillade of words. It would have taken a
good listener and good thinker to have followed that explanation. Anthony said: "The solution is not correct." An assistant teacher, who it was stated, had loaned the president some money, and who had more money in his pocket than mathematics in his head, had charge of the class. He bit the end of his thumb, and before he had time to say anything, I spoke to Anthony, who was making remarks about the solution and laughing, that he did not know whether four was four or eight. He replied, "Try him," He was tried. This is the solution that tried him:

If a=4 and x=4, by the first axiom
x=a; by axiom fourth, if equals are multiplied by equals the results will be equal. Multiplying by a = we have
ax=a2; axiom third, subtracting x2 from both sides of the equation, we have
ax-x=a2x2; factoring we have x(a-x) = (a-x) (a-x); axiom fifth, dividing by (a-x), we have x=a+x, or 4=4+4 or 4=8.

Our author had the axioms numbered.

I measured my talk by the time for the next bell. Just as I got through, the bell rang. The teacher assigned the lesson for the next day and adjourned the class. I erased my work as quickly as possible, for I observed Anthony copying my bogus solution. The A's and B's were having a heated discussion. The next day I had two solutions for the problem. The problem was assigned to me. After the explanation of the problem, Anthony declared that it was not the same solution as the one given the day before. I remarked that there were various solutions and gave the second solution. Anthony still objected, stating that it was not the same as the one the previous day. The teacher stated that he thought the second solution was the same, only abbreviated.

That term I roomed alone and did my own laundering. I always washed my towels, handkerchiefs and bedding, but this term I bought a smoothing iron, and tried my shirts and collars. It must be confessed that I was not a success as a laundryman. Almost any John Chinaman could excel me in that line of work. I never retired before the hour of twelve, and always arose before five. I had a regular program of work, and followed it closely as possible. I got the idea of the program from Todd's Student Manual, a valuable for students.

At the close of the term, I went home as usual and worked in the harvest field. I raked and bound after a cradler, doing the work of two men, and earning
$1.00 per day. That fall I was employed to teach a village school. Many students have been in school at Ada from that village. The village was known as Golden Corners. As I now remember them they were all Philos. The old Philos will remember the two Belles, Miss Belle Armstrong and Miss Belle Johnson, I might name many more. I was engaged for six months at $30 per month. The two fall months I was to board around with the scholars, but had to pay my board the four winter months. I had to teach twenty days for a month. The district had a bad reputation. The winter before two teachers were whipped out and the third had a hard time in governing the school. A number of pupils were expelled from school. There were family feuds in the district. Some years before an old lady that had not walked for some years, hung herself. The son was to have the old farm for keeping her. It happened that one day with all the family away from home. The old lady managed to go to the barn, got a rope, went to the new house they were building, and hung herself. Some persons wondered how she could hang herself. The daughter-in-law replied that "the devil helped her," and the daughter remarked, "Yes, I know that devil." A family quarrel resulted and the neighbors took sides in the quarrel. Barns and smoke houses were burned; cattle and horses were poisoned. Many families in that district were afraid to make sugar for fear that the sap would be poisoned.

I took the school without any fears. I think I did the best governing that year in my school life. I remarked the first morning that I would take no part in the family feuds, but would treat all alike. There were three boys that were ring leaders in all the mischief. The chief of the three was older than myself and was the grandson of the old lady that committed suicide. I will give his second offense the second day of school. A Miss Wooner and this young man sat on opposite sides of the room. Miss Wooner burst out in loud laughter. I asked her what was the matter. She said that Ed Ewing was making faces at her. I told her that she ought not to look at Mr. Ewing, that probably he could not help making faces; that she had no right to laugh at any one that was afflicted in any special way. I said if she would mind her book, Mr. Ewing would not bother her. I looked at Mr. Ewing and smiled, and the whole school laughed. At noon Mr. Ewing gave me a fine apple, and told me that he had expected I would talk to him about his parents and his past life, and he would be expelled from school, that I was the first teacher that had treated him fairly, and I could rely upon him as friend.

I taught six months, and was employed to teach the school the next winter at $33.00 per month. I had frequent spelling schools that winter and I taught a night school. The principal study in the night school was mental arithmetic.
Fifteen minutes, each evening, were devoted to teaching short methods in multiplying and practice in "giving out numbers." At the close of our "spelling schools," we would give exhibitions in "giving out numbers." The following are a few of the easiest contractions out of a collection of fifty-seven, to be published in a mental arithmetic when time and health permit.

To multiply by 11 when the number consists of two figures, add the units to the tens, and insert the sum between the tens and units figures.

Examples: 36 x 11 = 396, 84 x 11 = 924.

When the sum exceeds 9, add 1 to the tens figure. The contraction will apply to any number to be multiplied by 11.

Example: 42596 x 11 = 468556.

To multiply an even number by 15, divide the number by 2, multiply the quotient by 3, and annex 0.

Example: 36 x 15 = ?
Solution: 36/2 = 18; 18 x 3 = 54; the result 540.

If the number is odd, as 37 x 15, divide the two, multiply by three, add one to the product, and annex five.

To square any number between fifty and sixty, as 58^2 = 3364.
I gave exercises in addition, subtraction by addition, taught the theory of the
dominical letters, and some things more curious than practical. Will explain
subtraction by addition and then will leave arithmetic for the spelling book.

When any figure in the subtracted exceeds that in the minuend, add as many
units to the figure in the minuend, as the subtrahend figure lacks being ten,
and add one to the next higher order in the subtrahend.

Fifty years ago, the spelling school craze was as great as baseball and
football crazes are today. The crack spellers and their friends would go ten
miles to a spelling match. The home schools would have a secret meeting one
night each week to practice. I had learned the deaf mute alphabet and taught
a few of the best spellers the finger movement. I never had a candle stick in pronouncing, but simply a candle with a little paper wrapped around it. This gave the right hand an opportunity to make many of the letters of the alphabet, especially the letters most frequently used, a, c, e, i, and easily made when holding a candle. We were victorious in many contests; but at the center of Canaan School, the teacher used the old United States spelling book, and we were all seated in less than ten minutes. The teacher was a Miss Smith, a fine conversationalist and quite entertaining. In an adroit way after the contest she amused herself playing with the caught mouse. She invited us back, asked me to visit her school and talked most entertainingly. My boys and girls got tired waiting in the sled and started for home, went about half a mile and drove by the side of the road. I thought I had a walk before me of six miles. By turns I wanted Mary Smith at the bottom of the sea or myself in Ireland or some other foreign country, for I knew what would happen the next day. When nearing the sled I heard the laughing and then the shout. I helped the fun along as best I could, but it was many weeks before Sarah Oller, a pretty brunette, forgot that spelling school. In fact, she never forgot it. I think I still have the mitten she gave me shortly after that occurrence. She was an actualist. She laughingly handed me a real mitten, a small one, I understood its significance.

We also had contests in pronunciation. The school would divide into two sections or "sides." The teachers and sometimes one of the older pupils would spell the words and the scholars had to pronounce them. This plan made the pupils learn the diacritical marks, and they learned to pronounce many of the most common English words correctly, such as dog, log, hog, frog, fast, last, calf, half, chalk, fought, caught, taught, etc. Every day before calling up from four to six words in the next lesson and learn the meaning or definition of the words marked for the next recitation.

The school had been in session but a few weeks till pupils came from other districts. Some who lived ten miles or more away applied for admission. I was asked to start an academy. I refused for I was only twenty years old and not nearly through college. The work of an extra hour each day the winters of '58 and '59 has brought many dollars to Ada. It is said that Republics are ungrateful; but my experience has been that people are more grateful than is generally supposed. The extra work done in the public schools of Ada or Johnstown was not forgotten when there was a call for help to build the first Normal building. I will speak of that more fully in the future.

In the spring of '59 I went back to college. Thirteen students accompanied me. Four were from Wooster, a lady and four gentlemen, it would be better to say
one girl and three boys, the children of three among the most prominent families in the city. Judge Neal McCoy wrote me a letter asking me to call and see him when in Wooster. Some years before he lived in Cedar Valley near my father's home. When I called to see him, he took me to the office of Dr. Firestone and to the home of Mr. McDonald. They told me that they wanted to put their children in my care and send them with me to college. At that time there was no college or university at Wooster. I took the charge. There was no money in it, and not many thanks. The McCoys died long ago; Firestone became a prominent physician in Wooster, and died last fall. McDonald is a wealthy manufacturer in the far West. He was a reckless boy, but finally reformed. The McCoy boy died a wreck.
I have spoken of Cedar Valley on different occasions. I will describe it to illustrate the changes time brings. Cedar Valley is three miles or more in length. At the head of the valley there is a depression in the land—a kind of marsh. The depression covers about 15 or 20 acres. There are ravines around this depression in four or five different directions. Sixty years ago the country around this depression was heavily timbered. Cedar Valley is a deep ravine, from 400 to 800 feet in width. At some points the hills are not over three hundred feet apart. The fall of the creek from the marsh to the mouth of the valley or gorge is fully 150 ft. As I now remember the valley sixty years ago, a number of companies joined together and made a large dam of the natural depression in the land. The dam was owned jointly. Many ravines opened into the creek. Each mill also had its own private dam and dike. There were three sawmills in the valley, three grist mills, a distillery, a tannery, a carding and fulling machine, a wagon making shop, two or three blacksmith shops, two stores, a grocery, a post office, and a tavern with its bar. The valley was the center of industry for the surrounding country. People came to those mills fifteen to twenty miles to have their corn, rye and wheat ground, to have their carding and fulling done, and to get a barrel of whisky. As the forests were cleared a way, during the rainy seasons, the water rushed in torrents into the head dam and into the other dams, and as the fall was great, the force of the water swept away dams, dikes and bridges. The valley was beautiful, the sides of the hills were covered with evergreens.

Today the Cedar Valley road is constructed along a hill side. There are no bridges, and no mills of any kind. There is still a store there. The post office has been moved to the mouth of the creek to a little village, called Overton. Enough water power is going to waste today in Cedar Valley to do the manufacturing of many counties in Ohio, to run trolley lines, and to light Wayne County. All that is wanted is some Carnegie or Rockefeller to construct a dam at the head of the valley, to furnish the machinery and apply the management. The dam can be excavated to the depth of 25 or 30 feet and still have all the fall necessary to run the machinery, and water could be saved from the gullies and springs along the valley to add additional power. Cedar Valley at some time, again may be a hive of manufacturing industries.

In the fall of '59 I returned to Golden Corner. Received $33 a month and twenty days for a month. Had a very pleasant term. Many of my pupils and young friends accompanied me to college the spring of 1860. Among the number was Al Ewing who had caused so much trouble in school some years before. In 1864, he was elected superintendent of schools of Elkhart, Ind., and sometime in the seventies he was elected president of the State University of Nevada. He did while president of that university. In 1869, he visited me at Ada. I have lost his last letter to me. In that letter he stated that he considered me
the father and mother of his moral and intellectual life. Among the hundreds and hundreds of kind letters I have received from fellow students, fellow comrades in the army and those who have been under my supervision as students, I never received one that showed more affection and that expressed greater gratitude than that last letter from Pres. Alexander Ewing. He also mentioned the fact that I shamed him out of the habit of carrying a dirk and pistol. I could fill a number of pages giving incidents in the government of the term of 1959-60 but must forebear. The spring of '60 found me back in college.

At the close of the spring term, I returned to hay and harvest fields to end the vacation. One day, while raking and binding wheat, doing the work of two men, barefooted and wearing cast off college clothing, two well dressed, fine looking gentlemen drove to the fence, tied their horse and came to where I was busy at work. I did not have time to stop and talk. They told me as I was at work that they were two members of the school board of Smithville and that they wanted me to teach their school. We entered into a contract as I was at work. They employed me for five months at $36 per month and twenty days for a month. On Saturday, when I intended to start for college on Monday morning, I went to Smithville to engage boarding for the winter. The first person I met in the village was Prof. John Eberly a classmate at college. He informed me that early in the spring, before the election, two members of the board of directors had employed him. That the spring election went against him and his friends and that I was employed by the new member and his enemy on the old board. He requested that as a friend I would resign. He said that he would carry the case to court. I resigned. The board employed another teacher. Eberly prosecuted and the board had to pay both teachers. After resigning I went to Wooster, feeling somewhat discouraged as I had refused several offers. While at Wooster, I met two of the directors of Jefferson, a village in Wayne County. They offered me $33 a month and twenty days for a month. I accepted and on Monday morning started for college. In about two weeks I learned that the old board at Jefferson had done what had been done at Smithville. Some of my friends advised me to resign, but I refused to do so.

About the last of October I began the term. Two weeks passed away quietly. On Friday a friend informed me that on the following Monday the large scholars were coming in a body and that nearly all were the friends of Mr. Wallace, the teacher of the previous winter, and that the best thing I could do was to resign. I did not resign. On Monday morning I had seventy-nine scholars of all classes. Among them were a number of teachers. The class in McGuffey's Fifth Reader had "Exercises in Reading" for the lesson that morning. Mary McCullough, a teacher, and a warm friend of Mr. Wallace had, in her exercise, this line, "And winds the signal blow." She gave "i" the long sound. I remarked that sometimes in poetry it was allowable to give i the long sound in that extract, that the word was a verb and not a noun. After parsing the sentence all the other members of the class agreed that the word was a noun. Mary still persisted that it was a verb.
In the advanced class in arithmetic we had addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We had as extras, subtraction by addition and a few contractions in multiplication. I requested Miss McCullough to go to the board. I asked for the solution of this problem: "What will 25 apples cost at 2 cents a piece?" She used 25 for the multiplicand and 2 for the multiplier. She was asked to explain the problem. She did so in a haughty and defiant manner. When it was shown to the class that if multiplication is a short method of addition, as the author taught, then the product must have the same name as the multiplicand. At the noon hour, when I returned from where I boarded, all the young men and all the young women but two came and said that hereafter they would be my friends. That they had learned more that morning than they did in a month the previous winter. They said they would no longer object to opening the school by reading the Bible and prayer. The previous winter, the noon hour was largely spent in singing and dancing. Someone would play the violin. I allowed no dancing. It was the most advanced school in my experience to that date.
That winter I invented the tense tree. We used Pinneo's grammar and Greene's analysis. Pinneo named the tenses as follows: present, first past, second past, third past, first future and second future. Greene named them as follows: past relative, past absolute, present relative, present absolute, future relative and future absolute. In some notes he gave the name "perfect" to the relative tenses. The definitions given by these two authors did not differ very much. I tried to harmonize the names and definitions. The previous term in college I studied zoology. Used Redfield's Zoology. The author illustrated the animal kingdom with the figure of a tree. The trunk represented the animal kingdom as a whole, the different classes or orders as the vertebrates, radiates, etc., were represented by large branches, the sub-orders, etc., by smaller branches and finally species and varieties by leaves and leaflets. I confess that there never was much originality in my teaching and government. I tried to select what I thought best out of different methods and systems. I took the plan from Redfield and applied it to teaching the tenses. I adopted the names past relative, past absolute, present relative, present absolute, future relative and future absolute. For leaves I used the different forms of the verb common, progressive, passive and emphatic, and used the definitions given by Greene in his Analysis. For some years, the tense tree was quite popular in the Wayne county teacher's institute.

I have Relton's Geography. All the definitions, names of countries, rivers, lakes, mountains, etc., are taught in rhyme. On rainy days, at the noon hour, I induced the pupils to sing geography, I had some good singers. It was something new and useful and all, or nearly all, appeared to enjoy the pastime amusement. But I had to help to sing. My singing caused many a broad smile.

The winter of '60-'61 can never be forgotten by any American citizen. I presume the days of 1776 were similar to those of '60-'61. To realize such times, one must live them. Political meetings then, were very different from the meeting of today. From 1854 to 1876, the meetings were spectacular. Hundreds of teams and horsemen would come as delegations from the different townships. Flags and all manner of mottoes and devices were used to make a grand display. In the campaign of '60, nearly every delegation had some tough oak logs on a wagon and a fellow with shirt sleeves rolled up,
mauling rails or attempting it on a log that could not be split, for he had to maul away during the entire parade, some times over a mile long. On another wagon, called the Mississippi, was a kind of boat, then would come the "wide awakes" in uniform. In the night parades, the "wide awakes" carried torches. Preachers, judges, doctors, etc., would march in the ranks. A favorite Democratic exhibition was a large wagon, drawn by six white horses. On the wagon were young girls, dressed in white, bearing banners--"White Husbands or None." On one occasion, the daughter of a prominent Republican was on one of those wagons. The father got crazy. He jumped on the wagon and by force dragged her off. A fight followed but she did not continue in the parade. I shall never forget a political speech I heard Gen. Gibson make in 1856 when he was a candidate for Treasurer of State. It was one of the most eloquent speeches I ever heard. I can see him now as he described the negress, flying with her babe in her arms, into the dismal swamp, infested with poisonous reptiles and beasts of prey. But she feared them less than she did the fierce blood hound and the lash of her ruthless master. He pictured how she longed to reach the Ohio River and to see the foreign flag of Canada. No, the U.S. flag then meant slavery for the black man. I can never forget that wonderful speech, oration, or whatever you may choose to call it. I was a strong democrat at the time. At times I was moved to anger and again, in spite of myself, to tears. At that time, the stealing of his brother-in-law did not affect him as it appeared to in after years. That whole affair should be fully explained by the future historian of Ohio for it can easily be shown that for a sister's sake, he incurred the censure of his party until the facts in the case became more fully known. From 1854 to 1876, questions the most vital to the American people, it can fairly be said, to the world, had to be discussed and settled. Such great questions always brings out all there is in man in the way of oratory. All questions debated by literary societies included in some way or other the three great questions to be settled by the American people--Slavery, State Rights and Popular Sovereignty. During the winter of '60-'61, one by one, the Southern States seceded from the Union. To me, the situation was almost unbearable.

My school was closed the last week in March. During the winter, in addition to my school work, and the work was heavy, for I taught seven hours daily.

I attempted to carry three college studies for examination. The last seven years, I had worked on the farm probably about nine months, had taught school thirty-three months and had completed college work covering over five years of the course. This included two years of the preparatory course. The winter of '60- '61 I organized a literary society. It was my first effort in that line.
The society was pronounced a great success. Had only two spelling schools that term. There were two saloons in the village. The first night three drunken men came to have some fun with the praying teacher. I was put on guard. When I called the school to order, I remarked that the house was so crowded, that in order to preserve good order I would appoint a committee of three gentlemen to assist me in that duty. I surveyed the crowd quite carefully and selected the fellows that were just full enough to be mean. Everybody was astonished at my poor judgment. But the plan worked like a charm. I provided them with chairs. They had authority. Someone made a frivolous remark about one of the "judges" and immediately he was taken from the room. All laughed and then became quiet. I never had better order in a spelling school. The joke got into one of the county papers. We had no further trouble at any meetings.

There was much sickness that winter. Several of the scholars had diphtheria. Two of the pupils died. It was difficult to procure watchers with the sick. I watched with sick scholars a number of nights.

The spring term at Mt. Union College began about the middle of March, but I was so over taxed with hard work that my health began to fail and I had to take a rest. I remained at home two weeks and then started for college. When I got to Wooster where I expected to take the train for Alliance, I found the wildest excitement imaginable. The word had just been received that Fort Sumpter had been fired on and that the President had called for 75,000 volunteers. I offered to enlist but after trying to get into service was rejected. It was too late in the term to enter Mt. Union College and I concluded to try Vermillion Institute at Haysville. In many respects it was an excellent school. The attendance was larger than at Mt. Union, there were more students from the southern states and more that were sent to school. In government, the schools were entirely different, also in social culture.
When the war began it was generally believed by the people of the North and South that it would only continue a few months. The North thought their superior forces would, in a short time, compel the South to lay down their arms. The South thought the North would furnish such poor soldiers that they could defeat them easily. One of their enlisting arguments was, "We can whip them with cornstalks." I was pessimistic. I predicted that we could not whip the South without the help of the slaves. I had learned at college to fear the "Southern gentleman." Northern students knew that a serious quarrel meant the use of a large knife or a pistol. Generally we submitted meekly. Sumner was caned at the United States senate, and his assailant was lauded all through the South. Dueling was unpopular in the North. There was no military spirit. The great mass of the people were agriculturalists, mechanics, manufacturers and merchants. There were three classes of people in the South. First, the wealthy slave owners, who were an aristocracy. They seldom engaged in physical labor of any kind. The men would go to college or engage in various kinds of sports, or were simply men of leisure. The young ladies would go to some seminary to study music and French or remain at home to entertain the young men of leisure.

Before enlisting I had studied the History of the Middle Ages of Europe and the History of Civilization. When marching through the southland I beheld the magnificent homes of the slave owner and the hovel of the slave, it reminded me of Chivalry and the Feudal Age of Europe. I was told by people of both races that if a girl dropped her handkerchief or fan, she would ring a bell for a servant to pick up the article. The same was true in every phase of life. The men were good marksmen and fine equestrians. The Negro raised the cotton, corn, bacon, rice, sugar, and tobacco. The people of the North did the exchanging, the manufacturing, had the fisheries and generally had the foreign commerce. The difference between the inhabitants of the North and South was the difference between the civilization of the 14th and 19th centuries.

The second class of the population was the "poor white trash," so called, and less respected than the slave, especially less than the coachmen and the
house servants. The poor whites hated the "nigger" more than he did the evil one.

The third class was the slave. Many people in the North expected the Negro to rise in insurrection, that they would burn and kill; but he proved beyond all expectation. The women, left alone with their slaves, were kindly treated.

To me it appeared next to impossible to blockade the sea and gulf coast from Chesapeake Bay, or even from the mouth of the Potomac River to the Rio Grande. It would also be necessary to establish a military cordon along Mason and Dixon's line to the Rockies and beyond all through New Mexico to the Rio Grande, a coast and land line of over 10,000 miles, including the zigzags by sea and land. Where and how could we get the ships for the blockade? Where the men to form the armies, to protect our lines of transportation and to form a cordon around the Confederacy as was the plan till Grant became commander in chief? He said, "The armies of the Confederacy must be the points of attack. Destroy them and the Confederacy falls." He was correct. The anaconda plan was a failure. It required too many men. Early in the war when General Sherman was asked how many men would be needed to hold the line in Kentucky, he replied, "one hundred thousand." He was considered crazy and was transferred to a less important command and General Buell appointed in his place. Time told the story. Sherman was correct. Lincoln, Secretary of War, Cameron, and "Grandmother" Halleck were wrong. At that time Lincoln depended on the judgment of his secretary of war, secretary of the navy, and secretary of the treasury. The secretary of war sent most of the cannon, muskets and other munitions of war to the southern forts.

The most of the few serviceable ships were in foreign ports; the others were so placed that they might be destroyed or damaged in southern harbors. The treasury was bankrupt. There was neither money nor credit. The standing army was small and many of the best officers were from the South, and they resigned or deserted. General Thomas, of Virginia, was a notable exception. Lincoln and Chase were untried, and Stanton, Grant, Sherman, Sheridan, Thomas and Farragut were unknown. In many wars the generals must be found. It was the case in the war of 1812; it was so in 1861. In some wars they are never found. A notable instance is the Crimean War of 1854. In dire necessity the Greeks, in the heart of Persia, found a Xenophon to lead them. In 1870 the French found no able general to lead.

In war money is an essential element. As stated before, we had neither money nor credit. Many of the states had better credit with the lenders that the general government. We were not aware that in Chase we had an Alexander
Hamilton. The interest on the first small loan was 12 per cent. Later on came the green-backs. The Democrats then were hostile to that kind of money. Senator Pendleton, then in the House, said that "soon the greenbacks will not be worth a dollar a cord." In his case time worked a marvelous change. In 1866-78, he did not compare them to the French assignats or the continentals.

In Jackson's time the government debts were all paid and money in the treasury to loan. In 1861, the debt was about $60,000,000. Money was needed in vast sums. Chase, assisted by wise and loyal statesmen, devised a system of revenue that brought much money into the treasury, and in the darkest days of the war, floated great loans successfully. One can hardly realize that with a divided country, frequent great defeats of our armies, such loans as the 5-twenties and 7-thirties could be sold at any price. When a Supreme Court judge, suddenly changed his mind on the constitutionality of the income tax law, with a united country and greatly increased population, Cleveland and Carlyle were compelled by John Pierpont Morgan to sell a straight thirty-year bond at 4 per cent. At the commencement of the war with Spain, McKinley sold 10-twenties at 3 per cent interest. It is said that on the Cleveland-Carlyle bonds Morgan and his crew realized a profit of $18,000,000 in a few days. A Jackson or a Lincoln, yes, nearly every president ever elected would have called an extra session of congress to devise some system of revenue to avoid borrowing money in large quantities, in time of peace and plenty. Democrats cannot be greatly blamed for criticizing that act of Cleveland and Carlyle, but the latter will lose no sleep over the criticisms, for they live in comfort and plenty.

I fear it will be a long time before a public debt will be paid. I am not one of the number who believe that a public debt is a public blessing.
In August 1861 the Union forces were defeated at Bull Run, Va., and at Wilson's Creek, Mo. The president called for 300,000 volunteers. I again enlisted, left school, went to camp, but was again rejected. I returned home about the last of September and contracted to teach the village school at Rowsburg, Ashland County. There were two rooms. Never enjoyed teaching more than that winter. It was there I met Charles Rowley, now the great singing evangelist. Rev. Rowley taught voice culture in the Ohio Normal University many years. He is a sweet singer and a true Christian. He has been my pupil, my roommate at college and one of my true teachers. I returned to Mt. Union College in the spring of '62, but again enlisted and was mustered into the service sometime in June. We were at Camp Chase two weeks or more before we were mustered into service. It took some time to fill the regiment.

Enlisting was rather slow at that time. At the time of enlistment my weight was about 110 pounds. There was some difficulty in finding trousers, blouse and overcoat small enough. The boys laughed at my appearance. The company was almost entirely composed of college boys from Mt. Union College. We had the Sibley tent. There were sixteen in my tent. M.B. Chapman, at present a professor in the Harvard Divinity School, and his brother, a wealthy Wall Street broker, at one time the financial agent of Senator Brice and imprisoned in Washington D.C. because he refused to answer some questions about the sugar legislation when Brice was senator, were members of the company and in the same tent with me. Rufus Cope, a prominent attorney of Chicago was a mess-mate as was J.A. Brush in after years a prominent professor at Mt. Union College. I have a number of Letters from comrades. Will hand one to the editors of the Herald for this number. The writer is at present a minister in the Presbyterian Church


McArthur, O., Mar. 18, 1897.
H.S. Lehr
Dear Comrade: On the 13th of June 1862, I
strolled down Camp Chase looking into the faces of the men to pick out a company in which to enlist. You and Bradford, Miller, Capt. Kemble and Horner were sitting together. I was pleased with the appearance of the group. You told me that the company was from Mt. Union College; that you had been mustered in three days and that the company was not yet full. I enlisted immediately in the best company of soldiers I ever saw.

Two or three incidents come to my mind as I think of you in connection with those days.

First. To put in the time, and for mutual improvement, you and Mellville, Chapman, Horner and Milligan, spelled clear through the spelling book beginning at ba-be-bi-bo, etc.

Second. We started to Clarksburg one to practice drill in street firing. A tremendous rain caught us and we came back on double quick. A few moments after we were in our tents, and while the rain was pouring, Horner appeared in the street between the tents, clothed in the garb of our first parents before the fall with the exception of his fife-major's scarf around his waist. He shouted, "Fall in for drill." You and I and a half-dozen men sprang from our tents "arranged in conscious innocent alone," and Horner drilled us up and down through the rain and mud.

Third. On the second day of our march to the mountains, as we neared the town of Buckhannon, I said to you, "I am very tired." You replied, "I am not. I am as fresh as when I started." I said, "Lehr, you don't know when you are tired. Nervous excitement keeps you up."

We entered the town and halted for orders. Suddenly you staggered back and partially fell, showing the signs of fainting. The next morning you wanted to march again, but Capt. Kemble made you ride, declaring that if you insisted on marching
and gave out, he would leave you at the first house. At this dire threat, you succumbed and consented to ride in a baggage wagon. 
Events keep crowding on my memory as I write, I could tell a hundred more. The Sunday meetings, the blackberries, roasting ears and other plunder, Beverly and the Tygarts Valley. I see them all again as I write. 
I am too busy to write more. God bless you.

C.B. Taylor

As stated before, Chapman is a divinity professor at Harvard. Ten or more years ago, he addressed one of the O.N.U. graduating classes. Milligan named in the letter is a Presbyterian minister, and Horner is dead. I bought the spelling book, when starting to college. I promised my mother, on bended knees, with hand on the Bible and her hand on mine, never to play cards and I never did. Learning to spell paid much better. I packed my Greek grammar till the march to Stanton, Va., called in the letter "The March to the Mountain." On that march, Bible, Greek grammar and spelling book were thrown away.

While camping at Clarksburg, I accidentally got acquainted with Sen. Cal. S. Brice. He belonged to Co. C. raised at Oxford, O., also a college company. I think it was Co. C.

It happened in this way. One of our boys and a member of Co. C had a fist fight near my tent. Brice and other boys from his company came running to the fight. The contestants were separated and Horner called the spelling class in for recitation. It was my turn that day to be the "dunce" and learn the "a b abs." The "dunce" was to act out as nearly as possible the little school urchin and yet not over do the acting. I had to be told some of the letters. Brice asked one of our boys whether that fellow really was that dumb and was told that he could neither read nor write. The writing part was only too true as the editors of the Herald know too well. When the visitors were about to leave I called out that it was time for the class in Greek. I was teacher of that class that day. We took turns in teaching. Brice enjoyed the joke, came and shook me by the hand and from that day we were warm friends. Brice was a clean boy. There was nothing little or mean about him. He would not wantonly destroy household furniture or common farming implements as did some soldiers. He
would say, "Boys, that will cause misery, create hatred, but will not put down the rebellion." He was kind almost to a fault.

It is stated in the above letter that the captain compelled me to ride on a baggage wagon. In the morning I was better and joined the company. The first day of the march we left Clarksburg about 4 o'clock in the morning, halted for a rest about ten, marched to a small mountain creek and stopped for dinner about one. We got to Buckhannon about ten at night and then made coffee. About twelve, it began to rain and never before or since have I seen such a down pour of water. I crawled under a baggage wagon for protection. We were camped on a hillside and had no tents. The water almost washed us down the hillside.
In the morning I joined the ranks but soon threw away my blanket for it was wet and too heavy. The previous day I threw away Bible, Greek grammar, spelling book and almost everything but buttons and needles and thread. About three o'clock that afternoon I fell out of the ranks unable to march any further. Soon fell asleep. On awaking found plenty of fine, ripe blackberries. After regaling on the berries and filling my canteen with berry juice I started after the army and found our regiment about 1 o'clock at night. The object of the march was to flank Jackson near Staunton, Va. All know the result of the second Bull Run campaign. At Beverly I called to see the sister of Stonewall Jackson. She was Unionist. Her husband was bitter rebel. Rev. Freshwater who lived at Beverly during the war told me some years ago that they separated on account of the war. Jackson was born at Clarksburg, W. Va. I frequently saw the cabin in which he was born. Horner who is named in the above letter was a Methodist and a model young man in every respect. His brother was an agnostic. He might be called an infidel. He was continually arguing against the authenticity of the Bible.

After McClellan's defeat before Richmond, we held daily prayer meetings till we started on the march to Staunton. After one of our meetings, the two Horners, Tom, the Methodist, and Frank, the infidel, myself and several others strolled to a clump of trees inside of our lines. Frank remarked "You Methodists are the biggest fools I ever saw. You say that God knows all things. He knows now how the war will end, which side will win. If He now knows that it is a fixed fact, whether He so willed decreed, or if it is so fixed by fate that the South will win in the end, why so it must be; and He will not and cannot change what He now knows will happen. Your prayers are lost words. Read the story of the Jews, the history of Jeroboam and scores of instances in the Bible and you must acknowledge that God does not know the future. God told Moses, Joshua, David and others that if they would serve Him it would be so and thus; if they would worship idols, the reverse would be the case. Did He know what they would do or not? When He selected Jeroboam to be king of the Ten Tribes, did He know that he would lead them into idolatry, into such awful sins that they would be destroyed and he lost Ten
Tribes throughout the ages? You fellows never say, at a protracted meeting-Frank, God knows for final condition, whether you will be lost or saved. You say come to the mourners' bench and seek salvation. It is not necessary that God should foreordain that I be lost or saved. If He now knows that, so it will be and I need not bother about it." We had a long and heated argument and I confess that it caused me to search the Scriptures on that question and that I materially changed my views on the "Foreknowledge of God." Those who have recited ethics, psychology and history of Philosophy in my classes know my views on that point. He called us all Methodists although some of us belonged to other denominations. Many incidents and experiences could be related, but they are in the main only interesting to the participants.

I studied the campaigns of Fremont, Banks, Siegel and Hunter in the mountain campaigns and it appeared to me that they were playthings in the hands of Lee and Jackson. After the battle of "Fair Oaks" or "Seven Pines," as it is sometimes called, McClellan could have taken Richmond had he moved immediately after the battle. His delay was fatal. He had to retreat to the James.

No general in the annals of history, ever had a better opportunity to crush his enemy than McClellan had in the Maryland campaign of 1862. Lee divided his army. He sent his best corps under Jackson to Harper's Ferry. The other two corps of his army were separated. A courier was captured with important dispatches, but McClellan moved slowly and allowed Lee to concentrate his scattered forces, and at the battle of Antieam had he called into action the splendid corps of Fitz John Porter at 5 p.m. he could have crushed his enemy after concentration. Burnside was hard pressed, he asked for help. Porter's corps had not fired a gun during the entire battle. If McClellan had taken Lee in the flank he could have cut off his retreat and he would have lost the greater part of his army. McClellan could organize an army but he was no strategist and he was a very poor fighter. I trust that someday an honest and competent historian, a Fess or a Willis, will write the history of that campaign including the Second Bull Run campaign. No two campaigns of that Great War are so little understood by the general public as those two campaigns.

I was discharged about the last of September. I was in poor health. After resting about a month I began my second term of school at Roysburg and in the spring returned to Mt. Union College. Had poor health and in August took typhoid fever. Was confined to my bed eight weeks or more. On recovery, returned home and about the first of December taught the Dutch Raise School in Wayne County. As soon as I was strong enough I reenlisted in 1864. It was my fourth enlistment. Men were needed and few were rejected. Served nearly
a year. Was sent to the hospital shortly after the battle of Nashville. Was discharged from the hospital May 20th, 1865. Served about two months as steward of the Nashville Post Hospital.
Before I was appointed steward, I was chief nurse of ward No. 2 post-hospital. The ward was in a large Baptist church. I had one of the dressing rooms of the church assigned me for my sleeping room. There were five wards connected with the post hospital. While I was sick and for some weeks while chief nurse, Doctor Ferrin, of Madison, Wis., was in charge of No. 2. He was a gentleman and a fine physician. After the war he located in Philadelphia to practice his profession. He asked me to read with him and become his partner. One morning, after a short conversation he granted a furlough to a patient who came the evening before, I asked why he granted it. He said, "He is a brother Mason." I then resolved that when I got back to God's country again I would join the Masons. He resigned. His successor was a brute. He experimented on patients with new remedies and in one case deliberately killed a man by giving him poison. He had borrowed some money from the patient and I think had never paid it back.

There were many deaths. I will relate the history of but one. On a Saturday evening in March a patient was brought to the hospital from an Indiana regiment. His name was Cherry. On inquiry, I found that he was related to some of my personal friends in Ohio. The surgeon was away that day and had left the ward in my charge. He was a noble looking young man and being related to some of my personal friends I became greatly interested in him. I was convinced that he would have to die. I asked him about his parents. He said his mother was dead but that his father was still alive. I then asked him if he was a Christian. His answer was "No." I then asked him if I should read to him from the Bible and pray with him. He told me to be still. He said, "The name of Jesus is hell to me. I am lost, eternally lost. I suffer hell now." He said, "Once I was a Christian but I sinned, committed a great crime that killed my mother. I can never repent." He continued, "My father is a minister of the Gospel. Tell him that it is his fault that I am lost. Tell him to care for my brothers." He gave me his father's address and asked me to write to him. He was brought to the hospital about 4 o'clock p.m. Before I retired for the night I went to him a second time and told him Jesus was gracious, quoted a number of passages from God's word, but he begged me to be still, that what I said
caused him intense suffering. I arose early in the morning and went to his bed. I saw that he must die soon. I again offered to pray for him. He said, "I ask but one favor more from you. Bring me a soft boiled egg." I at once started for the chief cook and ordered the egg, but before it was brought, he began to die. His face showed the greatest and most intense agony. I wrote to his father as requested. In a few days a nurse came to my room and told me a gentleman wanted to see me. I went to the door of the church. There stood a large and very fine looking gentleman. He handed me the letter I had written. He said, "Did you write that letter?" I said yes. In the letter I told him all the son had said; that his life had killed his mother, and he refused to be prayed for. He asked me to go with him and show him his son's grave. We drove to the cemetery. I went with him to the grave. I tried to enter into conversation with him. But after his request to accompany him to the grave of his son, he never spoke a word to me. He would not answer a question.

When we got to the grave he went to the foot and cast himself on the cold clay and grasped it in his arms. Such moaning's I never heard before or since. The driver of the cab had remained at the gate of the cemetery. I left the father lying prostrate on the grave moaning and groaning. I walked back to the hospital, wondering what crime the son had committed, when the father, a preacher of God's word, was to blame, what was the condition of the lost soul and what the responsibility of parents. I can never forget that dreadful scene, nor the words and mental agony of the dying young man.

Many experiences and incidents could be related but I must desist. Will only say that little acts of kindness shown some of the boys in camp and while on duty in the hospital, in later years brought students to Ada. About twenty-five years ago William Bradford of Hancock County, Ohio, brought his daughter to school and also brought me a fine present for a little favor shown him when sick in camp; and about the same time Charles Jones living near Dunkirk, O., brought Lehr Jones to school in Ada. He was grateful for some little favors shown him when sick. As I now remember, Lehr Jones is the first of thirty-nine name sakers.

On reaching home, this question presented itself for solution. Should I return to college or begin the profession of teaching? When a hired hand on the farm, I resolved to enter some profession. My mother wanted me to be a minister, father advised me to be a doctor, my preference was the law. During the fall of 1856, I tried, in country school houses, to convince my fellow countrymen that they ought to vote the Democratic ticket. I soon learned that I was not, by nature, adapted to public speaking and concluded that teaching should be my profession.
In March, 1860, I thought some of changing my plans. I saw a chance as I thought in Alliance, to invest in some lots that were selling for a mere trifle. I could have made the first payment on three lots, go and teach, pay for them and later sell them. It would have been a fine investment; but I looked through the classical course in the catalogue and there were branches I knew nothing about whatsoever and concluded to again enter school. When I returned from the hospital I was twenty-seven years old. I concluded to begin teaching as a life work. In 1865, teachers in public schools were itinerants. I resolved to found a school and conduct it according to my idea as to how a school for the people, especially the common people, should be conducted. But where should I found such a school?
After careful consideration I concluded to go to Missouri. I had an uncle living near the central part of the state who promised to assist me in my project, I packed my trunk on Saturday evening to start early on Monday morning. That evening I received a letter from Doctor Buck of Rowsburg, O., where I taught two winters. He said he intended to move to Alliance to care for his aged father and that since I was known there as a student, if I would read medicine with him, on graduation, he would admit me as an equal partner. My father plead and prayed that I would accept the offer. He argued that I was a strong Republican and that in all probability I would take some part in politics and might get killed. If I would not accept the offer, he requested me to organize a Normal School near my home. I studied Wayne and adjoining counties and could see no opening for such a school. Prof. John Eberly, a classmate at Mount Union College, had organized an academy at Smithville, Prof. Notestine had an academy at Center of Canaan, and Prof. Smith had an academy at Fredricksburg all in Wayne County. Vermillion Institute at Haysville and Savannah Academy at Savannah were popular schools in Ashland County. There was an academy at Mansfield in Richland County. Stark County, to the east of Wayne County, had Mount Union College at Alliance, an academy at Greensbury and eight miles east of Alliance was the Quaker Seminary at Damascoville. There was no room for a Normal School where I was known as a teacher or student. I gave up my choice of a profession and went to Rowsburg and agreed to begin reading the next week, about the first of August, 1865.

I sent my resignation to my uncle in Missouri and settled down to be a doctor. I had been elected principal of a town school in Missouri at a salary of $3.00 a day. I had about $600 that I had saved of my bounty money and my pay for carrying a musket. The Doctor furnished me a bed in his office, but I had to pay $3.00 a week for board. I soon learned that the Doctor in whose office I was reading knew little about anatomy, physiology, and I might say very little about his profession. While practicing in a country village, he succeeded fairly well, but he failed in Alliance. I concluded I knew nearly as much about the profession as he did. $3.00 a week for board was a pull on my pocket book,
and as teachers were scarce I concluded to look for a school. I engaged to take the Barryville School, seven miles from Alliance. I was to recite every Saturday. I soon quit reciting and resolved that at the close of my term of school I would select a location somewhere in the north and start a school where any one might enter and any time and select his own line of work.

Let me remark in passing that my experience as chief nurse in a large hospital and the five months spent in reading medicine were of great value to me while President of the O.N.U. My hospital experience saved many a student many a dollar.

I closed my term of school March 2, 1866, and started for my father's home in Wayne County. At Wooster I met my old pupil and friend, Alexander Ewing, of whom I have spoken before. In the fall of 1862 or 1863, he was drafted and went to Canada, but returned to the United States and entered Notre Dame College in Indiana. While there, he was elected superintendent of the schools (in) Elkhart and was known as A.C. Ewing. He wanted to enter an eastern college and asked me to take his place. He said he would resign in my favor. He further stated that he had come home to look for me in order to take his place. I agreed to go to Elkhart and see the Board of Education. On Wednesday, March 7th, I started for Elkhart and arrived there on the 8th. I had Mr. Ewing's resignation and a strong recommendation from him. I met the board and we soon came to an agreement at $4.00 a day, but when I asked permission to advertise for foreign students, with a view of starting a private normal school, the board refused to grant permission. Their main objection was that I might devote too much time and energy in trying to secure foreign patronage. I gave them my scheme and plan in full, but most of the members of the board thought it was visionary and would not accede. I stated that I would not take the place on any other condition. They replied that they would look for another man. I returned home the next morning, reaching there Saturday evening, the 10th.

About the first of August, 1865, some forty men came to Wooster from Dunkirk to enlist and fill Wayne County's quota. In Wayne County they were paying from $450 to $500 for year enlistments. The Dunkirk men were assigned to the company in which I had enlisted. There were an especially fine set of men. Nearly all were members of some church. After we came home, I corresponded with a number of the men. Many of them were married. They learned from some of the Wayne county boys that I had been teaching school. When I reached home on Saturday evening from my trip to Elkhart, I found two letters awaiting me from friends in Dunkirk, telling me that they were looking for a teacher. One was from John Waters, still a resident of Dunkirk;
the other was from David Marquis. On Tuesday, March 13th, I started west to
hunt a location to found a school according to my own plan.

I made my first stop at Crestline. They had employed a teacher for the
summer. The next stop was at Bucyrus. They also has a teacher there. I
stopped at Nevada. They had no teacher but the board took no interest in my
plan as I presented it to them. They said they would see me after the spring
election. I stopped at Forest and saw the members of the board. Mr.
Stockston, who now resides in Findlay, Ohio, was a member of the board and
appeared greatly interested in my plans. Mr. Stockton and I talked the matter
over at Findlay at the last Congressional Convention. The other two members
of the board at Forest said they could get a good teacher for their summer
school for a dollar a day. Monday morning I left my soldier friends at Dunkirk,
disgusted with school boards and dollar a day teachers, forgetting that I had
been one myself. I started for Johnstown, now Ada.
I started for Johnstown, now Ada. The train stopped (in) North Washington for the passing of some east bound trains. While there, a hunter brought in a wild cat he had just killed in the "marsh." I asked some questions about the "marsh" and was told that there were hundreds of deer there and thousands of rattle snakes. The hunter said that the previous spring he killed 252 one Sunday "mornin'".

I arrived at Johnstown about 9 a.m. and registered at the Philippi House. On inquiry I found that S.N. Johnson, William League and Samuel Judd were the board of school directors. I first called at the residence of Mr. League. He lived on what was then called Margaret Street, now Main Street. Mr. Johnson started the town and named the street in honor of his wife, Margaret. Mr. League's residence was the first house south of the railroad on the west side of the street. The part of the house facing the street was brick, the west part was frame. The brick building was used for a storeroom. Mrs. League, a handsome, and intelligent lady, informed me that her husband was in Chicago and would not be home for two or three days. Mr. League was engaged in the cooper trade. He had a large stave mill and made thousands of barrels. He is now past eighty years old but is still in the same business. I then started for the residence of Mr. Johnson. He resided in what is now known as the Terrace, owned by Miss Bacon. The house has been moved back. It stood in the middle of what is now Gilbert Street. In had been snowing and raining for several days. To the west of town there was a lake. Main Street had not been piked and was a sea of mud. It was the only street open to travel north and south. There was a large open ditch from the railroad crossing on the west side of the street to Hoosier Street where it crossed to the east side of the road, then trended to the northeast, and I think from there on was called Swag Run.

There was no ditch along the road south of the railroad. The house next to the League residence was used for a saloon then came the storeroom occupied by the Stumm Bros., Phil and C.E. There was a building south of Stumm's store, but I cannot recall for what it was used, possibly and probably, for a saloon. There was an old frame building, the first, storeroom in Ada where
Mrs. Kemp now resides near the corner of Mill and Main Streets, then owned and occupied by Bolivar Enos, the village blacksmith. Then came the Presbyterian Church. The building then in use has been moved on Gilbert Street. There were no other buildings on the west side of the street. East of the League store and residence where now stands the Murray block, there was a two story frame building. The lower story was then used by a Mr. Scot for a harness shop, and the upper story for a Masonic Hall. South of the frame store building was a frame residence. It was born the first white child born in Ada. Next to that was the McClanehan residence, now owned by Mrs. John Davenport. At that time there was no porch in front of the building. Then came a store room owned and occupied by Mr. Abraham Ream, and next to him was another store room occupied by Jack Ballard. There was a small frame building where Dr. Campbell now lives. It was owned by Mr. Bundige. Mr. Ballard lived where the Povenmire village now stands, on the corner of Ballard and Main streets. Mr. Norris lived where L.O. Ream now resides, and next to the Norris residence was the home of Samuel Dickason. There was a frame house in the middle of what is now Long Street, opposite where Mrs. Nelson now lives. Mr. Abraham Ream lived there. The house, I understand was built by Mr. Long. There were no other buildings of any kind south of the Dickason home. Mr. Abraham Ream owned the land east of Ada to the Stone land and south to the Epley farm. Mr. Johnson owned the farm to the west side of the street. There was a little strip of land cleared on the west side of the road, extending from the Presbyterian Church up to the orchard owned by Mr. Johnson. There was a board walk in front of the League residence which extended as far as to the store buildings. From there on to the Presbyterian Church they used old railroad ties for a walk, and the street crossings were made of railroad ties. About fifteen years ago, when putting down the large sewer on Main Street, when they had dug down about four feet, the workmen came down on Johnstown, and found the old railroad ties used for sidewalks and crossings. when one thinks of the wood and coal that have been burned in Ada, the saw logs and cooper stuff that have been hauled there, the stones for piking, the sand and lime for building purposes, the ashes that were hauled there for the old ashery, the mud that has been brought in from the country, one can easily understand how Johnstown has been buried from three to four feet. The workmen, however did not find any statuary or fine vases or any tablets giving the history of the early days of Johnstown. Those are only found in Assyria, Babylon, Egypt, Greece and Rome, and occasionally in South America and Mexico.

I left the League residence, as I stated before, and started for the residence of Mr. Johnson. When I got to the Presbyterian Church, I found the water so
deep that I had to get on the fence. When I got to where Mr. Russell now
lives, I found terra firma, and walked along by the fence until I got to where
Mrs. Loveland now lives. There I had to take to the fence again and climbed
along the fence until I got up to a about the Normal bookstore. There was a
board fence in front of the orchard and there were two rows of evergreens
extending from the fence to the residence. Some of these trees have since
been cut down. They were about three feet high at that time. Now the trees
that remain standing are large enough for saw logs. Mr. Johnson started a fine
orchard in front of his residence and to the rear of it. There was a fine peach
and pear orchard where Mr. Woodard now lives. When I got to the Johnson
home, Mrs. Johnson told me that her husband was at his saw mill in the
east part of the town. I waded and climbed my way back to the railroad, went
east and easily found the saw mill. Mr. Johnson was at his mill. He and Mr.
John Cochran, Mr. John Stumm and a Mr. Bush were repairing the mill. Mr.
Johnson told me he had over six thousand logs on his mill yard. I told him my
errand and what I purposed to do, and what I felt sure could be done in time. I
explained to him that there were no seminaries, academies, normal schools or
colleges in north-western Ohio; that the nearest college to the northeast was
Heidelburg College at Tiffin; the nearest normal school was at Lebanon in
Warren country; and that the nearest schools to the southeast were
Springfield and Delaware. I did not then know that Geneva College was
located at Northwood in Logan County. It was the only United Presbyterian
College in Ohio. I am not sure whether Otterbein University was in existence
at that time. I do not now remember when that was established. I explained to
him that the Pennsylvania railroad was running along what was known as the
divide, separating the waters of the lakes from the gulf. I told him what he
knew better than I did, about the fertile soil in northwestern Ohio, and that
after the marshes were drained, the people would become wealthy and would
want to educate their children; that Ada, located mid-way between Forest and
Lima, would be easily accessible from all directions and would be a good
place to establish a great school.
Mr. Johnson replied that they were looking for just such schemes to build up the town and suggested that I start the school at once. I told him that I had not the money to do so; that it would take years to advertise a school and build it up. I told him that Mt. Union College began with six students, and that Prof. Hartshorn had to make many sacrifices to build up Mount Union College and that they were still struggling there. I said that the school at Tiffin and the school at Springfield were struggling for existence, although supported by wealthy churches. I told him that my plan was to teach in the public schools of some town until I was known as a teacher and then I would ask the citizens to help me put up a suitable building for a Normal School and that I would depend upon my reputation as a teacher to draw students. I told him I had two recommendations in my trunk, one of which I got when I started to college and one that I got from one of the teachers of the college where I went to school. He replied that he cared nothing about my recommendations; that he was satisfied with my face.

He asked my terms. I told him I wanted $3.00 a day. He replied that they had been paying $2.00 a day the previous winter to Mr. McCoubrey, who was known as one of the best teachers in the country. He told me that could have no school the next winter because the house was too poor, but they would have school six months that summer. He said that he was willing to pay me $3.00 a day, but that I should go and see Mr. Judd. I called on Mr. Judd. He told me that his time would expire in a few weeks and that he would take no part in employing a teacher, especially not at $3.00 a day when they could get a good teacher for $2.00 and even less, but that if Mr. League and Mr. Johnson would consent, he would not object. I returned to see Mr. Johnson. He told me to wait until the return of Mr. League. While conversing with Mr. Johnson, I overheard Mr. Cochran and Mr. Stumm remarking that "That fellow is too small to govern the school at Johnstown. It takes a man like Jack McCoubrey to bring the boys to time." I simply glanced at them and made no reply.

I left Johnstown and went to Lima, and I went to Delphos. They had teachers for the summer. I stopped at Van Wert and found that they had a teacher
there. Then I went to Monroeville, Indiana. They were willing to employ me there and pay me $2.50 per day, and they were willing to accede to my proposition to take in foreign students. I told the school board that I would decide inside of a week whether I would take their school or not.

I returned to Johnstown and found Mr. League at home. I remarked above that Mr. League was in the coopering business. He is still engaged in the same business in the city of Chicago. He has succeeded in business and is far above the average in general intelligence. Mr. League, Mr. Johnson and myself met Thursday, March 22. We had a long interview. Mr. League asked me many questions. I told him that I had studied the topography of the country, its soil and its natural advantages. I told him that after the country was cleared and developed, there would be thousands of young men and young women who would want to be educated and who would want to prepare for various professions in life. He wanted to know about how long it would take me to become acquainted in order to start such a school. I told him I thought it would take at least three or four years, that my plan was to teach select schools when the public schools were not in session and I wanted permission to take in foreign students while superintending the public schools. Mr. League remarked that they had paid Mr. McCoubrey only $2.00 a day, and that part of the time his wife assisted him in teaching. He said he was willing to pay me $2.75 a day for three months on trial, and if I proved a success, they would pay me $3.00 a day for the fall term and would give me the use of the old school house free of rent, providing I would repair it at my own expense. But the tuition of the foreign students would have to be paid into the school treasury. We closed the contract. The school was to begin April 9, 1866.

I returned to Wayne County to my father's home and began to review for examination. I learned before leaving Johnstown that the next teachers' examination would take place April 7th. I returned to Johnstown Wednesday, April 4, to engage a boarding place and to arrange to go to Kenton to take the examination. At that time there were no state certificates granted and the longest period for which county certificates were given was two years. I had quite a difficult time to find a board place. Mr. League had many hands employed in his cooper shop and the saw mills employed a number of hands. Finally, Mrs. Benjamin Elberson told me that if Dr. Walters would take a roommate, she would consent to take me as a boarder. I saw the Doctor and he said that he preferred to room alone, but that he would accommodate me. We got along finely and ever since have been warm friends.
On Thursday evening there was a party at the new store building. It was on the west side of Main Street, north of the railroad crossing. It was owned by Mr. John Gilbert. The upper story was to be used for a photograph gallery. Johnstown was a great place for parties and the new building had to be initiated. Mrs. Elberson had many boarders at that time. Dr. Walters, David Binns, Al Card, Chris Reese, Hattie McManima and myself all roomed and boarded there. Mr. John Roland and several others boarded there but did not room there. Sylvester Elberson and Frank Elberson were at home then. They had four daughters. Marshall was a small boy. I never could exactly make out how Mrs. Elberson accommodated so many roomers and boarders, but she did and furnished us very good board. I had to pay $4.00 a week. Some of the boarders invited me to the party Thursday evening. I remarked to Miss McAnima at the party and remained until about ten o'clock when I returned to my room.

Saturday morning at an early hour Bennie Elberson, his on Sylvester and myself started to Kenton in what he styled a one-horse wagon. When we got south as far as the cemetery, we had a break down and had to return to town. I went to the livery barn and asked for the best team they had to make a quick drive to Kenton. The roads were muddy and there was no pike. When I got to the school room in Kenton where the examination took place it was twenty minutes past eleven. The examiners said it was too late to enter for the test as they were then on the third branch. I asked permission to try. I told them that I was to begin teaching on Monday, explained our accident, and asked it as a favor to let me try the test as one of the branches was reading and that branch would take but little time. The members of the board smiled at each other significantly, as much as to say, "He is very innocent or very conceited." The examiners were Rev. Waddell, a highly cultured gentleman, Mr. Cutting and Prof. Kaufman, teacher of German in the Kenton public schools. They asked me for a recommendation. I had none with me. I was told to get one at the noon hour. I replied that I was a stranger and was not known in Kenton. They then told me that I could not be granted a certificate. I replied that I would send them three first-class certificates the next Monday, one from Wayne County, Ohio, one from Stark County and one from Ashland County. They told me that would be satisfactory. I began the test and completed the work about five minutes before twelve. I trust I may be permitted to say, without being considered boastful, that when I handed in my papers, the examiners and the applicants appeared to be somewhat surprised. In the afternoon I got through about two o'clock.
Another Peep at Johnstown. School Opens

N.D.

No. 18
"Another Peep at Johnstown. School Opens."

I asked the examiners whether they had been holding teachers' institutes in the county. They told me they had not during and since the war. I asked permission to say a word to the teachers in regard to organizing a teacher's association and having an institute the coming summer. They granted me permission. I spoke to the teachers and we made an agreement to meet in two weeks to consider the matter. I remember the following persons as taking an interest in the matter: Mr. Jacob Sieg, Mr. Cutting, Rev. Waddell, Miss Mattie Waddell, Miss Beck Bain, Miss Helena Steiner, now Mrs. Daniel Greiner, and one or two of her sisters. I might name others. We met at the appointed time and agreed to hold a teachers' institute. I was elected to secure an instructor, and correspond with Supt. Thomas Harvey, then of Massillion, Ohio.

I had heard Mr. Harvey lecture in Wayne County in the winter of 1855. I was then teaching west of New Pittsburgh, about eleven miles from Wooster. I started at six o'clock in the morning to walk to Wooster and got there some time in the forenoon. I well remember two of his lectures; one was on the old Norse religion. He quoted largely from Carlisle's Hero Worship. His other lecture was on Storms. I had never heard any lectures to his class on various subjects connected with teaching, but the lectures of Mr. Harvey were new to me. I considered him the greatest man in Ohio. I wrote to him and engaged his services for the summer. We had an excellent institute. The teachers enjoyed themselves and appeared to be profited by the meeting.

As I now remember, the population of the village was about 250. To this had to be added the country district of the usual size, two miles square. On the west side of Main street beginning at the railroad, was the new store room, next the residence of John Gilbert, next the residence of Mr. Reterman, then the office of Doctor Walters, then a small frame room used by Mrs. Kyle for a millinery store, and on the corner of main and Buckeye streets was a small shack used for the post office. The old warehouse stood next to the railroad on the east side of Main Street, then the residence of Frank Ream, then an old, shabby frame building on the corner of Buckeye and Main streets used for a grocery and saloon. On the south side of East Buckeye street was a small
store room in which an Irish lady kept an assortment of cheap remnants and shelf-worn goods; next was Batt Bastable's saloon on the corner of Buckeye and Johnson streets; south, facing the railroad, Thomas Bastable had a saloon, west of this saloon Chris Ries and Benjamin Elberson had a grocery store facing the railroad. Farther east was quite a large building in which Esquire Edwards had a general store, especially shoes and whiskey and beer. In later years it was used as a hotel, first by Wm. Lantz, then by L.W. Reece and others.

On the northeast corner of Johnson and Buckeye streets lived Daniel Judd, who said that at the battle of San Jacinto, in Texas, he killed eight Mexicans with a drum stick. There were several buildings on the north side of Buckeye Street; one was used as a hotel, a Mr. Elberson being the proprietor. I could locate almost every house in Ada at that time, but it would not be interesting to the general reader. The principal industries were two sawmills, a stove mill and barrel factory, a tannery and an ashery. There was a good grist mill owned by the Young brothers. There was no bakery, no newspaper, the butcher furnished fresh meat as occasion demanded. There was a planing mill, five stores and two or three places where they sold groceries, shoes, etc., also four or five saloons. There were three physicians, Dr. Walters, Dr. Hiestand and Dr. Davenport. There was a drug store owned by Mr. Holden. Mr. Elverson where I boarded, lived on the corner of Buckeye and Gilbert Streets.

On Monday morning, April 9, 1866, I went to the school house, to begin what I expected, by God's help, to make my life work. The house stood on the south west corner of Main and Monfort streets. It was an old frame building. Some years ago it was moved west of Doctor Walter's residence. The seats were of all sizes and shapes. There was a small blackboard back of the teacher's desk. When I arrived at the school house I was greeted by quite a large group of pupils. I remember a number who were there that morning. I will name a few: Jennie Melhorn (now Mrs. Dr. Souder), Charles Melhorn (later Judge Melhorn, now deceased), Miranda Gilbert, Kate Gilbert, Emma Gilbert (now Mrs. George Henry), J. Hagen Shinn, Ezra Shinn, Charles Edwards, Laura Kidd (now Mrs. Stokes), Susie Routson, Addie Gilbert, Samantha Irvin, Ella Mitchell and others started the second week of the term.

The teacher of the previous term bequeathed me three rods. Miss Melhorn informed me that the whips were of different sizes to correspond to the size of the pupils, and I concluded that the school was graded. The first act was to carry out the whips. At 8:30 a.m. I called school to order, opening by reading a short portion of God's word and offering a short prayer. At the spring election
A.W. Thompson, the ticket agent was elected director in the place of Mr. Judd. About two weeks after I began teaching, the directors told me that some objected to opening school by reading the Bible and praying. I proposed that I would open at 8 a.m. and that those who preferred to remain away might do so and come at 8:30. The directors agreed to the proposition. In a short time all classes came to chapel; and the catholics have ever been among my best friends in Ada. The first term I had no assistant, the second term the board employed Hattie McManima to teach what would now be the first and second grade pupils. The house used was a little frame building on the east side of Main Street. Its location was about east of where the Young hotel now stands.

Not having an assistant at first, I had much hard work. I classified the school as much as possible to reduce the work. I found that there had been little attention paid by the teachers to the Queen’s English. Nearly all the pupils and many of their parents were careless in pronouncing many of the most common words. Many of the good housewifes used "pillars" for pillows, and the cabins throughout the country and there were many of them around the "mash," had "chimleys" built of mud and sticks, and around the "mash" they raised "mushmelons" and "ketched" "mushrats." Many of the people had the "ager" and "yaller janders." Visitors were told to "set" down, and when they returned home, told their friends how they "sot" down on some new "cheers." Not a pupil knew or understood the use of diacritical marks. The second week of the school I had all to lay aside their readers and to take the spelling book to learn the use of the diacritical marks and to learn the proper pronunciation of the most common English words.

We began in McGuffey's spelling-book with words of three letters. Not a pupil and perhaps not a citizen in the village pronounced the word "God" correctly. The letter "o" should be given its short sound as heard in "not," but the word was pronounced as though it were spelled "gaud," which word means a showy trinket. Such common words as log, fog, fast, ask, mask, walk, talk, was, of, new, calf, half, and scores of other words were not pronounced correctly by the pupils and frequently not by the parents. One of the lessons contained the words few, pew, new, etc. To teach the correct pronunciation of the word "new" I wrote on the board the sentence, "A few fools sat in a new pew." I called on several pupils to read the sentence. I explained that in the words "few," "new" and "pew" were to be heard the same sound of "ew" as shown by the diacritical mark, and that the word new was not to be pronounced as though it were spelled "noo" with the same sound of "oo" as in "fool." I shall never forget a remark made by Hagen Shinn, "Teacher that is
great," nor will I forget the outburst of laughter by Jennie Melhorn, Nettie Kyle and Mollie Elberson.

All the pupils called the figure zero, "ot" instead of naught, or nought, giving "au" or "ou" the broad or German sound of "a" as in "fall." The words, taugh, thought, wrought, brought, etc., were all incorrectly pronounced by almost all the citizens of the village. The word "walk" was pronounced "wock" and "taught," "tot," "ought," "ot," etc. People would talk of "puttin' up noo bildin's" and even teachers would use the words "tain't" and "h'aunt." I presume that today there is not even a common country school teacher in Ohio so illiterate as to use the words "ain't" and "hain't."

In assigning spelling and reading lessons, I would designate from four to six words to be defined at the next recitation. This taught the pupils the use of the dictionary and enlarged their vocabularies. My methods of teaching geography, grammar and arithmetic differed from those of their former teachers. The new methods of teaching reading, spelling and in other branches caused much talk in the village pro and con.

Mr. Abraham Ream, who had a large family to educate and who was one of the most public spirited men I have ever known, was wonderfully pleased and, I might say, excited. He wanted the Normal School started at once. He said he would give $200 and three acres of ground about where Captain Davis now resides. His brother, Joseph Ream, residing near New Stark, came to see me in regard to the new project. A number of citizens suggested that I start at once. I cited the case of Prof. Hartshorn, at Mt. Union, how he struggled, and cited others where the projectors starved out and said that I wanted to start with a clientele that would afford me a chance to employ assistant teachers and a comfortable living.
I never lived in a community where the citizens were so universally public spirited, so willing to sacrifice for the public good as were the citizens of Ada in those early days. After teaching about a month, I happened one day to meet C.E. Stumm on the sidewalk. His face was red and he was somewhat excited. He said, "Teacher, of what nationality are you?" I told him that I was born in Ohio, but that my parents moved to this state from Pennsylvania. "I thought you were some foreigner or Pennsylvania Dutchman." I remarked, "Why so?" His answer was something like this. "I can't talk any more in the presence of my children without being laughed at and criticized. I have to school and know how to pronounce such words as log, hog, God, etc." I asked him whether he had spelling books for sale in his store. He said that he had. I went with him to his store and showed him the words with the diacritical marks. He replied, "I don't care about the books, custom makes law. I think your theory and teaching all wrong." In less than another month Mr. Stumm was fully converted and became one of the very best friends of the Normal project.

I procured a glass prism to produce the colors of the rainbow on the wall and also illustrated with simple apparatus the lesson in the old third reader, "How a Fly Walks on the Ceiling."

Mrs. Harlo Gilbert told me that her daughter Emma, ten or eleven years old, said to her mother that she would rather go to school and hear the teacher explain the reading lessons than to go to a show. I experienced little difficulty in government. The only serious trouble I had in government that term was with one of the best and brightest pupils in school, James League. I do not remember how it originated; but after it was over, we were friends again and have ever remained friends. There was but one church building in town and it was not quite completed. Rev. Badeau preached, as I remember, every fourth Sabbath. He was a Presbyterian. Occasionally a Methodist minister would preach and Prof. or Rev. Nell, the singing teacher would preach occasionally. Prof. Nell also was superintendent of the Sabath School, James Phillipi, the telegraphy operator was assistant superintendent. Rev. Nell was Baptist, Phillipi was a Methodist and an excellent young man in every respect. He was clean, and as the boys said--"All wool and a yard wide." P.W. Stumm was secretary, but at that time was not a member of any church. I went to
Sunday school, but was not asked to teach a class, so I joined as a pupil. Sometime during the fall, Nell was arrested for stealing wheat from a barn in Allen County and was sent to the Penitentiary. The following Sunday, after the arrest it happened that Mr. Phillipi could not be at Sunday school and Mr. Stumm asked to open with prayer as I was the only church member present that morning. I will have more to say about Sunday school work later on.

The term closed June 29, August 6, I began my second term's work. As I stated before, that term I had an assistant. Many new pupils entered at the beginning of that term. Some of them I shall never forget. I will never forget where Robert Souder and Columbus Melhorn took a seat. It was at the middle window on the north side of the room. The teacher's desk was at the west end of the room. Bob and Clum as the boys named them, were great chums and rather full of fun. I studied them more the first few days than they did their books. They were close friends yet there was a marked difference in temperament, in fact in many respects. I soon observed that Mr. Souder became greatly interested in what was said and done in the recitations of the various classes. The only branches he was then carrying were reading, writing, spelling and arithmetic. About the third week of the term I persuaded him to take grammar. I told him he could recite by himself during the afternoon rests. The girls were given ten minutes and the boys ten minutes, this gave him twenty minutes for recitation. He asked me to change his seat. I told him he could occupy my seat, that I seldom sat down while teaching and when tired could find a vacant seat somewhere. He changed seats the next day. James League had my seat the spring term. Seats were scarce in the old frame.

About this time Prof. Nell, the music teacher was arrested for stealing and there was an election for officers of the Sunday school. Prof. Nell had been superintendent and James Phillipi assistant superintendent. Mr. Phillipi resigned. He gave as his reason that as telegraphy agent he could not well leave the office. A.W. Thompson was elected superintendent and they elected me assistant superintendent. I was also given the Bible class to teach. I announced that we would organize a literary society. Not many came to the meeting. The room was lighted by using tallow candles. We had an oil-lamp for the desk. Jefferson Carson was elected president; Vettie Kyle, vice-president; Hazel Shinn, secretary; and H.S. Lehr, critic, treasurer and janitor. The society was called the Ciceronean. It continued in operation till sometime in June 1871. I do not remember the membership fee, but the fine for not performing when on the program, was five cents. The performances consisted of recitations, essays, a paper and debate. I think that was called the Gem. It
was a crude and feeble beginning but the Philos, Franklins and the Adelphians of the present and former days can see the results and have rest and are reaping the benefits of those crude and feeble efforts. The normal school project took care and nursing. I felt the necessity of connecting myself with some church organization. The Presbyterians had a regular organization. Mr. Irvin and Mr. Hindman were the ruling elders and Rev. Badeau preached once a month.

Wm. League, J.N. Holder, Charles Butterfosl, John and Martin Gilbert and "Billy" Edwards were Baptists. I think S.M. Drury a leading Baptist came to Ada in 1867. Mr. League requested me at different times to unite with the M.E. church and the Presbyterian brothers and sisters pushed their claim very persistently, especially when they learned that my father and most of my brothers and sisters belong to the Presbyterian Church. By inquiring I found that before there was a large congregation of Disciples near Maysville, in the Carman neighborhood. I found that many of the best and wealthiest families in that community had at one time belonged to that congregation but that the war spirit and the paying of security money had rent the congregation into fragments. They had no preaching for years. I learned that Mrs. Lydia Scott, Mrs. John Cochran and Mr. and Mrs. Sam Dickasom still claimed to belong to the "Disciples of Christ." I had visited the families. I found that Mr. Cochran and Mr. Scott had gone to the world but their wives were still members of the church. I learned the names of many of the former members of the church. I learned the names of many of the former members living the country and visited most of them. I also learned that Rev. Dana Call, a disciple minister occasionally preached at Rayl's Corners.
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Mrs. Harlo Gilbert told me that her daughter Emma, ten or eleven years old, said to her mother that she would rather go to school and hear the teacher explain the reading lessons than to go to a show. I experienced little difficulty in government. The only serious trouble I had in government that term was with one of the best and brightest pupils in school, James League. I do not remember how it originated; but after it was over, we were friends again and have ever remained friends. There was but one church building in town and it was not quite completed. Rev. Badeau preached, as I new remember, every fourth Sabath. He was a Presbyterian. Occasionally a Methodist minister would preach and Prof. or Rev. Nell, the singing teacher would preach occasionally. Prof. Nell also was superintendent of the Sabath school, James Phillipi, the telegraphy operator was assistant superintendent. Rev. Nell was Baptist, Phillipi was a Methodist and an excellent young man in every respect. He was clean, and as the boys said--"All wool and a yard wide." P.W. Stumm was secretary, but at that time was not a member of any church. I went to
Sunday school, but was not asked to teach a class, so I joined as a pupil. Some time during the fall, Nell was arrested for stealing wheat from a barn in Allen county and was sent to the Penitentiary. The following Sunday, after the arrest it happened that Mr. Phillipi could not be at Sunday school and Mr. Stumm asked to open with prayer as I was the only church member present that morning. I will have more to say about Sunday school work later on.

The term closed June 29, August 6, I began my second term's work. As I stated before, that term I had an assistant. Many new pupils entered at the beginning of that term. Some of them I shall never forget. I will never forget where Robert Souder and Columbus Melhorn took a seat. It was at the middle window on the north side of the room. The teacher's desk was at the west end of the room. Bob and Clum as the boys named them, were great chums and rather full of fun. I studied them more the first few days than they did their books. They were close friends yet there was a marked difference in temperament, in fact in many respects. I soon observed that Mr. Souder became greatly interested in what was said and done in the recitations of the various classes. The only branches he was then carrying were reading, writing, spelling and arithmetic. About the third week of the term I persuaded him to take grammar. I told him he could recite by himself during the afternoon rests. The girls were given ten minutes and the boys ten minutes, this gave him twenty minutes for recitation. He asked me to change his seat. I told him he could occupy my seat, that I seldom sat down while teaching and when tired could find a vacant seat somewhere. He changed seats the next day. James League had my seat the spring term. Seats were scarce in the old frame.

About this time Prof. Nell, the music teacher was arrested for stealing and there was an election for officers of the Sunday school. Prof. Nell had been superintendent and James Phillipi assistant superintendent. Mr. Phillipi resigned. He gave as his reason that as telegraphy agent he could not well leave the office. A.W. Thompson was elected superintendent and they elected me assistant superintendent. I was also given the Bible class to teach. I announced that we would organize a literary society. Not many came to the meeting. The room was lighted by using tallow candles. We had an oil-lamp for the desk. Jefferson Carson was elected president; Vettie Kyle, vice-president; Hazel Shinn, secretary; and H.S. Lehr, critic, treasurer and janitor. The society was called the Ciceronean. It continued in operation till some time in June 1871. I do not remember the membership fee, but the fine for not performing when on the program, was five cents. The performances consisted of recitations, essays, a paper and debate. I think that was called the Gem. It
was a crude and feeble beginning but the Philos, Franklins and the Adelphians of the present and former days can see the results and have rest and are reaping the benefits of those crude and feeble efforts. The normal school project took care and nursing. I felt the necessity of connecting myself with some church organization. The Presbyterians had a regular organization. Mr. Irvin and Mr. Hindman were the ruling elders and Rev. Badeau preached once a month.

Wm. League, J.N. Holder, Charles Butterfoss, John and Martin Gilbert and "Billy" Edwards were Baptists. I think S.M. Drury a leading Baptist came to Ada in 1867. Mr. League requested me at different times to unite with the M.E. church and the Presbyterian brothers and sisters pushed their claim very persistently, especially when they learned that my father and most of my brothers and sisters belong to the Presbyterian church. By inquiring I found that before there was a large congregation of Disciples near Maysville, in the Carman neighborhood. I found that many of the best and wealthiest families in that community had at one time belonged to that congregation but that the war spirit and the paying of security money had rent the congregation into fragments. They had no preaching for years. I learned that Mrs. Lydia Scott, Mrs. John Cochran and Mr. and Mrs. Sam Dickasom still claimed to belong to the "Disciples of Christ." I had visited the families. I found that Mr. Cochran and Mr. Scott had gone to the world but their wives were still members of the church. I learned the names of many of the former members of the church. I learned the names of many of the former members living the country and visited most of them. I also learned that Rev. Dana Call, a disciple minister occasionally preached at Rayl's Corners.
The following week we got ready for housekeeping. On Saturday, Nov. 10, we ate our first meal together; but we were not alone. Milton Johnson, Joseph Cameron and Mr. Shannon of Dunkirk came to engage a boarding place to rent a room for self boarding as they intended to be in school the next term. Johnson and Cameron had been in the same company with me about nine months. I had never before met Mr. Shannon. It was not the last dinner Mrs. Lehr prepared for students. The select term was to continue sixteen weeks. The tuition was $6.00 for the term. I admitted only such as could read fluently in the Fourth and Fifth Readers. The enrollment was 56 different pupils. In addition to the three gentlemen from Dunkirk, there were others who did not reside in the district. I remember Royal Sheldon Shanks, then a mere lad, C.C. Runser, Harvey Sutton, Charles Sutton and John McManima. There may have been others, but I remember these eight very distinctly.

In the autumn of 1866, James DeLisle was put in charge of the M.E. congregation at Ada and I think Maysville. He preached with ungloved hands. The Baptists employed a preacher by the name of Albert. He was also an insurance agent. He was a fairly good speaker. The Presbyterians employed Rev. Reed, the voracious. He was tremendous later. Every organization of any kind expected and tried to raise money by giving a festival. In those days I was generally the door keeper and would eat at the second table. The preacher expected a free ticket and would continue eating at the second table apparently as hungry as at the first.

The Presbyterians owned the only house of worship in town but as the citizens has all been liberal in helping to pay for it, the owners in turn were liberal in granting the use of the house to other denominations. Early in the winter the Presbyterians, Baptists and Methodists held a union revival meeting which continued nearly six weeks. There were many converts. The Disciples held their meeting in the school house. The brethren permitted me to furnish the house, janitor and all the fuel, with the exception that John Cochran, not then a member, hauled one load of green slabs from the mill where he was working. Many of the slabs were walnut. Twenty-six united with the Disciples.
At the close of the union meeting Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Ahlefeld, Peter Ahlefeld, Mr. and Mrs. Elberson, Dr. Walters, P.W. Stumm and other leading citizens united with the Presbyterian church, L.W. Reese and Mrs. Reese united with the M.E. church. Only a few united with the Baptist.

The unequal division of the converts. Altho by choice, caused some trouble and heartaches. The M.E. trustees secured the use of the school house at the close of my winter term and the Disciples had no place of worship, neither did the Baptists. In the spring the Baptists and Methodists began to build house of worship. The members of the Christian church were too few and too poor in purse to build.

It was my intention to build a residence in the spring and had sold to a mill owner $303.60 worth of logs cut on twenty-five acres of my forty acre lot; but instead of building I bought a house and lot on Main street. The house stood about where the Yates drugstore is located. Paid $1000 for the property. We moved into our own property April 1. I was again employed to teach the public school at $3.00 a day for the summer months. The winter term of select school closed March 1 and on Monday, March 4 I began teaching the public school pupils. Miss McManima taught the lower grades. I was employed for six months. The term closed Aug. 2. At the spring election Nathan Ahlefeld, a Democrat, was elected director. The board now stood one Democrat and two Republicans, Mr. Thompson and Mr. Johnson.

Some time in July there was a railroad meeting called at Toledo. The object was to get a road from the coal fields to Toledo. The three directors, Dr. Hiestand, myself and several other citizens went to the meeting. Of course we would get the road through Ada. After the meeting, some parties, probably the city council or the board of trade, chartered a boat and furnished plenty of wine, beer, etc., for the excursionists. There were some loud times in the cabin. Only four of us remained on deck. As we neared Toledo on the return trip, Dr. Hiestand came on deck and told me that Mr. Thompson, school director, ticket agent and superintendent of the Sunday school was very sea sick and while feeding the fish in the lake, had lost his hat. He further stated that one day by mistake he got my hat at Sunday school and that he could wear it. That I should buy him a hat at Toledo, that he would pay me the next day. The Doctor put Mr. Thompson in bed in what was then known as the Island House. Mr. Thompson never came back to Sunday school and I was elected superintendent and served the Presbyterians many years.

On August 12, 1867, I began my second term of school. I enrolled 38 students. There were mostly country teachers. Two of the Marshall girls and
possibly three of them, M. Jay Ewing, Wm. Guyton, Scott Henry, George Henry, George Dempster, a Mr. Phillips from somewhere near Beaverdam and others whose names I can not just recall were in school that term. I well remember that two boys came to school one day barefooted. They were slightly reproved. One of the two resides in Ada, the other is a prominent physician in Findlay, O., and is now quite dressy. We kept up the literary society. Many of the boys would rather pay five cents to purchase candles than perform.

Nearly all the students boarded themselves. Near the close of the term, M. Jay Ewing, later Prof. Ewing now Dr. Ewing, passed the ordeal at Findlay and got a teacher's certificate. His father was pleased and presented him a watch. He, the two Henrys and a roommate concluded to have a time and took a half-day vacation and went hunting. The boys invited me to dine with them as they would have squirrel and pheasant for supper. They made coffee, excellent bread, butter, honey, cake, pies, fruit, etc. We had a royal repast. When we were well filled, Ewing said, "Professor, do you know what you have been eating?" I enumerated the various articles of diet before us. "Well," he continued, "We could only find one squirrel and no pheasants and we shot some man's chicken. Don't you think stolen chicken tastes well?" The deed was done and not wishing to imitate the act of Edipno Tyrannus, I did not tear out my eyes, but made the best of it. I will never forget his look. It was far from angelic. He said he had his certificate and would go home the next morning. That term, we had one student from Cedar Valley, Wayne county, O., and the previous winter, we had one from Barryville, Stark county. Both came from where I had formerly taught.

The fall of 1867 witnessed a bitter political fight in Ohio. There was an amendment to be voted on giving the franchise to colored men of lawful aged and citizenship, the same as white men. Mr. Ahlefeld, one of the school directors warned me, not to vote aye on the amendment. He said, "The district is Democratic and the people will not tolerate a teacher that will vote to give the nigger the ballot." I tried to avoid the question. He and others came to see me the morning of the election to exact a promise not to vote for the amendment. I replied that I would vote as I thought right and foolishly voted an open ticket. The select term closed Friday, Oct. 18. The public school opened, Monday morning, Oct. 21. That summer there was built a four room brick on the present public school campus. Only two rooms were furnished for use that term.

Ada was growing. The question of ditching was a great problem. The people were poor and the water was plenty and the mud deep. On the west side of
Main street was a large open ditch. I have seen men, now prominent citizens of Ada, royal good fellows, as good and jovial as Doctor Walters and Esq. Lantz, sitting on the sidewalk, fishing on a Sunday afternoon. I have seen groups of men, west of Ada, along the railroad, catch long strings of catfish, sunfish, etc. I will not take the time of the reader to give the ditching history of Ada. The taxpayer knows it full well.

The winter term of school was interesting, but the work was heavy. I taught eight hours a day without extra pay. The literary society grew more interesting. The paper became spicy and peppery. We added vocal music to the program. Geography was taught by the topic system. We needed outline maps, a globe, a clock and books. Literary entertainments, festivals, mush and milk suppers were given to raise money. The citizens responded nobly. There was enough raised to purchase outline maps, a magnetic globe, then all the craze, a school clock and a few books. I collected what books I could find around town of the Ohio school library. Some years before, the state purchased a set of excellent books for each school district. In the library were four volumes of Plutarch's Lives. In 1856 I read those volumes and then learned that the "many told tale" that Alexander the Great had conquered the whole world and cried because there were no more world to conquer was all false. His empire was much smaller than that of the Caesars. History says that he wept on two occasions but for other causes. He governed but a small part of Europe and only Egypt of Africa and possibly a tenth of Asia. There have been scores of greater generals than Alexander. In Persia he fought mobs. When one studies the methods of farming in those days, their methods of transportation, etc., it is easily seen that armies of 900,000 men were fabulous. A single army of 900,000 men in our day, would be impossible.
I have digressed. Returning to the winter term of 1867-8, I will add that it would be interesting to the scholars of that term who are still living to recall some of the incidents that occurred in the geography recitations. There were many bright pupils, I will say students, enrolled that term. Robert Souder, Jennie Melhorn, Hagen Shinn, Ezra Shinn, William Ream, Henry Ream, Mary Catherine Ream, Melville DeLisle, Vettie Kyle, Columbus Melhorn, John McManima, R.S. Shanks, Horace Nelson, and many others. The room was crowded. The tense tree was new to many and "mapping" sentences in analysis was new. Drills on pronunciation was still needed. Teachers had "tot" school and thus "o" was given its short sound instead of the broad or German sound of "a." I could fill pages by giving incidents of those school days but I must desist.

About two weeks before the spring election, Mr. Johnson and Mr. Thompson called to see me. They told me there was movement on foot to elect "Billy" Edwards for school director and that Lehr had to go. Johnson's term expired and he had sold his farm to John Dobbins and would move to Lima. They brought an article of agreement which they had signed, asked me to sign it and requested them the take it to Mr. Ahlefeld. I did so. He refused to sign it but told me not to tell any one that he refused. I remarked that I would take the one copy to Mr. Thompson, the clerk of the board. He then said, "I am an old citizen here, I will show you that no nigger worshiper can teach in Ada." He further remarked that I paid too much attention to foreign students, that I was partial and named other faults. I learned that I was far from perfect. The fight waxed hot. The Republicans nominated David Binns, the Democrats, "Billy" Edwards; and my friend Dr. Walters vote 54. He had more votes than Edwards. W.L. Reece, Milton Nelson, George Roothe, Bill Merich, Dan. Hanley and other Democrats worked openly against Edwards. Milton Nelson, one of nature's gentlemen, came to me and said: "You made a mistake in openly voting to give the nigger the ballot, but I'll vote to keep you. You are all right in the school room." His son Horace and Charles Edwards, the sons of Billy Edwards worked for Lehr. Mr. Dan. Hanley, leading Catholic, told me that every Catholic in the district voted against Edwards. Had Edwards been elected I would have gone elsewhere. I had been asked to come to Bluffton,
to Delphos and to Sedalia, Mo. Two of my college classmates were members of the school board in Sedalia.

The citizens of Ada, if they appreciate their university, and I know they do, owe Dr. Walters and other Democrats a vote of thanks. Had it not been for them and their kindness to me, there would be no university in Ada today. Let us forgive the Doctor for fishing on Sunday. The Republicans after the vote was counted out, made a bonfire in front of our residence, called me out and carried me on their shoulders around the bonfire. It was a mistake. In angered some of my Democratic friends.

Sometime in April, C.W. Butler entered school. His father, Dr. Butler resided in Marseilles, O. He was the first student from Marion county. I shall refer to him again. The spring term of 1868, I taught my first geometry class in Ada. It was the third class in geometry in my experience. The class consisted of two members, Robert Souder and Hagen Shinn. The class recited at five o'clock in the morning. I never had a brighter class in geometry. The school was growing in number and interest. Jennie Melhorn and Nettie Maguire both taught in one room. That summer the other two rooms were completed. In the spring of sixty-six there were only two brick buildings in Johnstown, the small store room owned by Mr. League and the water house station. The water tank and pumping station was located about where now is located the canning factory.

In those early days, water and wood were taken about every ten miles. All the engines burned wood for fuel. The side of the tracks were lined, for miles and miles with wood. Store bills, tuition fees, taxes, doctor bills, lawyer fee, etc., all were paid after the next estimate. Large bills were paid by selling walnut logs and walnut stumps, staves and heading. Hoop-poles, muskrat and raccoon skins were used for small change. Still many were making money and Johnstown was growing. We now had a third brick building, the new school house. In the summer of 1868, Ed. Williams gave Mr. Johnson the contract of building a fine, large, substantial brick residence. It is located on the west side of North Main street, the fifth house from Monfort street. On Sunday afternoon, the citizens of the village went to see the new brick mansion. Many predicted that such a residence would bankrupt the genial merchant.

About this time the name of the town was changed to Ada. There was an older town in Licking county by the name of Johnstown and to avoid the constant miscarrying of letters and papers, the postal authorities changed the name without consulting the inhabitants. Also about this time there was established a permanent butcher shop by James Gardner and a bakery by
George Loudenslayer. The bakery and beer saloon was located about where now is located Schindewolfd's clothing store.

I will reveal a little secret history. Some time in the summer of 1868, the editor of the Kenton Republican and other citizens of Kenton invited me to a meeting at the office of Judge Bain. There were present at that meeting, Judge Bain, General Robinson, Gen. Thompson, a lawyer by the name of Walker and others. The editor of the Republican and Gen. Robinson and some others wanted the normal school at Kenton. They said a normal school would make the county Republican. A lawyer by the name of King and several other did not have any faith in the project. All at the meeting were Republicans and I knew that if it was a political scheme it would fail. Some years ago, Dr. Rogers told me that he and others took no interest in the project because I wore an old slouch hat and was not very neatly dressed.

At the close of the public school in May, I started a little select school as it was called; but it was not very select for I took any one who wanted to come young or old. Early in August I began the term for teachers preparing for their winter's work. Those not preparing for teaching were equally welcome. That term the enrollment was sixty-three. The tuition for ten weeks was $6.00. Cripples that were poor and poor orphans were admitted free. That term there were enrolled some students whose names are well known to every Normalite and who are not only known in Ada but throughout Ohio Prof. J.G. Park, Supt. J.W. Zeller, Hon. Alex. Carman, Prof. Frank Hufford, S.H. Bigger, Albert Dempster, Isaac Garwood, William Guyton, Perry Dempster, R.C. Eastman, three of the Marshall girls, Amos Belch, a Mr. Miller from Columbus Grove, the Misses Freed from Rockport; two or three students came from Kenton, several from Findlay, Dunkirk and Upper Sandusky; several old pupils came from Stark county and two or three from Wayne county I might name others. I felt somewhat elated. It must not be forgotten that Ada added its quota of students. Among that number were Robert Souder, the Melhorns, the Ream Family, Nettie Maguire, the Leagues, Mettie Williams, Laura Kidd, several Gilberts, Eliza Davenport, Horace Nelson, and the sweet singers Ella Mitchell and Ida Lehr. But I must quit naming students. I can never name all worthy to be named. As I write, hundreds of old, familiar faces crowd up before my vision, and scores and scores of incidents which occurred in the classroom and on the play ground and in the literary society could be recited, but only the participants would be interested in the relating of them.
About the first of August, the Methodists dedicated the lower story of their large frame church. They found it very difficult to pay for the building. I had subscribed and paid fifty dollars. At the dedication, I subscribed twenty-dollars more. That subscription attracted the attention of Albert Dempster and other prominent Methodists from near Maysville. I invited several of them to dinner. The conversation turned on the proposed Normal school. The following term I enrolled more students from the Maysville neighborhood then paid the $25 subscription. The subscription was not only a help to the church, but it was a paying investment on my part.

Some time in August I went to a County Teacher's Institute at Lima, Ohio. Prof. Mitchell, and Prof. Ogden, who had just started a normal school at Worthington, O., were at the institute lecturing and advertising. I was greatly alarmed for fear their school would interfere with my project. They were fairly good instructors and quite eloquent as lecturers. I was never adapted to public speaking and felt the disadvantage. In two years Prof. Mitchel sold his interest in the school to another party. Sometime in the '80's Prof. Ogden wanted the school at Ada to buy out the school at Worthington as we had bought out the school at Fostoria, but he had so little to sell that we did not think it worth while to invest. The school at Worthington has been dead these many years.

About this time John Dobbins and Hugh Dobbins moved from Allen county to Ada to educate their sons and daughters. They were a valuable addition to our population. They have been among our best citizens. The sons and daughters at once entered the school.

In those days, most of the students boarded themselves. Many wagons would come to Ada with their old fashioned bedsteads, their old cooking stoves, chairs and table and boxes filled with roast chicken, ham, bread, cakes, pies, butter, etc. All the spare rooms and the gold garrets were rented for keeping hall. The prominent boarding houses, then were Mrs. Ben. Elberson and Mrs. Auntie McElroy lived where Dr. Hill now resides. Mrs. Elberson lived on the east side of the same street. Mrs. John Mustard had a popular boarding house on the corner of Mill and Main Streets, and Mrs. M. George on the corner of Simon and Ballard Streets. Mrs. John Dobbins also kept boarders.
Mr. Dobbins lived in what is now the Terrace, owned by Miss Bacon. There were other boarding houses.

The fall term of '68 was interesting. The literary society grew in interest and the paper was very spicy. The Thomas boys, Mr. Keller and Miss Mitchell edited the paper at different times. Occasionally we had two papers the same evening. When the select term closed on Friday evening, the public schools began on Monday morning. The last ten weeks I had been teaching ten hours a day. I do not now remember, but I think that Robert Souder, now Dr. Souder, and one of the Miss Marshals taught some classes during the select term. A number of foreign students entered the high school for the winter and spring terms. Some of the citizens began to object to having so many foreign students in school, but the great majority of people said, "It is bringing money to town, and we want that normal school that has been so much talked about." Some began to lose faith in the project. I felt that the school was not yet sufficiently known to be self-sustaining as a purely normal school to be conducted the entire year.

Late in the fall we had a kind of anti-saloon crusade in Ada. It was somewhat in the nature of the Mother Stewart crusade, although our crusade took place four year or more previous to the Mother Stewart crusade. Mr. and Mrs. Urich had rented three rooms in our residence. They were very pleasant people. Mrs. Urich's maiden name was Mitchell. She was a handsome woman. Her husband was kind as he could be, but he had this fault, that he would drink. He sold his livery barn and engaged in the saloon business. We would hear her cry hour after hour and pleading with "Bill" to quit drinking. I do not now remember who proposed the crusade. The men who helped do the watching were David Binns, Ed. Gilbert, James Phillipi and I think Jacob Linard and myself. The crusaders generally met at our residence. The ladies engaged in the crusade were Mrs. Cris Young, Mrs. Dieffendafer, Auntie McElroy, Mrs. Binns, Mrs. John Mustard, Mrs. McClanehan, Maggie Irvin, Mrs. Lehr, Mrs. Urich, Mrs. John Noggle and others whose names I do not remember. The plan was this, that they were to go to the saloons in Ada about nine o'clock in the morning and remain all day and in the evening till about nine o'clock. They would go by reliefs. The men were watching to see that they were not insulted. But the sentiment in favor of the saloons was too strong in Ada at that day to accomplish was we hoped would be accomplished, although the movement had its effect. It put some prominent men in Ada to shame. Mrs. Stewart improved on our plan by adding singing and praying to the movement.

Until the summer of '68 there was but one Sunday school in Ada. During the fall of '68 the Methodists and Baptists organized Sunday schools. The
Methodists have theirs at two o'clock in the basement of their new church. The Baptists met at 9 o'clock in their new church. This division made the school that met at the Presbyterian church quite small and they concluded to hold their Sunday school at 12 o'clock, immediately after preaching. I was superintendent of the Presbyterian Sunday school. W.L. Reese was elected superintendent and treasurer of the M.E. school. I was elected assistant superintendent and appointed to teach what was then known as the Bible class. That class was seated in the northwest corner of the room. We had a very interesting class. I was also elected assistant superintendent of the Baptist school and taught a class there. M.V. Gilbert, the photographer, was superintendent. As the town grew, the Presbyterians changed the hour to 9 o'clock and the Methodists changed their hour to 9 o'clock. Some year later, after the Christian church had a building in which to meet, they organized a Sunday school which at first met at 3 o'clock. In later years all the Sunday schools met as they now do, in the morning.

The chief industry in Ada still continued to be the lumber business. There were saw mills, the stave and heading mill and the Young Brothers and Mr. Forbing established (a) mill to manufacture material of all kinds for chairs and other furniture. They used walnut timber at their mill. Walnut timber was very plentiful throughout the country. In those days the timber that is now used in the mills at Ada would not have been taken as a gift if the farmers had consented to haul the logs to Ada gratis. Many of the logs now hauled to Ada would not have been accepted for fire wood. People would only burn the best sugar, beech, ash and hickory. The present citizens of Ada cannot now realize the amount of timber that existed throughout the country. The trees were of immense size. The very finest oak trees were cut down for heading and staves. The heading and staves were split in the woods, hauled to town and then dressed in League's factory. He employed a number of hands to build the barrels and paid them by the piece. Many of the men made from $6.00 to $8.00 a day. In later years the staves were shipped away to where the barrels were to be used and there constructed. It was too expensive to ship away the barrels, they occupied too much space.

I remember one evening going to the store of Urich and Reese and there found Mr. Cris Young and other nimrods talking over the day's hunting spot. Mr. Young had killed two or three deer that day. Mr. Reese had killed a deer. Several others had been killing deer for some days past. I heard them telling their deep stories. They sounded fabulous to me. I remarked that I was astonished to think that there were so many deer throughout the country. The deer had all been killed in Eastern Ohio many years before that time. I shall
never forget an expression made by Mr. Young. He said, "Lehr, many years after you and I are dead there will still be deer in Hardin county. Think of the Scioto marsh, the Hog Creek marsh and the immense tracts of timber owned by speculators. It will be years and years before all this land is cleared and the marshes drained." I was astonished at what he said. Some one remarked that there were still cranberries to be found in the southeastern part of the marsh. They also told me about the thousands of rattle snakes that were to be found in the marsh. Wild turkeys and wild ducks were plentiful. The woods were full of gray squirrels and occasionally a black squirrel was to be seen. Raccoons were numerous. I remember that sometime during the winter of '74 a Mr. Runser killed a deer on what is known as the old fair ground lot. I do not now remember just when the last deer were killed in Hardin county. I presume it was about fifteen years ago.
In the spring of '69 Mr. Nathan Ahlefeld resigned as school director. At the April election Dr. Davenport and Dr. Williams were elected directors. The board now was composed of two Republicans and one Democrat. At the spring election it was agreed to drop politics out of the school board election. Dr. Williams and Dr. Davenport were the only candidates named. At the first meeting of the board I was reelected superintendent for two years at a salary of $80.00 a month. I had not asked for an increase. The increase of a dollar a day came without the asking. I was still permitted to use the school building in the fall for my select school. I was also permitted to take in foreign students, but the tuition of the foreign students while the public school was in session was to be paid into the school treasury. During the spring of '69, we had many foreign students. There was a small room over the stairway hall in which I heard some of the advanced classes. I especially remember the class completing higher arithmetic. It consisted of Alexander Carman, William Guyton, George Henry, J.G. Park, a Mr. Hatch and I think Royal Sheldon Shanks, and possibly others. Hatch was tall but slender. I think he was the tallest member of the class. Those students who remember Carman, Guyton and Shanks know something of their size and weight. Park, now Professor Park, and Henry were not so tall but much heavier than the teacher. I presume there never was a more jovial and interesting class in any school than that class in higher arithmetic. By permission of Mr. Guyton and Mr. Carman I will insert letters recently received from them

Ada, O. Sept. 28, 1904

Dear Friend and teacher:

Yours of the 23 at hand. I am really glad to hear from you. I started to school to you in 1867, I went six full terms and four parts of term. My classmates were Ewing, Carman, Zeller, Butler, George and Ab. Henry, J.G. Park and our old friend H.S. Bigger. There were others whom I do not remember so well. I often think about those old boys
in connection with yourself. Yes, and there was Dr. Souder. I consider those old boys God's best noblemen, and I believe the training you gave them helped to make them what they are. I often think about reciting to you in that little room over the hallway; packed in like sardines and you the smallest. Do you remember how we used to keep you talking on some subject when we did not have our lessons prepared? How you used to try to scold George Henry for climbing in to the belfry during recitations, but before you got through you were always laughing about it. I have watched you building up the Ada Normal of which you surely can feel proud. I will close, wishing you and your family many long years of happiness and prosperity. For no man is more deserving for the noble work he has done than you. I remain your friend.

Wm. Guyton

Alger, O. Oct. 7, 1904

My Dear Friend Lehr:

I received yours of 23d and thought I might be able to assist you in your effort but find myself unable to give you any light on the subject of which you spoke. But I shall always remember the period of which you speak of the early days of the Ada school and the many favors received from you at that time. Wm. Guyton and I were riding along the road some time ago and we were talking of the time of which you speak. Well did we remember that the time when you were on the board of examiners for teachers and we came before you and received certificates for two years the greatest length given at that time. That certificate is laid up in the archives to be held in fond
remembrance of you together with one I received at Lima when Calvin S. Brice was one of the county examiners of Allen county and calls to mind my school days under your supervision at Ada.

You can look upon your success at Ada as being secure and as long as Ada lives in the history of this a great state. It should be a source of pleasure to you to know that through your untiring effort, energy and zeal was brought about the building up of one of the greatest institutions of learning among the English speaking people and that includes the greatest in the world. And when time shall record in the history of our great institutions of learning the names of their founders, your name will shine out prominently with the first educators of this great nation and my prayer is that you may be spared many years in the field of usefulness and remembering the great question that was asked eighteen centuries ago: Is it lawful to do good? With sincere respect, I am

Very truly yours,

Alex. Carma

The foreign students as those were called whose parental homes were not in Ada were permitted and encouraged to prepare their lesson at their rooms. J.G. Park generally remained at the recitation room nearly the entire day. I often wondered how he and Robert Souder prepared such excellent lessons and yet they sat and listened to every recitation no difference in what line. Souder sat with both hands in his pockets listening, his eyes sparkling when anything amusing occurred, he would bend over on his desk and laugh. Park would draw down one corner of his mouth and would try to suppress his exhilaration; Henry Ram would laugh; William Ream would never look up but would grind away at algebra, geometry and logic, Charles Melhorn would crack a smile and keep on studying, Mercy Dickason would look at Souder and Park, laugh and keep on chewing wax, Maggie Irvine would look sedate, Jennie Melhorn would grind away at her geography lesson, thumping the leaves of good old Goodrich, the best geography ever published, but too
expensive for use by the general public I can see before me, as I write, the pupils as they sat in those old uncomfortable seats, crowded together as closely as possible.

As I now remember, it was in the spring of '69, that the boys played their first prank. It is true that some of the boys were blamed during the fall of '68 for milking cows that belonged to some of the citizens. I remember that I visited some of the rooms one morning after a complaint was handed in, but I found no milk. They blamed a son of Mr. Samuel Black, the father still lives in Ada but at that time resided near Maysville. They claimed that he and his roommate would go out in the morning and milk the cows to get milk for their breakfast. The morning I visited their room there was no milk in sight, but I well remember that the boys appeared to be somewhat excited and yet somewhat amused.

But the trick to which I refer was something like this: One morning along the first of June, I was in my garden before five o'clock. I was then living on Main street about where the Yates' drug is now located. Mr. Jon. Cochran was coming up the street from the north. I heard him laughing. I looked up but could see nothing to laugh at. Ten or fifteen minutes later Mr. C.W. Gilbert came along the same street and roared out laughing. After he passed on I went up to where he had stood and looked up and saw seated a chair, a dummy holding out Chandler's grammar in one hand and the other raised up in the form of a gesture. On a large placard resting on the lap of the dummy there were several inscriptions. They read something like this. "According to Covell's Grammar this is wrong. According to Green's Analysis this should be parsed in such a manner. When I publish my grammar I will say thus and so." I do not exactly remember the language of all the inscriptions. During the winter I had some poles hauled from my farm which I would cut up for firewood. I took two poles and made a ladder by nailing on slats. I had weatherboarded and plastered the porch of my residence. The room was only one story high. I placed the ladder against the porch room, got on the roof, and then placed it against the eaves of the upper story and got up and removed the chair and dummy and took the ladder down. I found Sheldon Shank's name in the grammar. It was quite a good book. The dummy was dressed in pretty good clothing. I cut up the chair and frame work of wood for kindling. The straw I spaded under the ground in my garden for fertilizer. I told my wife to cut up the coat, vest and trousers into carpet rags. The hat and shoes I buried with the straw. About nine or ten o'clock Major Anderson Ream, a tot about six or seven year old, came and wanted Henry's coat, vest and pants. I pleaded great ignorance but the boy insisted that he wanted
them; that they belonged to his brother Henry. I remarked, "Oh, yes, I know to what you have reference, but I supposed the clothes were given to me and had my wife cut them up into carpet rags. I did not suppose that any one would come for them." The little fellow remarked that they were too good to be cut up into carpet rags, but the deed was done. I took it good naturedly and because I did not get angry at the joke, but only laughed at it, the boys thought they would have to have some fun in some other way. Miss Letitia Thompson was rooming in the one story room that had been a porch, and the boys declared that C.W. Butler and William Hatch as assisted Miss Thompson to get on the roof and that she had placed the dummy there. Miss Thompson laughed, but Butler and Hatch got very angry about it. Hatch talked of leaving school. I laughed at the boys and told them to help the joke along. Finally the matter passed off without any trouble, but I still kept objecting to some things that Chandler had in his grammar.
In those days, and it is still true to a certain extent, certain textbooks would come into use whether they were first-class or not. When I first began to study grammar, Pinneo was the rage. A few years before that Kirkham was used. After Pinneo, came Covel and Green and Brown; then came Chandler's grammar. Pinneo had one redeeming element, and that was he advised the teacher to urge the student to write sentences and fill the blanks of sentences partly written, but his treatment of the verb was about as poor as it could be. Chandler's grammar was, in my opinion, a miserable failure.

At the close of the public school in June, I taught such pupils of the village and the few foreign students who wished to go to school through July. About the second Tuesday of August I began my fall term for teachers to continue ten weeks. In that term I enrolled eighty-two students. I still charged $6.00 a term. Robert Souder assisted me in teaching. That Fall I had my first student who had been at school at Lebanan, Ohio, Mr. M. Friedly, now the Rev. M. Friedly, who still resides in Ada. He was quite advanced and an excellent student. This term Mill Wilson, now Mrs. Prof. Park, and her brother, O.P. Wilson, entered school. They at once took an active part in the literary society. We gave entertainments at the close of nearly every term and applied the money towards buying apparatus for the school and books for our literary society library. The library case was placed in the belfry of the school building on the second floor. We had quite a good selection of books. Our apparatus consisted of outline maps, a magnetic globe, a heliotelus and other apparatus. When the Normal term closed Friday evening, on Monday morning I began superintending and teaching in the public schools. Sallie Anderson was employed as principal of the high school. I taught in a little room over the stairway and a few of the large classes in the high school room and superintended the schools. At the close of the winter term the students gave an exhibition. They bought me some fine books, some silverware that was quite acceptable and also presented Mrs. Lehr with a fine dress. The Spring term of 1870 opened with a large attendance of foreign students. That term we had our first Botany class. The members of that class were J.G. Park, Robert Souder, C.W. Butler, N.S. Shanks, Mary Catharine Ram, Lititia Thompson and several others. It was a strong class and they did excellent
work. We had quite a contest as to who would analyze the most flowers. When a flower was analyzed by one member of the class, it could not be counted by another. Cards were put into a box with the names of the members of the class and they drew the cards until all were drawn out, and then placed them back in the box again. We did this to give each one an equal chance. I was told by some members of the class that they went as far and fifteen and twenty miles to get flowers. Each member of the class was to prepare a classification of the subject, and there were some excellent classifications prepared.

I had several classes in Latin. Prof. Park was by himself in Cicero's orations. William Ream had trigonometry. About this time Albert Henry, now Dr. Henry, became prominent in his classes. The literary paper became still more spicy. Tip Keller, John Thomas, Ella Mitchel, Ida Lehr, John McManima and others edited the paper on different evenings. Some evenings there were two papers read. We had an excellent term. About this time I had an offer from the trustees of Scio college, then known as the one term college, to take charge of their Normal department but the salary offered was only $900 a year.

Sometime in June, Mr. DeWolf, editor of the Findlay Republican, and Mr. Burket, now Judge Bureket, came to see me and asked me to superintend the school of Findlay. Their superintendent, Mr. Miller, had resigned and had taken work in Kansas. He had been getting $1600 a year. They offered me $1400. One of the members of the school board at Delphos had been to see me. I was also asked by the directors of Bluffton to take charge of that school. They wanted me to come there and organize a Normal school. I had been to Bluffton a number of times to teacher's meeting. J.D. Fienner was superintendent of the schools at Bluffton, an active, energetic teacher and a good school man. G.W. Walker was superintendent of the school at Lima and Prof. Tufts was superintendent of District No. 9 in Findlay. District No. 9 embraced a territory in the very heart of Findlay. He was an excellent school man and a true gentleman. I would visit the institutes at Findlay, Bluffton and Lima, and Walker, Flenner and Tufts would come to Ada.

One Saturday near the close of June, I went to Findlay and saw the members of the board. They said they wanted to retrench and pay but $1400. I wanted as much as they had paid Mr. Miller. I was then earning a fairly good salary at Ada. The public schools at Ada in those day only continued about six months, possibly some years seven months. I was getting $80 a month and earned a fairly good salary during my Normal terms. The previous winter I sold my farm to George Rusher. I cleared $430 in the transaction. I also sold the lot where Dr. Wells now lives. I made $30 in the transaction. I paid all my debts and
bought the house and lot on the corner of Gilbert and Hoosier streets for $650. I had only enough money to pay $400 down. I was in quite a study as to what I should do, whether I should leave Ada and go to Findlay, or continue my work. I felt very sure that if I would go to Findlay or Delphos, I would have to drop my normal school project. If I would go to Bluffton, I would have to continue in the public schools a while longer. I spoke to a number of citizens about the matter. Not many of the citizens had much money to spare. I went back to Findlay to consult the citizens in regard to starting a normal school after I had superintended a year or two. The board was averse to making such a contract. They said they did not care about changing superintendents. They gave me a week to consider the matter, whether I would accept $1400 and be employed for two years to superintend the schools. I got home on the 5 o'clock train. In the evening about 7 o'clock I was working in my garden. Cris Young, Abraham Ream and W.L. Reese came to my garden and said they wanted me to come to the town hall. There was a frame building about were Cunningham's store is now located. The lower story was used for a store room and the upper story was the town hall. I dropped my hoe, made a change of raiment and accompanied the gentleman to the town hall. I asked them what was wanted. They said they would tell me when I got there. When we entered the room there was cheering and clapping of hands. Mr. John Dobbins was chairman of the meeting. He told me it was understood I was talking of leaving Ada. I told him that was true; that I had one week to consider whether I would take Findlay at $1400 for two years, the school year to consist of nine months. They told me to write out a proposition to the citizens of Ada. I asked them to give me a week's time and I would give them my proposition.
At the appointed time, I handed in my proposition. The citizens appointed a committee to consider it and report at the next meeting. There were meetings and reports of committees but finally some time during the fall we came to an agreement. The following is a copy of my final proposition with two exceptions. In addition to the different articles contained in the proposition as here given, I wanted stated that there must be donated a campus of five acres to have sufficient room for future buildings and play ground. The citizen would not agree to the propositions to state the size of the campus, but it was finally agreed that it would be a donation and not less than 2 1/2 acres. The locations selected were the one where the campus is now located with the exception that the faculty in later years bought a strip on the north side of the campus extending to Peach avenue and still later a strip on the west side of the campus. The old brick building was within ten feet of the west line of the campus and not very far from the north line. Another location, where there were offered five acres and which was my preference, was what was then called Flax Hill. There was a flax mill there at the time. If Peach avenue were extended east to the high ground, it would pass through the south part of the proposed campus. I knew that large buildings on the elevation would show to advantage from the railroad.

Another location was to the west of Ada. The extension of Monfort street would pass through the proposed campus. The offer was either four or five acres. The fourth was to the northeast of Ada about where the old brick yard is located. The extension of Simon street would pass through the west end of the proposed campus. The offer there was four or five acres. Parties interested financially tried hard to have me give my preference, but I kept silent on the choice of location. Solicitors went through town and into the country to get subscriptions. I still have three of the papers. The others I presume were never handed to me. Many farmers living as far north as Mr. Lewis and Mr. Hassan subscribed liberally. Others as far south as Mr. Runser, the grandfather of Prof. Runser, John Shanks and others in every direction subscribed. Cornelius Pugh subscribed $60. I will hand the subscription papers still in my possession to the editors of the Herald with permission to
print the proposition and subscriptions as far as preserved if they think advisable.

The second exception not stated in the proposition made to the citizens was that I had agreed to pay $3500 of the $6500 if the campus had to be a donation. I agreed to the demands of the citizens, little knowing how I could raise the money.

This is a copy of the proposition, article by article as agreed upon not including the two orally agreed to by me. Proposition and subscribers as still preserved

Propositions to the citizens of the town of Ada, and vicinity for the purpose of raising means to erect a suitable building for a Normal School to be superintended, controlled and owned by H.S. Lehr.

1. The school shall be free of all sectarian and political bias.

2. The building shall be erected at first, shall cost no less than ($6500) six thousand and five hundred dollars.

3. The citizens of Ada and vicinity are to furnish ($3000) three thousand dollars, towards the erected of said building, on these conditions: That H.S. Lehr binds himself to commence refunding, in five years from the time he commences to use the building, all subscriptions which shall exceed ($20) twenty dollars, by paying 10 percent of the principal annually; but that not interest shall be computed on the principal subscribed, and that all money subscribed less that ($20) twenty dollars, shall be considered as donations, never to be refunded.

4. Each stockholder shall have a
vote for every ($20) twenty dollars subscribed.

5. The stockholders shall elect four trustees (two annually); who shall assist the superintendent in drawing plans and specifications for the building, and who shall look after the interests of the stockholders.

6. The superintendent shall be a member of the board of trustees, ex-officio.

7. The trustees shall select several suitable locations which could be obtained on reasonable terms, one of which shall be selected by the ballot of the stockholders.

8. All subscriptions shall be paid in, (1/3) one third on or before the first day of April 1871, (1/3) one third on or before the first day of August 1871, and (1/3) on or before the first day of April 1872.

The following are those who subscribed to the proposed proposition for a Normal School and the amount subscribed:


The following subscribed $60 each: Jno. Davenport, Samuel Epley, C. Pugh, W. League. The following subscribed $40 each: J.P. Williams, John Friedly, E.W. Gilbert, A.B. Enos, P. Rusher, J.D. Albert, Wm. D. Moore, Michael W. George.

The following subscribed $25 each: A. Card, G. Loudensleyer, S.S. Elberson, H. Shindewolf.

The following subscribed $10 each: Eli Freed, R. Arbuthnot, S. Anspach, Sam Anspach, H.D. McElroy, Harriet Norris, John Norris.
The summer of 1870 was full of work and anxiety. As stated before, I reorganized the Teacher's Institutes in Hardin county the summer of 1866. In 1870 the institute was held at Ada in the high school room. The Presbyterian church was used for reception, then called reunions. The executive committee had secured E.E. White, then editor of the Educational Monthly, to be the principal instructor, I was to assist. Mr. White telegraphed that he could not come on account of the sickness of his daughter. We telegraphed for Supt. John Hancock of Cincinnati. He was engaged elsewhere. We then telegraphed to Supt. Stevenson of Norwalk. He came Wednesday morning. We had an interesting session. Mr. Stevenson told Supt. Walker of Lima and others that Ada would be another Lebanon.

August 9 I began my fall normal term. The enrollment that term was 119. There were many classes. Many students were quite advanced in their studies. I knew by the rooms that were engaged that it would be a large term. Some weeks before the term began, I wrote to Prof. Brush of Mt. Union College and asked him to put me in communication with three of their best graduates of that year. The result was that I employed B.F. Niesz of near Canton, O., to assist me that term. Every available room and garret was rented. On the Saturday before the term began, G.W. Rutledge, A.M. Tidd and John Dowdle all of near Roundhead came to engage rooms. We hunted the town over. Hall Gilbert had built a two story storeroom on the northeast corner of Hoosier and Main streets. To the north of the store room was a small room with a garret over it. Some family occupied the lower room. As a last resort the boys rented the garret. They could hardly stand up erect in the center of the garret.

The boys lived well. Their parents brought good bread, pies, cakes, butter, ham, eggs, honey, fruit of all kinds, jellies, etc. Rutledge took sick. I was the school physician. I went to see him, felt his pulse, looked at his tongue, but had no thermometer. I looked wise, went to the drug store, got a little aconite, blue mars, sul. mag. and quinine. Wrote out the directions and said, "Eat nothing sour." The next morning about nine o'clock Mr. Bowdle came to see me. He said Rutledge was worse. I left my class and went to see him. He had been eating peaches and watermelon. He was a sick boy but I got him out all
right. He said watermelon and peaches were not sour. Many of the normalite will remember that in many cases I served both as doctor and teacher.

The large school stimulated the subscription. I had succeeded fairly well in the public school work. I taught early and late. If any one will see Doctor Souder and Henry Ream they will tell him that as public school pupils they recited logic at my residence from 8 to 9 p.m. and Souder and Shinn Geometry at 5 a.m.

The most serious difficulty I had in my public school work was in the fall of 1869. Some time in November there was sickness in my father's family in Wayne county, Ohio. I put R.L. Souder in charge of my classes and was away over a week. By an article in the constitution of the literary society, foreign students became members as soon as entering school without the formality of an election. I left on Friday. That evening, the required notice of one week was given to amend the constitution so that no one could be a member without an election. From their stand point the boys were right, but I feared that a time might come when the town students would discriminate against foreign students. When I returned I learned of the change. The affair was carried to the school board. After hearing my reason for having the constitution as it was, the amendment was declared void and the constitution remained as it had been. For some weeks after the trouble, the society was a slim affair; but in the course of time all went well again. For some time there was coldness in the advanced classes, but I never referred to the matter and made especial effort to be kind and cheerful. One of the leaders in the amendment affair, subscribed $20 to the Normal school fund and all helped to solicit subscriptions.

It may be proper in this part of my story to state the condition of society in Ada and vicinity my relation to the citizens in the village and in the country, and my relation to the schoolmen of the adjoining counties. It may also be in order to again state the plans I had to inaugurate certain reforms.

I was now at the most critical period of my life. My lot had been cast into a remarkable community. I believe that taking into consideration the population, that there was not a community in Ohio that had so many intelligent, progressive, enterprising, enthusiastic, liberal citizens as there were in Ada and vicinity in the sixties and seventies. In town were the Reams, John and Hugh Dobbins, the Stumms, the Gilberts, the McElroys, Jacob Linard, John Mustard, Mr. Shannon, N.B. Holder, Wm. Leagure, David Binns, E.E. Bauman, Geo. Thomas, John Noggle, Dan Griner, Dr. Walters, Dr. Davenport,
Dr. Hiestand and scores of others in Ada and vicinity that ought to be named, but space forbids. All were loyal to Ada and enthusiastic for the Normal school.

No teacher engaged in such an enterprise ever before or since had such material to work on and with as I had. Joseph Cook in one of his lectures said and truly said that Greece, in 200 years, produced more great men in various lines, than all the rest of the world did in 2000 years. We speak of the literature of the Elizabethan period. What a wonderful period it was. The period of the American Revolution was prolific in great men in various lines. France during her great revolution had an army of great generals and from 1840 to 1870, the United States had a galaxy of brilliant orators, statesmen and great generals.

During my select school terms I had Souder, the Shinns, Bowyer, Zeller, Eliza Davenport, the Melhorns, Park, the Henrys, the Reams, the Dobbinses, the Gilberts, the Nelsons, Butler, Bigger, O.P. and Lida Wilson, M.J Ewing, the Guytons, C.C. Runser, Carman, the Suttons, John and Sheldon Shanks, Hufford, R.C. Eastman, Isaac Garwood, Ida Lehr, Elta Mitchell, G.W. Rutledge, John Bowdle, A.M. Tidd, Clara Thomas, Mollie Thomas, Melville De Lisle, the Marshall sisters, Letitia Thompson, the Smiths, C. Klinger, G. Long, Helena Steiner, Henry Steiner, Maggie Irvine, Orena Holland, Laura Kidd, Emma and Tip Keller, the Freeds, the Freets, the Marshall boys, the Lippincotts, Belch, E.H. Miller, the Nelsons, Nesbit, Nichols, Fackler, and several others who came before the Normal was organized. The above named students formed a constellation or galaxy of noble and brilliant young men and women that would enable any ordinary teacher to make a good record and to advertise himself as an excellent teacher, when the secret of the success was in his material much more than in the teacher. I presume I have received over 1000 letters from former students thanking me for what I had done for them and speaking in most flattering terms of the success, etc., of the university founded at Ada, and have received but three letters that were unkind, but let me say once for all that I have received more credit than is due me in founding and building up the school.
Reasons for Normal School's Success

N.D.

No. 28

Here are some of the elements that have entered into the structure and success of the school.

First. The excellent material at hand, in the form of students, to work on.

Second. The common sense, intelligence, enthusiasm and liberality of the citizens of Ada and the adjoining community. As elsewhere, there were objectors, fault finders, pessimists and misers. The pessimists said, "You can't build up a school without endowment. It takes more than wind and words, it takes money." Fortunately for Ada and Lehr, there were but few of the last named in Ada.

The farmers were noted for their liberality. As a family we were supplied throughout the summer and fall with fruit of every kind grown in the neighborhood, with melons, honey and in the fall and winter we were often favored with a turkey, duck or goose, sometimes wild and occasionally a home grown turkey and other game such as squirrels, pheasants, etc. Mr. John Henry seldom came to town that he did not have something in his wagon for the Lehr family. Mr. Shadley, William Park, Father Gilbert and many others could be named who remembered us liberally. For years we got our maple syrup from the Logan county boys and girls. There was one factor that assisted greatly in establishing the school that must not be forgotten. Mrs. Lehr assisted by my niece, Ida Lehr, now Mrs. Hampton, and later assisted by my daughters, entertained hundreds and hundreds of parents, students, lecturers, preachers, politicians, governors, senators, United States army officers and even those who later became presidents. Entertaining cost money, but what is more, it means work, care and engagement. I owe my family much and so does Ada. It must not be forgotten that the good Lord blessed our efforts. I trust it will not be considered presumption or boasting to state the part that the writer of these reminiscences, in his opinion, took in the early founding of the school. In the first place, let me say that there is less of originality in the plan of the school than many may think.

While a student at Mt. Union College, I learned the value, to a school, of literary societies. At the same school, I learned the lessons of patience,
persistent work and self denial. As to school government, I learned not to govern as they did and not to advertise what I could not and would not do.

Of Prof. Holbrook I learned much in the line of school management, of government and very much in the line of teaching, class management, etc.

At Hayesville I learned the value to a school of the social factor. There they had what they called reunions. At Ada they are now called receptions, but in the early days we called them reunions at Ada.

All that the writer can possibly lay claim to in founding the school are the following factors.

First. Founding a school where students could enter at any time and pursue such branches as they thought essential to prepare for life's great drama.

Second. For combining and using what had been learned at other schools.

Third. Fair teaching ability.

Fourth. The ability to select good teachers.

Fifth. The faculty of making good friends, and generally retaining their friendship.

Sixth. At least ordinary preparation for his work. There are many students still living who recited to me not only at Ada thirty eight years ago, but in other schools, as far back as fifty years ago, who will remember that in those early days when I was not so burdened with business and the management of a large school, that seldom, if ever, in a recitation, I took a book in my hand in the class room. I had committed to memory Ray’s Arithmetic, Practical and Higher, two grammars, Greene’s Analysis, nearly every book in geometry, the names and location of all the mountains, rivers, seas, capes, bays, gulfs, etc., given in the ordinary school geography, had physiology, logic, Latin grammar and several other branches quite well in hand. Had I not made preparation in former years, I could not have taught ten hours each school day and frequently twelve or more branches, for small classes frequently had but 30 minutes for recitation.

Seventh. Incessant work.

The friendships I had formed while at college, in the army and while teaching public schools, counted for much in the founding of the Ohio Normal
University. Before coming to Ada, or Johnstown, as it was called in the early days, I had taught in Wayne, Ashland and Stark counties. I had taught one term in Stark county. The college chums who had been my friends at Mount Union sent many students to Ada. The first students from Columbia county were sent by a Mr. Caskey, a warm personal friend. Dr. M.B. Gaut, of Fayette county, Pennsylvania, by actual count, to my personal knowledge, sent seventeen students. He may have sent more, but I am certain he sent that many. And Tom and Frank Horner from the same county sent a number.

I was fortunate in having friends in both of the literary societies at Mount Union College. I was fortunate in that respect, as I have been in later years, to have warm friends in both the Democratic and Republican parties. Many pupils who came to school to me in Eastern Ohio, during the 50's and 60's, sent their children to Ada and influenced their neighbors to send their children to the same school. Fifty years ago when I taught my first school, I told stories to a little tot about four years old. The child became my friend, and when she grew to womanhood and had a family of her own, she sent her son and daughter to school to Ada, and later the family moved to Ada. I have reference to the Eberhart family. We have been friends fifty years and I greatly appreciate the friendship of the family. Scores of students, at different times, were sent by friends of former days.

In the summer of 1870, at the Hancock County Teachers' Institute, was organized the Northwestern Ohio Teachers' Association. Those interested in forming the organization were Supt. J.D. Flenner, of Bluffton; Supt. Tufts of District No. 9, in Findlay; J.W. Zeller, now superintendent of the Findlay schools; Supt. J.M. Baker of Carey, now a citizen of Bowling Green, O.; Supt. J.D. Pittsford of Mount Blanchard, and a Mr. Ewing, a brother of Dr. J.M. Ewing. At present he is a physician and resides at Columbus Grove. Mr. Pittsford was one of the county examiners of Hancock county. I was present at that meeting, and as I now remember, suggested the scheme of such an organization. The first meeting was held at Carey, holiday week. Ada had two sessions of the association. At the last meeting held at Ada, Hon. Frank Dougherty of Kenton, delivered the address. His subject was "Our Utopia." At that time Mr. Dougherty was one of the most brilliant eloquent and promising young men of Ohio. Twice I was elected president of the association.

Although crowded with work in organizing and building up the cherished Normal, I still had hopes that some day I might be strong enough to inaugurate a spelling reform that would extend throughout the United States. I believed and still believe that there ought to be as many different characters in our alphabet as there are sounds in our language. Think of the time that would
be saved to the children of our country in learning to spell and read. Many valuable hours are spent by men in business in referring to the dictionary for the correct spelling of words. Think of the time that is spent in learning to pronounce words correctly. I still hoped that I might find time to convince the American people that German should not be taught in the public schools; that English only ought to be taught in such schools. Germany would never think of teaching English in her free schools. I believed it then and still believe that the different forms of currency and the different weights and measures used by the different countries of the globe are a detriment to commerce and the free intercourse of nations. In this age of the world there should be but one language, one religion, one form of currency and a uniform standard of weights and measures. The decimal system should prevail everywhere.

Winona Lake, Ind., Nov. 25, 1904.

Editors University Herald, Ada, Ohio.

Gentlemen,

I wish to apologize to you for my miserable penmanship. The mistakes that occur in some articles that are printed in your valuable paper are caused by my penmanship. Will you please give this letter a place in you columns? In No. 22 article "Hagen Shinn" should be "Hazen Shinn." The "intense tree" should be "tense tree." It should be "Drills on pronunciation were still needed;" "Teachers had tot school and in many other words "o" was given its short sound instead of the broad or German sound of "a." Where it says "His son Horace and Charles Edwards, the sons of Billy Edwards worked for Lehr" is an error. That should be "Horace Nelson and Charles Edwards, the son of Billy Edwards." Bill Merich should be Bill Urich.

These mistakes are all due, I know, to my poor penmanship I will
promise you that I will be more careful in the future. There are other errors but I shall let them pass. I thank you for your kindness in giving me the space you do.

Very truly,

H.S. Lehr
I am thankful that Jefferson bought an empire from Napoleon; that we bought territory from Spain; that we annexed Texas; that we annexed the Hawaiian Islands; and I am especially thankful that our government bought and annexed Puerto Rico and the Philippine Islands, and several of the Samoan Islands, and Wake Island, and Guam. What a grand chance to do missionary work and to teach the pure form of Christianity to the savages of the Philippines, to teach them English and to give all those countries our form of currency. Money cannot be better spent than to educate the natives of Hawaii and all of our island possessions to teach them the Bible, English, the use of currency and to civilize them. I am sorry, very sorry, that the Senate rejected the treaty arranged by President Grant for the annexation of the West India Island, and that we did not arrange to annex Cuba, the key to the Gulf of Mexico.

In the summer of 1870 the pastor of the M.E. church brought suit against Dr. Davenport, of Ada, for slander. The pastor got only a cent, instead of ten thousand dollars, for damages. It was understood that the conference would send one of its best men to Ada. The Rev. J.W. Hill, now Dr. Hill, who still resides in Ada, was sent to our village, and certainly the conference could not have sent a better family to Ada that the Hill family. By his exemplary life and the exemplary life of Mrs. Hill, their force of character and his excellent preaching, the talk and trouble that had existed, died out, and the church grew and prospered under the able management of Dr. Hill. As families we visited to and fro and a warm friendship grew up between the two families. I learned to love his children and the boy, J. Wesley Hill Jr., who was full of mischief and fun, had grown to be Dr. J. Wesley Hill, pastor of a strong M.E. church in Harrisburg, Pa. At the funeral of Senator Sherman, Senator Hanna remarked to some friends that Dr. Hill was the most eloquent man on the stump in the United States, and Senator Hanna was a good judge in that line. Dr. Hill Sr., and his wife have had much to do with building up the cause of Christ in Ada. I have many friends, but none appear to me more devoted than Dr. J.W. Hill, Jr. There are few persons, if any, who are more grateful for favors received that he. Gratitude is a shining virtue. There is nothing so contemptibly mean as ingratitude. An ingrate is the meanest of all men.
But I have digressed and must return to the subject of soliciting money for the "Ada Normal Academy" as it was generally called by the solicitors. There were at least six committees at work and probably more. In five days the solicitors reported that the subscriptions for the building amounted to some over $5,500 and that there were promises to the amount of over $500 to pay John Dobbin for two and a half acres of his beautiful private lawn or orchard in front of his residence, if the subscribers should vote for that location. Be it said to the shame of those who made those promises of statement that Mr. Dobbins never received over about $50 for his land. The executive committee that had been elected by the citizens now called a meeting of the subscribers. The reports of the solicitors were received with shouts of enthusiasm. The subscribers elected trustees to enter into a contract with me, and that contract was to state that I was to pay $4000 in three equal payments, the first to be paid when the contract for erecting the building was let to some contractor; the second when the building was under roof; and the third at the completion of the building. I was not to be permitted to take charge of the erecting of the building. They stated to me plainly that I had not been a citizen long enough to be trusted with so much money, and that they thought trustees should be elected who should superintend the letting of the contract for the erection of the building. I was extremely well pleased with the proposition. I did not want the letting of the contract nor the supervision of the building. I had my hands full in other directions.

Nearly every evening throughout the Fall term I had to meet some committee or some group of citizens or some citizen for consultation in regard to the Normal School project. I began teaching at 5 o'clock in the morning and taught until 8 in the evening. I had two classes before breakfast, from 5 to 7, and taught four hours from 8 to 12 o'clock. I began Chapel at a quarter to 8. I taught four hours from 1 to 5, and taught one class from 7 to 8 o'clock, which made eleven hours teaching, and then frequently would have committee meetings from 8 to 10. I worked some in my garden and did various chores after supper until 7 o'clock. From the time of the committee meeting until 12 o'clock I occupied in answering letters and preparing my lessons for the next day and thinking over matters relative to the Normal School project. I know I did not average four hours sleep during the entire term and that term continued twelve weeks as the school board was making arrangement for more rooms and the public schools did not open as early as usual.

The following letters may be of some interest to the readers of these reminiscences.
Bowling Green, O., Nov. 29, 1875

Dear Mr. Lehr,

Are you fond of "looking backward?" Do you recognize the enclosed letter, and the occasion? How is your "select school" getting on now? Will your board allow you an intermission, and are your buildings in need of repair?

Sincerely yours,

J.N. Baker

Ada, O., Oct. 27, 1870

Brother Baker,

Yours of the 22nd received in due time. Have been consulting with the teachers now attending school also with my board of education. As teachers, we are all agreed to have it at Carey, but when it shall be I can hardly say. Most prefer the interval between the Holidays, I do myself, but it will be so late before our public school commences that the board will hardly consent to have an intermission before spring. Let the place be Carey, the time when it suits the rest of those interested and I will be satisfied and will be present if possible. Our select school will close next week. Had a pleasant and profitable term. The public school commences two weeks after the close of the present term. Must repair the house. Hoping to hear from you again,

I remain,

Yours most truly,
Dear Doctor Lehr,

Your favor of 10th received.
Pardon me for not replying sooner.
Being busy at the time of receiving it I laid it aside, and then over looked it for a time.
Your memory is correct in regard to the date of my assisting you in the select term. It was in the fall of 1869. I taught in the high school under your superintendency in 1870-71. I was not in the public schools in 1871-72. You devoted two hours a day to the work of superintending the public schools that year. The following year, 1873-73, I succeeded you as superintendent of the public schools. Your story had been very interesting to me. I do not think I can suggest any reminiscences that would be of interest to any one who may be following your very interesting story. I shall always consider that it was very fortunate for me that you ever came to Ada to teach. I found my work in school very interesting and greatly enjoyed my school life under your instruction. I had a good time and always saw the funny side of whatever occurred if there was any funny side to it.

Thanking you for your kindness to me, I remain,

Most sincerely yours,

R.L. Souder
P.S. Recalling your early and late work during your work in the public schools and in the select schools I remember reciting to you at 5 o'clock in the morning one term and also at another time reciting in a class from 8 to 9 p.m.
I had now contracted to furnish $4000 and had only a few hundred dollars to my credit in the bank. I concluded that I would take associates or partners in the project. I approached a number of your men that I knew would make able teachers and good associates in such an undertaking. I went to see the father of J.G. Park, who was willing to furnish one-third of the money for the project for his son J.G. Park, now known as Professor Park. I had a long consultation with his brother, Col. N.R. Park. I could see that he was not so sanguine of success as was the father. I approached Zeller, Butler, M.J. Ewing, William Guyton, A. Carman, C.C. Runser, Harvey Sutton, S.H. Bigger, Robert Souder and others tentatively, but ascertained that some did not have much confidence in the project and others did not have much money to invest.

Mr. Zeller would frequently assist me in any and every line of work possible. He could not have been more interested in my project had he been a partner. In my experience as a student and teacher, I have not met a person that appeared to me to be more frank, more honorable, more truthful and so free from envy as Mr. Zeller. He was more like a son than a student.

I finally approached Mr. B.F. Niesz, who was then my assistant teacher. He accepted. He had completed the scientific course at Mount Union College, but he could teach neither Greek nor Latin. He was strong in literature but not very strong in mathematics. I found that he needed some assistance in some of the advanced branches in mathematics that he was teaching that fall, but he was a fairly strong man and had the money. That was the first term G.W. Rutledge was in school and I did not know much about his work. I had now selected two associates in the project, J.G. Park and B.F. Niesz.

The vote of the stockholders for the location of the site occurred some time in September. There was much excitement. Each section of town worked hard to secure the location of the building. The night of the election it looked as though the north side would win.

Doctor Hiestand, Doctor Walters, Peter Ahlefeld, L.W. Reece, Capt. Melhorn and others commenced to double their subscriptions. It began to look as
though $10,000 might be raised. Calvin S. Brice was at the election, subscribed, but I do not remember how he voted. Sam. Eply who resided in the country subscribed $60 and voted for the south side, but his brother George Eply who owned the farm northeast of the Hufford corner could not be excited. He may have subscribed $20 altho later he sold $4,000 farm for $14,000.

When the excitement was at white heat, some parties deposited thirty votes ($600) for the Dobbin’s location. It was at once suspected and later ascertained that B.F. Niesz and J.G. Park had subscribed the money.

Altho I had no part in the $600 subscription, I was blamed for the transaction. There was almost a riot. I was howled and hissed. Altho at heart in favor of the Ream, or south-east site, to quiet the excitement and restore the voting, I authorized my friend, Doctor Walters, to subscribe and vote $100 for the northwest location. Financially I was not able to afford it. Later I gave three notes for the payment of the $100 I redeemed them and here submit one of the three.

Ada, O., Oct. 17, 1870

On or before the 1st of April, 1871, I promise to pay to the order of Trustees of Ada Normal School.

Thirty-four dollars value received.

H.S. Lehr

My effort was useless. The voting stopped. I was roundly, soundly and fearfully denounced. Altho I had been a citizen of the village over four years, was an official in the three Sunday schools, had been door keeper at numerous church festivals, had contributed, as I thought, liberally to all the churches, even helping to support the different pastors. I had paid my debts. But the morning after the election or stock voting I found that I was dishonorable, dishonest, untruthful, mean, trick, etc. One of the solicitors who had subscribed $250, returned the paper with his subscription erased. I will not give his name. The trustees talked of collecting the money by law, but did not prosecute. I felt heart sick. The Dobbins men felt jubilant. It was years before all the northsiders became reconciled; some perhaps never.
As I now had two associates or partners, it necessitated a new contract. The contract was written either by P.W. Stumm or N.B. Holder. The original contract reads as follows:

Know all men by these presents
that I, Henry S. Lehr, am held and
firmly bound unto J.M. Walters and
others, trustees of the Normal School
Ada, Ohio, in the sum of thirteen
hundred and thirty-five dollars and
thirty-three and one-third cents for
the payment of which I do hereby bind
myself. By mortgage said amounts on
my house and lot where I now reside
in the village of Ada, Hardin county,
Ohio. And we, Benjamin F. Niez, A.
Ream, John Dobbins and Eli Trump, are
held and firmly bound unto the said
trustees in the same amount, said
H.S. Lehr binds himself. And we,
John Park and Wm. Park, are held and
firmly bound unto said trustees in
the same amount said H.S. Lehr binds
himself. Sealed with our seals and,
dated this 23 day of September, A.D.
1870.
The condition of this
obligation is such, that whereas, the
said H.S. Lehr, B.F. Niesz and John
Park hath agreed to erect and put in
operation a normal school building as
per written contract between said
H.S. Lehr and the citizens of Ada,
Ohio, and vicinity on the site
selected by the stockholders on John
Dobbins's farm. Said building to be
completed at the time and the manner
etc., as per paid agreement between
said H.S. Lehr and citizens of Ada
and vicinity. Now, if the said H.S.
Lehr, B.F. Niesz and John Park shall
each perform their share of said
contract and all other matters and
things mentioned at or before the
times agreed upon, then this
obligation to be void; otherwise to
be and remain in full force.
H.S. Lehr
B.F. Niesz
John Dobbins
A. Ream
Eli Trump
J.G. Park

Receipts and amounts on the bond were credited as follows: on April 15, 1871, $1333.33, on Aug. 10, 1871, $888.88, on Aug. 17, 1871, $444.44; on April 2, 1872, $222.22; on April 12, 1872, $200; on May 11, 1872, $138.88; on May 13, 1872, $105.56.

Wm. Irvine, Treas.
We assumed the firm name, H.S. Lehr & Co. There was a "hot time in the little town every night at every store." It was hot in day time. But a "little month" before I was the "good angel" of Ada. As a family, we were invited to dinner and suppers. How glad all were "Lehr" had come to Ada. Now very many of my former friends would not recognize me. I was heart sick.

Prof. Park and Prof. Niesz had a legal and moral right to pay and vote their money as they saw fit. No one apparently blamed them. Lehr had to bear the blame.

The following words of Channing were of some comfort. "He is the most successful who bears the heaviest burden cheerfully; who is calmest and most fearless under menaces and frowns; whose reliance on truth, on virtue, on God, is most unaltering." And these words from the Bible. "He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty."

A new burden was now added to my load of work. I felt that as president of a Normal School I ought to have a degree attached to my name. When I enlisted I was in the senior year. I lacked Political Economy; International Law and two terms in Greek of having completed the Classical course at Mt. Union College.

I wrote to the president of the college, Dr. Hartshorn, and inquired whether I could prepare for examination in the branches that I still lacked of having completed the Classical course and take the examination with the class at the close of the college year and then go out with the class. His reply was that I could.

I found that I had plenty of work for the coming school year. I was superintendent of the union schools of Ada. Miss Sallie Anderson was an assistant in the high school but to hold the foreign students I had to teach at least seven hours a day in addition to the supervision of the schools. I had to look after the interests of the Normal School and had to prepare for examination in four branches of the college course and had to prepare my thesis for commencement in July.
It was proposed by the citizen subscribers to the Normal School that a contract begin at once for the building of the house. The house was to cost $8000. Many of the subscribers declared that they would not pay their subscription because the building was not located in accordance with promises that had been made. Some of the gentlemen who had been elected as trustees of the school were dissatisfied with the proposed location of the building, and about the last of September all of the members of the board resigned and it looked very much as though the project would be a failure. The condition of affair had its influence on the foreign students and not as many remained as the previous winter. There were meetings of groups of citizens nearly every evening. Those in favor of the school would invite me to those meetings. Some time in October or November there was a called meeting of the subscribers, and a new board of trustees was elected. The gentlemen elected were John Mustard, Cornelius Pugh, William Irvine and Leonard Vickers. The new board of trustees met and elected John Mustard, president; Leonard Vickers, secretary and William Irvine, treasurer. Mr. Pugh lived about a mile from town and could not be at every meeting, but he was a valuable member of the board. The new board, and the faculty, as the teachers were styled, had a meeting and it was agreed that the new board should collect the money, sell the contract for erecting the Normal School building and see that the building was erected according to contract. This appeared to be the request of the subscribers.

Mr. Niesz resided near Canton, O. He said he knew a good architect and a good contractor who resided in Canton. The board secured the services of C.M. Palmer of Canton to draw up plans for the new building. Mr. Vickers, the secretary of the board was an excellent carpenter. That was one of the reasons why he was elected on the board of trustees. Mr. Wyant of Canton secured the contract having offered the lowest bid for the work. His bid was some less than $8000. Mr. Abraham Ream, a prominent citizen of Ada, and one who took great interest in the Normal School project and, in fact, he took an interest in everything that was for the welfare of Ada went security for Mr. Wyant. The building was to be completed the first of August, 1871.

The term of the select school closed about the last of October and Mr. Niesz returned to his home in Stark county and Mr. Park, as I now remember, taught school the following winter in some district in Hancock county. That left me alone in the management of Normal School matters. There were many meetings of the new board of trustees. We found that it was going to be very difficult to collect the money that was subscribed. The night of the voting for choosing a location for the building, much money had been subscribed during
the excitement. I do not have the minutes of that meeting at my command, but I think the amount subscribed was over $8000. The trustees were unable to get notes for all of these subscriptions. Everything looked very discouraging. Some of my friends in Canton wrote to me and said we would have to watch Mr. Wyant; that he would not do us a good job unless closely watched; that he was greatly in debt and probably would be bankrupt in the near future. I became alarmed and wrote up a contract which I requested the new board of trustees to sign. I will here insert a copy of that contract.

**CONTRACT.**

This article of agreement, entered into this 5th day of April, 1871, witnesseth: That H.S. Lehr, J.G. Park and B.F. Niesz, the parties of the first part, agree to pay to the trustees of the Ada Normal School, the part of the second part, four thousand dollars in payments as the come due to the contractor who is to erect the building for the use of the Normal School. The parties of the first part are also to pay their individual notes, as subscribed for said school, to said party of the second part as they become due.

The parties of the first part also agree to open a Normal School in August, 1871.

The parties of the first part further agree that at the end of five years from the opening of said Normal School in August, 1871, they will pay back to the trustees in ten annual equal payments the subscriptions to the said school, paid to the said trustees, amounting to twenty dollars or more. These payments to consist of principal and not any interest, and that all sums paid less than twenty dollars are never to be paid back.
The party of the second part agrees to see that the said Normal School building will be erected according to plans and specifications accepted by said trustees for the erection of said building.

The party of the second part also agrees that if the said Normal School building is not constructed or built according to said plans and specifications, but is built in such a way that the foundation is imperfect or that the walls are imperfect or that the plastering should fall off or that the roof should not be properly constructed or any other vital defect, then no part of the money paid by said subscribers to the said trustees shall ever be refunded; and should the building not be completed at the proper time or in the proper manner so that the parties of the first part shall suffer great damage from such violation of this contract, then the parties of the first part are to be paid a reasonable amount of damage by said subscribers.

In witness whereof we set our hands and seals this 5th day of April, 1871.

Parties of the first part
H.S. Lehr
J.G. Park

Party of the second part
J.H. Mustard
Cornelius Pugh
William Irvine

The next day after the contract was signed by the trustees and myself I showed him the contract and told him to tell his brother and his father and to have his brother sign it. He remarked, "I would never have signed that
contract had I been a trustee." It was fortunate that I had that contract for the building was not completed by the first of August. Mr. Ream, who was security for Mr. Wyant, had to finally complete it, and although he had paid $200 subscription money and had worked hard for the school, he told me that he suffered a heavy loss by the failure of Mr. Wyant to fulfill the contract.

Unfortunately instead of the roof being convex, it was concave in places. After the trustees had accepted the building, Mr. Vickers advised that they raise the roof by putting cross beams over the iron posts. If any one will go to the old brick building and go to what is now the Commercial Hall, he will see the cross plates put over the post; but that was not sufficient to keep the roof from leaking and the roof could not be raised any higher in that way. It leaked very much and we would have to set pails and tubs under the place where it leaked. It still looked very much as if the school would have to be a failure the trustees had much trouble in collecting the money.
Further Problems

N.D.

No. 32

In the spring of 1871 Prof. Park returned to school. One Saturday he and I hired teams and hauled stone from a quarry along Hog Creek for the foundation. The stones for the foundation were to be delivered on subscription. Money could not be raised to pay for the brick. I engaged some brick from Mr. Emery and went to Upper Sandusky and bought some brick. I will here insert a receipt given to me by A. Ream for the payment of brick.

$100.00
Ada, O., April 1, 1871

Received of H.S. Lehr & Co., one hundred dollars on a contract for furnishing seventy-five thousand (75,000) bricks for building the Ada Normal School.

A. Ream

No set of men ever worked more faithfully and more honorably and fairly than did that board of trustees. The town of Ada should put up a tablet on the school campus in commemoration of the labor of those gentlemen J.H. Mustar, Cornelius Pugh, William Irvine and Leonard Vickers. They will never receive the thanks and credit due them for the work which they accomplished. They were criticized, maligned, maltreated, abused, misrepresented, etc., but went about their business and did the best they could. The writer of these incidents or history, if it may be so called, got his good share of the criticisms. According to the contract the Mansard part of the building was to be covered with shingles. Many citizens wanted slate. The contractor and his "security" agreed to use slate for a difference of $139. The money was raised. That cost the writer $10. I submit the statement. These statements are the original.

Received of citizens of Ada per C.W. Gilbert one hundred and ten dollars as part of their subscription for slate for Normal School Building.
Aug. 12, 1871 Ream and Wyant

Above receipt, H.P. Wyant,
$110.00; sand of Lynch, $10.00; cash
of Lehr, H.P. Wyant, $10.00; cash of
C. W. Gilbert, A. Ream. $1.00; Note
to balance sand and slate, $8.00,
total $139.00. Received the above in
full of settlement on slate roof.

Jan. 9, 1972 Ream and Wyant

About this time I was appointed a county examiner of Hardin county. Judge Eglin, a Democrat, gave me the appointment without solicitation on my part. The editor of the Kenton Republican and some of the leading Republicans wanted me to quit teaching and be a candidate for auditor. They tried to make me believe that after being a county auditor I could be elected state auditor. The county was very close. I could not be persuaded to deviate from my cherished plans.

One circumstance must be related or this story would not be complete in the minds of the public school pupil of the early days. Either some time during the winter of 1869-70 or 1870-71 a Mr. Robinson had me arrested for whipping his granddaughter. My witnesses were William Ream, Horace Nelson, Charles Edwards, Mary C. Ream and several others. I was an easy winner. The girl is now an elderly lady and still resides in Ada.

Very few of the public school scholars who came to me from the spring of 1866 to the fall of 1871 are living in Ada at the present time. I can recall the names and faces of Orena Holland, now Mrs. J.T. Cunningham; Laura Kidd, now Mrs. Laura Stokes; Dr. R.L. Souder and Mrs. Dr. Souder; Jacob Ream and Ottimer Ream, Jennie Scott and L.W. Dobbins. Mr. Dobbins lives a short distance south of Ada. Lydia Cochran I think is now Mrs. Oliver Parshall; Emma Gilbert, now Mrs. George Henry, and Mrs. Hazlett. I presume there are some others living in Ada that were in the lower rooms the last few years I superintended the public schools, but I cannot now recall them. As I recall the names of former pupils, I think of many, very many, who have crossed the river. Others have removed from Ada. Very, very few now living in Ada remember the struggles of those early days.
The winter and spring of 1870-71 passed as schools ordinarily do. We closed the winter term with an entertainment for the benefit of the public school library.

A catalog had to be prepared for the coming fall term of the Normal School. This is the calendar for 1871-2. Fall term begins Monday, August 14; closes Friday November 17; vacation nine days.

Winter term begins Monday, November 27; closes Friday, March 16; vacation nine days.

Spring term begins Monday, March 26, closes Friday, July 27.

It will be seen that we followed, in general, the line of colleges in having vacations at the close of the terms. The length of the fall term was fourteen weeks; the length of the winter term sixteen weeks; the spring term twelve weeks and the normal term six weeks. In later years we learned that students and teachers can work throughout the entire year as well as farmers, carpenters, merchants, bankers, et. We found that it was not necessary to have a vacation from about the middle of June until the middle of September.

We published the names of those students who attended the select school the fall for 1870 and the non-resident students enrolled during the winter and spring terms of the public schools. For the convenience of non-resident or foreign as they were usually denominated, we divided the public school year into terms. The number of different lady students was 51, gentlemen 80, total enrollment 131. The only course of studies published was the normal course. The time required to complete it was four years. I will here copy the leading subjects found in the first catalog, then spelled catalogue.
Pages from the First Catalog

N.D.

No. 33

(Some pages from the first catalogue)

ORIGIN.

The Northwestern Ohio Normal school is the result of a series of select terms held during the autumn months the past three years, when a large number of the teachers of the surrounding counties have received practical ideas of teaching. The patronage exceeded the accommodations. Through the liberality of the citizens of Ada and vicinity a beautiful and attractive building edifice has been donated upon which a first-class school building is in progress. It will be a commodious brick edifice, three stories above the basement, of modern style and finish, with ample accommodation for at least four hundred students.

OBJECT.

It is the design of the institution to provide the best practical means of obtaining a thorough and efficient business education—an education that will fit the rising generation to discharge life's duties with credit to themselves, honor to their parents and benefits to humanity. There are many young men who are now teaching, or who intend to teach at some future time, who wish to qualify themselves for the work, and yet feel unable to attend college at a distance. To such we would say, that the Normal School of Ada offers superior advantages for obtaining a good, thorough education. We do not repress the ardor and zeal of
the student who is anxious to make rapid progress, by putting him into classes with those who are indolent, in order to save time and money; but we organize a sufficient number of classes to accommodate all grades of advancement and enterprise.

NORMAL CLASSES.

The school room, like the pulpit, the bar, the office, must be filled by competent workers--teachers who fear not to advance modern and approved ideas. Since many of our students design to make thorough and practical teachers, we establish each term special classes for such candidates and drill especially for that profession.

We aim, not only to impart the best instructions and to have out students independent thinkers, but also to assist them in acquiring the best modes of communicating what they know to others. "It is of little moment how pure and cold the water, if there be nothing at hand to draw the sparkling liquid from the fountain." We need ... practical common school teachers; more efficient teachers in all classes of schools; more punctual honest business men; men and women who will both think and act. We strive to combine the practical with the theoretical. In our normal classes, students are called upon to take charge of classes and drill them as they would the tyro. It is surprising how soon the novice becomes an adept in the profession and is able to instruct in the various methods.

LOCATION

Ada (formerly Johnstown), containing a population of more than 1500 inhabitants, is pleasantly situated in a rich, fertile and remarkably health
count, on the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago rail-
way, midway between the intersections of LOCATION. The Toledo & Dayton road at Lima and the Cincinnati, Sandusky & Cleveland at Forest. It is only about two hours ride west from Crestline, east from Fort Wayne, north from Columbus, and south from Toledo and Sandusky, forming a grand center, easy of access from all points of the compass and destined to become the great educational emporium of Northwestern Ohio.

BOARDING AND ROOM RENT.

Good boarding, with well furnished rooms, can be obtained of private families for $3.00 to $3.50 per week. Clubs and associations will be formed in which a number of students combine, select a steward from their own number-- who does the collecting and buying of provisions--engage a matron who prepares the meals. In this manner students get good, substantial boarding at a trifle above the actual cost of provisions. Students who bring their provisions with them and desire to join a club, will be paid market price for their provisions. Many of the best students, of both sexes, board themselves, thus saving full one-half of their expenses.

(I will omit the names of students ... will pay especial attention to the moral welfare of both sexes. Students will be prohibited from attended those places of public resort which have a tendency to waste time and money and corrupt morals.

LITERARY SOCIETIES.

A good literary society has been in successful operation the past few years. New societies will be organized at the opening of the fall term.
There will be exercises in composition, rhetoric, debating and criticism.

The printing of the catalog for the school year 1875-6 with announcements for 1876-7 was again given to Bert L. Thompson, editor of the Ada Record. We changed the plan of the catalog materially. We did not publish the teacher as the head of each department, but only once. On page two we published the names of the owners whom we styled Trustees and on that page also published the names of the teachers of 1875-6 and on page three we published the names of the regular instructors.

At two of the schools where I had been a student, the roll was called each morning and students were compelled to report all violation of rules. At Mt. Union College, students promised on entering school not only to report their own violation of rules but also those of other students. There were eight rules at Mt. Union and at Marlboro, Prof. Holbrook had five, at Hayesville we reported Monday mornings, attendance at church. I said nothing about such rules in the catalog and yet I feared to dispense entirely with such regulations. By permission of Mrs. Mollie Hickernell I will insert an interesting and well written history she contributed for the Founder's Day reunion of 1896. She tells of the rules and roll calling at chapel. Will insert the history she wrote later on.

Expenses began to multiply. As partners we had contracted to furnish $4000 as the readers of the Herald will remember the bond we gave to the trustees and as individuals we had subscribed $700. I gave $10 for slating the Mansard part of the roof. We had to purchase seats, desks for the teachers, chairs for the teachers, had to buy a bell, black board were not included in the plans and pecifications of the building and we had to pay for those ourselves, we had to have an organ for chapel and as we advertised a professor to teach music, we were urged, I might say compelled, by the principal of the music department to purchase a piano for his use as instructor and when not in use by him to rent to the piano pupils. Piano in those days in Ada were far and few between. The chapel hall and society hall must have chandeliers. The societies were too poor to purchase them and the faculty had to supply them.

Will give the receipt in payment of the side lamps and chandeliers. The seats, desks and chairs cost over six hundred dollars; do not have the exact amount at hand. As I remember the amount was $629.62. The final settlement and receipt for black boards, signed by A. Ream, Jan. 9, 1872, is on file with this copy.
CHAPTER 34.

The organ for chapel services and also for society use cost $150, the piano cost $325, the catalogs cost us $36, the digging of the well cost $35. I do not remember what the pump and grading around the school building and the walks cost us. There were other incidentals. When all was added we had invested some over $6000 by the end of August, 1871; and yet there are citizens in Ada who howl, snarl and growl and say the faculty never did anything. They forget these $6000, they forget that we bought nearly half the campus and that we erected the two frame buildings, that we invested hundreds of dollars in books and apparatus and later in pianos. Some also say that it was cheap board that made the school. Yet in our first catalog we advertised board in private families at $3.00 to $3.50 a week. This was much higher than board at Lebanon. Board and room at Lebanon, at this time, was $2.00 a week. I never dictated the price of board or rent to any lady. Sharp competition had much to do in bringing down the price of both board and rent.

I began in 1868 to buy at public sales old stoves, bedsteads, chairs, tables and pots, kettles and skillets and stored them in my wood house and wherever I could rent vacant rooms that might accommodate students who preferred self-boarding the wild ... parlor cook stove was a great favorite. Another ...n that the citizen of today should remember is this- that the school in the early years was far from being a "Cripple Creek" gold mine. The income was small, very small. But more of that later on.

The time began to draw near for the Normal School to open its first term and the house was far from completed. Finally the time arrived when I had to go to Mt. Union college to take my examination. I never ascertained whether it was "cum laud" or not, but I passed. I still have the commencement program but it is at my Ohio home and I write this elsewhere. Commencement occurred about the last week in July. The subject of my thesis was "The True Teacher."

I returned home from commencement an A.B. and began to get ready for the Fall term. We had advertised a music department but had not engaged a teacher. We left that place blank in the list of teachers, but Prof. Niesz, at the Mt. Union commencement, introduced me to Theodore Presser and recommended him very highly for that position. We employed him, partly on percent and partly on salary. He proved to be a very strong man for the place;
but we could not afford to keep him. From Ada he went to Zenia, to teach in a college now defunct. From Zenia he went to Delaware; but Delaware was too little a place to hold Theodore Presser. The last twenty-five years he has been in Philadelphia. He published the Etude and has a large music store and is reckoned worth a half million. He is a noble man and once a friend, always a friend. He is too big a man to be envious, and to generous and honorable to be an ingrate.

Prof. Niesz brought with him some excellent students. The first term he brought his nephew, M.R. Niesz and A.D. Snively and I think D.S. Pence came the fall term of 1871. Miss Lida and other students came later through his influence. The true teacher should have many elements of strength to fit him for the discharge of the duties of the greatest of all great professions; but these four are essential. Knowledge power, teaching power, heart power and normal power. What I call heart power some call magnetism, others personality. The cold heartless teacher can and may do excellent work in the class room, may deliver fine and erudite lectures at Teachers' associations, but it is seldom that he will bring a student, he will, more likely, repel. Prof. Niesz had heart power in addition to his other good qualities. He could draw students and so could Prof. Presser.

That morning of the 14th of August 1871 altho longed for and prayed for, came all to soon. Students began to come on the 11th and 12th. There were no solicitors of any kind or sort whatever. Some came by rail, but more by wagon and buggy. Mrs. Hickernell, in her excellent Founder's Day history, describes the advent of the new students by wagon, that later on we will let her tell her own story. My stoves, chairs, tables, bed-steads, kettles and skillets were in great demand. The new normal school building, that in our imagination would accommodate four hundred students, was not completed. Authorities differ as to where we held chapel the first morning. Some say the first chapel exercises were held in the basement of what was then the new M.E. church. Others declare we held the first chapel and arranged classes at the Union school building in the east upper room. I have no record of that important event but I think we met the first morning in the high school room of the public building school in order that we might have a blackboard to arrange classes. There were four teachers, including the teacher of music. I took the Mount Union college plan to arrange classes, but with the growth of the school we had to abandon that plan and adopt a plan suited to our own needs. The enrollment the first ... was 147 different students, 28 more that the ...nt the fall term of 1870. There were many classes. Some of the students were quite advanced. The advanced class in
algebra had two or three members. I remember two of the members, Mollie Schoonover, now Mrs. Hickernell, and a Mr. Howe, who now resides in Warsaw, Ind. There were three in the class in geometry. I think it was the B class. The members were J.G. Part, now Prof. Park, Albert Henry, now Mr. Henry of North Baltimore, and I think the third member was Mr. Howe who was also in the algebra class.

The class in geometry began reciting hours each day five days a week. Several classes recited only thirty minutes and I had thirteen recitations a day. To accommodate some member in the class in rhetoric, that class met about two week at 4 o'clock a.m. J.W. Zeller, now superintendent of the Findlay schools, was a member of that class, and I think M.J. Ewing, now Dr. Ewing of Findlay, was a member. The class in reading recited at 5 a.m. Those two classes recited in the basement of the M.E. church. We had a small black board in the chapel of the church. I will cut some leaves out of my class register of that term and send them to the editors of the Herald. They will please print the names they can read. The leaves contain the names of the normal or training class. The class numbered 46:

Classes Begin

N.D.

CHAPTER. 35

The last two weeks of the term there were many absent marks recorded. Three members have sick marks on the record and a few were excused occasionally. The class in Ray's Practical Arithmetic had twenty-five members. The class in advanced grammar had twenty-seven members and there were twenty-one enrolled in Analysis. I still have the names of the members of those classes but will not occupy the space to have them printed nor take the time of the reader to read them.

At the beginning of the term I taught three hours before breakfast. I took from 7 to 7:45 for breakfast and exercise in my garden and would occasionally devote a few minutes to study. From 7:45 to 8 we had chapel exercises, but we seldom got through in fifteen minutes and encroached somewhat on the recitation hour following chapel. In later years we changed the chapel hour and devoted thirty minutes to chapel. The first class after chapel was Ray's Practical arithmetic, then grammar, then geography and then advanced higher algebra. After dinner the first recitation at 12:45 was geometry, then a class in Latin; from 2:00 to 3:00 the class in Greene's analysis; from 3:00 to 4:00 physiology; from 4:00 to 5:00 two classes in Latin. Later in the term we changed the hour of rhetoric from 4:00 in the morning to 7:30 in the evening. Physical geography recited twice a week at 8:30 to 9:30 p.m.

As has been stated before, the Normal building was not yet completed ... we recited wherever we could find .... Some classes recited in the ... school building; some in Ream's, ... Bastable's hall; some in the basement of the M.E. church. For a few ... I heard some of my classes in the engine room. It will be seen that for a while I had three classes before breakfast. There were many committee meetings with the trustees of the school; with the different committees of the two literary societies; and meetings with the subscribers to the Normal school building. I took care of the correspondence of the school, the general management of the school and had to devote some time to study. I took from an hour to an hour and a half to prepare my lesson for the Training class and had to take some time to review Latin, and also had to devote some time to the work in algebra. I remember that one night during that term I retired about one o'clock, a.m. I was nervous and could not sleep. I had not
averaged more than three hours sleep a day for many weeks. About two o'clock I got up and thought I would take a walk, that possibly it might quiet my nerves. I walked down to Center street and from there West about half a mile, came back home and retired, but could not sleep. I arose about four o'clock in the morning and went to work. During the hour of recitation in grammar I was told by students that I dropped down as though dead. A number of the boys carried me to my residence. I remember when I regained consciousness that M.J. Ewing, Stephen Bigger, J.W. Zeller and others whom I can not now name were present in the room. I will here insert a letter lately written my Mr. S.H. Bigger in which he speaks of that circumstance. I was not able to teach for a day or two, and have never been as strong physically or mentally since that time as I was before. My power of committing to memory was said by my teachers at Mount Union college to have been above average. I would occasionally recite my lesson in Greek and also in Latin with my book under my arm; but that strain broke my memory and as stated above I have never recovered from that break.

Ada, Ohio, Nov. 28, 1904

Prof. H.S. Lehr,

Dear Friend and Teacher: Yours of recent date at hand, asking as to time I started school in Ada, and a few reminiscences of the early days of the Normal. In thinking over those early school days, they pass in review before me as plainly as at the time they actually occurred. To myself and thousands of others, you was an instructor, in all that goes to make up an educated person for usefulness in this world, and a teacher kind, gentle, but unswerving in your duty, as to principles of right in the government of your school. In those days--to myself--how impressive were the chapel exercises, and doubtless it was the same with scores of others at that time. In our literary society, you also was our leader and advisor. When we first organized in the fall
of 1868, it was proposed, that we have society each evening with devotional exercises. One of the students objected, you arose and said, Mr. President I will be present each evening and invoke. (Here you raised your hands) and sat down. The motion passed unanimous. The student who objected was elected president of the society. He could manage the society—all, except praying. The new building was erected in 1871, to be dedicated as a normal. What hopes and fears alternately arose with the students as to the outcome of that great undertaking on part of yourself with all opposition to overcome, yet feeling you would come out the victor. But a dark and dangerous cloud settled down over us, at the time, marring all our happiness and bright prospects: My diary tells me this. On October 5, 1871, at eleven o'clock a.m. whilst we were reciting to you in our class, in the Union school building, you suddenly became very sick almost fainted, and told us to take you home. I helped to carry you to your home and as we reached the bottom of the stairs at the school building you said, "I believe I will die." How that sentence filled us with alarm. The doctor was called and said it was overwork and your condition was critical, night settled down over the town, and we wondered what the morning would reveal. All was quiet, primevally quiet, save the chirping of the night insects, and the almost whispering talk of the students in their rooms as to your condition. In many of our rooms, lights burned the most of the night, Oct. 5, 1871. Why! Because we felt if your life went out that night--not only our
prospects individually, but the beacon light for generations yet unborn, would be extinguished forever. But you were improving, and with it hope renewed of your complete recovery to do the great work which you have done, and we can only feel that you have been to us not only a teacher but a father, and one whose instructions will bear good results for years to come. On Saturday, Oct. 14, the new building was dedicated, and we were all happy, that you was present and could see the first fruits of your great enterprise. My diary record says, On Monday, Oct. 23, 1871, we started to the new college building the first day in which school is held, and we remarked, "We have told you, gentle reader, the first day, who can tell us the last?" It really makes no difference as to who can tell the last day of school in that particular building, you as the founder will ever stand as the chief corner stone of that great institution of learning, and should any one in a moment of mental weakness endeavor to persuade or argue, that you were not the power that gave momentum to all that goes to make up the O.N.U., call on the thousands and tens of thousands who were your students and among those, the early students who boarded themselves--lived economically, and in that--was aided in every way by your advice. In the fall of 1872, the Franklin and Philo literary societies were having trouble and you was the arbitrator. All difficulties were adjusted and in a manner that was a satisfaction to all. There came a time, when you needed help and those most excellent teachers, Prof. Park, Prof. B.F.
Niesz, Miss Schoonover, Miss Marshall and others, whose names we have forgotten were ably a counter part of your own method of teaching. Carol reefs are formed little by little, but as last are dangerous to shipping. Your teaching introduced all the little things which go to make up a good and useful life if put in practice, not dangerous like the coral reef. But on the contrary useful to all who were your students, to the community, the country in general, to succeeding generations, and your work left as a monument to yourself more beautiful than the finest chiseled out of marble; more enduring, as the results will live not only in time but throughout eternity.

A student from 1868 to 1872.

S.H. Bigger
I had now contracted to furnish $4000 and had only a few hundred dollars to my credit in the bank. I concluded that I would take associates or partners in the project. I approached a number of your men that I knew would make able teachers and good associates in such an undertaking. I went to see the father of J.G. Park, who was willing to furnish one-third of the money for the project for his son J.G. Park, now known as Professor Park. I had a long consultation with his brother, Col. N.R. Park. I could see that he was not so sanguine of success as was the father. I approached Zeller, Butler, M.J. Ewing, William Guyton, A. Carman, C.C. Runser, Harvey Sutton, S.H. Bigger, Robert Souder and others tentatively, but ascertained that some did not have much confidence in the project and others did not have much money to invest.

Mr. Zeller would frequently assist me in any and every line of work possible. He could not have been more interested in my project had he been a partner. In my experience as a student and teacher, I have not met a person that appeared to me to be more frank, more honorable, more truthful and so free from envy as Mr. Zeller. He was more like a son than a student.

I finally approached Mr. B.F. Niesz, who was then my assistant teacher. He accepted. He had completed the scientific course at Mount Union College, but he could teach neither Greek nor Latin. He was strong in literature but not very strong in mathematics. I found that he needed some assistance in some of the advanced branches in mathematics that he was teaching that fall, but he was a fairly strong man and had the money. That was the first term G.W. Rutledge was in school and I did not know much about his work. I had now selected two associates in the project, J.G. Park and B.F. Niesz.

The vote of the stockholders for the location of the site occurred some time in September. There was much excitement. Each section of town worked hard to secure the location of the building. The night of the election it looked as though the north side would win.

Doctor Hiestand, Doctor Walters, Peter Ahlefeld, L.W. Reece, Capt. Melhorn and others commenced to double their subscriptions. It began to look as
though $10,000 might be raised. Calvin S. Brice was at the election, subscribed, but I do not remember how he voted. Sam. Eply who resided in the country subscribed $60 and voted for the south side, but his brother George Eply who owned the farm northeast of the Hufford corner could not be excited. He may have subscribed $20 altho later he sold $4,000 farm for $14,000.

When the excitement was at white heat, some parties deposited thirty votes ($600) for the Dobbin’s location. It was at once suspected and later ascertained that B.F. Niesz and J.G. Park had subscribed the money.

Altho I had no part in the $600 subscription, I was blamed for the transaction. There was almost a riot. I was howled and hissed. Altho at heart in favor of the Ream, or south-east site, to quiet the excitement and restore the voting, I authorized my friend, Doctor Walters, to subscribe and vote $100 for the northwest location. Financially I was not able to afford it. Later I gave three notes for the payment of the $100 I redeemed them and here submit one of the three.

Ada, O., Oct. 17, 1870

On or before the 1st of April,
1871, I promise to pay to the order of Trustees of Ada Normal School.

Thirty-four dollars value received.

H.S. Lehr

My effort was useless. The voting stopped. I was roundly, soundly and fearfully denounced. Altho I had been a citizen of the village over four years, was an official in the three Sunday schools, had been door keeper at numerous church festivals, had contributed, as I thought, liberally to all the churches, even helping to support the different pastors. I had paid my debts. But the morning after the election or stock voting I found that I was dishonorable, dishonest, untruthful, mean, trick, etc. One of the solicitors who had subscribed $250, returned the paper with his subscription erased. I will not give his name. The trustees talked of collecting the money by law, but did not prosecute. I felt heart sick. The Dobbins men felt jubilant. It was years before all the northsiders became reconciled; some perhaps never.
As I now had two associates or partners, it necessitated a new contract. The contract was written either by P.W. Stumm or N.B. Holder. The original contract reads as follows:

Know all men by these presents
that I, Henry S. Lehr, am held and firmly bound unto J.M. Walters and others, trustees of the Normal School Ada, Ohio, in the sum of thirteen hundred and thirty-five dollars and thirty-three and one-third cents for the payment of which I do hereby bind myself. By mortgage said amounts on my house and lot where I now reside in the village of Ada, Hardin county, Ohio. And we, Benjamin F. Niesz, A. Ream, John Dobbins and Eli Trump, are held and firmly bound unto the said trustees in the same amount, said H.S. Lehr binds himself. And we, John Park and Wm. Park, are held and firmly bound unto said trustees in the same amount said H.S. Lehr binds himself. Sealed with our seals and, dated this 23 day of September, A.D. 1870.

The condition of this obligation is such, that whereas, the said H.S. Lehr, B.F. Niesz and John Park hath agreed to erect and put in operation a normal school building as per written contract between said H.S. Lehr and the citizens of Ada, Ohio, and vicinity on the site selected by the stockholders on John Dobbins's farm. Said building to be completed at the time and the manner etc., as per paid agreement between said H.S. Lehr and citizens of Ada and vicinity. Now, if the said H.S. Lehr, B.F. Niesz and John Park shall each perform their share of said contract and all other matters and things mentioned at or before the times agreed upon, then this
obligation to be void; otherwise to be and remain in full force.
H.S. Lehr
B.F. Niesz
John Dobbins
A. Ream
Eli Trump
J.G. Park

Receipts and amounts on the bond were credited as follows: on April 15, 1871, $1333.33, on Aug. 10, 1871, $888.88, on Aug. 17, 1871, $444.44; on April 2, 1872, $222.22; on April 12, 1872, $200; on May 11, 1872, $138.88; on May 13, 1872, $105.56.

Wm. Irvine, Treas.
CHAPTER 37.

Among the many incidents which occurred that term one must be related or this history would be very incomplete in the minds of certain students of the first term. The Smith boarding house or club was located on the alley where now one finds the Young hotel.

The writer of these reminiscence lived on next lot North where now is located the Yates drug store. One night, or rather one morning about two o'clock, there was heard a wonderful uproar as though a thousand Texas cattle were running over an old wooden bridge. After listening, occasionally the strains of a violin could be heard, though only faintly. At last I concluded I would visit the scene of disturbance, and on entering the Smith dining room I found C.W. Shockey playing the violin and about twenty of the most prominent boys in school enjoying a free-for-all dance. The boys representing ladies had taken off their boots. The "gentlemen" boys had on their boots and came down heavy. The house shook from "turret to foundation stone." When the door open the girls and boys jumped. George Henry got on the table to hide. M.J. Ewing got on the bed. Some crawled under the bed; other crawled under the table, but most, for want of room, remained standing on the floor or hiding in the corners of the room. The sight was too comical to scold and teacher and pupils all joined in a hearty laugh. Someone had robbed D.C. Smith of his girl, the beautiful and accomplished Lacha Kramer. The boys arrested the thief and tried him for robbery. After the trial came the dance. Who would not be a college boy? One's school day after all are the happiest. How I would enjoy an evening with the boys and girls of 1871. Many, very many, have crossed the Jordan and are with the majority.

The time now came when we had to vacate the Union school building although the Normal was not yet completed. After many meetings and much talking with contractor and trustees, it was agreed that we should occupy the Normal building. All agreed that it must be dedicated.

I had voted for John Sherman for representative, before I came to Ada; had advocated his election as senator and admired him greatly as a statesman. I wrote to him and requested that he would deliver the address on the occasion of the dedication of our new building. He returned the letter with this one
sentence and his signature: "I can not come. John Sherman." I was not greatly pleased with the answer. It may be remembered that Sherman always managed to have a Democrat for his colleague. The other Ohio senator was Allen G. Thurman, a gentleman as well as a statesman. I at once wrote to him and invited him to deliver the address. I asked the Honorable Mr. Cessna and other Democrats to write to him on our behalf. The senator wrote me a very kind letter and agreed to come. A few days before the dedication he telegraphed that his daughter was at the point of death and I remember that she died either the day before or the day after the dedication. I telegraphed and wrote to that noble old Roman, Judge William Lawrence. He accepted and came and delivered a fine and instructive address on "The Value of an Education." Ever afterwards I was a warm friend of Judge Lawrence. In 1873 I voted for Democrats for representative and for state senator. I did so quietly. Later I was a Foraker Republican. In later years Sherman's one line letter had some influence in Hardin county politics. Among my many letters I fail to find that valued letter of Senator Thurman.

As stated before, the Normal building was far from completion and we feared that if we would dedicate the building before it was completed we might invalidate our different contracts with the trustees. I went to Lima and consulted Judge Cunningham, then a member of congress. I shall here insert the paper he wrote up which he said we should get the trustees to sign before dedication. One member, Cornelius Pugh, refused to sign it. He said he had already received enough curses to sicken him. Where the memorandum specifies the contract of April 5, 1871, it refers the contract signed by myself and Prof. Park, on the part of the company, and J.H. Mustard, William Irwine, L.B. Vickers and Cornelius Pugh, trustees, in which it is stated the... should the building not be completed August 1, 1871, or should the building be defective in foundation, roof, etc., that we were not to refund the $20 subscriptions and under certain conditions might even be entitled to damages. The memorandum bears a revenue stamp and was recorded in the county records December 11, 1871. I will here insert the memorandum.

MEMORANDUM.
The trustees of the Ada Normal school having requested H.S. Lehr & Co., to take possession and occupy the Ada school building. Whereas no settlements have been made between the said Trustees and Ream and company contractors, and the said building may not now be regarded as free from liens, or liabilities for
H.S. Lehr & Co., agree to use said building, but with the express understanding that they waive no rights secured to them by the several memorandums heretofore made between the said Trustees and the said H.S. Lehr & Co., and especially the contract dated April 15, 1871.

Oct. 12, 1871 H.S. Lehr & Co.

J.H. Mustard, Treas;
L.B. Vickers, Secr;
Wm. Irwine.

The new Normal was to be dedicated October 14th. We wanted to raise some money for books for the Societies and for other purposes, and it was concluded that the best way to do was to have a dinner or festival, as those dinners were called in the early days of Ada. M.J. Ewing, Noah Battles and other boys from the neighborhood of Bluffton canvassed in their vicinity. The Henry boys, Park and Bigger canvassed in their neighborhood. George Dempster, Perry Dempster, Miss Voorhies, Rhoda Lawrence and others canvassed in the Maysville neighborhood. John and Shelly Shanks and others canvassed in their district. Every neighborhood was canvassed by good and loyal Normalites, and there was enough gathered to feed a thousand or more. I think the price of the dinner was fifty cents. I do not now remember how much money was cleared, but I know there were many good things left for the poor of Ada. I shall never be able to understand how we got so much work out of the boys and girls that term, and not only that term but later. Rutledge Tidd went seventeen miles to Roundhead to canvass for that dinner. Scores of people came from Bluffton to the dedication, and many came from Kenton. The Dedication was a success.

The South stairway was not yet built and a very indifferent stairway was built in the North East corner of the building. Later that stairway was removed and a better one put in place for the Adelphian Literary Society that in later years met in the third story which is now the Commercial hall.
The Monday after the dedication we began reciting in the new building, Oct. 16, 1871. Some months before the dedication of the new building the Union School Board employed me to act as superintendent of schools another year. I was to give the school two hours of my time, consequently I had to rearrange some of my classes. I dropped the physical geography class, which only recited two or three time a week, and heard one of my regular classes recited in the evening. As the rhetoric class consisted of only two members, and one of the two had to begin teaching, I examined the class and gave each member a grade and stopped the class.

About this time I purchased the property north of the Disciple church, which we still own. I rented it to a Mrs. Wilson, of near Rockport, whose son was in school. She contracted to cook for students at fifty cents a week each, and she was to pay me $6.00 a month rent, furnish her own dishes and do the cooking. The students were to provide the fuel and the provisions.

I had to borrow money for the down payment. I paid $600 for the property. The lower story had one coat of plastering. Part of the upper story was lathed, but none of the upper rooms were plastered. I have since built two additions to the house. There was no well, no cistern and no sidewalk on the lot. There was a board sidewalk in front of the lot where Mr. McCoppin now resides. From that lot up to the Normal school building there was a kind of improvised walk. In the Fall of 1886 Mr. Johnson with whom I was living, proposed that if I would pay the sawing bill and pay for the laying of the walk and furnish the nails, that he would furnish the lumber. He cut some large elm trees. I think they were what they call yellow elm, and they may have been what I called slippery elm or sweet elm. They were cut into heavy planks. The planks were two feet wide. We laid a plank walk from the Presbyterian church to the center of the row of evergreen trees. He furnished the boards for the walk from the sidewalk to his residence. This was the walk we had to use in the fall of 1871.

There was an open ditch on both sides of what is known as Long street. After heavy rains, Long street would be a river. The water would cross over to the Christian church lot and then trend to the east. There was a single board over the ditch on the north side of Long Street connecting the road with our
improvised sidewalk. There were no street lights in Ada at that time. Vapor-Sun gaslights were put into use a number of years later. One dark night, late in October, as the students were going to literary society, Miss Lois Marshall fell off the board into the ditch and injured her spine. She did not recover for many years; in fact, I do not know that she ever fully recovered from that strain.

Sim Shuster, who is still living in Ada, had quite an experience one night at the same crossing. His girl, Miss Shane, fell off the board into the water. Mr. Shuster claims that he jumped in and helped her out. The boys declared he had another fellow to volunteer to help her out. I never investigated, but I think Mr. Shuster acted the part of a true beau for he still continued to be her escort.

I related, in a former letter, that the third story of the new building was used for the literary hall, but we had two literary societies. They cast lots as to which society should occupy the north side of the hall and which the south side of the hall. The Philos got the south side of the hall and placed a bookcase on that side of the room, and the Franklins had the north side and also placed a bookcase on their side of the hall. The Philos had a walnut case, and the Franklins an ash case. The societies alternated in the use of the literary hall and the Chapel hall for their meetings. The Franklins had the use of the hall the first night. How that happened will be stated later. The room which is now used as the hall of oratory, and which some years ago was used for a chemical laboratory, at that time was the Chapel hall. There was a partition through what is now the reading room, giving us two recitation rooms in the lower story in addition to Chapel hall. There is also a hallway in the second story. There were two recitation rooms on north side of building and the south east room on second story was used for laboratory. The south west room was used for a music room.

It was agreed in the con-joint articles of the societies that at the close of each term there should be two entertainments, one society to give an entertainment on Thursday night and the other society on Friday night. The matter was decided by lot as to which should have Thursday and which Friday night the first term. I think it fell to the Franklins to have Thursday night. The programs were lengthy. The entertainments began about six o'clock in the evening and continued until about one o'clock in the morning. The Franklins has a kind of theatrical performance the subject of which was "More Blunde... Than One." The star performer failed in his part and the Philos shouted for joy; but one of the stron... Philo members had a comic declamation the next night called "Pike's Peak or Bust." The fellow forgot his declamation and the Franklins
yelled out "Busted." I have no doubt that they thanked their stars, if not the Lord, that the poor fellow failed that they might balance up.

In those days it was no task to sell tickets at twenty-five cents. In later years they raised the price to thirty-five cents and would fill the halls. I have known persons to drive eighteen and twenty miles to an entertainment and pay from fifty cents to a dollar a seat. G.W. Rutledge taught school the first winter term about seventeen miles from town, and he came to society nearly every Friday evening. Prof. Ewing taught some distance from town and would occasionally walk four miles to be at his society.
By permission I will here insert a history of the Philo society written by G.W. Rutledge some years ago. I do not have the minutes of the societies and many things that have occurred have slipped my mind. I have asked the three societies to give me a history of each society that I might insert it in my reminiscences. I trust that they will favor me. I already have a report from the Adelphians, which I will insert later on. The Franklins have an excellent history of their society which they will publish in a catalogue in the near future. Had it ever come into my mind that I would at some future time write a kind of history of the school, I would have taken notes, but I am writing these reminiscences nearly entirely from memory and of course have forgotten many circumstances that occurred during the many years that I was connected with the school. History by G.W. Rutledge, which was read at the Philo Reunion in 1881. Will omit the introduction and the close or valedictory.

It was on Friday evening, August 18th, 1871. The students of the Northwestern Ohio Normal school were assembled in the east upper room of the old Union school building. Professor Lehr stated the object of the meeting to be the separating of the students into two divisions, which were afterward to organize themselves into two literary societies.

These students were mainly composed of awkward, quaintly clad lad and lasses from the country. It seems that the nervous and ingenious little Professor had been taught to know that "Necessity is the mother of invention," and he saw there a chaotic mass of uncouth looking individuals, with their short jean pantaloons, stoga boots and shoes, unshorn hair, unshaven, downy faces, inhabited by not enough of culture to act with the least grace, and so he invented a plan for organizing us as above intimated. Beginning with a roll of students as they had been registered upon entering school, he preliminarily named the two divisions "A" and "B." The first student registered was "A," the second "B," and so on, alternating until the list had been exhausted. The "Cain" or first born of the "B" division was one John Beaver, but he afterward proved to be "Able."
We adjourned that night to meet on the following Monday evening. But before adjourning a committee from the "B" division consisting of Miss Achsie Marshall, M. Jay Ewing and your humble servant, was appointed to draft a constitution and by-laws by which the society should be governed.

Well, the next thing to be done was to "count noses" and measure capacities, and theorize as to the comparative talent of the two divisions.

It was found that there was sixty-eight of us, such as we were, but in "weighing ourselves in the balances" with the "A's" in the opposite scale we imagine, at least, that we were "wanting." We also regarded "A" and "B" as sustaining the same relation to each other as No. 1 and No. 2. And it is a fact that the people regarded them, and estimated us, and sympathized with us accordingly. It was several years before we could rid ourselves of that name of "B," but we by resolution and perseverance in the meantime, distorted the original interpretation until we became famous as the "busy B-double-ees," and finally the old secondary idea was dropped by a sort of mutual willingness.

To go back, that disorganized set, though despondent, managed to meet on the following Monday evening. We managed to get a great awkward, slow speaking fellow from over toward Bluffton, who had an idea that he was cut out for a lawyer, elected temporary chairman. His name was Ewing, and a fellow who came over south named Tidd was appointed secretary, because he was a good penman, and would have done splendidly had he only known what to pen, as secretary.

The committee on constitution had been agonizing since the last meeting, and forwarded to the secretary the result of their deliberations, and article by article the constitution and by-laws were adopted. The committee--gentlemen members I mean--had enough courtesy to allow the lady member to select the name by which we were to be known. No one except a curious old maid, like sister Achsie was then, could find such a name as she did. She thought to compensate for the inferior name "B" by going to the other extreme of getting for our real name as high sounding one as possible. Finding none, she invented one in her desperation. Here it is, "Phi-lo-ma-tho-ni-an." We did not then stop to inquire into the meaning of such a word. It was really amusing to see and hear the students and citizens about town practicing on that name. We soon found that time was too precious to squander on such a word, and it was cut short to "Philo." At that first meeting the first corps of officers were
elected, consisting of one--"George Washington" for president.

By the way, I have been informed of a singular coincidence. I learn that Ulysses S. Grant (Cherry) is the president at this time. The first president desires to congratulate him and express great pleasure at this meeting and may I not hope, sir, that the society, begun under such trying and unfavorable circumstances, has already passed the "Appomattox" of its history.

G.W. Rutledge, president; Miss Achesie Marshal, vice president; Ira Doling, secretary; M. Jay Ewing, attorney; Miss Maggie Irvine, treasure; Miss Lacha Kraner, chorister; William Guyton, critic; Miss Jennie Melhorn and Isaac Garwood, censors; J.A. Shanks, librarian; C.W. Shockey, marshal. Of this first set of officers two--Miss Kraner and Miss Shockey--have been laid away to rest. The other are all since married and settled down, save Johnny Shanks and he had settled down to die an "old bachelor," when last heard from.

The first executive committee consisted of Jennie Melhorn, C.W. Shockey and J.M. Lippencott.

Library committee, J.W. Turner, Lida Wilson and Ella Hill.

Resolution committee No. 1 A.D. Snively, K. E. Shuster and Jennie Melhorn.

Resolution committee No. 2 J.W. Turner, George Dempster and J.J. Darling.

The first meeting was to be held, under the constitution, on Friday evening, August 25th, and the members were to be called on to make their grand debut. In the mean time there was run a noted footrace--too tedious to more than mention--and so our society, by the result of that footrace, met in the basement of the M.E. church rather that in Ream's Hall.
CHAPTER 40.
"Philo History Continued"

The first class in recitation was represented by six persons: T. Presser, G. Park, H.W. Gramlich, J. Deppellar, A.D. Snively and Ira Doling. The critic had no criticisms to make.

The essay class was composed of Miss Hattie Reese and William Guyton.

"Resolved, That education should be made compulsory in the United States, except in cases of mental and physical disability," was the question to be discussed. The class was called. Nobody stirred. After a time an animal we recognized as a "Beaver" stepped forward, and was followed by Lehr, Ewing, Lee, Tidd and Stultz. There had been no music, and of course we would have to arrange for an instrument; so Ewing, Tidd and Snively, all fine musicians were appointed a committee to purchase one. Once through we adjourned. The library and library committee went to work to build a library, and they built it. Music must be had for all future meeting, and permit me to say, that then, it was prepared by main strength, that had to be exerted two or three nights during every week.

In those days we had but one member who could lead the society in prayer and that was brother J.M. Lippencott. Then the constitution was enforced, and every member was found in line of duty.

At the close of the first term each of the societies gave an entertainment, and not wishing something for nothing, as it would lack in quality, we sought to make up in quantity. So we gave the people fifteen pieces of our main strength kind of music, one salutatory, two orations, two recitations, (one of which was Dan Bryant's celebrated stump speech by one Melhorn) two periodicals, two tableaux, two speeches in debate, one poem, one drama an hour long, one farce of over a half hour, one pantomime of three-fourths of an hour, prayer, one valedictory, all of which was, of course, appropriately closed with a benediction. Thirty-three performances between dark and daylight. A sort of wholesale matinee. The next night the Franks served a like bill, in
which, luckily for us, there were "More Blunders than One," and we had "won" victory.

The next term there were in all but thirty-two members, and the society met every two weeks. The writer, though a country school teacher fifteen miles away, was a regular attendant of all stated meetings. The citizens of Ada all came out to our meetings during that winter on account of their desire for contrast, we suppose—they wanted something green. At the close, two more entertainments, with hall crowded both nights. In those times we had a "picnic," as the boys say, over reserved seats. We frequently indulged farces to accommodate Melhorn, who was obliged to hide his blushes behind burnt cork.

The next term there were thirty-eight members present. The accession of Sallie Frick this term was encouraging to the choir. The members were all active, and rapid development was made in literary work. At the close of that term the first conjoint entertainment was given. We did not call it a contest, but such in reality it was. The tableaux, dramas and pantomimes were omitted, but it extended into the "wee sma' hours" all the same. We were then one year old; had somewhat revolutionized public opinion, and stood at least peer with the "A's."

On the 16th of August, 1872, we meant to commence our second year. On that evening we received sixteen new members, prominent among whom were William Christopher, Perry Dempster, R.L. Souder, Eliza Davenport and Lizzie Mooney. These all proved able and influential members. It was during this term that the society was honored by a member who, while here, did more for it that any member she ever had. On Friday evening, August 30th, 1872,—and his name was "Davy" Pence. He could out run, out jump, beat at croquet or baseball anybody in school. Many a poor student met him soon after arriving, and those fingers, Pence didn't have to write with, and the query how he could write, induced him to join. At the close of that term another inevitable entertainment. On October 25th 1872, a committee appointed to revise the constitution reported, and the word Philomathonian was dropped, since which time we have been known as Philomathean.

The next term, commencing November 29th 1872, was a fruitful one. The society gained the membership of a little, bashful fellow, who occasionally sang bass when he could be induced to take the stage. We refer to Will H. Pontius. Although young and awkward, the girls said he was handsome. The Philo society soon brought him out, and let him and others know that he was a musical genius and that bass was not his part.
This term we had a time with measles. One Philo got loose and took to the woods despite our efforts to confine him. He was a "fiddler" named James Ludwig. Candas Chambers put in her appearance that term, and a good member she was, but did not remain long. This term we had many merry times sleigh-riding and giving concerts. We were highly honored with the name, as a regular member, of Uncle Sammy, who did us noble and valuable service--the excellent singer that he was. Though he was the oldest member of the society in years, yet he was as young in heart and spirit as the youngest. Philos, to Uncle Sammy your society will ever owe a debt of gratitude. Admit him, without charge, to all your exercises. Being the oldest living Philomathean, he deserves your compliments, charities and kindest words in his declining years. He takes pride in your successes, and is grieved at your reverses. Words are too weak to pay him a just tribute. Let the actions of every Philo speak more significantly.

On Friday evening, February 25th, 1873, the first Philomathean Star was read. Its editor was the historian now before you. April 4th, 1873, the society received a valuable member and good singer Ezra Foucht. Yes, on the same night came William Kahler, E.L. Sinclair and A.C. Pierson. As we have intimated, the society "flourished like a green bay tree" that term. Why, Sinclair could debate enough for half a dozen common fellows. He was our "Michigan giant." Why, "he was six feet one way and two feet the other, and weighed three hundred pounds"--almost. Pierson liked the girls, but no man ever trod this campus as a student who was or is his peer in literature. Everybody like Pierson.

J.A. Jones, G.W. Knisely, Jennie Lida, our respected friend and fellow citizen, Henry Young, an eccentric Pennsylavania German, D.H. Wentz, and little but mighty Lou Gardner all became members, and the second year closed and we were all jubilant.

August 22nd, 1873, found us in the M.E. church again, on account of repairs going on in the hall. Another year to be commenced. We start out with seventy-three old members. We take in thirteen new members this term, and some of them are excellent workers.

Mollie McNerney, a champion editress of the Star, and an excellent solicitor. A great awkward, green fellow from the plains, Elder Lacey. He got mad the first time he was criticized, but he turned out a polished gentleman, and one of the best debaters the society ever produced, and is now a successful lawyer in the far west. Katie Shane, Rachel Wagner, A.L. Shafer and jolly Sam Wagner were among the new members who became willing to labor.
The principal thing of importance done this term was that the society purchased the present elegant bookcase that adorns their hall. And two Philos got married.

Passing more rapidly to the next term we find but about forty members present. We are joined by Frank Castanien, C.B. Beachner, Hunter Kyle, A.B. Charles, L.O. Ream, Lucy Wilson, Ida and Flora Williamson, George Truesdell and Tusie Ingalls, nearly all of whom became frequent and able performers. The Philos by this time had grown so strong and were rapidly outstripping the other society, that the faculty submitted the noted "Optional Resolution" concerning the division of new students. The resolution was presented on the evening of February 27th, 1874, and they insisted upon its passage. After a lengthy and spirited discussion it was adopted, under protest by Philos.
CHAPTER 41.

The next term there were forty-five members present. But few members were received this term. On May 15th a fine was assessed on R.C. Eastman for approaching the president disrespectfully, and upon demand a lively trial was had. The whole affair was "put up," however, for novelty, and Eastman was exonerated, of course.

The third year closed with a contest between the two societies, and the Philos were satisfied with the history they had made.

The first meeting of the fourth year was held in literary hall, Friday evening, August 14th, 1874. The classes were all well represented. This term we were joined by one Frederick Maglott who, until he was promoted, was ever ready to espouse our cause.

We are compelled to hasten as time is rapidly passing. The next term, which was that of the winter of 1874 and 1875, came. This term, on the 1st day of February, 1875, a meeting was called to consider the propriety of holding a Triennial reunion, and issuing the first Triennial catalogue. A committee was appointed to wait on the faculty to get their consent. The committee reported favorable and thus ended the question, for what the Philos desired done they did. A genial, whole-souled fellow, and a man who could sing deeper down than we ever heard, had been employed by the faculty, and in the person of A.B. Orr the society had a warm friend. He "kind o'liked" one of our pretty girls--Ella Mitchell. And here let us pay passing tribute to Miss Ella, who was for years a "musical stand-by" for the Philos. Many a kind service she rendered.

The next term was one of hard labor and great responsibility, for it was too close with a Triennial reunion. The writer looked forward with great anticipations but on account of the sickness and death of a kind father he was not permitted to be present. At the session of April 9th we find the society received Albert Orr, W.B. Jones and Miss Dora Walters as regular members; on the 16th W.B. Woods; on the 23rd Julia Bainbridge and R.W. Oldham; on May 7th L.D. Nelson and J.W. Myers; on May 14th B.F. Wiseman, and on May 21st Miss Emma Johnson. These were the members received during the
term. The reunion was a success, a good time was had, and another year was numbered with the past.

The fifth year was opened by session August 13th, 1875. There were many members present and the classes all well filled. J.F. Kimerline, E.O. Wickersham, Stephan A. (Douglas) Court and a green, frost-bitten looking, bashful youth, E.T. Millar, all joined first session—all goodspeakers and workers. At the second meeting of the term there was regular "breaking up," and twenty-two students joined. Prominent among them were Pheobe Evans, Selina Stevenson, J.W. Culberston, Nettie Gates, Monroe Davison, Abbie Rankin, Jennie Jaggers, E.E. Drown and A.F. Stanley. All we have named enter at once upon their work, and were worth members. This was also the term when Mike Eggerman joined. He could then scarcely speak when spoken to, but if you will be here tonight you can see what the Philo society has done for him. He is glad he stopped here rather than to have gone on the railroad, which we are reliably informed was at one time the height of his ambition. At the close of this term the librarian's report showed 201 volumes in the library.

The winter term of 1875 and 1876 opened with the Philos in literary hall December 3d. W.H. Wagner joined this session. Soon followed Frank Rigdon, Sadie Kauffman, W.H. Evan, J. Longabaugh and C.W. Lease. The term was successful one, and closed with a literary concert on Thursday evening, February 26th 1876, which was one of the finest entertainments ever given in Ada. The spring term of 1876 found about eight Philos in their places, and March 17th they meet in Literary Hall, and have an abundance of good exercises. The first night they get twelve regular members. Myrtle Maxwell joins and proves an active member. H.W. Smith, Albert Hoover, W.W. Jump, and "Old Curiosity"--M.A. Smalley--become members. The two Croninger girls, Ida and Huldah, joined, and their excellent voices contributed much to the choir. Then on April 14th the Philos got a silver-tongued orator and an excellent worker in the person of G.F. Getty. Will V. Chambers was also a good accession. A contest closed the term-Getty versus Pool in oration, and Smalley versus Keyser in debate—resulting, at least, satisfactory to the Philos.

The fifth year is begun with eighty-one members. The society has purchased a new record book and in it we find recorded the proceeding of a meeting in literary hall, August 18th, 1876. That same Beaver we had in the beginning is president. This is the Centennial year, and he sees a chance to make some money for the society. He gets up the "Centennial Dollar Roll"--that is he sets the "ball rolling," and it is made a success. Members join by the score. W.O. Baily and L.W. Fairfield come gawking in from the swamps of Van Wert
county. "They don't amount to anything, but we'll take 'em." Don't you forget it, they were not so "eternally long" for nothing. We "look up" to them now. Old L.D. Wisener came stumbling in, with an old "plug hat" on, about the same time, and he made things rattle. Miss Fannie Galbraith, an estimable member, entered this term. Quite a time was had about the closing entertainments each society claiming the right to the last night, the Philos carrying their point.

The next term was a successful one. Such valuable members as Will H. Mustard, J.W. Hughes, Rose Holeywell, Eva Drown, Carrie D. Vandervort, Mollie C. Pontius, Alma Hoover, S.F. Pontius, Eliza O. Kyle, G.W. Davis, J.W. Vandervort and F.G. Hard were added, and a pleasant and profitable term was spent. The spring term secured the membership of many. We notice but few--Clara Maxwell, C.S. Barron, Retta Traub, H.C. Campbell, T.J. Ewing, W.E. Stratton, J.L. Hampton, W.C. Fahl, J.C. Montgomery, E.O. Loveland and A.F. Bechtel. These were those who deserve mentions as having been workers. The society continued to meet during the Normal term of 1877, and received several members and did good work. The members present "threw in," and at the close of the term the society was relieved of debt.

Friday evening, August 17th, 1877, we find the society in Chapel hall entering upon another term. A large number are present. Ten new members the first evening. A few of the most active were received during the term. An unpromising-looking fellow from Indiana, William Atkinson, steps into the ring and soon astounds up with an inexhaustible vocabulary. H.C. Babbitt arrives from Kentucky, Laura Krebs, an estimable and enthusiastic lady from Auglaize county, S.A. Engleman, who proves willing and able, and a bundle of nerves and honor N.H. Colwell. Three girls from northern swamps--Mary Graves, Flora Gordon and Zelma Shook--make the society happy and prove efficient members. Charlie Sherrard was also received. Such members as are now received, at this age of the society, have no resemblance neither in appearance nor actual culture and ability to the students who composed the charter members. This, however, is no discredit to the new members. Many hands make light work, and by this time the old "main strength" or "agonizing" plan is no longer known.

The time is passing so rapidly that we will depart from going into the society term after term from this time on. The society struggled a few years for an existence. Now it has extended its membership until the danger is that inaction on the part of many members will make them "cumbersome weights," and that development, which is so desirable, will fail to manifest itself. During the winter following Edith Heter, Sallie McBride, Ida Kieffer, Ebenezer
"Bigfoot" Smith, jolly Stanley Woodruff, Ella Pontius, Lollie Churchill, and many others whom we prize most highly as fellow Philomatheans, became members. The term closed with a neat little entertainment in a novel way, and solemnly we parted. Number of volumes in library 350, March 1st 1878.

The spring term of 1878 was to be followed by the second Triennial, and hence there was a busy term. So many excellent members joined we shall not attempt to enumerate them. Rose Holewell usurped the throne and filled the presidential chair with credit for one term--the first lady president elected by the society. The term closed with contest, reunion, etc., and a pleasant time was enjoyed by all present.

During the fall and winter term of 1878 came to the Philomathean fold such men as D.G. Wylie, J.F. Cecil--the prince of bass singers--and John Davison, with whom poor debaters had no business. The society, as an organization, had an excellent membership of able young men and women. During the year of 1878 a fine and faultless record was kept, and only excellent penmen were elected to the office of secretary.

In August of 1879 the society was provided with a permanent home of its own, where this portion of the audience now sit. This new $1500 Chickering piano was purchased; these chandeliers was procured, and possession was taken, for the first, on August 22d, 1879.

When we look back over the decade of years that has known the existence of this society, observe the small and imperfect beginning, the difficulties that had to be met, and have watched the steady but rapid development we have made as a society, we cannot help exclaiming that "it is a hundred-fold better that we could have wished or even dreamed of."

We now number, living and dead, 1,376 regular members. We have in our library at present 396 volumes of excellent books. We have forty-five members who are graduates from the institution. We are now in a broad and open place--a plain of literary possibilities. We experience a just feeling of pride in the history we have made. We realize that the developments already made multiply our responsibilities for the future, that our history may not degenerate.

G.W. Rutledge
CHAPTER 42.

The winter term was quite small. I do not have a register of that term. I think, however, the enrollment was in the neighborhood of forty-three different students. We had many classes but they were small. I had seven hours and nine recitations that term, and by contract I was to give two hours to the supervision of the public schools, but, including the discipline, it took at least three hours of my time for that work.

I well remember the members of some of those classes. Four classes were quite small. Mollie Schoonover was a member of three of the classes that recited but thirty minutes each. She was alone in Virgil. In two terms she read seven books of the Aeneid. She and Melville De Lisle studied chemistry as well as can be done where there is no apparatus whatever. John Shanks, Mollie Schoonover and Mettie Ferral I find in my class register of that term constituted the class in geometry and no teacher, in Ohio, ever had a better class of three members in geometry than that class. The class completed thoroughly in sixteen weeks, Davies geometry. Miss Schoonover now Mrs. Hickernell did excellent work in every class, in her literary society, in the student's prayer meeting, in the Y.M.C.A., in every line of school work, not only while a student, but also while a teacher. She was associated with the school as a student and teacher, not all the time but many years, from 1871 to July 31st, 1902, and I always found her faithful and a model woman. The founder, the school, Ada and the Franklin Literary Society owe her much in thanks, in gratitude and honor. May she never be forgotten in the annals of the school and especially may she never be forgotten by the Franklin Literary society.

Another class of that term must not be forgotten. It consisted of six members, two of them have made and are still making an honorable record. The two whom I will name are Prof. J.G. Park and Prof. Theodore Presser. Both were teachers and both were reciting algebra. It was a jolly class. The readers of the Herald all remember Prof. Park. I need not speak of his work as a student and teacher, and of our intimate friendship since the spring of 1868 to the present day, 1905. Thousands of students have recited to him and his fame as a teacher is established.
Prof. Presser is the editor of the Etude, the Standard Musical Magazine of America, and some consider it to be the best periodical in its line, published in the world. He is estimated to be worth $800,000. His home is in Philadelphia. His is still one of my true and warm friends. I still have my class register of that term, but not the school register as Prof. Niesz then collected the tuition and kept the register.

That term occurred the first marriage of two Normalites, Isaac Garwood and Miss Minnie Longnecker. They were married, Dec. 24, 1871. Both were and still are Philos. The first born Normalite was Stella Garwood now Stella Andrews and she was the first of the normal children to graduate when both parents had been students. The Garwood family has furnished the Normal excellent students. They are all good workers in the class room, in the Philo society and the boys in the battalion. Their home training has been the best.

The first student to die, was a Miss Nelson. She died the winter term of 1869 before the Normal was organized; but she was what we denominated a foreign student. She was not a resident of Ada. I remember her quite well. She was studious, amiable, and a very popular student.

The winter term of 1871-2 I shall never forget. A great misfortune befell me. I might call it a calamity. In one respect it changed the whole course of the school. Had that misfortune not occurred, it is probably that there would never have been four partners, but only three.

About eighteen months prior to this time I went security for a prominent citizen of Ada for $750.00. His father-in-law transferred his property to some members of his family, which left me the only responsible security. I was also security on a note calling for $200.00. I had to pay both of these notes, interest and all amounting some over a thousand dollars. I owned the property north of the Disciple church, on which I paid $200.00 and on which I still owed $400.00. I owned the property where the Yates drug store is now located and the lot on the southeast corner of Gilbert and Hoosier streets. I had given a mortgage on the Main street property to raise the money for the building of the Normal school. I tried to borrow more money but failed. I finally concluded to sell the Main street property. I transferred the mortgage to the property on the corner of Hoosier and Gilbert streets. I sold the Main street lot to Albert Suzhgwert for $1000 cash and he was to move the house on the lot at the corner of Gilbert and Hoosier streets. I then had two houses on that lot. I paid the bail money, but was very hard pressed. The only way out was to sell a part of my interest in the Normal school. I owned a third. I believed that G.W. Rutledge would make an excellent teacher, and I want to remark here that he
was as fine a teacher as ever stepped into a school room, and I still think that he made a mistake when he did not follow the profession of teaching. His father, for that day, was quite a wealthy man, probably worth seventy or eighty thousand dollars. I sold half interest to Mr. Rutledge. I was to do all the teaching for three years, but was to pay him five percent of my share of the net proceeds. To sell was a great sacrifice, but I could not avoid it. In addition to this misfortune, I had a felon on one of my fingers and suffered greatly with that for several weeks.

The roof of the Normal leaked very much. The house was not completed and everything appeared to be discouraging. I will here insert a communication that I still have which we sent to the contractor.

Whereas the contractors of the Northwestern Ohio Normal school building have demanded a settlement with the trustees of said school building, on a contract of erecting a suitable building for said school, and whereas the said trustees are well aware that the said building has not been completed according to an honest interpretation of the plans and specifications for the erection of said building, nor had the said building been finished at the time specified in the original contract between said contractor and said trustees, and as the said trustees may not know what may be the disposition on the part of the teachers of said Normal school as to the acceptance of said building: we, the said teachers, will take this method of informing said trustees of what said teachers will agree to do; but we, the said teachers, do hereby assert, that we make these concessions, not, that we think, that out of justice, they should do so, but for the sake of harmony and peace; and to save the said trustees further trouble.
Problems with the Normal School Building

N.D.

Chapter 43.

Propositions.

The following were the propositions submitted for settlement with the contractors for the new building:

1. That there shall be four ventilators put into Literary hall, that the flues be made safe against fire, and also the molding at the rostrum must be completed.

2. That the plastering shall be finished including some that has come off during the finishing of the house, in various ways, or may come off within six months from date, excepting what the teachers have caused to come off.

3. An assurance that the roof does not leak at present, or that if it does or will at any time during one year form the 1st of Nov. 1871, that is shall be repaired at the expense of said trustees.

4. Tighten door-knobs and locks. Fix front window in second story, and put in glass where broken. Fix cellar doors that they will shut and put on latch and locks. Finish all painting that is not completed.

5. And that the said teachers do not agree to pay any extras claimed on the part of the contractors such as pay for cement used in cellar walls,
or for claimed deficiency in brick, or any other extras of work done on subscription such as grading, etc.

6. And that the trustees ask no present payment of work done on subscription, such as grading, etc.

7. That the teachers will give a mortgage for all sums of $20 or more in favor of the trustees, as soon as all liens and claims are removed from the building.

We the teachers, deem the above proposition very favorable terms of settlement, in consideration of the fact, that we have been loser to the amount of at least $5000., viz: loss of students by non completion of house $600.; future losses by same cause $3000.; incidental expenses $55.50; defective plastering, wood work, etc. 1344.50.

Respectfully submitted,

H.S. Lehr, Pres.
B.F. Niesz, V.Pres.
J.G. Park, Sec.

Ada, Ohio., Dec. 23, 1871.

The trustees had much trouble collecting the subscription. Some subscribers had given notes others had not. They could not pay the contractor and he could not pay his hands and for the material used. Liens were taken on the building for labor and material. The house was unfinished and the roof leaked badly.

The situation was not encouraging. During the Winter term the societies were small, very small, the Philo society was a little ahead. The assistance given by Rutledge and Ewing helped them materially. The fuel and other expenses of the school about equaled the income and the teachers had little, if anything, left for their services. L.W. Dobbins served as janitor for his tuition. The spring
term opened a little better than the Winter term, but the school was still small. The Normal term was very small. We had only about twelve students. Prof. Niesz went to Stark county, Prof. Park went home and I took charge of the school. There were not enough students to conduct two literary societies. We prepared a catalogue, although it looked as though we would have to close the school on account of the leaking of the roof. The total number of different students in attendance during the year was 288; total by departments 313; total by terms 373.

In addition to the students we enrolled the first Fall term of 1871, we gathered up during the year some excellent students. One of the strongest students that ever entered the school at Ada during my presidency was A.R. Huffman, a graduate of the Findlay high school. He graduated from our school at Ada and went to the Pacific coast and engaged in teaching. He died many years ago. I especially remember him and Prof. Hufford as members of the advanced class in geometry and also as members of the class in trigonometry. Squire Rice took private lessons in Greek. David M. Fisher, of Herring, entered school during the winter. He took an active part in his literary society. He was a Franklin. J.H. Smick, Dr. Ralph Davenport and P.W. Stumm recited Latin in the evening. Miss Gibson, of Kentucky, entered the winter term. In the spring Miss Martha E. Cellar, of Marseilles, entered school. George Guyton entered school the Spring term, and E.G. Harriman, of Mount Victory, Aiden Haines, of Lima, B.I. Murray, John and Henry Mack, of Blue Lick, Jennie McClelland, of Findlay, E.H. Slemmons, of West Newton, H.B. Smalley, of Kenton, Mary E. Todd, of Williamston, and many other that might be named.

The second year the terms remained the same as the first year, but we raised the tuition for the Fall term of fourteen weeks, for the common branches to $8.40; for the Winter term of sixteen weeks, to $9.50; for the Spring term of twelve weeks to $7.20; for the higher branches for the Fall term to $10.50; for the Winter term $12.00; Spring term $9.00; the Normal term of six weeks, $6.00; twenty-four lessons in music, $10.00.

Lectures were delivered to the students throughout the year by Hon. T.W. Harvey, Commissioner of schools, Hon. J.W. Walker, of Kenton and Dr. J.H. Williams, of Ada. The catalogue was larger that first year and had more to say.

By permission of Mrs. Hickernell I will treat the readers of the Herald to a history of the school written by her for the Herald for its quarter centennial edition. It is true to life.
This article does not aspire to the dignity of a historical record, the result of a
careful search among society minutes and files of old newspapers; it is simply
the jotting down of those things which occur to me as my mind "goes back
over the pace of past times" to those early days when the Northwestern Ohio
Normal school began to be. In these twenty-five years many things have
changed, in fact about everything except the human nature which is, after all,
the chief element in joy and sorrow of living. We had the same plans, hopes
and ambitions then as now, and with them the dreams of the glory that was to
be some day in the history of the dear old Normal. Perchance the fact that the
glory has been in great measure achieved may be due to the earnest, untiring
efforts of those whose names even are unknown to the present generation of
workers, these workers themselves being, for the most part, then among the
"unborn millions yet to come," for whom C.S. Barron always prayed.

On nearing the town that Saturday forenoon of August, 1871, just outside the
corporation, almost out in the country, I first saw the imposing, awe inspiring
building destined to play so great a part in the events of ensuing years. I
sometimes wonder whether the present buildings impress the new student as
did that one the little girl saw while sitting among bed ticks, cooking utensils,
vegetables, and what not, as her patient father drove his heavily loaded
wagon up south Main street. That this same wagon attracted no special
attention is due to the fact that from all direction were coming just such
wagons, bringing just such hopeful young people, from just such country
homes as she had left early that summer morning. Thus, chiefly, the new
students came. But they came, and the busy, bustling little president was
happy. Already rooms with bare walls and barer floors were waiting for them,
and soon the simple furniture was set up, and the new life began—and no
solicitors marred the joy of the beginning. Crude and simple were the
surroundings, but no one noticed that in all engrossing thought of getting an
education. There were, it is true, some who boarded in private families; while
others who did not care to board themselves, clubbed together, furnishing
provisions to be cooked by some lady at so much per member. Thus, clubs,
long a feature of the Normal, had their beginning.

On Monday morning the school was duly organized. As the Normal building
was not yet completed, the eager students found their way to the north end of
town, to the union school building, then consisting of but four rooms. After the
devotional exercises, the school was canvassed, each student being asked
personally what studies he wished to pursue, the smallest number requisite
for a class being one. The next morning we met in the basement of the Methodist church. This building at that time might have been called unique. The spire was not yet on the entrance and upper story were unfinished, and all was guiltless of paint. But we were not after fine buildings then, and south Ada was not so far from the church that strong young men and women thought it "too far."

Soon all was in working order. The rules were few: Besides Sundays and Friday evenings, each student had no other evening at his disposal; other evenings he must be in his room, or report "absent" at chapel next morning: there must be no communication during study hour, a report of "perfect" or "whispered" being also required at roll call. And it would be well for the school if these excellent rules were still in effective operation. Our recitation rooms were all over town. Upstairs in the unfinished church, with plenty of fresh air. Mr. D.C. Smith, now Dr. Smith, of Dunkirk, and the writer recited Whately's Logic to Prof. Park, until the cold winds of late Autumn drove them to warmer quarters. Here, too, Prof. Lehr taught the Bible class on Sunday afternoons. He had classes other hours in the Baptist and Presbyterian schools. In the basement came French, under Prof. Theo Presser, the music teacher, with George Rutledge, Ida Lehr (Mrs. Hampton) and another whose name I have forgotten, as classmates. Higher Algebra finishing, with Marvin Howe, of Forest, and Cutter's Physiology, with about a dozen others, among whom was A.D. Snively, under Prof. Lehr, in the Union school building; and Cicero, with Miss Clara Thomas, now Mrs. Bauman, of Cleveland, under the same instructor, at his own residence on North Main street. The Rhetoric class consisted of M.J. Ewing, now Dr. Ewing, of Findlay, and once an efficient professor in the school.

Such were some of the small beginnings of the advanced classes. Besides the instructors named there were one other, Prof. B.F. Niesz, a genial, scholarly gentleman.

On Friday evening of the first week we met in Bastable's hall, then Ream's hall, to organize literary societies. First came some volunteer exercises, among which I remember a stirring rendition of Spartacus by G.W. Rutledge. Then came the division. After discussing various methods, two lists were headed A and B, and the roll was called, the names falling alternately separated. At an after meeting constitutions were adopted, and the A's chose the name of Franklin and the B's Philomathean.
Chapter 44.

The societies now met regularly on Friday evenings alternating between Bastable's hall and the basement of the church. And now there were solicitors. It is told of J.W. Zeller that his strong point in gaining new members was that he would have their straw-ticks filled for them. This, however, is tradition.

Well, all the members worked in those days. There were such debaters as U.R. Niesz, Rutledge, Zeller, Smith, Eastman, Ewing, Henry, Souder and others. Bigger wrote poetry; and Clara Thomas, Lois and Achsa Marshall, Lacha Kraner and Maggie Irvin wrote essays; and Ida Lehr, Lizzie Meeks and Sudie Shuler (later Mrs. Rutledge, now deceased,) sang.

Then the building was at last dedicated, we had a big public dinner on the lower floor, price 25 cents, in the daytime, and in the evening a concert, Kenton talent assisting.

This day was learned one of the many lessons gained outside of textbooks. Busy all day waiting on the tables, towards evening I asked Prof. Niesz whether he had enjoyed the dinner. His reply was that it was not a question with him whether he had enjoyed it, but that others had. Thus it was borne in upon my young mind, that a leader in any movement must place self out of sight. Another lesson this term, was learned in connection with the same man. Calling at his room one day on some business the carpet of the floor and the pictures on the wall breathed such an air of refinement that I could not help feeling it, and on going to my own rooms, for the first time, I noticed their lack of something and realized that education is more than text-books. Of course, in my own home, we had these things, but I had not thought of them in connection with school life.

But to resume. We were not installed in the building. The present laboratory was chapel hall, and the reading room, and the one above it formed four recitation rooms; the penmanship room two more. Above was the literary hall, and in this and in chapel hall the A's and B's met alternately. The question as to which society should have the first night had to be decided. This was easily
done by means of a foot-race between George Henry, a Franklin, and George Rutledge, a Philo. Henry won and so the Franks had it.

And now we must have libraries. Committees were appointed to canvas the town, to solicit money and such books as people cared to donate, generally those which they did not care to keep themselves. But it was beginning from which our present fine libraries grew.

We had a "reunion" this term which in the main went well, although we hardly knew what was expected of us. One merry group began some kind of a game in a ring with clasped hands around a post in the north room but this was quietly stopped by a professor as not in keeping with the dignity of the occasion.

Thus, with study and recitation society, both literary and otherwise for an occasional party cheered our way, the sixteen weeks' term came to a close. Then came the entertainments. These were simply wonderful. For once in our lives we had, "something of which there was enough." We had them two nights in succession, the B's first. There were two lengthy pantomimes, a drama, a debate, and orations, essays, recitations and music in choruses, quartettes and solos ad libitum. It was about two o'clock, I think, before the close. How Ewing and Rutledge and Sudie did play on Thursday evening, and how the chief player forgot his part on Friday evening, thus too well giving us, "More Blunders than One," were thoughts somewhat modifying the joy of A's, but on the whole success crowned their efforts.

Before leaving this term I must add some things which perhaps belonged rather to the beginning. You must not imagine, dear young brother or sister, as you approach the grounds on the smooth, broad walks by the neat hedge, that things were always thus. This was out of town, as you remember, with no laid walks--only loose boards strung along for the use of pedestrians. An old board fence, with an occasional bulge or projecting loose board caused one to be constantly on guard after dark, as no street lights aided the one not fortunate enough to possess a lantern. But we did not mind it then, some congenial even finding pleasure in the attempt to walk "two on the board."

The winter term came with an enrollment of forty students. There was no grumbling about large classes in those days. I my Vergil (it was Virgil then), there was one, in my chemistry, two of us, Dr. J.M. DeLisle being the other member. We had experiments, too--bought some powders and burned them watching with scientific delight the color of the flame. With Dr. Davenport's mortar and pestle, by dint of much exertion we caused a small explosion, with
which we were appropriately impressed. Otherwise we confined ourselves strictly to Weil's book on chemistry.

Our sleighing expeditions must not be forgotten; one to Bluffton, another to Roundhead, the return being in the "wee sma' hours o' the night," that is about four a.m. But the president was along so no chapel lecture followed to mar the pleasure of the memory. Miss Rose Smith also gave a pleasant party this term--Rose, the earnest society worker and pleasant friend. Mention, too, must be made of Miss Emma Kellar, the Misses Irvin and other resident students, ever held in grateful remembrance by the sometimes lonesome stranger.

The spring term brought back many who had been out teaching through the winter, along with new students. The six weeks' Normal term found only a handful. But as each of us entered about all the classes, we managed to make a pretty good showing. We all went together, forming a new society just for the term, called the Demosthenean. We had institutes, and model classes of small town children and many things really quite helpful.

The fall term showed a good increase in numbers, also a change in the faculty. This term came Prof. and Mrs. Rowley, long to delight us with their sociability and sweet singing. And now the years come and go so rapidly, bringing so many loved names and faces, that I dare not begin to name them at all, for fear on the one hand of naming too many, and on the other hand of leaving out some of the very best, as it is possible I have already done in this hurried sketch.

In the spring of '74 was the first graduating class, although a dozen of us, lacking just one. We had a banquet and reunion, all at the residence of our proud and happy president. Well it was a class to be proud of. We are out in the now, lawyers, teachers, business men and housewives. And two at least are now a precious memory, Misses Anna Stayner and Sue Fogle, the latter at the time of her death Mrs. Dr. Poole, of Columbus. The Rev. Russell B. Pope addressed the class in words that still linger, although many succeeding addresses were forgotten soon after their delivery.

And the crowd that came to hear us; for you must remember that the old hall used to be a great deal larger, larger even that the double halls. Now, some of you may be skeptical, and I'll not argue the point, as I am writing from memory. It seemed larger. And they showered roses upon us in the good old fashioned commencement way. It was a day long to be remembered.
Well, time passed on the old Normal "grew and grew," but not as the famous turnip, "till it could grow no longer," for it is still growing. And the town came out to her, then passed on almost out of sight, clear to the end of South Main street. And fields of waving grain became Johnson, Gilbert, and Union streets.

And students no more search carefully for rooms away in the north part of town, for there are rooms, pleasantly furnished, sometimes even elegantly, standing waiting for them near the school grounds. Society hall are pictures of beauty compared with the Puritan plainness of the old-time hall.

N.W.O.N.S. is now O.N.U., a name gaining in quality what it has lost in quantity. Electric lights glow, good walks make travel safe, "and massive buildings rise where once lowly cottages." Yes, all had changed. All but the ever changing stream of faces that come as "new students" and go away as "seniors." These, and these alone, are ever the same.
CHAPTER 45.

I can not remember all the incidents that occurred in the life of the great school. I must depend more or less on the recollections of others. And I am sure that the students of the "olden days" will appreciate what some of their own number have to say. I will give a few extracts from a letter lately received from Dr. W.J. Ewing, many years a student and teacher in the O.N.U.

Extracts from Dr. Ewing's letter:

Findlay, O. Oct. 19, 1904.

My Dear Friend, Mr. Lehr:

I believe G.W. Rutledge was the first Philo president. He had some work, but I cannot place him. On constitutional committee, I think Miss Achsie Marshall, G.W. Rutledge and myself were the members with H.S. Lehr member ex-officio. The last named member kindly furnished the committee a copy of the constitution and by-laws of a Mt. Union society which made our work that of adaptation and copying. Up to that time we had worried and talked but could not formulate. Yes, you are correct about the opening. Our society had to wait until you had officiated in the other and came to the private meeting room. You know we used to alternate in the use of the public hall. We used to meet down in the old brick school house in the north end of town. Will Ream was a bright and shining light in those days and had many suggestions as to plan of running a school and doing literary work. I think that
was a year or so after Shelly Shanks, Mallie Ream, the Nelsons, Gilberts, Net. League and some more. Our dear old friend S.H. Bigger can tell you day and date for all the honorable work and fun of all the terms he was present and furnish you notes on many interesting phases of school life. Our social life was so entwined with the school work, recitations, building, and boarding that absolutely nothing else entered our heads. Of course we did not have shady strolls in spacious campus alluded to in college tales, but we found places and opportunities for the expression of all the sentiment inherent in the race from which we sprang, or cultivated in our native brambles. I like to think it all over.

In the catalog of 1871-2 and announcements for 1871-3 the terms remained the same in length as the year before; but as already stated the tuition was higher than the first year. The Board of Trustees remained the same as the previous year.

Board of Trustees

J.H. Mustard, President  
C. Pugh, Vice-President  
L.B. Vickers, Secretary  
William Irvine, Treasurer  
H.S. Lehr

Faculty

H.S. Lehr, President  
B.F. Niesz, Vice-President and Treas.  
J.G. Park, Secy. and Librarian

Board of Instructors

H.S. Lehr, A.B., Professor of Greek, Latin, Moral and Mental Philosophy, and Normal Department
The enrollment published in our first catalog gave the names of the students in attendance during the select term of 1870 and the foreign students during the winter and spring terms of 1870-1. That enrollment was 131. The enrollment published in our second catalog, gave the attendance of the first year of the Normal School, the school year 1871-2. The enrollment of different students was 288, enrollment by terms 373. There were 99 enrolled in the music and model departments. The teachers in the music department received for their pay all the tuition paid by the students of that department. The pupils in the model classes paid no tuition. Many of the Literary students were in attendance only one term, the Fall term which was then the largest term of the year. The salaries were small, the work hard; but I enjoyed it. The catalog was larger than the first. The "Remarks and "Regulations" were much as they appeared in later catalogs.

One of the "Remarks" or "Regulations" was this, "No extra classes formed for less than three members, unless under peculiar circumstances." The circumstances generally were peculiar and classes would be formed for two and occasionally for one member. We wanted students, we needed them and were inclined to be accommodating.

The fall term was to begin August 12. The Normal building was not yet completed and the roof leaked badly. The trustees had not yet settled with the contractor. I will here insert a notice from the trustees to the contractor to complete the building and remedy the defects in the roof. The contractor returned the notice to me and his reply. The language of the reply will not admit the publication. Any of the old residents of Ada who may wish to see the elegant language can call at the Herald office and consult the editors.
Notice to Contractor

Ada, Hardin Co., O., July 8, 1872

To Wyant, contractor.

Sir:
The defects in the roof of the Ada Normal academy building have already caused considerable damage to it and consequently must be immediately remedied.

Therefore we hereby give you notice that unless you proceed at once to properly and securely correct them according to the wishes of the board of trustees, that we will proceed to do so at your expense and hold you fully responsible not only for this, but for all other failures to execute the work on this building according to contract to the full extent of law and justice. By order of the board of trustees in session on this day and date.

L.B. Vickers, Secretary.

The contractor did not repair the roof and the trustees as related heretofore forced up the roof and placed crossbeams on the iron pillars to make the roof convex. The crossbeams are still to be seen in the Commercial Hall. But those beams did not suffice. The roof still leaked; but we continued the school. I have many papers relating to work done on the building, etc. but I will not take the time of the reader nor occupy the columns of the Herald to insert them in these reminiscences.
The Fall term of 1872 opened quite well. Prof. Niesz brought several of his Mt. Union friends that term. Among the number was L.S. Pence, the handless penman. Pence was a marvel and a prodigy. When a small boy he fell in the fire and lost both hands. He had no fingers, mere stubs; but he was an excellent penman, a good baseball player as then played. He could play the piano and was a fine singer. The boys would buy him sacks of cherries, peanuts, etc. to see him eat them. We engaged him to teach penmanship. We sent him to Columbus to the state fair to distribute school circulars and to write cards. Many persons ordered cards on account of the novelty of the writer. He was an enthusiastic Philo and was one of their best solicitors.

We needed more and better accommodations for our students. G.W. Rutledge induced his father, Mr. Lewis Rutledge, to build a hall for rooming students. We began the work sometime in the fall of 1872. There were sixteen rooms in the hall. It was later known as Poverty hall. Some years ago it was divided into residences. The two houses now owned by Mrs. Davis on the west side of Main St., between the residences of Mrs. Black and Mrs. Loveland originally constituted Poverty hall. I never learned how it acquired that name, but might surmise.

On Saturday evening, August 17th, 1872, was organized the Saturday evening prayer meeting. The students still meet on that evening for prayer meeting. It certainly has been a great power for good. One evening during the winter term of 1872-3, there were but two of us at the meeting, myself and Prof. C.E. Rowley.

Prof. and Mrs. Rowley began teaching the fall term of 1872. Prof. Rowley had been my pupil many years before and we had also been room-mates at college. Prof. and Mrs. Rowley were good musicians, good teachers and excellent people. They remained with the school till the Professor entered the ministry. We became separated during the war. I had lost trace of him and he of me. We needed a voice teacher. I was hunting up his address for I thought he was the teacher we wanted; and he was hunting my address. He wrote a
letter to my old home which reached me just when we needed him. Our meeting appeared to us providential.

At the close of the fall term Prof. Park left the school to me and Prof. Niesz. We could easily do the teaching as far as numbers were concerned, for the winter term of 1872-3 has frequently been called "Valley Forge" of the Normal. Prof. Park entered Eureka college in Illinois and remained in college till the close of the year. He returned in time for the fall term of 1873. The school building was not completed, the roof leaked so badly that in times of heavy rain we had to set pails and tubs in the worst spots to save the plastering from falling off. The trustees had their troubles. The secretary Mr. L.B. Vickers resigned. I will here insert his letter of resignation. In order to understand some later transactions it becomes necessary to publish it.

Resignation of L.B. Vickers

Ada, Ohio, Nov. 2, 1872

Prof. H.S. Lehr and associate teachers of Ada Normal Academy

Dear Sirs: you have by this time no doubt heard of my resignation as a member of the board of trustees of your Academy. I think none familiar with facts can charge upon me in this matter any disposition to shrink responsibility in any way subject to my control. You are somewhat acquainted with all the conflicts of opinion between myself and a majority of the board and know that in many things I differ from them. Some of their recent acts have made it impossible for me, in justice to myself, to any longer share with them the responsibility. Those which were the immediate cause of my resignation are the following: The violation of my sense of right frequently expressed by the manner in which the
final settlement with H.P. Wyant was made, while I was absent from the city. The practical refusal, in violation of the contract with the teachers, involving a forfeit of all the stock to furnish from sale of payment, and said stock. The stockholders share of the means necessary to repair a conference to be alike, binding on both teachers and stockholders; because of the circumstances under which the roof was changed from the original design. This latter position of the majority of the board to say nothing of the change causing the difficulty being made and executed without my knowledge and against my judgement expressed before knowing the fact, was more than I could willingly be in any way connected with.

Respectfully yours,

L.B. Vickers.
CHAPTER 47.

The condition of the building and the uncertainty of its completion, the threatened litigation, hurt the school materially.

As stated before the Winter term of 1872-3 was known as the "Valley Forge" of the North Western Ohio Normal School. That was the first name given to the school by the proprietors. Many called it the Ada Academy and others the Ada Normal and some the Ada College. The enrollment was quite small that term; about forty, as I now remember as I do not have the register of that term. Prof. Niesz was treasurer and kept the roll of the students. The Franklin society opened with fourteen members but recruited some new members during the term. The star member that term was C.W. Butler. He had not been in school since the organization of the Normal. He was an active member of the old Ciceronean society of '68, '69 and '70. S.P. Grey also entered school that term. Both joined the Franklin society. I can recall the names of the Franklins of those early days better than the names of the Philos, for my wife and niece were Franks and the choir and committees met at the Lehr home. Butler would frequently be on three classes the same evening. The performers were divided into three classes declaiming or recitation, composing and debating.

After the criticisms of the members of the class, a half hour and occasionally an hour by special resolution would be devoted to miscellaneous debate. Butler, Grey, Mustaine, and O.P. Wilson would see every member, each week, and would manage to have full classes.

S.H. Bigger was teaching that winter, I think at Huntersville and would be at society nearly every Friday evening. Frequently he would interest and amuse the audience with a comic poem. Sometimes he would read an instructive essay. He was always interesting.

During the winter months the societies met at 6:30 p.m.; during the summer at 7:00 and then adjourned with through with the program and any business. That winter the society changed its motto to what it is now. C.W. Butler selected the present motto. I think I remember the first motto and yet am not
sure. I wish some old Franklin would kindly send it to me. I do not have access to the minutes of the society.

The members that term as I now remember them were Ida A. Lehr, Mollie Dobbins, Mollie Schoonover, Libbie Dobbins, Rose Smith, C.W. Butler, S.P. Grey, O.P. Wilson, Wm. Mustaine, Charles Dobbins, George Roosher, and I think Lizzie Meeks and Melville DeLisle. I am not certain as to Miss Meeks and Mr. DeLisle. I think Sallie McElroy, now Mrs. Charles Landon, was in school that term. Lois Marshall, I think taught the A grammar room in the public schools and if so, she would help the society substantially. Rhoda Thomas, Mollie Hinkle, Nettie Williams, Clara Thomas, and Mollie Cochran were absent members. That is they were regular members when in school and had the privilege of the stage any evening, had full access to the use of the library but could not vote. Mrs. Henry Young and her sister Mrs. Dr. Hiestand, were honorary members and assisted greatly in furnishing music and in various other ways.

Prof. Niesz enlivened both societies by his excellent recitations. I can still see and hear him as he recites his, "So, Boss; So! So!" and some of his comic Pennsylvania Dutch recitations.

At the close of the term, the societies gave their term contests. The Franklin orator had evidently read Dick's Works. The oration was not copied but sounded Dick-like. It could be called original. I shall never forget his pronunciation of the name of the great astronomer Copernicus. He pronounced it Co-per-nic-us, accenting the first and third syllables and gave the "o" the short sound. G.W. Rutledge some years ago wrote a history of the early years of the Philo society which, by permission I have given to the editors of the Herald for publication; but I will add that Mr. Rutledge and W.J. Ewing, later Prof. Ewing and now Dr. Ewing came to society nearly every Friday evening, no matter how muddy or how rainy or how cold. Mr. Rutledge had to drive about fifteen miles. G.W. Rutledge sacrificed more for the Philo society than any other member and he made many sacrifices for the school.

About this time Charles Melhorn began to take an active part in society. He was an adept at giving comic Negro recitations. It chanced one day that we walked down the street together. I remarked to him that he was too bright a boy to spend his time on comic Negro selections, that he ought to write orations and to take part in debates. He made no reply, but never used burnt cork after that interview. He was a model student in every respect. No Franklin ever accused him of using unfair means in soliciting. He was known for his candor and probity and was loved and respected by all who knew him.
I will name some of the students who entered the second year and who took an active part in the various school duties and exercises. Charles Beach, Raleigh Littlefield, E Buckmaster, Wm. Cessna, the Connor boys, R.C. Childs, Ella Conkle, Wm. Christopher, Mary Davenport, Mina Leeds, Eliza Ewing, G.W.B. Faurot, J.T. Fitton, Sallie Frick, the Joneses of Dunkirk, excellent students, one is county treasurer at present. A.C. Pearson, a fine student, an honor to any institution of learning. Edgar L. Sinclair, a good student, brought to Ada through the influence of Prof. Niesz. We also enrolled Reuben Millar, a good bass singer, an excellent student and a noble young man in every respect. We also enrolled that prince of good fellows and true gentleman, Henry Young. He always has been a true friend to the University. Pearson, Sinclair and Young joined the Philomathean society, Miller the Franklin society.
School Year 1873

N.D.

CHAPTER 48.

This year, 1873, a host of Wyandot county students entered the Normal. Many became prominent in the history of the school and especially prominent in their respective societies. The Miss Hartels, Ezra and William Foucht, J.W. Myers, W.C. Kayler, Josephine Moffet, Mary A. Marsh, L.A. Wagoner, Lewis Larquib, and Will C. Pontius, one of the best musicians that ever entered the university. The Fouchts, Wagoner, Pontius and Miss Moffett joined the Philos. Mary A. Marsh, W.C. Kayler and others joined the Franklins. Jerome Jones, then of Caledonia, now a prominent and wealthy citizen, of Warsaw, Ind., entered the winter of '72-3. Ella Hertz, G.W. Kemerer, G.W. Knisely, Sam Morrell, Lizzie Mooney, J.C. Owens, E. Phillips, Cynthia Rhinehart, J.L. Sherrick, Lydia Obenour, J.W. Obenour and the Ridenour boys, of Lima, one now a prominent attorney residing in Lima, S.A. Sellars, M.Sponsler, the Steiner boys, of Bluffton, W.A. Vinson, C.L. Ward, Allen Williams, W.S. Woodard, the fine penman, later teacher in the Normal, John Lanning, Jennie Lidy, a friend of Prof. Niesz, W.A. Smith, later a teacher in the Normal, Harrison and Hester Weyer, Lizzie and Mattie White, G.R. Mell, Ella Hill and D.H. Wentz.

E.W. Gilbert, Lena Reece, Ida Ahlefield, Anna Lehr, Sarah Sellick, and many others entered the music department of the school. I could place nearly all the above named students in their respective societies, but I will not weary the reader.

The Spring term opened fairly well. A number of new students entered school.

The Franklins captured most of the new members. My niece, Ida Lehr, was accused of not soliciting fairly. That term we had the first society trial. Miss Ida Lehr proved herself innocent of the charge. I think the Franklins elected nineteen members the first night and Miss Lehr had secured fully three-fourths of the members.

The attendance the Summer term of six weeks was small.
The trustees had settled with the contractors, but we had not settled with the trustees and refused to settle until the roof would be repaired in a satisfactory manner. We notified the citizens that we would close the school unless the house would be completed and a new roof put on the building, and we meant what we said. Prof. Niesz declared he would leave. It was ascertained that I had a good offer at Auburn, Ind., and that I meant to accept it. Prof. Park intended to quit. The citizens called a meeting and twenty seven proposed that if we would complete the building and put a new roof on the building and would go on with the school they would endeavor to collect some of the unpaid subscriptions and that they would pay off the liens on the building and that the trustees would give us a receipt in full for all the subscriptions that we were to pay back beginning in five years from August, 1871. We accepted the proposition.

The next morning G.W. Rutledge and the writer started out to borrow money. The first man we went to see was Mr. Tabor. We found him at work in a field, some distance from his residence. When he saw us coming he called out, "No nearer, pray. I want neither wind pump, lightning rods, books or patent medicine." But on we went and told him our mission. He had no money to spare. We had a long hunt. I remember we got the loan of some money from O.P. Wilson, later, the brother-in-law of Prof. Park. We borrowed from various parties about $800. We put a new roof on top of the old roof and it has been a success.

The trustees gave us a receipt, in full, for all subscriptions. I do not know what has become of the document. P.W. Stumm, Esq., drew up the paper. I had to show it frequently to lawyers and subscribers.

I do not remember all the names of the twenty-seven who assumed the old debts, but will give those that I remember. E.W. Gilbert, George Thomas, E.E. Bauman, Jack Ballard, Jacob Leinard, C.E. Stumm, P.W. Stumm, Wm. Grafton, Chris, Henry, and Wm. Young, Chris Ries, L.W. Reece, Frank Urich, Reed Carr, Frank Urich, Reed Carr, Frank Ream, Ben Elberson, and others whose names I have forgotten.

As I now remember those days were the happiest in my life. I now felt sure that one of the cherished objects of my life would prove successful. I had not the least doubt as to the final success of the enterprise. I had worked faithfully seven long years for my "Rachel" but owned only one-sixth of her. As I write this, tears unbidden force their way down my face.
The roof and repairs cost us $920.30 as per my records. We at once prepared the new catalog for publication.

Our first catalog was printed in Kenton by A.W. Miller. At that time Ada had no local paper. In 1872, Bent. L. Thompson began printing a local paper. He printed our catalogs in 1872 and we gave him the job in 1873. We ordered only 2000.

I can say and ought to say that every editor of the Ada papers, whatever the name of the publication, has been a true friend of the school. The school owes much of its success to the support given it by the various editors of the Record and what is now known as the University Herald. And none have been more loyal to the town and school than the present editors, Agner Welsh, Editor of The Ada Record and Pralett & Snyder, editors of the University Herald. Welsh publishes a No. 1 local paper, clean and fair to all parties, and the Herald is the ne plus ultra school journal of the United States. For many years I kept in touch with many of the college publications that I might learn what I could from them in the line of school work, and I found none equal to the Herald. It is newsy, full of quaint humor, choice selections, tells of the students of the olden days and is always loyal to the University.

After settlement with the trustees, I wrote to Hon. T.W. Harvey, State Commissioner of Schools and to Supt. Robert C. Stevenson of Columbus informing them of the cheerful outlook. Both advised me at different times to give up the project and re-enter public school work. Mr. Harvey delivered a lecture before the students some time in May. He said I would never succeed. He said he tried private school work at Republic, Seneca Co. He stated the communities were always anxious to have some one or some parties engage in an enterprise and would encourage it at first but later on would let the projector stick and help himself as best he could. He referred me to several failures in private school enterprises. Joshua Nickerson, the agent who sold us the furniture for the first building, said to me before the floors were all laid, "Lehr, you will never live to see these rooms all filled with students. It will take too long to drain the swamps of Northwestern Ohio." I also wrote him a letter. Hundreds of thousands of people now know the result.

During the year, Hon. T.W. Harvey, J.W. Walker, Esq., J.H. Williams, and Rev. I.G. Hll delivered lectures before the students. The Spring term closed with the usual society contest. The hall was crowded on both sides, and strange to say, it was easily proven that each society came off the victor.
The Normal term was small, Prof. Park was still in college, Prof. Niesz took a vacation and again left the school in my charge. During the Spring and Normal terms I find on my records that classes were taught by G.W. Rutledge, C.W. Butler, Mollie Schoonover, and A.R. Huffman. Rutledge and Miss Schoonover heard classes in mathematics, Butler and Huffman in Latin.

July 28, 1873, closed the second year of the North Western Ohio Normal School and a period of school work of the writer of these reminiscences, in Ada, Ohio, of seven years and nearly four months.
Third Catalog School Year 1873-74

June 16, 1905, V. XXIII, No. 4: 1-2

CHAPTER 49.

The third catalog, published in 1873, showed that the enrollment of different students for the second year had been 281, seven less than the first year.

Prof. Niesz resigned. He said he could not afford to teach for so little pay and a continual outlay for repairs, apparatus, books, etc. Prof. Park and I agreed to pay him a small rental. The arrangement of the new catalog was changed materially. There was no longer a Board of Trustees.

Faculty

H.S. Lehr, President
B.F. Niesz, Vice-President and Treasurer
J.G. Park, Secretary and Librarian

Board of Faculty

H.S. Lehr, A.M. Greek, Moral and Mental Philosophy, and Normal Department
B.F. Niesz, B.S. Mathematics, Natural Sciences, German and Book-keeping
J.G. Park English Branches, Mathematics and Latin
C.E. Rowley Vocal Music, Elocution, Voice Culture
Mrs. Hattie Rowley Piano, Organ and Melodeon
D.S. Pence Drawing, Plain and Ornamental Penmanship
G.W. Rutledge Assistant in Mathematics
C.W. Butler Assistant in Latin
Mollie Schoonover Assistant in Mathematics
A.R. Huffman Assistant in Latin

We published the name of Prof. Niesz as one of the instructors as the catalog was ordered before he had fully determined to resign.
We sent advertisements to the Kenton, Lima, Findlay and Wyandot Co. papers, announcing the opening of the fall term as we were late in getting out the catalog on account of the delay in making our final settlement with the trustees. The school was divided into three departments, Literary, Commercial, Music.

Tuition remained the same in the Literary department as the year before, but there were changes in the rates of the Music and Commercial departments. I will only quote what was said about rooms and boarding.

Rooms.

There has been a scarcity of rooms heretofore. Our facilities are now so that all can be accommodated with good rooms. The boarding hall erected by Mr. Rutledge has fine rooms for either rooming or self-boarding. Hereafter the hall will be under the control of the president of the faculty.

Boarding.

Good boarding can be obtained in private families, everything furnished at from $2.75 to $3.50 per week. Those renting rooms can secure good table boarding at from $2.00 to $2.50 per week. Club boarding has been costing but $1.60 the present term. The boarding club will be in operation every term in the year.

Board was higher than in Ada that it is today. When Prof. Niesz resigned, I was elected treasurer. I looked after the advertising and the correspondence, so I was actually the corresponding secretary, but was not then so published.

The fall term opened quite well. The resignation of Prof. Niesz put more of the heavy work on Prof. Park and myself. Prof. D.S. Pense took charge of
Penmanship and he and Prof. Park of the Business department. Later Prof. Pence took charge of that department.

The fall term began Monday Aug. 11. On Thursday forenoon an unusual occurrence took place. I taught the Teachers' Training class and the class in Reading before Chapel. After Chapel, I heard the class in Ray's Practical Arithmetic, the next class in Grammar and next the finishing class in Ray's Higher Algebra. That term I taught the class in Geography in the afternoon. I was crowded with work and collected the tuition as best I could. While the arithmetic class was at the board I kept on writing receipts. I had no private secretary. I laid my pocket book on the desk while listening to the explanation of the solution of the problems and while hearing the grammar class, someone stole my pocketbook. I missed it while teaching the algebra class.

Charles Dobbins told me that W.S. Firestone had passed by my desk near the close of the recitation in Arithmetic and went to a window and threw out something, he knew not what and left the room at the close of the recitation but came back for the next recitation. He said Firestone has your money, some prominent Philos blamed a prominent Franklin who had been seen at my table. Miss Louisa Cope declared that she saw Mr. _____, a prominent Philo, take the pocket book from my table, Miss Hester Meyer saw a certain student pick up a book but could (not) say as to the pocket book. I looked up the reputation of Firestone who resided about two miles from Ada. I found that his reputation was not the best. I counted up the receipts and found that I had taken in some over $750 that morning but could not tell how much money I had taken in the evening before after depositing in the bank. To ascertain that would take some time.

The next morning at chapel I said that a certain student was seen taking the pocket book and if he would return the money and notes, by dropping them in the postoffice before twelve o'clock that day I would not prosecute. Foolishly I stated that my book showed that I had taken in that morning some over $750. I asked Miss Cope the question, "Are you positive that you saw the young man, you named yesterday, take the pocket book off my table?" She replied that she was. I asked Miss Meyer whether she would testify as to what she saw. She replied that she would.

I then stated that both constables and several deputies were watching the guilty party and that was true. Prof. Pence and others assisted in watching. About 11:30 a.m. Firestone was seen going to the postoffice and dropping a
large envelope. The letter was at once brought by Prof. Pence and others. It contained just $750, but no notes. The money was wrapped in a part of a Canton newspaper. Some of the boys entertained Firestone while others started for his room. He suspected that there was trouble brewing. He got to his room just as Prof. Pence got there. The boys went along into the room and behind his trunk was found the other part of the paper. Prof. Pence had the piece that had been wrapped around the money. They sent for me. I asked him for my pocket book and notes. He took me to the stave yard and there uncovered the pocket book containing the notes. He promised to bring me the balance of the money; but jumped on a passing freight that had made a short stop and left for the west.

Some one sent word to his father. He came to town and said that if I would not prosecute his son he would pay me the balance. I agreed to his proposition and the father paid as he agreed. In six years after this occurrence, Mr. Firestone in trying to save the life of a child in danger of being killed by a passing train, was himself caught by the engine and instantly killed. His death occurred at Massillon, O. Charles Dobbins alone saw the guilty party.

A number of new students entered during the school year 1873-4. I will name some of those that were most active in school work. Wyandot county added her full quota. Among those entering from that county were W.J. Smith, Mollie McNerny, Philos; W.J. Pool, a Franklin, Agnes Vanordal, J.R. Patton, Amanda Straw, J.W. Walton, M.M. Hollinshead, Isaiah Walton, B.W. Bowers, W.T. Henderson, A.J. Kear, T.J. Schug, were Franklins; F.P. Castanian, Elder lacy, Louisa Cope, Lou Bowers, W.A. Bowman, C.A. Burke, and Ida Burke were Philos. There may have been others from that county but I do not now recall them.

Cyrus Morley entered this year. Every old Philo will remember him. One night he became very angry at society. Lizzie Mooney read the Philo Star. The notice read like this, "A grand opening at the Gardner Club tomorrow morning. Cyrus Morley will open his mouth to eat potatoes." He was fighting mad.

As I now remember, Nonie Gilbert belonged to the Juvenile Music class the Spring term of 1874 and joined the Franklin society. She was a valuable member, none better or more loyal. She was secretary of the Alumni association, I think four years, probably longer and was the most efficient secretary the association ever had. She was a model student in every respect and always a true lady. She now is Mrs. Stevens and resides in Cleveland. Her husband, a loyal Philo, and also an excellent gentleman, is Principal of one of the city ward schools. When visiting Cleveland in 1904, I made my
home with the Stevens family, and no father could be treated more kindly and affectionately than the treatment according me by the Stevens family. They have a lovely daughter, and a happy, cheerful home. Nathanial R. Pifer, later a noted politician, entered that year. We also enrolled E.D. Johnson, Alice Adams, John Blosser, O.H. Balyeat, Flora Bender, Amos Beardsley, A.C. Beiler, Sadie A. Cummings, E.W. Charles, Tom W. Carson, T.J. Davison, W.P. Dempster, Jacob Driver, the Misses Davison, Hiram Day, Alice Diehl, J.J. Edgington, W.E. Fiser, Candace Ferrall, Jacob Fridaker, Sue Fogle, Lou and Alva Gardner, both ardent Philos; Emma Goble, Emma Huey, Lucinda Hassan, W.D. Humphrey, W.C. Looker, Aaron Miller, J.K. Mustain, B. Reeves, Frank Morrison, John D. Neely, A. Pifer, J. Swain, S.J. Reiter, W.R. Seigle, Ruth Stevenson, Jasper Sutton, W.K. Stringfellow, W.T. Henderson, W.G. Heininger, Frank M. Houser, Alta Hover, Sallie Jones, the Johnson boys from Green Camp, Hunter Kyle, C.D. Kelley, Emma Lynch, J.S. Trimble, Edwin Reikart, A.L. Shafer, K.E. Ehuster, Mafy Todd, Agnes L. Vanorsdall, a Wyandot co. Franklin, all three Philos; E.H. Wilson, J.N. Yankee, and John M. Reed an ardent Franklin. I think I could still tell which society each student joined that year.
CHAPTER 50.

Many incidents in the class room, in society scraps, and in government, might be related of the years 1873-4, but I will not tire the reader. I still have my class register of those years as we had no general office in which to deposit them. I may occasionally give the names of the members of some of the classes of those early years. The boys and girls of those years remember many incidents which I have forgotten. By permission I will here insert a letter from the Hon. Beecher W. Waltermire.

Mr. Waltermire's Letter

Findlay, Ohio, Sept. 21, 1904.

Dear Professor: Your letter of the 19th inst. at hand, and I am glad to look upon your familiar chirography again. I entered the O.N.U. in the fall of 1873, and remained until the Spring of '76. I remember one summer term we had only twenty-six pupils in the literary department, among whom were J.J. Houser, Mollie Dobbins, O.M. Bowman—who always looked toward the stars when debating—and I do not think we had much over 300 at any time when I was there. But in those old days, when there were sometimes not over four to six in a class, and each came in personal contact with the teacher—when each must have his lesson, for there was no way to shirk—I believe we got more benefit that it is possible to get in larger schools with large classes, even though the equipment in other
respects is greater. I think, in our mental philosophy and geometry class there were but five students. One of these used to commit his geometry and repeat it by rote and one day you changed the letters to figures, and he was lost. I think I do not need to tell you who it was. I have not seen him since Commencement. During the time I was there Prof. Richards came to us. If I remember correctly he had a school somewhere and the O.N.U. swallowed it, and gave him a place. Prof. Orr, who always talked through his nose, and was too dignified to suit the boys, came also while I was there. Prof. Pence, who had no hands, taught writing and drawing. There was much inspiration in the thought that a man with no hands had accomplished so much; and he was a constant object lesson, teaching the possibilities in man and encouraging others to overcome difficulties. Among the boys I remember best at that time were, Will Pontius, my roommate who always wanted to sing or toot the horn when I wanted to study. Wild as a deer, but yet as generous and open-hearted a lad as ever lived. A nature to do grandly right or greatly wrong. I have never seen him but once. E.L. Millar and I think, R.L. Millar, he with the wooded leg and tremendous bass voice. John Shanks, John Kemerer, Geo. Stringfellow--my opponent in debate--D.E. Niver, Spangler, etc. I never mixed much with the girls because I was too poor and too bashful. I
scarcely remember a half dozen girls in all the three years. I recall once when you were away the boys tore up the old board walk around the campus and threw it in the street. One professor wanted to search out the culprits and expel them instantly. You laughed it off as a joke, and said it needed a new walk, and we all got a lesson in patience. At another time when you mentioned in chapel, that you had some Worcester's unabridged dictionaries which were for sale, if any cared to buy, some of the boys climbed up in the night put a straw man on the summit of the tower of the old building, with a dictionary tied on his lap, and a large card in his hand, advertising dictionaries. Again some professor vowed vengeance; but the culprits escaped. It caused much excitement in town; for, from the various angles of observation, it presented many varied appearances. Some thought it a monkey or an ape, or a dog or other animal which had climbed up there, one of the ropes appeared at a distance like a long tail; and one the roomers where I stayed, actually believed he saw the tail wag and so knew it was alive. As to actual reminiscences which would be of interest in your history, I can't recall anything which seems to me of importance. I know most of us were obliged to hustle because we were limited in means and anxious to get through and get out and earn a dollar. I think most of the time I was there, I was
the youngest student in the school, (15 yrs. in '73). I got the impression someway that the school, like myself, was struggling for existence, hoping for better things by and by. That, like me, it was laying its foundation; and the thought was an inspiration to me. I seemed to have something in common with it. It may be something of a stretch of the imagination that there is a bond of sympathy between a struggling school and a struggling student, but I always was inclined to the imagination and romantic. I would rather send my child to a struggling school, if the teachers are capable, than to an endowed college, where there is no element of struggle in the management. There is something contagious in the struggle of the head of an institution which imparts itself to those about. It permeates the air.

I remember those old days with much fondness.

Your friend,

Beecher W. Waltermire
The Spring term of 1874 we had our first commencement. In later years we changed commencement to the close of the Summer or Normal term. There were eleven members in the class. Seven were Franklins and four Philomatheans. I have a program which will be given below.

PROGRAMME.

Anthem Gloria, from Mozart's 12th Mass. Choir

Prayer

Glee-We Hail the Glad Spring Time......................Choir
Salutory-I or What Shall We Live.....................C.W. Butler
Oration, Will Our Structure Stand?...............R.C. Eastman
Music.................................Ada Silver Cornet Band
Essay-As the Day so shall thy Strength be..........Sue Fogle
Essay-Mental Beauty.............................Metta Ferral

Music.................................Ada Silver Cornet Band Oration-
Visions of the mysterious.........................S.P. Gray
Essay-Act well your Part, there all the Honor lies,
........................................Sallie Lindsey

Music-Instrumental......................Mrs. Rowley

Oration-Make use of the Keys....................A.D. Snively

Oration-Intellect and Genius...............E.L. Sinclair
Music.................................Ada Silver Cornet Band

Afternoon
FAREWELL CLASS SONG

By Heaven's rich blessings we are brought
To see the present day,
And reap rewards, by labor sought
In years now passed away.
Our star of future hope is bright;
With joy our fond hearts swell;
Yet sorrow's tears may dim our sight
When we pronounce farewell.

'Tis here we've toiled to knowledge gain,
And thus spent happy hours,
That in our mem'ry we'll retain.
And cherish there as flowers.
We've had our petty trials too
That were thought sad to tell;
But if our future knows as few
We will in truth FARE WELL.

'Tis hard to tear ourselves away
From scenes we love so well,
For in this live we ne'er can say
What future days may tell.
We know not where our boats may land
In sailing o'er life's sea,
So as we take the parting hand
We'll say, farewell to thee.
Our life work scarcely is begun
This but the first degree
We hope another to gain soon
That truly earned will be.
With thanks to teachers, good and kind
Whose work hath been done well,
We join our hearts and join our hands
In this, farewell-FAREWELL.

Butler, Gray and Zeller were Franklins, and the
Misses Fogle, Lindsey Stayner and Schoonover were
Franks. Mr. Eastman, Miss Ferrall, Snively and Mr.
Sinclair were Philos.

C.W. Butler for many years was one of the leading educators of the state. He
is now residing at Defiance, Ohio, engaged in real estate business and other
financial business. He is said to be worth a $1,000,000 or more. R.C.
Eastman is a prominent attorney, living in Lima, Ohio. Metta Ferral is married
and lives in Findlay, Ohio. Sue Fogle and Annie Stayner died many years ago.
S.P. Gray resides in Indianapolis, is engaged in business and is succeeding
finely. Sallie Lindsey is married and I think she and her husband live on the
old Lindsey homestead near Upper Sandusky. E.L. Sinclair was living in Mich.
the last I heard from him. I do not know what his profession is at present, but I
think he is a minister of the Gospel. Mollie Schoonover, now Mrs. Hickernell,
for many years taught in the O.N.U. She had retired from teaching and resides
in Ada. A.D. Snively lived at Goes Station, O., and is a horticulturalist. J.W.
Zeller, a prominent educator of Ohio, has been superintendent of the schools
of the city of Findlay twenty-six years. He is one of the most popular educators
in the state.

On Saturday after commencement the class dined with the Lehr family, but
Mr. Zeller ate a lunch and left on an early train to go to De Graff to meet the
board of education. He was employed at a fair salary.

This closed the school year 1873-4. Many things have been left untold. To tell
all would fill volumes.
CHAPTER 52.

The printing of the catalog for 1873-4 with announcements for 1874-5 was awarded to Bert L. Thompson, editor of the Ada Record. I think our local paper was then called the Ada Record.

The enrollment for the year 1873-4 was 316 different students, a gain over the preceding year of 35. We were not getting rich on our income but we felt greatly encouraged.

Many changes were to be found in the new catalog. We published on the second page the,

BOARD OF MANAGERS

H.S. Lehr, A.M., president
B.F. Niesz, B.S., vice-president
J.G. Park, secretary and librarian
Lewis Rutledge

For the first time in the history of the school we announced that we would rent text-books. This announcement followed next to the Board of Managers. Prof. Niesz and Mr. Rutledge were not residents of Ada, but were joint owners in the school, and for that reason we said, Board of Managers instead of Faculty.

TEXT BOOKS AND BOOKS FOR REFERENCE

"Text-books and books for reference are rented at from ten cents to fifteen a term." I omit what was further said under this head. Next came the calendar for 1874-5. The school year began with the Summer or Normal term.

Calendar for 1874-5.

Normal session of six weeks commences Monday, June 15, 1874. Vacation two weeks.
Fall Session

Of thirteen weeks commences Monday, August 10, 1874. Vacation two weeks.

Winter Session

Of fifteen weeks commences Monday, November 23, 1874. Vacation two weeks.

Spring Session

Of twelve weeks commences Monday, March 22, 1875. No vacation.

Public Occasions.

Annual Reunion, Thursday, June 10, 1875.
Annual Address, Thursday, June 10, 1875.
Commencement Exercises, June 11, 1875.
Contest between the Literary Societies, Friday evening, June 11, 1875.

It will be observed that we made some changes in the length of the terms.

In this catalog we tried the college plan of arrangement into departments. Will give the various departments but not the remarks on the departments. It would make the story too long and would become too tedious.

Normal

H.S. Lehr, A.M., principal and professor of theory and practice of teaching, moral and mental philosophy and arithmetic.


D.S. Pence, professor of book-keeping, plain and ornamental penmanship.

C.E. Rowley, professor of elocution and voice culture.
Object of this Department.

Under this caption I endeavored to show the necessity of a full and complete preparation for the profession of teaching. The article is too lengthy to repeat in these outlines.

Classical.

H.S. Lehr, A.M., principal and professor of Latin and mental and moral philosophy.

J.G. Park, professor of Greek and the natural sciences.

G.W. Rutledge, professor of mathematics.

O.P. Wilson, teacher of German.

S.P. Gray, assistant teacher of Latin.

Scientific.

H.S. Lehr, A.M., principal and professor of physics, astronomy and analytical geometry.

J.G. Park, professor of natural sciences, logic and rhetoric.

J.W. Zeller, assistant teacher of mathematics and philosophy.

E.C. Eastman, assistant teacher of English grammar.

Miss Annie Stayner, assistant teacher of mathematics.

Civil Engineering

H.S. Lehr, A.M., principal and professor of physics, analytical geometry.

J.G. Park, professor of surveying and civil engineering and the natural sciences.
G.W. Rutledge, professor of mathematics.

Business

H.S. Lehr, A.M., principal and professor of mental and written arithmetic.

D.S. Pence, teacher of book-keeping and plain and ornamental penmanship.

Following the business department we had a lengthy dissertation on the importance of securing a business education, etc. I will copy what we said about Prof. Pence. "Who will fold his arms in despondency and say he can never become a good writer, or a good anything else, when D.S. Pence, without hands, teacher of penmanship and book-keeping, has become by energy and perseverance one of the most accomplished and successful teachers of penmanship in the state if not in the United States? The fact if losing his hands at an early age and the manner in which he holds his pen, would make it appear that he could not execute even if he understood the principles perfectly; but anyone who has seen him write or has seen him work will pronounce him a miracle. He can write the Lord's Prayer, so that it can be read with the naked eye, on the space covered by a gold dollar." We said much more about him under this caption but will not inflict any more on the readers of the Herald.

Music

H.S. Lehr, A.M., principal.

C.E. Rowley, professor of vocal music, voice culture and guitar.

Mrs. C.E. Rowley, teacher of piano, organ and melodeon.

We followed this department with lengthy remarks commencing with a quotation from Shakespeare. I taught no classes in that department that year. I need give no reason.

Telegraphic.
H.S. Lehr, A.M. Principal.

Isaac Diefenderfer, superintendent and instructor.

"This is a new feature which has just been added to the institution, and Isaac Diefenderfer, experienced operator and train dispatcher. His long experience in railroading," etc.

It will be seen that in this catalog we divided the Literary department into three separate departments, the Normal, Classical, and Scientific; and we added two new departments, Civil Engineering and Telegraphic. Considering the Literary department as only one we now had five departments, Literary, Civil Engineering, Commercial, Music and Telegraphic. The tuition in the old departments remained the same. Telegraphy, complete course, $25. Prof. Niesz rented his interest to Prof. A.B. Orr, a classical graduate of Mt. Union College and an A.M., but he was not as strong a man nor as good a teacher as Prof. Niesz. He was a fine scholar, an excellent singer and a fairly good teacher. He was kind and sociable. He roomed at the "Mike" George house on the corner of Ballard and Simon streets. The writer lived in the brick house due north, then the next door, now the second door. In the Fall of 1873, I sold my residence on the corner of Gilbert and Hoosier streets for $1,500 and bought the brick house on Simon Street that is now owned by Miss Jennie Scott. I paid $1000 for it and the next lot north, vacant at that time. We lived there till the Fall of 1875 when we moved on Main street in the first house north of the Christian Church. In the Spring of 1876 I borrowed $1000 from Nathan Ahlefeldt. He required no security. I bought the 80 acre lot west of what is now the Jacob Linard farm. The land was owned by a Mr. Rowland. He had bought a strip of land between the railroad and the Linard farm, then owned by John Dobbins. I did not have a dollar in the bank and had borrowed the $1000 for only a month. I managed to sell the 80 acre lot for what I paid for both pieces, and saved the strip south of the R.R. I have sold lots there to the amount of $1,500 and have some lots still for sale and a good pasture lot. Eventually a trolley line will be built parallel with the Penn. R.R. and lots on West Mill street will be valuable. The Linard farm will then come into market. The next real estate venture as I now remember was to buy the block of lots now owned by Mr. Deglar, Mrs. Kirkpatrick, Mrs. Millar and owners of other residences I do not know. I sold the lots at a gain of $700. Next bought the block enclosed by Peach Ave., Gilbert, Long and Union streets. Sold a 100 feet strip on the south side to Prof. Maglott for $525, a strip 80 feet wide for $200, and the two other lots on Gilbert street for $450 and still have 200 feet
left facing Union street. I paid $725 for the entire block. At various times I bought other lots and sold them at a profit. I also bought some lots in Kansas and did not sell all at a profit.
Students of 1874-75

August 4, 1905, V. XXIII, No. 11: 1-2

CHAPTER 53.

Prof. Orr had not been announced in the catalogue as a teacher, but we assigned him classes in Greek, Mathematics, etc.

A number of new students entered this year. I will name most of them and give the society which they joined as far as I remember. F signifies Franklin, P. Philomathean.

Names of new students for 1874-5. Maggie Kerr, F., Mattie E. Kiser, F., Frank Stahl, F., U.G. Stringfellow, F., Mr. Stringfellow at one time owned an interest in the Normal. He was a fine student, strong intellectually. He was a great Franklin worker. L.G. Smith, -, M.H. Woods, P., J.H. Barrick, F., Robert F. Black, F., Mr. Black is still a resident of Ada. He did excellent work in his classes. He was in school only a short period. He had great natural ability and should have taken a complete classical course. It was a loss to him and the state, that he cut short his preparation for life. Julia A. Bainbridge, P., R.R. Bryan, F., Mr. Bryan was eloquent and is now a prominent minister in the M.E. church. C.H. Barnes, F., he was always willing to help care for the sick. L.S. Cheney, P., D.O. Christy, F., Lottie E. Bloom, F., Frederick Maglott, P. He was a thorough student. Will have frequent occasions to speak of him. William D. Spangler, F., an excellent student, one among the strongest that ever entered the university. If I should select 100 I think he would come in the circle. He came from Auburn, Ind. About 1872, E.E. Williams and J.J. Wood, two excellent gentlemen, moved from Ada to Auburn, Ind. They at once became missionaries. In 1873 and ’74 they requested me to recommend teachers for the Auburn schools. I recommended Miss Mollie Schoonover and A.R. Huffman. They were well prepared for their work and gave good satisfaction. The result was that we enrolled a number of students from that part of Indiana. W.D. Spangler, George Hall, Franc Stahl and many others.

D.C. Anderson, F., J.W. McClintick, P., Clark Hagerman, -, B.F. Williams, P., O.M. Bosman and his sister Addie, both strong Franklins. The Bowmans were fine students. O.M. was a good singer and a great Franklin worker. He now resides in Kansas. B.W. Bowers, F., later Judge Bowers, J. Conklin, F., G.C. Luebohn, F., B.O. and Emmer Elliott of Logan county. In the early spring of 1875 a pleasant gentleman called to see me. He said his name was Asa
Elliott that he resided in Logan county, Ohio. He said that he himself had been a student at Lebanon and Northwood, that he had assisted in teaching at Northwood, that his brother Emmer was a student at Mt. Union at that time, but he was not entirely pleased with any one of the three schools just named. So he thought he would visit the Normal school at Ada. We entertained him at the Lehr home. He remain nearly two days. He appeared greatly pleased with the school, said he would send his brother at once, and later a sister and that he would influence others to come, all of which he did. Mr. Asa Elliott was a traveling man, selling school furniture. He sent us many students. He himself came later as a student. To my certain knowledge, by actual count, he sent fifty-two students to our school and doubtless influenced many others both directly and indirectly. Nearly all he sent became Philos. Emmer Elliot always was one of my favorites. In the language of the ladies, "He was just too lovely." He was loved by all the students even by the Franklins. He belonged to the first nine of the baseball club. The members of the club at that time were Prof. J.G. Park, catcher, Emmer Elliott, P., Pitcher, Prof. D.S. Pence, P., (no hands) short stop, bit A.C. Smith, F., of Cedar Valley, O., first-base, Frank Houser, F., now a Reverend, third base, J.J. Houser, F., second base. Those were Augustean days of the school.

That year we added the names of two excellent ladies, Carrie Flinn, F., and Estella Fersall, P. We also added a choice lot of Van Wert boys and girls. I well remember the morning they came into chapel, headed by W.T. Hughes and W.B. Jones. Hughes stands about 6 feet 4 inches possibly more. He and Jones reside in Van Wert and it is currently reported are amply able to keep the "Wolf from the door." Hughes, Jones and company joined the Philo society.

Mr. Summerset was one of the leading workers in the students prayer meeting and the Christian work. Emma Stayner, F., E.M. Turner, -., Eliza J. Turner, P., James S. Trimble, P., Jennie Agin, F., Mollie Bookmiller, -., Kate Bloom, F., Emma Clemens, F. Emma Clemens was a sister of the celebrated writer "Mark Twain." She was not as brilliant as her renowned brother. She remained in school only part of a term.


I presume I may have omitted the names of some new students and may have given the names of some who were students of former years
Many of the above named students I remember almost as well as though they had recited to me only a very short time ago. I could relate many circumstances in reference to students of those early years and recount society "fusses," but they would only interest the students of those days. In October, 1874, I received a letter from Prof. J. Frasie Richard, principal of the North Western Normal school at Fostoria, O. Sometime in the year 1870, Prof. Richard started a Normal school in the old academy building at Republic, Seneca county. I knew nothing of his project or work until 1872, after we had organized and named our school. I think it was in 1873 that he moved his school to Fostoria and taught in some of the city halls. The names being so near alike caused some little trouble. He wrote me a letter which I still have. I will send it to the editor of the Herald.

Prof. Richard's Letter

Fostoria, O., Nov. 19, 1874

H.S. Lehr, Pres't Normal School, Ada, Ohio

Dear Sir:
I enclose your copy of advertisement received this day through the Forum of Bucyrus. I was somewhat surprised that our school had so effectively "gobbled up" your institution. The mistake grows out of the similarity of names, a state of things for which I am not responsible. Our school was never in so good a condition. Hon. Chas. Foster, M.C., is substantial backing for the school, especially when he is sustained by the whole corps of business men in Fostoria.
I wrote him a kind letter, wrote just as kindly as I possibly could and told him there was room for both schools and all the work we possibly could do and invited him to come and see us. I kept a copy of my letter on file. It was not many months till we "gobbled up" the Fostoria Normal School.

In the winter of 1874 we had much society trouble. The Franklins claimed that one of the teachers was soliciting for the society to which he belonged before he began teaching. I will not give his name. There were charges preferred against him. He was a student as well as a teacher for he recited in several classes. I really believe him guilty but the evidence was not very definite. The Franklins were working at a disadvantage. Several strong Philos were members of the Public School Board. They had employed D.S. Pence who had been teaching for us, to superintend the public schools. The Franklins claimed that Mr. Pence influenced the pupils in the union school in favor of the Philos and that two members of the Board of Education assisted in what they styled, "nefarious" work. They also claimed that some town pupils took a few music lessons or lessons in penmanship simply to join the Philo society. It looked to the faculty as though there was too much truth in the charge. But what could we do? We finally concluded to pass a new society regulation. I still have the entire proceedings and new regulations. I will send the original to the Editor of the Herald, but will not ask them to read or print the manuscript for it puzzles the writer to read what he wrote 31 years ago. It begins thus.

Office President, N.W.O.N. school, Ada, Ohio, Jan. 25, 1874.

All the members of the faculty at present teaching in the N.W.O.N. school were present. The meeting was called to order by the Presidents and the following business was transacted.

1. The faculty regulations shall be so amended that it shall be optional with the faculty to permit students on first entering school and not connected with either society as full members to be taken into the
societies as at present prescribed, but if in the estimation of the faculty the best interest of the school and societies demand, it shall be the privilege of the faculty to divide the new students by lot and the faculty shall have the power to do so in that manner which they deem most just. And further that they may exercise this privilege at the beginning of any term or at any time during a term; but this article shall never be so construed as to include members already legally and justly belonging to either society when such division shall take place.

Second. Old faculty regulations omitted in part.

1. Only students of the N.W.O.N. school can be regular members of either society. 
   Explanation.

2. No persons but those reciting to the faculty or those reciting to student teachers who give their name to the faculty and pay full tuition in advance for the entire term in at least one branch shall be considered students of the N.W.O.N. school.

3. Student teachers are those who are students in the N.W.O.N. school, but teach one or more classes and are under the same regulation as other students, but as teachers of a class or class, have no right nor the privilege of soliciting new members either directly or indirectly, neither by work or by letter. If at any time a student teacher solicit for his or her society the faculty will deal with the offending teacher
as the circumstances may demand.

Third. The faculty respectfully request that both societies will embody the substances of the new regulations in their respective constitutions and in the conjoint regulations or articles.

Signed--Faculty of N.W.O.N. school.

One of the societies embodied the spirit and the words of the article in an amendment to the constitution with the tacit understanding to record the same when the sister society would take the same action, but the other society refused at a stor... session to add such amendment to the constitution. The movement however did not have a salutary effect. It was claimed that some parties had furnished the money for some of the town boys and girls to take penmanship or a few lessons in vocal music in order to become members of society and it was also ascertained on examination that some parties had their names on the registers of some student teacher who had not paid any tuition. We threatened but never divided any of the town students by lot.

It was the desire of the faculty that the citizens of Ada should be divided equally in society affiliations as nearly as possible. The movement had its effect and for some time there was less scheming in the line of the union school pupils.

Some classes during the school year were quite large. The reading class the fall term had forty-one members. Will not give their names as I intend to give the names of several classes the next school year.

The second commencement came and went. It was pronounced a great success. The hall was crowded all day and especially at the contest between the societies. Reserved seats were brought by parties coming from a distances at the rate of a dollar a seat.

I will insert the entire commencement program. The salutatory and valedictory again, by the alphabetical arrangement, fell to the Franklins. There were five
Franklins and five Philos. It was a fine class as are all the classes that graduate from the "great school."

C.W. Butler was again a member of the class. In '74, he completed the Teachers or Normal course, in '75, the Scientific course. As was stated before, he was a fine scholar and gave great promise of the future usefulness. The Franklin society can be proud of such members.

Miss Lottie Bloom, now Mrs. C.W. Butler, was and still is a loyal Franklin. She was handsome, accomplished and winsome, an excellent student, loved by all and especially by Butler. So the society paper, the Franklin Gem, frequently stated. The society papers never exaggerated.

Miss Ollie Dobbins now Mrs. Loveland was a Philo and doubtless is as loyal to her society as ever. She was a thorough student, a hard worker and a true lady. She was honest in society soliciting. No one would ever accuse Ollie Dobbins of unfair or dishonorable work. She was a member of an excellent and highly respected family. Her father was a true friend of the school and made many sacrifices for it. I shall ever have a kind word to speak for both the Dobbins families. None better.

Miss Emma Johnson, of Lima, a Philo, was thorough scholar and a true lady. She was the daughter of a prominent minister in the Presbyterian church. She had crossed the Jordan and is now in the promised land.
Miss Mollie McNerney, of Upper-Sandusky, was a Philo, true and loyal. She was a thorough scholar in all the branches she had studied. She was sociable, amiable, affable, and agreeable companion and a true friend. She had many friends among the students. She married Melvin DeLisle. They now live in Oklahoma, at least they lived there in 1902. She was then teaching in the Territorial Normal school. She is a fine teacher. N.R. Niesz, the handsome man of the class, was by nature and culture a gentleman. He was practical and energetic, and possessed the initiative element in a high degree. The last I heard from him he was in Oregon and was succeeding finely in business. He was a fine conversationalist and a social leader. He was a nephew of Prof. Niesz. He was a charter member of the Franklin society.

A.C. Pierson was the poet of the class. In literature, as a student and teacher, he ranked with Irish, Workman, Clara E.L. Myers and Prof. John Davison. He was not inferior to any of the quartet. He was a true friend and a Christian gentleman. He died many years ago. He was a Philo.

John M. Neid was thorough scholar, a good debater, and also possessed in a great degree, of what I call the initiative. He is somewhere in the great west. He was a Franklin and loyal to the O.N.U.

G.W. Rutledge was a Philo of the Philos. He talked, walked, slept and dreamed Philomatheanism. He would make almost any sacrifice for his society and he made many sacrifices for the school. He was a fine essayist and no better teacher, by nature, ever stepped into a school-room; but he could not content himself at the calling. He now resides in Columbus, Ohio, and is in the state auditor's office. The valedictorian was O.P. Wilson a charter Franklin and a leader in his society. He did thorough, honest work in his classes and was thoroughly reliable. He was so fortunate as to capture one of the Franklin beauties, a real Franklin gem. He is a fine civil engineer. He resides in Kenton, O.
Forenoon

Anthem-Father, Oh Hear Us..............................Choir

Prayer.

Glee-Star of Descending Night..........................Choir

Salutatory-Weave and Win.............................C.W. Butler
Essay-The Wheat and the Chaff.....................Lottie Bloom
Grand Valse-De Concert Tito Mattell..............Mrs. Rowley
Essay-Danger of Greatness.........................Ollie Dobbins

Essay-Progress of American Literature..........Emma Johnson
Music-Bonnie Sweet Bessie, the Maid of Dundee, ..........Lilly Munn
Essay-The Workman Dies but the Work goes on, ........Mollie McNERney
Oration-We Want More Light.........................U.R. Niesz Music-Memories
Refrain............................................Quartet

Afternoon

Anthem-Israel's Sons with One Accord.............Choir

Oration-Voices from the By and By.................A.C. Pierson

Oration-Nothing is Lost............................J.M. Reid
Music-"Hear Me, Norma"..............................Duet

Oration- Beautiful Things of Earth..............G.W. Rutledge
Valedictory Oration-Let There be Light............O.P. Wilson
Music-Give Me My Own Native Isle............Quartet

Address

To Senior Call and Students.......................Rev. F.C. Reed

Address
Presentation of Diplomas..................Pres. H.S. Lehr
Farewell Class Song...............................Original

Class of 1875.

C.W. Butler, Conchran, Ohio; Lottie Bloom, Plymouth, Ohio; Ollie Dobbins, Ada, Ohio; Emma Johnson, Lima, Ohio; Mollie McNerney, Upper Sandusky, Ohio; T.R. Neisz, Kentland, Ind.; A.C. Pierson, Kenton, Ohio; J.M. Reid, North Manchester, Ind.; G.W. Rutledge, Ada, Ohio; O.P. Wilson, Ada, Ohio.

Parting Song
By A.C. Pierson

Softly born upon the breezes,
Echoes sadly breathe the strain
Whis'pring to the list'ning angels
"Parting hours have come again."
School-mates list! the voice of duty
Calls us to the field of toil;
Flowers wave, and harvests glisten,
In the world's prolific soil.

Chorus: Gently, school-mates, gently sing it;
Sweetly breath the sad refrain
For the ling'ring echoes whisper-
"Parting hours have come again."
We must work if we would enter
Into the eternal land,
Labor always is rewarded
By the Master's mighty hand.
May our hearts and hands grow stronger
In the service of the Lord,
And our lives be counted worthy
To receive that great reward.
Chorus:-
School-mates we have borne the labor,
We the irksome toil have shared,
Go we then with sharpn'd sickles,
For the harvest work prepared.
Fare-ye-well, but may our parting
Lessons on our hearts impress,
And the toils of the hereafter
God our Holy Father bless.

Chorus:-

Thus closed another school year in a halo of local glory. Many were the
encomiums pronounced on both class and management. At the train on
Saturday morning, many tears were shed. This year one of the students Mr.
John Ohler of Roundhead, died. The previous year, John D. Neely, of
Roundhead, died. Their deaths injured school in that locality for several years.
CHAPTER 56.

As I open catalog No. 5 and look at the board of trustees I am reminded that I forgot three important incidents in the history of the school year 1874-5. The first and probably the most important is that in the spring of 1874, Prof. B.B. Niesz sold his one third interest in the school to J.J. Wood. I do not remember whether Mr. Wood still lived in Auburn, Ind., or whether he had moved to Dunkirk, O. Mr. Wood had great faith in the final prosperity of the school. Later he sold a twelfth interest to G.W. Rutledge. Then Prof. Park owned a third, G.W. Rutledge a fourth, J.J. Wood a fourth and H.S. Lehr, a sixth. Mr. Wood employed Miss Mollie Schoonover to represent his interest in the school. I never learned how much salary he paid her.

The second incident I forgot to mention is that some time during the winter of 1874, Mr. Rutledge came to me and said the Philos intended to have a reunion commencement week. He wanted to know what day and evening they could have. A day, and evening were granted them for the reunion. I was solemnly asked not to reveal the secret to the Franks. I promised to say nothing about the matter. They knew nothing of the project till the Philos announced the reunion. Then there was a blaze of excitement in the Franklin society. They asked for a day and evening. The same was granted them, but I advised them to announce a Triennial reunion in the catalog for the next commencement week. The plan pleased them greatly. They would have a whole year to prepare and the reunion would be advertised in the catalog. They claimed scoring a victory; the Philos claimed the victory because they were in the field first. The Philos were pleased that I kept their secret, the Franks that their reunion would be announced in the catalog and "Lehr" escaped criticism. The Philos were happy, the Franks were pleased and Lehr went on with his work trying to build up the school. The third incident forgotten is that in the school year 1874 we had our first Commercial graduates. They were Rueben Miller, of Bluffton, O., and W.D. Woodard, of Kenton, O., now a highly respected citizen of Ada. I might also remark that in our first graduating class, two of the members were from Michigan and not one from Ada; in the second class two were from Indiana and three from Ada. Mr. G.W. Rutledge was now a citizen of Ada. I mention this last fact, to show that the school was
already getting a reputation away from home. There was little if any time for
rest during vacations.

The number of different students enrolled the school year 1874-5 was 357, a
gain over the previous year of 41 students.

Board of Trustees--H.S. Lehr, A.M., President; J.G. Park, Secretary; J.J.
Wood; Lewis Rutledge.

Mrs. Lewis Rutledge died two days before commencement, about the time the
catalog still announcing his name as a trustee or manager of the school, was
ready for distribution.

Board of Instructors--H.S. Lehr, A.M., Principal; J.G. Park, Miss Mollie

Assistant Instructors--Miss Lottie Bloom, J.M. Reid, G.F. Henry, E.W. Foucht,
Will H. Pontius.

Calendar for 1875-6-the length of the terms remained the same as the year
before, each term beginning a day earlier.

Public Occasions-The Triennial Reunion of the Franklin

Literary society will occupy the whole of the day and evening of June 8, 1876.

Commencement exercises, June 9, 1876. Contest between the literary
societies, Friday evening, June 9, 1876.

Tuition remained the same as the previous year.

We again adopted the college plan of publishing the names of respective
teachers at the head of each department and having the name of the principal
at the head of the list of teachers of that department. I did not like the plan and
never after the year 1875-6 used it.

I will not publish the various departments as they were the same as the year
previous. The remarks following the announcement of the departments were
very much the same as the year before.
In college circles there was much opposition to Normal schools. This was owing very much to two causes. The main cause was the boast of some of the Normal schools located in Ohio and Indiana that twice as much work and even more could be done and was done at their schools as was done in colleges in the same length of time.

Another cause why Normal schools was disliked by colleges, was their rapid growth. It was envy. To offset this feeling as much as possible we asked several prominent ministers of the Gospel, of different denominations, to write testimonials which we published in the catalogue for 1875-6.

We especially prized the one given by Rev. J.W. Hill. Dr. Hill is now a resident of Ada.

Opinions of prominent Ministers of different denominations concerning the Northwestern Ohio Normal School.

Having visited the Northwestern Ohio Normal Institute, located in Ada, Ohio, I take pleasure in recommending it to such as may desire to fit themselves for teaching, or prepare themselves for some of the higher college classes; and having a personal acquaintance with Prof. H.S. Lehr, who has charge of the institution, it is enough for me to say that his energy and acquirements have brought the school to its present prosperous condition, and his continued presence guarantees the continuance of its prosperity.

I.G. Hall

Rev. I.G. Hall has charge of the Presbyterian church of Kenton, O.

Reasons why the Northwestern Ohio Normal school should be liberally patronized-To my mind one of the best reasons why this institution should be patronized is, God is in it and with it. The Faculty recognize God over all and in all. Bro. H.S. Lehr, the president, is strictly religious. He is constant in business, fervent in spirit serving the Lord. He takes God into partnership in his responsible
duties as teacher and superintendent. Hence he has the work at heart, and the moral and intellectual culture of his pupils is sought with a zeal worthy of the cause of human elevation. Having been intimately acquainted with the school for several years, I have always been forcibly impressed with the moral and religious tone of every oration, recitation or address delivered by the students. God in the Faculty, God in the orations, and God in the songs, should give the school preferment in the estimation all lovers of pure morality and an exalted faith in God. The morality to her students is as safely guarded in this school as they could possibly be in any school in the land. No parent need hesitate to send his son or daughter to this institution. Though God and morality are the crowning glory of the Northwestern, yet it is not sectarian. Every one enjoys the largest liberty of conscience consistent with practical Godliness.

The Northwestern is situated on one of the leading railroads in the state, affording excellent ingress and egress to students. Ada itself is a beautiful village of about fifteen hundred inhabitants, with four churches, a fine union school, with stores and groceries affording every convenience in trade. The citizens of Ada are united, generous and industrious. The morals of the place, like the school, are good. The ladies, with the generous support of the citizens wiped out the last whiskey den, during the memorable crusade, and we may hope under the quickened activities and healthy tone of the temperance people of the place, no whisky shop can henceforth live and breath in the atmosphere.

The Ada Normal should be patronized on the score of gratitude. The whole community owes Bro. Lehr a debt of profound gratitude. Through his indomitable labors and self-sacrificing devotion to the cause of education, the Northwestern has attained an honorable existence. The institution has already achieved a prestige and won a renown which gives her a place among the first institutions in Northwestern Ohio. The Northwestern is no longer an experiment but a fixed fact in history. Give her the patronage which she deserves and a golden future awaits her.

J.W. Hill, Adrain, Ohio.

Rev. J.W. Hill had charge of the M.E. Church of Ada three consecutive years.

The Normal school at Ada, Hardin county, Ohio, H.S. Lehr, principal, is a monument of industry and perseverance. A few years has witnessed the growth of a large and flourishing school, well disciplined and running in the grooves of modern institutions of the kind. A fine college building, of excellent architecture complete in all its appointments, adorns the fine site chosen by its founders. We take pleasure in bearing this testimony to the worth of the school, and can assure parents who wish to give their sons and daughters a normal education, that a better school, provided with better facilities for instruction in all departments, cannot easily be found. We write from personal observation. The large class of
excellent teachers, who have already gone out from its halls, are impeachable witnesses of its value.

G.M. Kemp, Lima, Ohio.

The Northwestern Ohio Normal school, at Ada, Ohio, is one of the best of its kind in the state. For thorough practical drill and healthy moral influence it can scarcely be excelled. It is with great pleasure that we give our influence to extend its well-deserved patronage.

I.N. Smith, Pastor
M.E. Church, Ada, O.

The Northwestern Ohio Normal school is a practical and enterprising institution, situated at Ada, Hardin county, under the auspices of President Lehr. It is rapidly growing into public favor, and while less pretentious in its advertisements that some other Normal schools of Northern Ohio, it is none the less thorough.

Wm. Dowling, Pastor
Church of Christ, Kenton, O.

One of the most important events in the history of the N.W.O.N. school occurred in the fall of 1875. Some time in September I received a letter from Prof. J. Fraise Richard, president of the Northern Ohio Normal School then located at Fostoria, Ohio. He invited me to visit his schools and told me what Hon. Charles Foster and other influential men and men of means intended to do for his school. I asked him to visit Ada. He did. Some how he had learned that I owned but a sixth interest in the school. He proposed to me to come to Fostoria, become joint president with him, I to do the financiering and he the advertising. I promised to visit Fostoria after the election.

I was president of the Republican club, which took some of my spare time, in fact too much for I was an ardent Republican. The night after the state election I started for Fostoria, arrived there about 6 a.m., went to a hotel, got breakfast and then hunted the residence of Prof. Richard. I found him hearing a recitation in a hall. Next came chapel in what I believe was called Foster hall. There was a fair attendance and of course the usual hand clapping. Some Democratic paper had given me a dig for taking such an active part in politics and President Richard intruded in into his introduction. I visited a few classes after chapel. The president then took me to a beautiful location near the town which he said he had selected for the location of a fine Normal school building which he said would surely be built.
In the afternoon while he was teaching I visited some of their stores, bank, etc., to learn the conditions of affairs. Mr. Foster was not at home. I soon found that the new school building was a mirage, a vision in the air. In the evening at supper I proposed that he should sell the school to us and come to Ada. Mrs. Richard was more than willing, she was anxious. I surmised that debts were pressing. In less than an hour we had contracted, but I told him I would have to refer the matter to my associates, but I was very sure that I could make them see the advantage of getting rid of a strong rival, and a school bearing nearly the same name. It would also give us a new story to tell in the catalogue and circulars. I was aware that a school could not be sold and bought like a herd of cattle, but I realized that Richard was a strong man and that he could and would bring many students with him. And he did and some very fine students, but more on that point hereafter.
Fostoria Normal School Purchased

N.D.

CHAPTER 58.

Some weeks later Prof. Richard came to Ada and we consummated the purchase of the School of Fostoria. I here submit the contract which I still have on file.

CONTRACT.

Article of Agreement.
Ada, Ohio, Nov. 6, 1875

Art. I. These articles of agreement witnesseth that H.S. Lehr & Co., representatives of the North western Ohio Normal school of the first part, agree to pay to J. Fraise Richard, of Fostoria, O., of the second part, twelve hundred dollars, on the 15th of Nov. 1875, for subsequent considerations.

Art. II. The party of the first part agree to pay to the party of the second part, all the proceeds which may accrue from tuition, (with the exception of penmanship and music) received from students whom the above said J. Fraise Richard of the second part may bring with him, or may induce to come by means of circulars, or by means of documents such as letters for catalogues, etc., now in his possession, and such as may come through his personal influence.

Art. III. The stipulations and conditions named in article second shall continue seven months beginning Nov. 22, 1875, after which time they shall become null and void. Further the tuition to be paid, named in article second, shall be paid as soon as collected by H.S. Lehr & Co., the amount of which will depend upon the number of weeks the students are in attendance and no more, and further all rebates if any, shall be settled by the party of the second part.

Art. IV. All other tuition shall be retained by H.S. Lehr & Co., of the first part.

Art. V. The party of the first part shall pay all expenses for advertising, ordered by them, furnished rooms in which to teach, fuel and janitor.
Art. VI. That J. Fraise Richard of the second part agree to use all his influence in inducing students to come to the N.W.O.N.S., and shall teach five hours per day during the seven months.

Art. VII. After the party of the second part has sent a circular to each one whose name he has in his possession, he shall turn over all names with their correct address, to the party of the first part.

Art. VIII. The advertising of the second part shall consist of circulars to the number of 10,000 the expenses of which the party of the first part agree to pay. The part of the second part shall also, in addition, make known the consolidation of the school through such papers as the party of the first part may dictate, the same to be done in all cases possible without expense to the party of the first part.

Art. IX. The party of the second part shall move from the town of Fostoria to the town of Ada between the 15 and 22 of Nov. 1875 and reside in the latter place for the period of seven months.

Art. X. The party of the second part does further agree that after the expiration of the seven months and thereafter that he will not start or be connected with any other normal school in this state or within one hundred miles from its boundaries.

Art. XI. This contract does not involve any pecuniary responsibility beyond the items specified in the documents itself.

Art. XII. If the said second part shall fail to comply with his part of the contract and to commencing at Ada and continuing during the time specified, then this document shall be null and void.

Art. XII. Any changes in the tenor of this document if such should occur, must be made by a conference of both parts.

First Part H.S. Lehr & Co.
Geo. W. Rutledge.
J.W. Park.
J.J. Wood.
Second Part J. Fraise Richard.

Received of Prof. H.S. Lehr, Treasurer of the Normal School, the sum of Ninety dollars and Eighty-two cents, in full of all accounts against said institution.

J. Fraise Richard.

Prof. Richard and Mrs. Richard were excellent teachers. They brought many fine students. Will here give the names of those whom I remember. Will also state the society joined. G.F. Getty, Philo was a fine student and has been very successful in life. Sadie C. Risher, Franklin, now Mrs. Getty. L.S. Keyser joined the Franklins after one of the hottest soliciting contests ever witnessed. O.M. Bowman was pitted against J.H. Shanks, G.W. Rutledge and others. Prof. Richard declared that two prominent Philos shed tears when Keyser was lost. When Mr. Keyser entered school he was an infidel or I might say an agnostic. The authenticity of the Scriptures was one of the questions discussed in the society of that term. Now Mr. Keyser is a minister of the gospel. He is also engaged in literary work and contributes to a number of magazines. He is strong in both the realms of prose and poetry. The title of one of his works is The Only Way Out. The plot of the work, the scenes and characters are all taken from his school life at Ada the one term he was a student there. The heroine is Miss Sadie Risher. I do not now remember under what name he introduced her, nor the name he gave me as one of the characters. The volume is in my library at Ada. The book plainly shows that he was led out of infidelity to accept Christ as his Savior while a student at Ada. Although not a graduate of the O.N.U., he is a strong friend of the school. He was an honest doubter. Albert Keyser, Franklin, was brought by Prof. Richard, also Mr. J.W. Pfouts, Franklin, and Miss Rose D.B. Holeywell and Miss Fannie Galbraith, both Philos and good students and true ladies. Miss Holey well was an ardent Philo worker, one of the best. In later years she taught in the O.N.U. At present she teaches in the city schools of Cleveland. Miss Golbraith teaches somewhere in Utah. I think M.B. Mohn, a Philo was a Richard student, but am not certain. He was a good student and a noble young man. Prof. Richard induced others students to come to Ada, but I cannot recall their names and fail to find the final settlement sheets among my papers. We have moved twice the last two years and I have not had time to rearrange my letters and papers and many are at my Ada home.
The school year of 1875-6 ... many strong students to the N... N. school. Among them wa... Agnew Welsh, the editor of the Ada Record. Ada knows him. It is really unnecessary to say anything in praise of him, but this I will say for him, he is one of the number whom I have found who does not forget a favor. He is trustful and strictly honest. He would not wrong a man out of a cent. May he ever prosper. I must not forget to say he is a Franklin, but always fair. With Welsh came Sylvester Price, a noble young man, one whom I always loved. His widow resided in Ada. He was a Franklin.

I must not name all the new students who entered the school year of 1875-6, it would make the story too long. I must in future only name those who took a prominent part in school as I now remember. That year Myrtle Maxwell and Minnie Maning entered school. They certainly were the best society solicitors that ever joined the Philo society, while I was president of the school. Good girls, but oh, so full of fun and mischief. Miss Maxwell married that big-hearted Philo, Stanley Woodruff. She died many years ago. Minnie Maning married that prince of good fellows, E.L. Millar, the wittiest Philo of all those years. Many terms he edited the Philo Star. It was a bright, shining star, under his management. He now resides in the city of Duluth at the head of the lakes. He is still an editor. Among the prominent new Philos were the Croninger sisters, Albert Hoover, of Hastings, Ford Lewis, from near Van Wert, Will H. Wagner, from Bucyrus, J.W. Culbertson, from Wooster, J.F. Kimerline, of Wooster, J.M. De Ford, C.A. Hawley, W.V. Chambers, Jackson Lones from near Lima, H.W. Smith, D.W. Williams, J.W. Ansley, Milton H. Bain, Monroe Davison, now an M.D., Bert Barksoll, Lawrence Crow, E.E. Drown, Allie Clippenger, later Mrs. Norace Nelson, she was very strong on the stage. Phoebe Evans, W.H. Evans, T.H. Elder, Michael Eggerman, later Hon. M. Eggerman, now of Washington D.C. with a $3000 salary. Maggie Fahl and the Misses Mollie and Nettie Gates, strong leaders in all line of work. Clara Hay, I think now Mrs. Prof. John Davison, residing in Lima. Any doubter can ask the genial Prof. J.S. Hamer, Ella Kimmear, of Cleveland, a fine musician and an elegant lady. She appeared to be the essence of innocence. The Larue brothers, great society workers, C.W. Lease, also an efficient member: J.B. Ream, now one of the substantial business men of Ada, like his father and
brothers an all around good fellow. I am not sure but that the daughter Mrs. Sheldon Shanks, and the host of brothers owed more of their goodness to the mother than the father. I knew her well. She was a real "queen of the household." Alice Surface, six or more Obenours, Edith Eastman, Anna Genette, S.A. Covert, of the Marion County Democrat. A.F. Stanley, now of Kansas. I am not sure whether he is now the ex-governor of Kansas, but if not the governor himself then a brother. Dora and Hessle Walters took music lessons that year. Mollie Pontius, Abbie Rankin, Jennie Ridenour, of Lima, M.A. Smalley of Upper Sandusky, an excellent performer and an ardent Philo. We still kept on our roll of students, J.H. Shanks, K.E. Shuster and G. V. Guyton, everlasting Philos. Possibly George Guyton has forgotten to which society he belongs, but J.N. Shanks will never forget where he belonged.

Among the new Franklins of that year are found the names of Emma Genrich, Emma Harper a leading student of those years, George Francis, the fine penman of whom I will speak later, Ewing Stumm, F.M. Pool, T.E. Stout, T.S. Thomas, H.V. Waltermire, Lou Barrett, Gilbert Bacon, Emmett Burnside, A.D. Cristy, D.O. Cooper, Crissie Cheney, Mollie Davenport, Esther Denyer, now Mrs. James Dobbins, residing in Ada, Sadie Dauffman, R. Lance, Ralph Diehl, O.B. Ellis, R.H. Gilvert; of Collamer, Ind. He was a strong student, but I could never learned to know him. He had his ups and downs in life, I have not heard from him the last twelve or more years. W.B. Gramlich, Mollie Hill, W.W. Jump, Samuel Wooley, J.F. McDole, a leading Franklin in all lines of work and one of those prominent students of those years. H.G. Peachey, of Bellville, Pa., brought many a student to the Normal and all became Franklins. He was a royal good fellow. D.W. Steiner then known as Davy Steiner, now D.W. Steiner M.D., and the most prominent bachelor of Lima. He is wealthy and wise, but has no heirs. The Franklin ladies will take notice that he is still in the market. Mollie Lindsey came this year. She was known as the Wyandot county beauty. She is now Mrs. O.P. Wilson. C.W. Gamble, Sue E. Reade, Libbie Reid, Nettie Lynn, J.A. Powell, of Findlay. He was the first of the Powells to enter the normal. Many followed later and I think all became Franklins. J.N. Richards, the fine singer, Celina Stevenson, I think now Mrs. W.D. Woodard, an estimable lady. Ellen Tuttle, now Mrs. F.H. Houser, Belle Young, R.A. Yoder, influenced many boys and girls to enter the normal and the Franklin camp. J.F. Kimerline, of Wooster and Libbie Reid and a Miss Winkler whom I named in a former year had been my pupils in Wayne county. Mr. Kimerline and Miss Winkler in 1856, Miss Reid in 1859. I had while president of the school very many pupils whose parents had been my pupils in Wayne Ashland and Stark counties and very many who had been students at Ada. Several students came to Ada whose parents and grandparents had
been my pupils, and speaking in a certain sense I am still a young man only sixty seven years old; but I began teaching in 1854, fifty-one years ago. Many of my pupils in 1854-5-6 were older that I and married in 1855, 6.

I must not forget to say that Will V. Chambers, of Van Wert was one of those students who took a personal interest in the welfare of both the school and his society. He could not have taken a deeper interest in the school had he owned an interest in it. I have had partners who took less interest in looking after the welfare of the school than Chambers, Zeller and others whom I could name, manifested. I also will remark that T.S. Thomas had to recite to me evenings for he had to begin in the first reader. He came to Ada from the Pennsylvania coal mines. He remained in school till he was a fairly good scholar. On his road home Mr. George Francis of Columbus, got into serious trouble. I will not relate what it was or how it ended. He was a fine looking student and an expert penman. A year or two later he figured in an election trouble in Columbus. It was charged by Republicans that the Democrats had employed Francis to change the returns and to assist in perpetrating various frauds. I have not heard from him, nor have I seen his name for over twenty years. He was pleasing in his manners and I loved the young man and have thought of him many, many times.
CHAPTER 60.

In the fall of 1875, a number of Philos, among the number G.W. Rutledge, came to me with a proposition to allow the societies to elect a salutatorian and a valedictorian; one year the Philos to have the salutatory and the Franklins the valedictory and the next year the reverse. It happened that the Franklins had in their membership the Butlers and Blooms, the Zillers, Zeiningers, Zebolds and O.P. and Samuel Wilson, all strong students and some likely to graduate two and three times in different courses. Some Philos hinted that there might be collusion in the alphabetical arrangement at commencement and the Franklins getting the B's, W's and Z's.

In the early days every graduate had to deliver an oration on graduation day and to avoid the envy arising from giving first and second honors, we arranged the program alphabetically. The societies in those early days each gave a pay entertainment, the last week except commencement term. One society on Thursday and the other on Friday evening, alternating by terms. Friday evening in those day was by far the best night. Students would flock in for that evening in fact for both evenings but especially for Friday, as they now do for the May military contest.

When we began to have commencements and an annual contest, it happened that Friday night, the fall term, which then was the boom term, fell to the Philos. The Franklins complained. The Philos now offered if we would permit the societies to elect honor men for the opening and closing orations they would alternate Friday evening the fall term of school with the Franklins. The faculty, a committee of the Philo society and a committee of the Franklin society met in my office one evening ... fall term of 1875 to make an agreement to that effect. My office then was in the southwest lower room in what was later known as "Poverty hall," but then as Rutledge hall. The proposed change or trade was consummated. The next year honor men would be elected by the societies for opening and closing orations at commencement and the fall term of 1876. The Franklins were to have Friday evening for the term contest. In the history of 1876-7, I will relate what occurred the fall term of '76.

One night, sometime in the winter term of '75-6, Mrs Lynn, who had charge of
Poverty hall, called me and requested that I would come over and see the boys. I went. It was about twelve o'clock. The boys had a moonlight parade. They were scantily dressed for a winter's night promenade. I went to the head of the stairs and as some were returning, I caught Will H. Wagner, in later years a professor at Findlay college, now a minister of the Gospel, also caught Mr. Richards, the sweet Welsh singer, and several others. I requested them all to meet me at my residence the next evening at 7 o'clock. They came. I talked to them about their treatment of such a lady as Mrs. Lynn and some of the lady students in the hall. Wanted to know what their mothers would think of such conduct, Mr. Richards, in Welshy English, interrupted me and said, "I would not have mother see me that way for $50; nor nor Mrs. Lynn for $10, nor you professor for $5." This was too much for Will Wagner. He roared out laughing and said, "Now you see Professor how he rates you." Richards tried to explain but it was said. The boys made many promises, went to their rooms and all but Richards would smile every time they met me.

Scores of incidents might be related but space and the patience of readers forbid. I will here insert the names of some of the classes of that year.

In referring to the register of Prof. Richard, I see that he brought with him from Fostoria in addition to the students already named C.F. O. Daffer, Philo, J.F.M. Lole, Franklin, Gilbert Bacon, Franklin, and M.B. Mohn already referred to above.


Will also insert the names of the Physical geography class taught by Prof. A.C. Pearson, the fall term of 1875. The classes in the common branches
were quite large. Prof. Pearson enrolled thirty-four in higher arithmetic B.


The D algebra class taught by Prof. Pearson had forty-two members; the second term Latin had ten numbers, class in parliamentary law had sixteen members. It had such students as B. W. Waltermire, H.V. Waltermire, W. B. Pool, S.A. Court, H.W. Gramlich, J.R. Walton, J.O. Walton, F.M. Houser, Ford lewis, J.F. Kimmerline, L.M. Bowers, A. Zinninger, M. Woods, L.J. Shetler, and several other familiar names.

The reading class taught by the writer had forty-one members the fall term of 1875. The arithmetic, grammar and geography classes were large. I state these facts, that later students may have some conception of their alma mater thirty years ago.

The commencement exercises of 1876 began with the Triennial reunion of the Franklin Literary society, Thursday, June 8. It was a success, as had been the Philo reunion of 1875. Commencement exercises were held June 9th.

GRADUATES 1876.

Classical--J.M. Reid, Ada, Ohio; Millie Schoonover, Ada, Ohio.

Scientific--O.M. Bowman, Lima, Ohio; Ollie Bobbins, Ada, Ohio; E.L. Millar, Kenton, Ohio; A.M. Tidd, Kenton, Ohio; B.W. Waltermire, Forest, Ohio; L.G. Wilson, Ada, Ohio.
Teacher's Course--Eliza Davenport, Ada, Ohio; Carrie Flinn, North Manchester, Ind; J.J. Houser, Hassan Ohio; Mollie Schoonover graduated with the class of '73, J.M. Reid with the class of '74, and Ollie Dobbins with the class of '74, in other courses that those named here.

I have already spoken of O.M. Bowman as a good student. He possessed fine natural ability. He had that suavity of manner that endeared him to teachers and students. As stated before, resided in Kansas.

I have also referred to E.L. Millar, once one of the editors of the Literary Casket edited and published by Rutledge and Millar. I have the papers on file, but not with me at present. I do not remember the exact date when first published. Later Millar and Thompson edited the Literary Casket as a School Journal. Still later about 1879 Millar and Thompson united the Literary Casket with the local Ada paper, called the Ada Commercial, and called the newspaper the Ada Record. They sold the Record to the present proprietor of the Record, Agnew Welsh. Mr. Millar then took charge of the Kenton Republican and is now editing a paper in Duluth, Minnesota. He also takes an active part in politics. When he entered school he was a Democrat. I have thought he changed his views in my class in political economy.

A.M. Tidd is practicing law in Kenton and is succeeding finely. B.W. Waltermire is practicing law in Findlay, O. He is also engaged in literary work, being the author of a number of popular works of fiction. He is the author of numerous beautiful poems and is one of the most eloquent lecturers on the American platform.

S.F. Wilson is in the far west making his fortune as a promoter. Eliza Davenport was a womanly woman, a true lady. She is married and resides somewhere in the far west. Carrie Flinn was a prominent student, a leader in her society and a social leader. She married an eminent physician, a graduate of an eastern college, I think it was Yale. J.J. Houser, a fine singer a good ball player, a thorough scholar, a true gentleman, in engaged in the profession of teaching. Rev. Berry, of Lima addressed the class.

The contest between the societies was spirited and excellent. The crowd was large, the cheering long and loud and as usual both Franklins and Philos were victorious as could easily be proved by scores of visitors. By the alphabetical arrangement the salutatory and valedictory commencement day would again have fallen to the Franklin as Mr. Bowman, Mr. Waltermire and Mr. Wilson were Franklins, but by the arrangement entered into at a joint meeting of
committees that each society should elect an honor man to represent the society, the Franklins had the valedictory and the Philos the salutatory. This is as I now remember the arrangement although I have no program of that commencement at hand. There were six Franklins and four Philomatheans in the class. Thus closed another school year, the fourth of year the Northwestern Ohio Normal School.
School Year 1876-77

N.D.

CHAPTER 61.

... instructors employed for the school year '76-7.

When very much crowded with work, we occasionally employed a student to teach a class or two. These students were very anxious to have their names published in the catalog. Students at various time offered to teach classes gratis if we would insert the name in the catalog as a teacher. Some wanted "mother" to see the catalog, other wanted to show the catalog to Boards of Education when soliciting positions for teaching.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.


BOARD OF INSTRUCTORS.


Instructors employed for the next school year.

H.S. Lehr, A.M.--Arithmetic, Higher Mathematics, Moral and Mental Philosophy, Political Economy, German and School Government.

J.G. Park, A.B.--English Literature, Rhetoric, Natural Sciences, Elocution, and Superintendent of Drills in Composition, Teaching, etc.

Miss Mollie Schoonover, A.B.--Algebra, Geometry, Latin and French.

M.J. Ewing, Assistant Instructor in Mathematics and Natural Science.
W.D. Woodard,--Book-keeping, Plain and Ornamental Penmanship and Drawing.

Mrs. Hattie Rowley,--Piano and Organ. Miss Mollie Dobbins, Assistant Teacher of Organ.


Prof. Robert Kidd, A.M.--Special Instructor in Elocution and Voice Culture.

Our sweet singer, Prof. Rowley resigned to go in the ministry. Mr. Pontius was elected to take his place.

The terms remained the same as they had been he last few years, but we raised the tuition some and made many changes in the courses of study.

PUBLIC OCCASIONS.

On the evening of June 14, 1877, there will be an address before the two Literary societies and a reunion of the Alumni.

Commencement exercises, June 15, 1877. Contest between the Literary societies, Friday evening, June 15, 1877.

The school year still closed with the spring term. In those days it was an easy matter to keep the students till after commencement.

The Normal term of six weeks began June 14. At the close of the short term there was a vacation of two weeks. From the time when I was eight years old till I enlisted in the army, I had no time for recreation. My parents were poor. As I stated before I became quill or school boy at eight. I never had time to hunt squirrels; occasionally would hunt or gather nuts to sell and went fishing possibly six or seven times. Began teaching and college life at sixteen.

I came home from the army about the last of May, '65. Took a few weeks off, but soon began work. Since April 1866, ten years, I had labored incessantly. I concluded to take about nine days to visit Niagara Falls, go down the Hudson, spend two days in New York, see the great Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia and visit Allentown, the Pennsylvania home of my parents. I left W. Rutledge in charge of the correspondence. Mr. Rutledge is hard to excel
as a letter writer. There are few who can equal him. I charged him to be fair in society matters. He promised he would and tried to be, but the "flesh is weak" or rather was weak in those early days in society affairs. The Franklins charged that he gave letters of those who wrote they were coming to some of the Philos and they wrote to the prospective students and solicited them to join the Philo society. The Philos did get the names of a number of new students somehow. It was claimed that some one purloined the letters or rather the names while visiting his room in his absence. Miss Lizzie While got one of the letters from one of the new students. I patched up the quarrel as best I could.

Some one had written to Eva Sisson, now Mrs. Prof. Maglott. She had missed the train on which she expected to come and she was met by some one that took her to a room she did not like. She went to the station to find out the best time to leave Ada for Lebanon. Mr. John Van Lieu my personal friend and a friend of the school came, and told me that a lady had been to see him about going to Lebanon. She told him she had been at Lebanon and did not like Ada as well as Lebanon. He described the lady. I immediately began a search, found her and took her to our home and rented her the best room in the house. She and my niece, Ida Lehr, soon became warm friends and consequently she joined the Franklin society. Her parents had sent her to Ada because they had learned that the President belongs to the Christian church. She roomed at the Lehr home many terms and had "eaten salt and broken bread" many, many times at the Lehr table. She has been a valuable acquisition to the school and to the Franklin literary society. I will have other occasions to speak of her scholarship and her work in the classroom as a teacher and in her society.
Catalog No. 6 the 5th since 1871, as a Normal school, was a fine catalog, the best and largest we had thus far published. We added many new features. The length of the terms as I have already said, remained the same as the previous year, the tuition was raised, but the price of board was reduced by sharp competition. Will give a condensed resume of student boarding houses.

I stated in a former chapter that the first prominent boarding houses for students were the Elberson house, corner of Buckeye and Gilbert streets; the Mustard house, corner Main and Mill street; the George house, then located on the corner of Simon and Ballard street. A little later Mrs. John Dobbins and Mrs. George Reese took a few select boarders. The Dobbins residence is now the terrace and Mrs. Reese then lived where Prof. Park now resides. Some other families, in those days, took a few boarders from $3.00 to $3.50 a week for room and board. Occasionally some aristocrat who wanted a well furnished room paid $4.00 a week.

The first club was organized the Fall term of 1871 and was in charge of by Mrs. Lizzie Smith. She lived in the old Harlo Gilbert house, where the Young hotel now stands. She owned the farm northwest of town, now owned by Justin Brewer, I think.

The Spring term of 1872, Mrs. Wilson, opened the famous Wilson club in the first house north of the Christian church. There were four rooms down stairs, each having one rough coat of plaster, the upper rooms were not plastered. The owner built a sidewalk in from of the house and employed a teamster to drag two large elm logs, hewn flat on the upper and lower sides, for a walk from the sidewalk to the from door, to serve for a walk till the yard could be filled with sawdust and then covered with ground. Sawdust was plentiful those days. The house stood on high oak posts or stilts. The sidewalk and logs were pinned to the earth that they might not be floated away during time of high water. In those days there were no sewers in Ada. Mrs. Wilson paid $6.00 a month rent. The boys furnished the provision and fuel, split the wood, and boarded Mrs. Wilson and the hired help. Mrs. Wilson furnished table linen, dishes and did the cooking. Each boarder paid her 59 cents a week. She
owned two farms. She told me on several occasions that she realized a greater income from the club than from the two farms. In later years, she built what is now known as the Young house on the corner of Peach avenue and Main street.

About 1873, Mrs. Gardner, the mother of Mrs. Sadie Clark, started a club boarding house where Mrs. Russel now lives, the second house north of the Christian church. She proposed to the boys that she would do the buying and save them the trouble. She agreed to furnish even better board for what they had been paying for she could buy to better advantage. Club board had been costing the students about $1.50 a week.

Mr. G.W. Rutledge built the house now known as the Wilson house on the corner of Gilbert and Ballard street for a boarding house and rented it to Jacob Reese. He built it in the spring of 1874. Boarding houses now began to multiply. Mrs. Sale started a boarding house in the residence north of where Doctor Walters lives; and some lady, I think it was Mrs. Doctor McGinnis, kept some boarders about opposite the Sale house. Then some lady started a boarding house where Mr. Schindewolf now lives. In later years Mrs. Converse kept boarders there. About the same time Mrs. Cloud opened a boarding house east of the National Bank corner on Buckeye street where the livery barn was built last year. From there she went to the small frame where Mr. McElroy now has his grocery. She kept boarders there several years. Then Mrs. Bodell started her celebrated boarding hotel where Mr. Miller now lives, the first door north of the Normal bookstore.

As the school grew, they multiplied. There was the celebrated Gardner club in its new home where Miss Mattie Gardner now lives, and the popular Connor house, the one at Mrs. Johnson's later auntie located on the corner of Ballard and Johnson streets, now she holds forth on Main street. Jakey Reese moved to the corner of Johnson street and Peach avenue, Mrs. Cratty started a club in a small house where Dr. Campbell now resides and Mrs. Adams, later Mrs. Rutledge, the mother of Mrs. Prof. Vogenitz, started a popular boarding house on Main street in the house north of Russell's grocery, and the excellent little lady, Mrs. Dave Watt, many years conducted a very popular boarding house at her present home. The writer boarded there on different occasions.

Mrs. Reeder Hubble had a popular boarding house on south Main street and Mrs. Squire Rice about the same year conducted a large and popular club in the large brick residence on south Main street. Mrs. Plummer, corner of Gilbert and Ballard, Mrs. Goldsmith, north of the Povenmire house, followed
by Mrs. Basinger, Mrs. Greenwood, Mrs. Galt on Gilbert street, Mrs. Lee on Main street, Mrs. Willie Stumm on the corner of Gilbert and Ballard, Mrs. Peterson on Mill street, and Mrs. Sallie Hubble on Main street, Mrs. Nettie Crawford at different locations, the Howell house and the John Wilson house on Main street. The Wilson house was later moved to Gilbert street.

About this time an excellent set of ladies began the business of boarding students. I am not able to name them in regular order but will do so as nearly as I can. Mrs. Ida Dobbins began where the Hill house now holds forth on west Peach avenue later moved to the corner of Mill and Gilbert streets, then further south on Gilbert. Mrs. Sadie Clark began on the corner of Main and Ballard, later removed to the corner of Main and Normal streets, and Mrs. Catherine Estill, Mrs. Russell Scott, Mrs. McKean, Mrs. Keckler, Mrs. Fritz, Mrs. Povenmire, and Mrs. George Lynch began the business, all faithful and true. I must not forget Mrs. Nate Poling on Johnson street. Her daughter Mrs. Anna Gill keeps up the reputation of the Poling house as a popular student resort. Mrs. Nettie Lynn and others kept boarders in Poverty hall.

Mrs. Dr. Croney kept boarders at several different locations. She was especially noted for house-cleaning every four weeks. With her, cleanliness was next to Godliness. Then came Mrs. Stockwell, Mrs. King, Mrs. Snyder, Mrs. Loper, Mrs. Yates, Mrs. Eberhart, Mrs. McArthur, Mrs. Close, Mrs. Heller began on west Peach avenue, then went to Gilbert street and quit on Main street. Mrs. Cessna, Miss Friedley, Mrs. Gray, Mrs. Grant, Mrs. Martha Welsh, Mrs. Emma Wells, Mrs. Deck, Mrs. Belle Connor, Mrs. Yoder, Mrs. Jerry Stumm, Mrs. Sidener, Mrs. Coolidge, Mrs. Hutchison, Mrs. Andrews, Mrs. Sallie Landon, Mrs. Teagarden, first on Main street later on Union street, Mrs. Heffelfinger. Mrs. Williams, Mrs. William Young on the corner of Main street, Mrs. Wright on West Peach avenue, Mrs. Weir, Mrs. Turner, Mrs. Wilson on the corner of Gilbert and Ballard streets Mrs. Ziegler, Mrs. Rev. Ernsberger, Mrs. Price and many others.

Mrs. Estill, Mrs. McKean, Mrs. Loper, Mrs. Clark and several other boarding houses always were very accommodating in taking term and year students, and no one was any more so that Mrs. Estill. I have forgotten the names of some who served the school faithfully.

If I had my term and year plan receipt book at hand I could refresh my memory. Many of these good women began as it were with nothing. They had neither home nor dishes and table linen. To my personal knowledge some borrowed money to get a start, some to buy table, dishes, etc., others
borrowed money to make the first payment on a home. At least ten borrowed money. All have paid back every cent but one and her name is not in the above list. As I said before, competition reduced the price of board and also of room rent. They say that Mother Bodell was the first of their number to hire a solicitor. The first student so employed was jolly E.B. Smith, then like the rest of us, a poor boy, but now worth a half a million and then some. Nearly all the boarding houses followed "suite." Even those having rooms to rent often paid a commission for roomers.

In order to advertise cheaper board and rent, we contracted with a number of ladies to pay board and rent in advance at certain reduced rates. Lebanon, O., Daville, Ind., Valparaiso, Ind., and some other schools advertised and still advertise board at $1.25 a week and rent at from 35 to 50 cents a week. They owned boarding halls and controlled prices. We felt the boarding and rooming of students to the people of the town. We paid out thousands and thousands of dollars in advance for board and rent, frequently paying some lady $500 and more at a time for term and year students and never lost a dollar with but one exception. One family, and I blame the husband, after drawing over $500, and he borrowing some money from me, quit, leaving us stick for about $400. The name is not in the above list, nor will I give it. It would only injure their friends and not help us. The family left Ada many years ago. The ladies named above are honest, honorable and reliable. Mrs. Estill and Mrs. McKean for many years were very accommodating and loyal in taking term and year students when the school was crowded. Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Weir, Mrs. Young and many others would also come to our relief, I could name many who began with nothing who now have comfortable homes, well furnished, have educated their sons and daughters, have set up their sons in business and some have a snug balance in the bank. As a example take the plant of Mrs. Povenmire. That house managed as she manages it, brings in fully as much a year as a 160 acre farm, and with less, or at least no more hard work. I am glad they prosper. They deserve it. They work hard and earn what they get.

The Faculty and especially "Lehr" have been blamed for grinding the faces of the poor boarding house keepers. I deny the charge. I permitted them to make their own prices. Again, when I severed my connection with the school in July, 1902, some reported that I visited the boarding house ladies and advised them to raise the price of board. If the party or parties who reported the story had visited the boarding houses they could easily have discovered their mistake. For about nine days before the school closed I was confined to my bed and under the care of Dr. R.L. Souder, which his record will show. I was taken to the church commencement day in a carriage and assisted into the
church. For a number of weeks after commencement I was hardly able to walk. From July 1902, to this day, I have been inside of but five boarding houses in Ada and then on personal business. I have been at the Wilson house, sold Mr. Wilson a lot. Have been to see Mr. Alvord on business, have been at the Dobbins house to see the sick and on personal business. I sold Mrs. Clark wood and potatoes and sold Mr. Heffelfinger some straw and corn and have been to see them on personal business. I met Mrs. Estill, Mrs. Weir and possibly one or two others on the street doubtless I asked them how they were getting along and if they had many boarders, the old, old questions; but I am very certain that nothing was ever said about the price of the board. Any Adaite can easily ascertain the truth of what I state.

I have said much about the Literary societies, much about the Boarding houses. The Literary societies and the Boarding houses are an integral part of the school. Later on I shall speak with equal emphasis on the education and of the Military department of the school.
N.D.

CHAPTER 63.

As stated before, this year we enlarged our catalogue; made lengthy remarks on the courses of study; spoke of the government of the school, the reunions, etc., etc. I will here insert a page from catalogue No. 6, page 21. I cut it from the catalogue on file and kindly request the editors of the Herald to preserve it for me, for some day I intend to donate my file of catalogues to the university. I know of but two complete files of catalogues of the school, the one in my possession and the one in possession of Mr. Agnew Welsh. Page 21 of catalogue No. 6 published June, 1876.

Expenses.

Statement of expenses per week at the Northwestern Ohio Normal school, two students occupying one room:

- Tuition in Common Branches .62
- Tuition in Higher Branches .77
- Music and Penmanship extra.
- Rent of room, furniture, bedding, provided and cared for, .60 to .75
- Good club boarding, 1.50 to 1.60
- Book rent, say four volumes, .05
- Light and fuel, .05 to .20
- Total, 2.75 to 3.37

A fair estimate of your necessary weekly expense, including tuition, room and book rent, light and fuel, is, by self-boarding $2.25 to $2.50; by club boarding, $2.75 to $3.37; by private boarding, $3.65 to $4.25; and we hereby agree to furnish you the foregoing advantages on the terms here specified. If you furnish your own carpet and bed clothes, your expenses will be considerably less than the foregoing estimates. For the winter term tuition is about four cents more per week than above stated. For the short term tuition is $1.00 per week.

Please compare above estimates with those of others similar institutions. As to buildings, recitation rooms, society halls, furniture, libraries, apparatus, and
efficient, live teachers, advantages are equal, if not greater, than those of any similar institution in the West. Our students are our best advertisements. Ninety-five per cent of those who once attended here, if they continue in school, return again. Every term has from 25 to 45 per cent increase over any corresponding term.

If matters are not as represented in our catalogue or circulars, or if, after a fair trial, you should not be satisfied with the work of the school, we shall refund your tuition.

Reasons why

The Northwestern Ohio Normal School should be patronized:

1. Because religion and morality are her foundation principles.

2. Because it is an institution where any person can pursue any study at any time.

3. Because her motto is economy, practicability and thoroughness.

4. Because her teaching is justly normal.

5. Because she seeks the moral and physical welfare of her students.

6. Because she stands upon her own merits--not being endowed.

7. Because she trains and selects her own teachers.

8. Because her literary society, the Philomathean and Franklin, are unsurpassed.

9. Because her recitation and study-rooms are capacious and pleasant.

10. Because her determination is, not to be surpassed by any other Normal school in Ohio in any of the modern conveniences.

The school was growing finely, the enrollment the last year was 449 showing a growth of 92 over the previous year. We had purchased, the last school year, $580 worth of apparatus. Among the pieces procured were a good microscope, a good air pump, gas generators, electrical machine, etc. We
already had a good level and transit.

The Summer term, the first of the year was larger that usual. The Fall term opened well notwithstanding it was exposition year. I enrolled 36 in the reading class. I sent to the editor of the Herald leaves from my class register of 1876 bearing the names of the members of the class in practical arithmetic which numbered 95 and will also send the leaves bearing the names of the class in geography. It enrolled 81. Also have the grades of the members but will not send those.

CHAPTER 64.

The Normal school opened the Fall of 1871. By the contract of April 5th, 1871, we were to begin paying back all subscriptions paid, amounting to $20 or more, on certain specified conditions. A good roof was one of the conditions. The roof, as the reader of these sketches may remember, was not good, it was bad, very bad; and some time in June or July 1873, I do not have the paper, the trustees signed an agreement canceling all obligations if we would complete the Normal building, put on a good roof and bind ourselves to conduct the school not less than five years. That agreement is lost. We had it some years.

One evening some time in September, 1876, three gentlemen, two of whom are now dead, but one of the number still resided in Ada called to collect the ten percent we were to pay annually. I showed them the contract of April 5, 1871, and the release signed by the Trustees the summer of 1873. The gentlemen said they were appointed at a meeting of the stockholders to call and see us and to demand immediate payment and if we would not pay, that legal action would follow. I replied that we had complied with the contracts of 1871 and 1873 and that we would pay no more; that the stockholders, in justice, owed us for losses we had sustained. The committee departed. Some of my associates were somewhat alarmed. In about a week or two members of the committee in company with Mr. Ramsey, a prominent attorney of Kenton, called to see me. He requested to see our contracts. He read them carefully, but made no remarks. In about two weeks I learned through some students that I had bribed Mr. Ramsey.

In about a month the same gentleman called to see me accompanied by an attorney from Lima. I can not recall his name. No legal action followed. Some time in the spring of 1877, the committee again called in company with Mr. Blackford, of Findlay. He asked to see the papers. He read them carefully. He said, "Who wrote this contract?" referring to the contract of April 5, 1871. I told him. He replied, "You ought to be a lawyer, not a teacher." He then said to the committee, "You have no cause of action, the Faculty have fulfilled their part of the contract." That closed that controversy but it did not stop the mouth of a certain man.
At the close of the Fall term of 1876 occurred one of the most serious society quarrels in the history of the school. As had been related in a previous chapter, it had been agreed upon by a joint committee of the societies and the Faculty that in future there should honor men be elected by the societies for the salutation and valedictory orations at commencements. By the alphabetical arrangement, the Franklins had been getting both at each commencement and they had many of the B's most of the N's and nearly all of the Y's, and most of the Z's. To compensate the Franklins for their loss, they were to have Friday night instead of Thursday night for their pay entertainment. The agreement was made by a committee and not a joint meeting. The Franklins kept no copy of the proceedings of the meeting, the faculty could not find their copy and Philos took the position that their society never acted on the report of the proceedings. They had profited at the last commencement by having either the salutatory or the valedictory oration, probably the valedictory. I remember only three of those present at the meeting of the committees, Prof. Park, G.W. Rutledge and George Henry. Mr. Rutledge was the author of the movement and at the time of the difficulty, was in New York. I telegraphed to him. I will here insert his answer.

Rutledge's Letter.

St. Nicholas Hotel, N.Y.
Oct. 28, 1876

Friend Lehr:

I answered your telegram this morning. According to the constitutions the Philos are entitled to the last evening and you can not hinder them, but I suggested alternation a year ago, but as there was not then time sufficient to amend before closing, the change was not made, but it was there decided and agreed upon that the step to amend would be taken buy as it had not been taken we can not justly deprive them of that their right. While I would wish the Franklins strict justice, and financial success, I could not advise the Philomathean to yield their point without first amending the constitutions for in that event the Franklins would always have the advantage and in all their history they have never been known to succumb to Philomathean wished, but have ever exercised the advantage they possessed. I write Lacy and Millar today advising them to amend the constitutions so as the enforce alternation. Don't you undertake to destroy the individuality of the societies by setting up Faculty decisions of justice higher than their constitutions. We can kindly influence the change. Tell Mr. Walton I will send or bring the books. Hoping that this matter will be amicably adjusted, I close. Am well. My love to all. Write me at 126 Price St., Philadelphia, stating how the affair is settled.
Yours in sympathy,

George.

The pay entertainment meant much those days. To show you what they meant I will here insert a Philo program of 1872. The reader will please notice that the entertainment was to begin at 6:30 p.m., and that admission was 25 cents and reserved seats 50 cents. Frequently those coming a distance would buy tickets from some town party and pay $1.00 a seat and I have known an enthusiastic Franklin or Philo who came probably forty or fifty miles to pay $1.50 for a good seat. And from '71 to about '83 or 4, the students would return for the Thursday and Friday contest by the scores. It was a feast for the railroad, for the livery barns and the hotels. We had two then; but it was a bill of expense for the boarding houses for the keepers seldom charged their old friends for two day's board. Many old friends visited the Lehr family on those occasions.

Philo Program

Friday evening, Mar. 15, 1872, commencing at 6:30 o'clock. Admission 25 cents; reserved seats 50 cents.

Program

Music..................................................Choir
Salutatory.............................Ira Doling, Ada, Ohio

Recitation

The Scourge of Fire.......Eliza J. Wilson, Huntersville, O.
Music-Duet.........................Misses Sutton and Ferral
Music...................................................Band

Periodical

The Rose Bud.......................Jennie Melhorn, Ada, Ohio

Farce

The Troublesome Servant...........Charles Melhorn, B.H. Oyler
Music...................................................Band

Debate

Is Self-Interest the Main-Spring of every Human Action?
Affirm............................A.D. Snively, Canton, Ohio
Deny.................................G.W. Rutledge, Roundhead, Ohio
Music-Duet..........................Misses Sutton and Ferrall

Drama

The Unfinished Gentleman...........R.L. Souder, Nettie Maguire
Music..................................................Choir

Essay

Beauty and Utility........Achsie A. Marshall, Bluffton, Ohio

Oration

Patriotism.........................M. Jay Ewing, Bluffton, Ohio
Music...................................................Band

Pantomime

The Lovers Strategem...............B.H. Oyler, Sudie Shuler
Music..................................................Choir
Valedictory.......................Nettie Ferrall, Bluffton, Ohio

Benediction

As there were no records of the agreement, the Philos kept the last night, but the Faculty announced if the change would not be made binding in future we would again return to the alphabetical arrangement, I feel certain, had it not been for my niece, Ida Lehr, a Franklin leader and a Franklin of the Franklins, there would have been serious trouble; but she poured oil on the stormy waters.

A year or two later Mrs. Prof. Park found the Faculty copy of the agreement in the pocket of an old coat, but by that time the trouble was adjusted and new troubles to settle.

Some time in the school year 1876-7, Mr. J.J. Wood found his interest in the Normal a not very paying investment. He employed Miss Mollie Schoonover to represent his third interest. That year we paid out $580 for apparatus. The year before we bought the Normal school at Fostoria for $1200, and he feared litigation with the original stockholders who had paid, in all, about $8000 to erect the Normal building. He sold a twelfth interest in the school to G.W. Rutledge and a fourth to Frederick Maglott. At this time J.G. Park owned a
third interest in the Normal, G.W. Rutledge a fourth, Fred Maglott a fourth and H.S. Lehr a sixth.
CHAPTER 65.

The spring term of 1877 there was another serious society fight. The Faculty now consisted of H.S. Lehr, M.J. Ewing, who represented G.W. Rutledge, Mollie Schoonover, who had been representing J.J. Wood; J.G. Park, and as Fred Maglott had bought an interest in the school, he was added to the Faculty while sitting as a kind of supreme court. I will first give the charge against the Philos.

Ada, Ohio, Mar. 31, 1877.

To the Faculty of the N.W.O. Normal School;

Gentlemen: We have strong evidence to believe that Mr. Philip Smith, Mr. Geo Bradshaw, and Mr. Timmerman were elected as members of the Philomathean society without their consent. Is this the policy by which the societies are to be governed in the future? Is it right? We demand an investigation.

Atty. J.M. Hamsher
Pres. J.W. Zeller

Decisions.

I. From evidence given by Mrs. Smith and others that he (Smith) was not a member of the Philomathean society on his first election. As to he being a member, at present, will depend upon whether the constitution of said society will permit a legal vote upon members as a called meeting.

II. That from a preponderance of evidence, Mr. H.G. Bradshaw did not give his entire consent to become a member of said society, and therefore, at present is not a member of said society.

III. That from the conflicting testimony, in reference to Mr. Zimmerman, I as one of the judges, am unable to decide whether his name was obtained legally or not. As the solicitor wrote his name, without obtaining his special permission, and he not recalling it, places it beyond my jurisdiction.

J.G. Park.
I think the solicitors are largely to blame, but I do not think them guilty of falsifying intentionally. I do not think Mr. Bradshaw gave consent to forward his name, but I do think Mr. Zimmerman gave consent. Both sides agreed that Mr. Smith was elected illegally by mistake.

M. Jay Ewing

Decision made after attending the investigation of the charge against the Philomathean Literary society, concerning the illegal election of certain person's membership.

1. No evidence was given in the case of Mr. Philip Smith. From his assertion I judge his election illegal.

2. The evidence given in the case of Mr. Bradshaw induces me to decide his election was illegal.

3. The evidence in Mr. Zimmerman’s case was conflicting, but the preponderance favors the decision that his election was legal. I decide it so.

Mollie Schoonover

In reference to the charges brought by the Franklin society against the Philomathean society judging from the witnesses, I give as my decision; 1st. that Philip Smith, first time was not elected illegally. 2nd. that H.G. Bradshaw was not elected legally and therefore is not a member of the Philomathean society. 3rd. that C.F. Zimmerman was legally elected.

Frederick Maglott
April 5th, 1877

Decision of H.S. Lehr, principal N.W.O.N.S., in the case of F.L.S. versus P.L.S.
1st Charge. That Philip Smith was elected a regular member of the Philomathean society without his consent. Decision. By the testimony elicited Philip was elected a member of said society without his consent, which is further shown by his reelection as a member of said society. As to the way it happened I can not decide as Mr. Smith refused to testify to that matter.

2nd Count. That Geo. Bradshaw was elected without his consent. I shall here rest my decision on the preponderance of evidence. The testimony of Geo. Bradshaw is positive that he did not consent; that of C.F. Zimmerman is the same, also of John Bowland and the testimony of W.H.
Ferrell is indication of the same. On the other hand the solicitor, Miss Myrtle Maxwell, testifies that Geo. Bradshaw did give his consent, but can not give the language in which the consent was given. I therefore, in consideration of all the testimony decide that Geo. Bradshaw is not a member of the Philomathean Literary society.

3rd. Charge. That C.F. Zimmerman was elected without his consent. The testimony in this case is very conflicting; that of Geo. Bradshaw and C.F Zimmerman coinciding in the fact that he did not give his consent, while that of Myrtle Maxwell, Minnie Manning, Mr. W.H. Ferrell is to the effect that he gave his consent to join and the evidence of L.D. Wisener and several others would indicate the same. Therefore judging from the preponderance of testimony I would decide that C.F. Zimmerman is a member of the Philomathean Literary society.

H.S. Lehr

The Franklins had elected Philip Smith legally and the Philos at a called meeting elected Mr. Smith a second time. Smith wanted to be a Philo and Zimmerman a Franklin. I proposed that the societies make the transfer, to let Zimmerman be a Franklin and Smith a Philomathean. All agreed and peace was declared. This war resulted in a new Faculty law. The Faculty now declared that in future the societies must prepare printed membership cards, on which was to be printed--I solicit regular membership in Literary society. For honorary membership there were to be special cards. The person soliciting membership had to sign the card. If the solicitor would sign, it was illegal and the election was void. The societies said they could not afford the printing expense. We paid the printing fully one year.

The members of the Faculty of 1877 can now call at the Herald office and get the decisions handed to me twenty-eight years ago. The judges and all the witnesses but two are still living. Miss Maxwell later Mrs. Stanley Woodruff died many years ago and one of the Bradshaw boys died some years ago. All the others as far as I know are still living. Have not heard from Mr. Hamsher for about fifteen years.

Sometime during the winter term '76-7, Will S. Cunningham, S.A. Post, J.C. Harvey, Will Kelly, R.M. Kelly, a Mr. Wynn, J.W. Culberson and several others whose names I have forgotten, took my cow out of my barn and pasted paper all over the poor animal and put her in a store box stall somewhere downtown. On some of the cards they told of my imperfections, on some of my partial society decisions, and other hits. None of the jokes were expressed in insulting language. There were also some complimentary expressions. The
next morning I went to see Mrs. Lynn who had charge of Poverty hall and asked whether any of the boys had been out during the night. She said that they had piled wood against the kitchen door and that she caught Culbertson and some one else in the act. She begged me not to tell that she caught them. I called at Culbertson's room and told him to come and see my cow. He could easily see that she was badly injured, and that she was worth $50. He said he did not help to drive her down street. I said I promised not to tell who gave me his name. He said, "I know it was Post." I replied, "But Post did not help to watch my door." He replied, "he and Cunningham and Harvey and the Kelley boys drove her down town." He named others but I don't remember their names. I called to see Mr. Post and told him that he, Cunningham, Kelleys and others had taken my cow down town and that I feared she was seriously injured; that I wanted pay for the cow. He wanted to know how I found out.

I called a meeting of all connected with the affair. Post and Cunningham gave the names of the others connected. When we met they begged to give them my informant. They blamed David Stoll, of Wooster, my nephew. Mr. Stoll, they said, saw them go out and must have followed. Stoll had said not a word. The boys themselves gave me their own names. Many times has that been the case. But they blamed Stoll and to punish him they got up a crowd to got to the edge of town to steal chickens. One of the number was concealed and when he was in the coop came up, caught him and gave him a good trouncing. He did not dare to complain. But it got into the Philo paper. The editor, I will not give her name, told the joke and intimated that to screen my nephew I had cracked the truth. I let the matter drop. I got a letter from her son yesterday asking for a position and a recommendation.
The school year of ’76-7 brought a large number of very strong students. I shall first give the names of a number of Philos who entered that year for their first term. I shall only name those students whom I can place in their respective societies and will have to omit some of those as the list gets too long. First on the list I find J.M. Brown, H.C. Campbell, and J.L. Hampton. They were our first students from New Lexington, Perry county. I have lost track of Brown. Campbell is on the Pacific coast, is rich and prosperous and married a handsome Normal girl, one of two twins, a Miss Swigart. J.L. Hampton resides in Columbus and married my favorite niece, Ida A. Lehr, the most radical Franklin of all Franklins. Lulu Black, Laura Young, J.W. Zeller, I.N. Kuhn, Harry Cotton and H.H. Negley are not in the race with Mrs. Hampton. Then comes that celebrated Philo trio from Van Wert county, W.O. Bailey, L.W. Fairfield are joint owners with Prof. L.M. Sniff, of the Tri-State Normal school at Angola, Ind. They are both strong, good men. Fairfield was one of the best debaters ever on the Philo stage. I shall ever remember the contest between him and Aaron Cook who now resides in Canton. Prof. Bailey married Dora Smith, of whom I shall speak later on.

And what shall I say of my friend L.D. Wisener? He was a student of the Normal, "off and on," at least fifteen years. It would be impossible to enumerate all the good he did for the school and for his society. He was a fine debater, a good scholar and an all around good fellow. I esteemed his friendship very highly. C.S. Barron now a Reverend, came that year, yes and the Drown girls, Eva and Zula. Eva, now Mrs. Eva Grand still writes to me about once a year. Who could forget her or Clara Maxwell, or Hattie Montgomery, later Mrs. Henry, or Hattie Cox, May Davison, or Carrie Vandervort, who was the very embodiment of culture and refinement? And that year found "handsome" Frances Brown in the Normal. I could not forget my old friend D.H. Crites, now a banker in Lima, nor must I forget Will C. Fahl, the musician, nor J.F. Miller now a prominent attorney. W.H. Mustard who prospers in business and married that excellent lady and good teacher, Lydia Jane Bybee. A.B. Nichols is now Rev. Nichols. He is eloquent. W.L. Stratton came from my Wayne county home. Nearly all the Wayne county students joined the Franklins in those days. Then there were the cow boys,
Cunningham, the Kelleys, J.C. Harvey and L.A. Post. Rev. J.C. Montgomery entered that year. He was a good student and a good man. He has crossed the Jordan. Among the other Philos whom I remember are W.H. Roasberry, W.N. Unkfer, R.S. Banks, H.E. Hord, Ella Huston, Nannie Jacobs, Nannie Johnson, L.F. Pontius, Henry Marriott, Lizzie Patrick, Alanson Rogers, Lafayette Riggle, Harvey Shaw, and E.O. Wickersham. Mr. Wickersham for many years sent the Lehr family a gallon of fine Logan county maple syrup. May his years be many and his shadow never grow less. He was one of the disciples of Asa Elliott. Nor must I forget Philip Smith who traded societies with Mr. Zimmerman after the fight. Neither must I forget those loyal Philos and fine ladies, Ida Harvey and Mrs. Eliza Kyle. Miss Harvey died some years ago. Frank Hard, for many terms a Philo worker and a good student, joined that year. I shall never forget E.O. Loveland, one of my best friends. He often called to see me. Frequently he would say, "You ought to employ L.M. Sniff who was at Fostoria with Prof. Richard. He is a fine teacher." Later we employed Prof. Sniff. Mr. Loveland wrote many letters to me after he left school. I love him and esteem his friendship. He is now with the great majority. I will never forget him.

Alvena Foucht, a member of that noble Foucht family entered that year. I still meet her at Winona Lake, pleasant and good as ever. Mr. S.H. Detweiler, of Allentown, Pa., entered that year. He came from the Pennsylvania home of my parents. I shall name Frank McLees last of the Philos whom I remember of the new students. I do this because sometime in the Spring term of 1877 he and others whom I forget, but three I remember, three Franklins whom all the Franklins of the early days remember, tried to play a huge joke on the Faculty. It was spoiled by Prof. Maglott. He and Miss Sisson, now Mrs. maglott, were out studying astronomy a beautiful May evening. About midnight Prof. came and called me and told me while he and Miss Sisson were "looking at the stars" he overheard some one saying they would go to some pasture field to get a cow to put into chapel hall. I got up, put on some old clothes of which I had a large assortment and put on an old slouch hat and started forth to see what was on tap. I walked along slowly and when I got near the campus I heard peculiar whistling. I answered. Soon I saw some one approaching from what is now the Young corner. He came up, raised my hat and exclaimed, "Oh, war!" "Pardon, Professor, I didn't know it was you. McLees got us into this trouble. He told on us. We'll go for him. But get those two coming there, Tom Black and Frank Roberts." We whistled; but when the boys got within tow they broke and I after them. They gained on me; but I knew where they roomed, over what is now Kemp's drugstore. It was Eugene D. Bosworth who told me that the fellows coming were Black and Roberts. I went to their room.
Some one, I do not remember now who, was sitting innocently studying, now about 1 o'clock a.m., I said, "Where are Mr. Black and Mr. Roberts?" Without a smile he replied that he guessed they were in bed. And they were. That is where I found them. They as well as I, panting for breath. I enquired of Black by saying, "What is the matter, Mr. Black, are you sick?" He said no. I told him I thought he was the way he breathed, I said I would feel his pulse. I found he still had his coat on. I told him he was too warm and began to throw back the bedding. He and Roberts got up out of bed, boots and all. We all had a good laugh. They all blamed poor McLees for betraying them. He told the boys that they had played such tricks at Northwood college in Logan county. I did not give the boys my informant. Mr. Black was an excellent Franklin worker. He resides in Kenton and is a successful attorney at law. Mr. Roberts is in the far west and has been very successful in business. I have not heard from Mr. Bosworth for some years. He was strong in debate and in the classroom.

Note: In the article last week it was stated that the citizens furnished $8000 for the first O.N.U. building. The figures should have been $3000.
CHAPTER 67.

Among the many Franklins who joined the society that year O.R. Carlo was prominent. He edited the Franklin Gem in a lively manner and was a noted comic singer. He made much sport for the society. J.F. Hamsher became a very prominent society worker. Mary H. Fielding, of England, was a fine essayist. A.J. Hoffman was a good worker. H.E. Neff was one of the noted Franklin singers for many years. At one time he owned an interest in the Normal. At present he lives in the Philippines. He was and still is a true gentleman.


This year the Franklins enrolled Cora E. Houfstatter, now Mrs. Agnew Welsh, A.E. Winter, now Rev. Winter, and John Montgomery, now Rev. Montgomery, all three strong students. They were leaders in their society and they are still leaders. Mrs. Welsh is a leader in her social circle, Rev. Winter and Rev. Montgomery in their profession. For many years the Franklins at the annual Literary contest pitted Mr. Montgomery against the best Philo debaters and he was always equal to the occasion.

A.L. Ruffee, of Rootstown, O., entered that term. He told me he had but little money. He wanted work. I gave him the job of digging out the brush and
clearing the field which was later known as Lehr's Ball Park and the Lehr
pasture lot. He is now a noted physician in a city in Michigan. He had become
wealthy. In later years he sent his wife and his sons to the O.N.U. He has also
sent the writer a number of presents.

This year we find the name of B.S. Young, of Ada, O., in the catalogue as a
commercial student. He had been my pupil while I was superintendents of the
public schools. I always liked the boy although he was rather full of mischief. I
will have occasion to speak of him again later on.

On the evening of June 14, '77, we had our first Alumni reunion. It was
pronounced a success. I still have a program of the commencement of 1877. I
have already spoken of each member of the class. There were nine members,
four Franklins and five Philomatheans.

Program
9 o'clock, a.m.
Anthem, "The Heavens are Telling," Hayden's Creation.

Invocation.

Glee, Oh, Hail us Ye free,
What We Owe to the Master's Spirits, .................M.Jay Ewing, S. Ada, Ohio
Enthusiasm..........................S.A. Court S Marion, Ohio

Music.

Every Cloud has a Silver Lining, ......................Mattie Gibson, T. Alton, Ken.
Beyond the Alps Lieth thine Italy, .....................Fannie Gal Braith, C. Mansfield,
Ohio

Music.

Be Ye Resolute..................G.W. Hall, S. Auburn, Ind.
Our Future; What Shall it be? .........................Fred Maglott, C. Hasting, Ohio

Quartette.

Variety in Nature............Eva Sisson, C. McArthur, Ohio
Program
2 o'clock p.m.

Music...........................................Ada Cornet Band
Glee..................................................Choir
Man.............................................U.G. Stringfellow, S. Rawson, Ohio

Duet


Solo

Address to Graduates............Rev. E.A. Berry, Lima Ohio
Presentation of Diplomas by the President..........H.S. Lehr
Class Song...........................................Pontius

Benediction

Many incidents occurred during the school year 1876-7, but I will refer to but one more. A married lady had been sent to school by her parents. They requested that she should room at our residence. I did not know that she was married. Her husband was a drunkard and had threatened on several occasions to kill her. He had kicked her, struck her in the face, etc., etc. She was constantly thinking of her trouble and feared that he would come and kill her. One night she became a maniac. I shall never forget her flaming eyes. Miss Sisson, now Mrs. Maglott and another lady were in her room. They were mere children in her hands. They screamed. I ran into the room. I had read on such occasions one should look the mad person in the eyes. I did so. She looked at me for an instant, then screamed out, "Father, Father!" and threw her arms around my neck and begged that I would protect her. I forget part of the scene of that night, I shall ask Mrs. Maglott to write a description of that night. I know she must remember it, no doubt better than I do.

Many old students and many people from the country and from the adjacent towns attended the commencement exercises and the society contest. Both were unusually good and well attended. Mr. Zeller, the valedictorian, had a fine oration. He was complimented on all sides. It was one of the best orations ever delivered in the hall. Another school year had ended and ended well.
The printing of catalogue No. 7 for the school year 1876-7 and announcements for 1877-8 was awarded to J.C. Fisher, editor of the Commercial, the new name of Ada's local paper. The length of the terms of school and the tuition charged in the various departments remained the same as the previous year and there were few changed in the catalogue.

The enrollment for this year was 476 a gain of 27 over the enrollment of the previous year; but a smaller gain. The gain the year before had been 92. The gain had been but little over 5 percent, the year before it was nearly 29 percent. There were two causes for the decrease in gain. The buying of the school at Fostoria the previous year had given the school a "boom" and the want of room was hurting the school. More room and better facilities and accommodations were demanded. How to get more room was the problem to be solved.

About this time the Lynch farm of 40 acres south of the Normal campus was offered for sale. We were offered five acres adjoining our campus for $500. I wanted to buy the land but some of my associates said we would never need it. My arguments were of no avail and as I owned but a sixth interest in the school I dropped the subject, but in later years was very sorry that I did.

The Faculty or owners at this time were H.S. Lehr, president; J.G. Park, secretary; Fred Maglott, librarian, G.W. Rutledge. The Board of Instructors the past year had been H.S. Lehr, J.G. Park, Mollie Schoonover, Fred Maglott, M.J. Ewing, J.W. Zeller, Mrs. E.A. Richard, W.D. Woodard, Mrs. Hattie Rowley, Mrs. Julia Zellar, Will R. Pontius, H.D. Solge, and Robert Kidd.

The instructors employed for the school year 1877-8 were H.S. Lehr, A.M., Practical Arithmetic, Higher Mathematics, Moral and Mental Philosophy, Political Economy, English Literature and School Government.

J.G. Park, A.B, English Grammar and Analysis, Surveying and Engineering, Logic and Greek.
Fred Maglott, A.B., Geography, Higher Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, Astronomy, Latin and German.


W.D. Woodard, Book-keeping, Plain and Ornamental Penmanship and Drawing.


A.S. Solge, Jr., Piano and Organ.

Robert Kidd, A.M., Special Instructor in Elocution.

Public Occasions. On the day and evening of June 13, 1878, there will be a Reunion of the Philomathean Literary Society.

Commencement exercises, Friday, June 14, 1878.

Contest between the Literary societies on the evening of June 14, 1878.

The school year, 77-78 like the preceding years added scores and scores of new students many of whom like those of other years have made their mark in the records of success.

I cannot name all but will name some of those with whom I became intimately acquainted and whom I can place in their respective societies. I still was at one or the other of the exercises. The first new student of that year whom I shall name is G.D. Wylie, of West Geneva, Ohio. He had completed a full classical course at Northweed, in Logan county. I do not now remember the name of the college. It was under the control of the United Presbyterian church. Later the school was moved to Beaver, Penn. I think it is called Geneva college. Mr. Wylie is now a prominent minister in New York City. He has charge of the Scotch Presbyterian church. He is a fine scholar, is eloquent and a hard worker. I shall never forget what he said when he entered school. He remarked, "I have come here for several purposes. Your school is more widely known than the school at Northwood and you offer excellent advantages for public speaking in your literary societies, and I want to imbibe some of the spirit and enthusiasm of the Institution as a see it exhibited by
your students." He made some remarks about the president of the school which I shall omit. We became very warm friends and exchanged letters about twenty years or longer.

This year we also enrolled H.C. Babbitt, of Kentucky, one of the best Greek scholars enrolled in the Normal while I was its president. Charming Lollie Churchill entered this year. She was full of fun, but a true lady. She is now a widow of Judge Melhorn. Lollie Churchill, Minnie Manning, the Maxwell girls and Rose Holywell, what a quintette! Babbitt and Miss Churchill were Philos. In March, '78, three college students from eastern Ohio entered the Normal; Jonas Cook, J.R. Neely and Oscar C. Voorhies. Cook and Neely had been Mt. Union students, Voorhies had been at New Franklin college. They entered school a few days after the opening of the term and supposed that I forgot to read the rules to them. The roomed at what was then the Stumm house, now the Russell grocery house. Saturday morning I happened to pass that way going down town. The boys stopped me and said they wanted to hear the rules. Mr. Cook remarked, "I have been here nearly a week and have not heard the rules. I may violate some rule and get into trouble." I said I presume you all three are gentlemen. Mr. Cook replied, "We are so reckoned at our homes." I replied that if they were gentlemen, there would be no trouble. I further added that gentlemen are not profane, neither steal, lie nor are dishonest nor get drunk. Mr. Cook remarked, "That method of government may do here but it would not do at Mt. Union." I laughed and added you will soon see how the plan works. In about two weeks I again met him. He laughed and said, "It works like a charm." He and I still correspond. I will here insert part of his last letter. He and Mr. Neeley sent me chestnuts from the hills of Carroll county many years and Mr. Neeley calls his oldest son Lehr Neeley.

In looking over my correspondence with Mr. Cook who now lives in Indian Territory I conclude to insert here a letter he wrote me in 1889.

Mr. Cook's Letter of 1889.


My Dear Friend: The Ada Record reached me today, through which I learn of the social event which was held in honor of you and yours Feb. 1st. Were it not that 1000 miles intervene, I should feel slighted because I received no invitation. But when memory goes back to you, time and space are almost annihilated, and I feel then is now. I have long since been convinced and my association with you,
assisted in bringing me to this conclusion, that sympathy does much, yea much more than much, in developing good, honest men and women. I have always since our acquaintance looked upon you as one of my true friends, and believe me, I have always tried to reciprocate. Few men have inspired young men and women to nobler lives as you have. I grow sick at heart when I compare what I have done with your work not that I have tried to do evil, but that I have done so little. Nor do I envy you your just dues. I hope to visit you August or September and trust that you can be so at leisure as to allow us time for a conversation. The world is treating me kindly. School moves very pleasantly. The Board here has already unanimously reappointed me for next year at $130 a month. Will do four weeks institute work here next July. In August will conduct two institutes one week each, in Kentucky. Will have a large wheat crop, if nothing happens to prevent, on my farm. Expect 800 bushels to my share. Shall be pleased to hear from you,

Your friend,

Jonas Cook.
CHAPTER 69.

I have hundreds of kind letters stored away in the story of 1871. When speaking of Doctor Albert Henry I intended to insert part of a letter from pupils, schoolmates and fellow soldiers of forty and fifty years ago, and from some who have been my pupils less than a year ago. Cook, Neeley and Voorhies, were Philos. Cook and Neeley still are Philos. Voorhies is dead.

N.H. Colwell, a strong man, enrolled this year. He now lives in Massachusetts, is engaged in business and is getting wealthy. He is a Philo. J.B. Gottshall entered this year. He is now practicing law in Goshen, Ind. He was a Philo. L.E. Griffin, C.B. Hickernell and Emma Moorehead became Normalites the Fall term of 1877. I remember to which society they belonged, they were Franklins and they were leaders in their society. Griffin is an attorney at law, practicing in Hicksville, O. Hickernell, who is a politician, farmer, real estate dealer and an all round good fellow, holds forth in Ada, and Emma Moorehead, now Mrs. Dr. Dreitzeler, resides in Findlay. She was especially strong in Literature and a real poet. All three were strong students and are today valuable members of society. Hugo W.D. Humphrey, a Philo came the same year and so did Laura Krebs. She was a fine student and is still a leader in her line of work. Miss Krebs was a Philo and so was Theodosia Kinnear. Miss Kinnear came to the Normal from Wooster university. She was cultured and refined. I.J. Lapley and T.E. Lanker entered. They were Franklins, and Josephine B. Long entered that year. I think she was a Franklin. Two of her daughters were in school about 1900.

Olive Murphy, Addie Negley, and C.J. Neff, Franklins, entered. C.J. Neff was a brother to Henry Neff. Ada Martin, a strong student was added to the list. He was a Philo. We corresponded many years. Ella Pontius and Jennie Powell, both Philos, came that Year. Dana Runkle, C.L. Rose and T.R. Steiner all three Franklins were added to our list.

This year we enrolled E.B. Smith and Rubin Starr. They joined the Philos and were leading members of the society. Both have made life a success. Starr is practicing law. Smith at present, I learn, is a promoter, and is reputed to be worth over half a million. Anson Shuster, of Michigan, joined the Philos and so
did W.H. Troup, both excellent members. Ollie Uncapher and Jane Whetstone joined the Franklins. This year we also enrolled that noble and brilliant young gentleman, Charles Hanson Workman. I can not speak too highly of him. He came to Ada from the Normal school at Smithville, O. He was almost as dear to me as a son. After graduation we elected him as a teacher in the Normal and we never had a teacher who was more popular among the students than Prof. Workman. At present he is practicing law in Mansfield, O. Prof. Workman was a loyal Franklin.

Among the prominent students who entered this year was Stanley E. Woodruff. He and E.B. Smith were roommates in Poverty hall. He was a leading Philo. After he left school he married Myrtle Maxwell. We also enrolled such strong Philo workers as R.S. Banks, Phil H. Daub, W.J. Cookson, Sam Fogle, P.H. Fockler, Mary A. Graves, A.T. Gardner, R.P. Hall and N.B. Jackson. Some of the strong Franklins who entered were H.F. Beery, Ed Beardsley, C. E. Clevenger, a good singer; W.A. Chambers, C.W. Green, Burton Green, S.E. Huff, S.A. and N.C. Hagerman, D. Hines, J. Hammer and Elida Metzler. Miss Metzler and Miss Moorehead came on the same train and were roommates. Rooms were scarce. I well remember the furniture in the only room I could find that evening. Doubtless the ladies remember their feelings as well as I remember their sad and forlorn faces.

I.M. Pore, of New Stark, entered about this time. He was a very strong student and an ardent Franklin worker. When he died, he willed his library to the Franklin society. Ellen Neff, sister of Prof. Neff joined the Franklins. Charles Richison, H.W. Smith and W.A. Smith entered school and joined the Franklins. Later W.A. Smith taught engineering in the Normal. At present he is employed by the B. & O. R.R. Co. at a good salary as Chief Engineer of a division. N.R. Stringfellow a good student and an ardent Franklin became a Normalite. The Sherrard boys entered this year. Excellent students and good fellows. One joined the Franklins, the other the Philos. C.P. Sherrard is at present Professor of Pharmacy at Angola, Ind. in the Tri-State Normal. Zelma Snook, J.C. Thie, W.R. Woods were Philos. Rozella Teagarden, R.S. Torbet, A.H. Nuger, A.E. Walton, Otis B. Williams and J.E. Thomas, of West Cario, joined the Franklins. Miss Teagarden was a valuable member in many ways. The Teagarden's were all Franklins and excellent students. They come from Salem, O.

This year brought Wm. Atkinson, a real Patrick Henry, a natural orator. He was a hard student. He was a Philo. He died many years ago. David Adams and J.S. Adams joined the Philos and were strong workers. The Philos have
had few better workers than J.S. Adams, H.E. Bell, of Mansfield, was a great Philo worker, W.A. Brader joined the Philos. This year brought us to Joseph Rickel one among our best students. He joined the Philos and married a Philo, Myrtle Clark, also one of the best Normalites.

S.S. Clayton, at one time Ada's Postmaster and now one of Ada's prominent merchants, a Philo, entered this year. He is a royal good fellow. He has sold the writer many a hat. He always keeps the best. J.C. Heter and Edith Heter, strong and good students entered and joined the Philos. J.W. and Alice Hamilton, fine students came and also joined the Philos. Daniel Cramer and A. Freehafer, strong students, joined the Franklins, Laura Kissell an excellent student joined the Franklins. She now is the Rev. Mrs. Herbert. P.S. and W.C. Morgan joined the Philos. P.S. Morgan, a fine scholar, taught Latin and Greek a year or two in the Normal. This year brought to us S.S. Palmer one of our best Normalites. He is, today one of the strongest and most eloquent ministers in Ohio. He joined the Franklins. J.N. Rusher, Ada, joined the Franklins. J.L. Repp joined the Franklins. John C. Liddle, one of my Wayne county friends, an excellent young man, joined the Franklins.

This year also brought S.B. Wagner, generally known as good Sam Wagner. I guess everybody likes "Sam." He helped to start the University Herald. I will speak of that later. For many years he owned the Normal Book Store. He joined the Franklins. He married that excellent lady, Cora Bucks, a Franklin. They have not only done much for their society but also for the school in general, for the church of their choice and for Ada. I love to hear them sing.

The following Franklins entered the Normal the school year '77-8: J.T. McKinley, O.H. Thomas, a great solicitor and a great favorite with the ladies, and N.S. Brackney; two of the Brackneys who were Normalites are in the ministry. All were good students. Geo. A. Barber, J.L. Cochran, a Wayne county friend, two Christies and three or four other Wayne county boys and girls entered, all Franklins but one. Wm. Stoll, of Orville, joined the Philos. Eva Dukes, Hattie F. Dowling and D.D. Darbyshire became Franklins. This year we added H.M. Ebert and Benjamin and John Meck. They came, in the raw, but all have made their mark. Ebert has been principal of the Elyria high school many years, Benjamin Meck, the father of Lehr Meck, is a prominent attorney at Upper Sandusky and John Meck, Esq., is a prominent citizen of Bucyrus. Ebert and Mecks joined the Franklins and so did H.H. Folk and G.W. Foltz and F.C. Fryette. Fryette later became one of the teachers in the Normal.
Benjamin Freed, Will E. Hill, Belle J. Kerr, W.C. Keis, G.D. Kiser and J.P. Lasure usually called Port Lasure entered, Will E. Hill is the son of Doctor Hill now living in Ada. Port Lasure is practicing law in Ottawa. He was the valedictorian of his class.


Joe McArthur helped to organize our first band and lead it many years. A.S. Rudy is now Doctor Rudy. He is quite eloquent. There were two J.H. Baldwins in school that year, one a Philo and one a Franklin. One of the two was fine on comic recitations and later taught penmanship for us a year or two. I think it was the Franklin who recited "Socary Settin the Hen." I think I see him and Carlo and Bud Herbert sitting on the Franklin stage grinning. The boys were a jolly set. A.A. Thomas, now a Reverend, visited my office frequently. We were and still are warm friends. J.W. Cross and J.F. Cecil kept up correspondence with me many years. Cecil was a fine singer.

Some time after the Franklins had placed the fine oil painting of Franklin in their hall, Prof. Workman, myself and others were standing in the rear of Franklin hall, I do not remember the subject of the conversation. S.W. Shockey came from the Philo hass with other Philos and joined the group. I think Franklin and the painting was the subject of the conversation. Sam broke in and said, "Professor, why don't the Philos paint a picture of Philo?" The Franklins raised a shout. A witty Philo stood near and said, "Sam, we have a picture of Philo. Come over and I'll show it to you." Sam said, "I never saw it." We all went over to Philo hall. The Philo said, "Philomath means a lover of learning. There is his picture," pointing to a large oil painting hanging on the Philo stage. Then the Philos roared. Prof. Workman quietly remarked, "What a lesson in the abstract and concrete."

The following students joined the Franklins: S.L. Lane, D.D. Landis, Frank Logan, F.A. Mullen, L.O. Moffet, R.A. Stout, W.H. Williams, Aaron Houser, J.H. Kemeser, for some years the owner of the Normal bookstore, Leah and
Elvina Myers enrolled this year. Later a host of the Myers family entered. They bought and paid tuition by the wholesale. One term, including a son-in-law and daughter-in-law, there were ten of the Myers family in school. All Franklins and excellent students.

My friend J.W. Mathews entered this term, an excellent student, and J.C. Ridenour now a prominent attorney practicing in Lima and J.P. Whetsel now a prominent oil operator in Findlay. Israel Williams and winsome Minnie Wright were added to the Franklins. Miss Wright was strong on the stage and an excellent solicitor. No boy could easily escape her smiles. She added many Franklins to the roll. S.G. Obenour a fine singer either entered this year or during the year '75-76. Many others entered that year but I do not remember to which society they belonged some possibly not to either.
CHAPTER 70.

The year '77-8 was an eventful one in the history of the school. We were so pressed for room that it was impossible for the school to grow larger without an additional building.

In the first catalogue published in 1871, the enrollment of the select term the fall of 1870 and the foreign students entering during the year, was 131, in the second catalogue for the first Normal school year, it was 288, the second year of the school, the great panic year and the year we had the trouble about the leaking roof, etc., the enrollment was 281, a loss of seven students. That year there was an additional roof put on the building and settlement made with the trustees of stockholders. The next year or third year, the enrollment was 319, a gain of 35 students. The fourth year it was 357, a gain of 41; the fifth year it was 449, a gain of 92; the sixth year, it was 476, a gain of 27; the seventh year of the school year 1877-8, it was 473, a loss of three students.

Under normal conditions a school as well as a tree must continue to grow. When growth ceases, decay begins, or at least there is danger of decay. We discussed the conditions in our faculty meetings. Prof. Ogden, president of the Normal school at Worthington, started a school at Fayette, O. The Church of God had organized a school at Findlay. After we had bought the Normal school at Fostoria, Prof. Sniff and Prof. Burket started up again at Fostoria and Prof. Hall reorganized the Academy at Milan, O. Prof. Skidmore started a school at West Liberty in Logan county and some parties tried to start a school again in the old college buildings at Northwood, O. There was also talk of organizing a Normal at Middlepoint.

Competition was growing and we were in a tight jacket that allowed no expansion. I talked with many of the citizens of Ada and vicinity. They all appeared to think the town too poor to do anything. I tried to get the citizens of Liberty township interested, but all seemed immovable. Nearly all, both in town and country, said the school was "a good thing;" but many said that when they need houses or barns they build them and if we needed room we should do like-wise. I tried to show them what we had done and the help the school was to every citizen; and also explained that we were not able
financially to build such a house as we needed. I told them my plans, that I thought I could be able in a few more years to have 4000 or 500 students annually. They smiled. I think only two or three citizens believe that I could accomplish what I conceived I could. I think John Dobbins and A. Ream believed that I could accomplish what seemed to others impossible. I suggested taxation either of the whole township or of the village. The township was immovable and there was but little interest manifested in the village.

Finally we said unless we got assistance we would go elsewhere. At first it was said, "Go." I went to various places and corresponded with others. I went to Bellefontaine, to Worthington, to Elery, to Greenspring, Upper Sandusky, etc., etc. When it became known that I really thought of leaving, I suddenly for a second time, became the meanest man in town. One man a butcher, whose name I have forgotten and I would not give it if I could, said that I would be mobbed if I attempted to leave. I was the store box subject of conversation. I never heard that I was a Jew and called on Pontius Pilate to crucify him, or that I was a Tory during the American Revolution or a Rebel spy; but was guilty of about everything else. Apparently I had but few friends left in town. I became somewhat sour. I never claimed entire sanctification. I suddenly became aware that I owned but a sixth of the plant. It was true that I had twelve years of hard work invested with scanty remuneration financially, but I was only forty years old and could try again. I was out of debt and had a little more money than I brought to Johnstown.

I had many friends in eastern Ohio. I found I could get the Alliance school the next year, which later I handed over to my friend, Prof. J. Fraise Richard, whom we had bought out at Fostoria. I was still looking for a town that wanted a Normal school. I was well acquainted with Peter Cuneo, editor of the Wyandotte county Republican. He was the orator on Arbor day when we planted hundreds of trees on and around the school campus. He and a number of our students worked up a strong sentiment in upper Sandusky in favor of starting a school there. The Faculty on invitation went to see the situation. Jacob Leinard went along to take observations. We presumed that he reported that in all probability we would go there to start a school.

That evening, after we returned, a committee of citizens came to see me and informed me that there was a called meeting in the basement of the M.E. church to consider some plan of raising the money for a new building by taxation and suggested that I present a written statement of what the Faculty would do and what we would ask the citizens to do. I will send the original copy to the editors of the Herald to be inserted in this chapter.
Each member of the Faculty as he entered the church received an ovation, and although but a few days before the meanest man in town, I never before or since have received a more cordial welcome than I did that evening. A. Ream, Hiram Shannon, Henry Young, Chris Young, John Dobbins and many others told of the hard work, etc., etc., needed to build a big school. Before the meeting I called together the members of the Faculty to prepare our propositions. There were eight pages; the third page is lost.

Proposition to School board, Ada., O., by the Faculty of the N.W.O.N. School.

1. The Faculty of the Normal School is to convey by warranty deed a parcel of land commencing at the N.E. Corner at intersection of Main St. and Peach Ave., thence south to a line running midway between two rows of evergreens about 25 ft. north of the present Normal building, thence west to Gilbert St., thence north to Peach Ave., thence east to place of beginning, containing two acres more or less.

2. The Faculty of the Normal School is to educate free of tuition all scholars within the present limits of the district now known as the Ada Union school district; said scholars to have passed a certain grade hereafter to be described. First: no scholar to have his tuition free in what are ordinarily known as the common branches, viz: Orthography, Spelling, Arithmetic in all its forms and names, Geography in all its forms and names, English Grammar in all its forms and names, English Reading, in all its forms, ... curriculum of the institution. Also in all the ancient languages known as the classics as far as published in the curriculum.

Second: No legal school scholar shall enjoy these privileges unless a bona fide inhabitant of the said district at the present date (of this instrument) and others after their parent or parents have been bona fide residents of the district one year and of these only such as have attended the Union school of Ada one year.

3. On the second part, the Ada Union School Board shall pay $2000.00 in cash for the ground specified in the first section.

4. In consideration of the advantages afforded by the Normal school in general and in tuition to legal school youth, the School Board shall erect on a site mutually agreed upon between Board and Faculty, upon the ground described in the first section. A school building the plans and specifications of which with proper heating apparatus, shall be mutually agreed upon, and properly seated, by mutual consent at a cost not less than $16,000. Two thousand dollars to be laid out in fencing, grading and
apparatus, the apparatus not to cost less than $1500 and said building, ground building, and apparatus, furniture, etc., to be leased to the Faculty of the Normal school for a period of thirty years for school purposes only. The Faculty paying for all ordinary repairs not including repairs of foundation, wall, roofing, and matters of like nature.

5. And should there ever be a tax assessed on the school property personal and real still remaining in the hands of the faculty the School Board are to pay the same as rental for the instructions of school youth that will necessarily occur on said grounds and in said building now and hereafter belonging to the Faculty.

6. The Faculty as the party of the first part do hereby agree to give bonds, secured by mortgage, on all their real school property, to continue to take charge of the Institution known as the N.W.O.N. school, and to take a deep interest in its welfare, for the period of thirty years, not to teach in any other Normal school, Seminary or College within a radius of 125 miles.

7. The scholars admitted from the Union school district shall be admitted to the same general advantages and governed by the same general rules as other students, and under the control of the Faculty as other students, with this special understanding that the Faculty have the privilege of dividing the said scholars between or among the Literary societies even should foreign students not be so divided.

H.S. Lehr, G.W. Rutledge, J.G. Park, F. Maglott
While reading our proposition I was asked to make a number of changes. By consent of the Faculty I made them. Any person desirous of seeing the first draft can call at the Herald office. The article on taxes is crossed out, but I will explain that further on. At the close of the meeting there was a vote taken to ascertain how many of those present were in favor of taxing the Union school district to raise the money. Only one man voted against the proposition. I will not give his name. Before a tax could be levied, a law would have to be enacted to permit the citizens of the district to vote on the question whether the Board of Education should have the privilege to levy a tax.

The 16th of April was near the close of the session and the legislature was Democratic. A leading Democrat and I had been political opponents a number of years. It was known that he was opposed to the entire scheme of taxing the people to build the house although he had not been at the meeting at the church. He had been making his boast that he would defeat the plan in the legislature.

The night of the meeting at the church, Henry Zugschwert, L.W. Reece, J.E. Lowry and myself started for Columbus to work for the law. Zugschwert and Reece were Democrats, Lowry was a Republican. Zugschwert said, "If I can see Senator Norton, of Senaca county, and get his promise before Mr. ____ sees him we will get the law through. We got there first and got Norton's consent. I may be of some interest to the old citizens of Ada to know how it happened that those two leading Democrats helped me fight for the measure. I shall here describe some secret history. The school campus was deeded to Lehr, Park and Niesz in 1870. The auditor happened to be my personal friend. When I went to see him after the deed was recorded he said he would not transfer it to our names because he thought we ought not to pay any tax as it was really school property. I thought so too. Two years we paid tax on some of our personal school property.

While I was a member of the Board of County School examiners, a certain fall, I had a particular experience which I will relate. In the early days when there
was no pike to Kenton and there were few ditches, the roads were bad and I
drove two horses on my trip to Kenton. The team cost $4.00, the feed 50
cents, my dinner 50 cents and we were allowed $2.00 a day for our services.
We held examinations then more frequently than they now hold them. An Ada
examiner was more expensive than one residing in Kenton. The other two
members of the Board were Zenas McCoy and Rev. Waddle. Mr. McCoy lived
about five miles from Kenton, Rev. Waddle resided in town. I had not paid my
livery bill for the quarter, I needed money to pay my taxes and needed a few
dollars for Christmas. I was hard pressed for money. The last examination for
the quarter was held the Saturday before Christmas. It was a very cold day,
several degrees below zero; but I needed my check and drove to Kenton.
There were but three examined that day. Mr. McCoy, the president of the
Board, did not come. Rev. Waddle, the clerk, made out the statement for my
pay and expenses and signed it; but it had to be signed by the president to
make it valid. I went to the auditor who happened to be a Republican and
asked him to take it and get the signature of Mr. McCoy when he would come
for his pay and give me a check for the amount. He refused to do so. He said
there was no sense in appointing an examiner in Ada when there were men in
Kenton fully as competent to perform the duties and it would be less
expensive. He proposed to see to it that there would be a change; and he
further stated that we were not paying taxes on our school property and he
would see that we would pay taxes in the future. I made no reply. I went to the
office of the treasurer. Henry Shingle, a royal good fellow, was treasurer. He
was a Democrat and I had not voted for him; but I had the temerity to present
my case to him, told him I wanted to pay my taxes and my livery bill. He said,
"I can not cash your order without the name of McCoy, but I will give you
check on the back and when McCoy comes to town, will get him to sign your
order." He gave the check, I got the money, paid the tax bill, paid "Bill" Urich
the livery bill and had a few dollars left for Christmas. The Normal in those
days was not an oil well flowing 200 barrels a day.

On my way home from Kenton, I fully resolved that the auditor would not get
my vote for a second term. He was renominated. Sometime during the
campaign, Henry Zugschwert who was the Democratic candidate came to me
and asked me to vote for him. I said, "Henry, if I will work for you and you are
elected, will you keep the Normal school property off the tax duplicate?" He
replied, "I can not promise that, Lehr, but trust me, you will find me all right." I
trusted him and about a week before the election I put on my fighting gloves,
but quietly. I went to Dunkirk and saw some of my warmest army friends, told
them the story of the school tax, our struggle to build up the school, etc. I
appealed to their professed friendship, and some favors I had bestowed on
them while in the army. Got about five or six votes there. I worked among the students and warm friends of the school in the village. I wrote the name of Zugschwert on many a ticket. The judges recognized the hand writing. They reported forty-three extra votes.

Zugschwert was elected. He became my warm friend. He told Senator Norton what I done for him and that I could do the same for any friend of the school. He introduced me to about all the Democratic members of both houses. W.L. Reece, also a Democrat, helped the good cause along. He, at the time, was treasurer and township treasurer. He was also a good friend of the school. Judge Lowry and others took care of the Republicans. The enabling act or law was passed in a short time. I give this secret history to show what strange results may hinge on a trifling circumstance. The democrat who went to Columbus to fight the law, in later years became my warm friend and his brother and son and daughter today are my friends. The trouble between us was entirely political.

The Normal school property remained on the free list. Some may say, "Was this right?" I believed that we were doing much for Ada, Liberty Township, Hardin county, and for Ohio. For we founded a school where the "Common People" could obtain an education in almost every line. The small colleges and universities of Ohio being church schools paid no taxes, were expensive and failed to teach many, many lines of learning needed by the world. They had no teachers' training classes, no book-keeping, stenography, engineering, pharmacy, nor law courses; but little if any music and no fine art. We were endeavoring to furnish all at a minimum cost. I am willing to leave the case to our old students and the citizens of Hardin county.
CHAPTER 72.

On the 29th day of April, 1878, we entered into a contract with the directors of the union school district for thirty years. I was then forty years old. I am now sixty-seven. We gave that contract to the present board of trustees when we sold the school to the M.E. church. I think I could rewrite much of that contract almost word for word, but it is lengthy and would perhaps not be interesting to the general reader. I will say this however, that no town in Ohio ever made a better investment in every respect, in culture, refinement, renown and financially than Ada did, April 29th, 1878. The free tuition afforded pupils in one of the best universities in the country, is of inestimable value to Ada financially and otherwise.

The contract differed materially from the propositions we made to the citizens at the meeting in the basement of the M.E. church. Before binding myself to remain thirty years I wanted to own a larger share in the school. The town was to pay us $2000 for their part of the campus. Prof. Park who owned a third interest in the school, proposed that if I would give him my share of the $2000, he would sell me a twelfth interest in the school. Now each partner owned a fourth interest.

We wanted the board of school directors to agree to pay all taxes that might be assessed against our part of the school property. Legally they could not bring the district to do so. I had so far managed the tax problem, but I have been so unfortunate as occasionally to have some enemies. I have many warm friends and I have some very bitter enemies and strange to say it so happens now and was so then, that my bitterest enemies were those to whom I had been most kind and accommodating. I felt that the tax problem must be solved then or never. I refused to contract without some guarantee. I had studied on the tax problem to get the new building for which I give myself as much credit as for any act or work that I did in building up the Normal. Now a new problem had to be solved and solved quickly. I proposed that fifty or more citizens should sign such a guarantee as would free us in the future of that burden. We engaged a competent attorney to draw up a paper that would be binding in law. We wanted no loophole for the signers to crawl out. I will here insert the document and the names of those who signed it.
We the undersigned citizens of Hardin county, Ohio, in consideration that the Faculty of the North Western Ohio Normal school located at Ada, Ohio have this day signed and contracted with the directors of the Ada Union school district located in said county of Hardin and state of Ohio to continue the said North Western Ohio Normal school for the term of thirty years from this date at Ada, Ohio, under and by virtue of the said contract herein after referred to, do for ourselves, our heirs, or assigns hereby mutually agree to pay or cause to be paid all taxes, state, county or municipal (except sidewalk) that may be legally levied upon what is now known as the North Western Ohio Normal school building, and grounds located in Ada, Ohio, for a period of thirty years from this date, providing the said Faculty of the North Western Ohio Normal school, their heirs, assigns or successors shall continue said school for said period of thirty years at Ada, Ohio.

Should said Normal school be abandoned or cease to be taught as per agreement with the said school board before the expiration of the said contract herein referred to by said Faculty, their heirs, assigns or successors, then this obligation shall be void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue in law and be a lien upon our estate both real and person.

In testimony whereof we voluntarily subscribe our names this 29th day of April A.D. 1878.


Accepted April 29th, 1878.

H.S. Lehr & Co.

Received January 8, 1879
Recorded January 11, 1879.
I certify that the above is a true copy as recorded in Volume B. pages 111 and 112 Hardin county, Ohio, Lease Records.

December 28, 1904

Francis L. Runser R.H.C.O.

C.E. Stumm, E.W. Gilbert, and Jacob Leinard carried around the paper to procure signers.

Some time in April the citizens voted on the proposition to tax the Union school district for $22000. I think that was the amount. We wanted not less that $25000 and eventually that amount was invested and probably a little more. There were only twenty three votes recorded against the tax. Five voters made it known that they opposed the tax because they did not like Lehr. One farmer came to me and said, "I am your friend and a friend of the school. I paid forty dollars on the first building, but I can't afford to pay the tax." Others said it would make rent higher and for that reason voted "no." The day after the vote, the butcher who said to me that I would be mobbed if I would leave Ada, called me into his shop and fixed up one of the finest roasts I ever ate. He said, "This is a dollar roast." He was as friendly as one could be. Milton Nelson, a warm friend said, "Now, Lehr, we will lay you to rest a mile south of town."

I must relate one tax experience. About ten or twelve years after the above guarantee had been signed, a friend for whom, for a certain reason, I could not vote, stirred up the tax subject. He remarked to people that the faculty did not pay any tax and that it was an outrage. He was not a resident of Ada. Two noted talkers who still reside in Ada stirred up quite a breeze. We heard more and more talk about the tax. One of my associates got quite nervous about it. One of the two talkers had signed the guarantee, but had forgotten it, the other man's name was not on the paper, but he had bought a lot of one of those who had signed and had built quite a good house on it. He was the principal talker. I still had the paper and what was equally good it was recorded. I called to see the one who had signed the agreement and said, "I understand you think that the tax on the Normal building and campus still belonging to the Faculty ought to be paid. He replied with emphasis, "Yes sir, I do. I pay my taxes and you fellows are making money and don't pay a cent on that school property. It's an outrage." I quietly remarked, "Mr. _____, I beg pardon, but you don't pay all your taxes." "I Don't, eh! But I do!" I pulled the guarantee out of my pocket and told him to read it. When he got to his name
became somewhat profane the only time I ever heard him use profane language.

Next called on the loquacious fellow. Remarked that it was reported that he thought that some one ought to pay taxes on the Normal school property. He became eloquent and read the pedigree of several of the owners. When he was told that he ought to pay his share, he wanted an explanation. I told him there was a lien on his property, showed him the guarantee and informed him that it was on the records. He examined his abstract of title, growled a few words, but became quiet. It was the only time in all my experience with him that he appeared beaten. Ever after that, he was quiet about the tax.

For the benefit of abstractors let it be remembered that one does not only want to look for mortgages at the Recorder’s office, but also for liens and leases. The abstractor should also look at the records of all the county offices. Many, many circumstances occurred during the school year ’77-8, but the reader must not be burdened with a longer story.
CHAPTER 73.

The commencement program of '77-78 on file was printed in Alphabetical order by mistake. Charles Melhorn was valedictorian.

Program.

9 o'clock, a.m.
Anthem, Inflammatus..........................Bassini

Invocation.

Greeting.
Victory.................................Eugene D. Bosworth, C. Ind.

Present Influence of Ancient Literature..................C.W. Butler, C. Plymouth, O.
May We? Can We? Will We?..................Eva L. Drown, S. Ada, O.
Piano Solo, Last Hope..........................Gottschalk. Mrs. Hattie Rowley.
Effulgence of Beauty..................G.W. Hall, C. Auburn, Ind.
The Marble Awaiteth Thee, ..................Rose D.B. Holeywell, S. Mansfield, O.
Semi-Chorus, Miserere..........................Verdi

Influence of Science on Religion, ..................W.F. Hufford, S. Ada, O.
Influence of the Teacher, ..................Chloe B. Jones, C., Los Angeles, Cal.
Religious Liberty the Corner Stone of Civil Polity, ..................H.E. Lacey, S., Ada, O.
Vocal Solo, Sing, Smile, Slumber..................Gounod, Ida A. Lehr.

1:30 o'clock, p.m.

Blessed Are the People..................Reghini
Our Nation.............................Chas. Melhorn, S. Ada, O.
Universal Peace..................D.G. Wylie, C., West Geneva, O.
Male Chorus, All Hail, Liberty's Chieftain........Auber.
Nothing New.............Mary E. Young, S., Millersburg, O.
Supreme Wisdom, in the Handiwork of Nature, .................Will D. Stratton, C.
Vocal Solo, Ernani................................Di G. Verdi, M. Anna Nation.
Address to class........Hon. Wm. Lawrence, Bellfontaine, O.
Presentation of Diplomas by the President........H.S. Lehr
Class Song..................................M. Anna Nation

Benediction.

Class Song

Dedicated to the class of '78 by Mollie Schoonover.

To the Past, in beauty lying,
Turn our earnest longing eyes,
Here and there loved scenes descrying,
Glowing 'neath Time's sunny skies.
Farewell, farewell!
And yet we fain would stay;
For memories dear
Fill our hearts to-day.
But the present waits not for us;
Soon must separate our band,
Angel forms are bending o'er us,
As we press the parting hand.
Farewell, farewell!
Classmates and friends so dear;
And may we ne'er
Forget the ties formed here
Bright the Future now is gleaming,
Calling us its paths to try.
May our good be real, not seeming;
Every aim be pure and high.
Farewell, farewell!
Again the sad refrain:
The moments fly,
We may not here remain.
Life. O life! so strangely fleeting.
What hast thou for us in store?
Joy, and sorrow, parting, meeting;
Meeting them to part no more.
Farewell, farewell,
Until that happy time;
Parting comes not,
In Heaven's joyous clime.
Of the Classical graduates, three were Franklins, two Philos; of the Scientific, two were Franklins, four were Philos. Chloe B. Jones did not belong to either society. She and Miss Holywell were of the number brought by Prof. J. Fraise Richard when we bought the school at Fostoria. She presented a fine thesis. For many years she was one of the leading teachers of the city schools of Los Angeles, Cal. I think at one time she was superintendent of the schools. Of the Commercial graduates, A.C. Elliott was a Philo, Fellers, Hesser and Marrs were Franklins. I think Charles Richison was a Franklin, but am not certain. Charles Melhorn, later Judge melhorn, was valedictorian and E.D. Bosworth had the salutatory oration. Mr. Melhorn had been my pupil in the public schools in 1866 and my student in the Normal. As I now remember he was a member of the class in McGuffey's Second Reader in 1866. At that time Johnstown, later Ada, had but one teacher for the entire district, country and town. Mr. Butler entered as a foreign student either in the spring of 1867 or '68. I think it was the spring of '67. His father, a physician, resided in Marseilles, Marion county. Mr. Hufford entered the Fall term of '68 or '69, I think it was the Fall term of '69. The other members of the class entered later.

The Philomathean Triennial Reunion, the Commencement and the Annual Contest were all pronounced a great success. Forty-four old Philos dined at the Lehr table Commencement week. It was Philo year. In Franklin years, the Franklins made the Lehr house, the Franklin home. Another year had closed. The students went home happy, for since a large new house was started they all felt that the school would be permanent and a success.
CHAPTER 74.

Catalog No. 8 of the school year 1877-8, with announcements for 1878-9, was again given to J.E. Fisher, editor of the Ada Commercial. The Faculty remained the same as the previous year, Lehr, Park, Maglott and Rutledge, now equal owners of the school.

During the last year we had added Eva Sisson as teacher of Mathematics and we made no mistake in employing her. She is remarkably strong in that line of work; in fact she is strong in nearly every line.

Prof. Pontius resigned and we employed Miss Anna M. Nation and J. Albert Davis to teach vocal and instrumental music. Mrs. Hattie Rowley had also resigned.

For the year '78-79 the instructors remained the same as the previous year with the changes above enumerated. We, however, dropped the name of Prof. Kidd, as he concluded that it hardly paid him to continue the work.

This year we changed the length of the terms and the date of the commencement exercises.

The Fall term of twelve weeks commences Tuesday, August 13, 1878. Vacation one week. Winter term of twelve weeks commences Tuesday, November 12, 1878. Vacation one week. Spring term of twelve weeks commence Tuesday, February 11, 1879. No vacation. Normal term of ten weeks commences Tuesday, May 6, 1879.

On the day and evening of July 9, 1879, there will be a Reunion of the Franklin Literary society of the Northwestern Ohio Normal School. Commencement exercises, Thursday, July 10, 1879. Contest between the Literary Societies on the evening of July 10, 1879.

It will be observed that commencement came on Thursday this year. Heretofore it came on Friday. We made the change to accommodate our students who came from a distance. Many could not reach home by leaving
on Saturday and all wanted to stay for the contest. We also raised the tuition some. We charged as much for twelve weeks as we had been charging for thirteen and charged $8.00 for the Summer or Normal term of ten weeks. The contract between the Faculty of the Normal and the School Board stipulated that the Faculty should receive $2000 for the north half of the campus, or more exactly speaking, the land between Peach avenue and the center of the row of evergreens. The building to be erected was not to cost over $16000, the plans and specifications of which, together with proper heating apparatus, furniture and seating to be mutually agreed upon between the said parties, and to expend not to exceed the sum of five hundred dollars ($500) in addition for the improvement of the grounds, fences and walks on said premises and to expend a sum of not less than fifteen hundred dollars ($1500) for philosophical, astronomical and other necessary apparatus for the use of said school; the amount and kind of which was to be mutually agreed upon by said parties and to complete the building, ready for occupancy, on or before the 1st day of August, 1879; and lease said premises to the said H.S. Lehr, John G. Park, George W. Rutledge and Frederick Maglott, for the period of thirty (30) years from the 1st day of August, 1879 for school and literary purposes only. Then followed what branches the Faculty were to teach, the branches excepted, who should be eligible for examination when the examination should be held, the necessary grade to pass, who should do the examining, etc.

We reserved the right to divide the students entering from the village school between the literary societies. For certain reasons, which I may give later on, we feared that more from town would join one society than the other which might be detrimental to the school. The Board of Education had to keep in repair the foundation, walls, roof, walks, and all matters of like nature. We were bound not to teach in any college, seminary, normal or similar school for thirty years within a certain radius, I think it was a radius of 200 miles; and before taking possession we were to give a mortgage on our part of the campus for $4000 as a guarantee that we would fulfill our part of the contract.

The Fall term began August 13th. The assurance of a new building boomed the school. The increase in attendance was remarkable. Many people were incredulous as to my expectations and predictions. In the fall of '78 when excavating for the basement story, Mr. McConnell, who now resides in Kenton, but who was then assisting Mr. Dietrick, who was pike contractor and who had contracted to build the new Normal building, remarked that we would never fill such a large building with students. The same remark had been made in regard to the first building, but in two years we needed more room.
The enrollment for the school year, 1878-9 was 695, while the previous year it had been 473, an increase of 222 nearly 47%. We were overflowing. We had to rent rooms in which to teach the Fall, Winter and Spring terms. I still had my office in Poverty Hall and taught my small classes in my office.

Many new students came in this year, more than any previous year and many old ones returned. I still recall very many of those who entered that year but as I look at their names in my file of catalogs I cannot recall the faces of all nor connect them with some circumstance which occurred in which they were concerned. I will name some of those whom I can recall the name the society to which they belonged. Two very excellent students entered the fall of '78 who graduated with the class of 1879. They remained but one year, although later Mr. D.F. Ward, one of the two, came to take post graduate work. Mr. Ward was not only a hard student and prepared good lessons, but he was a true gentleman. We had few students while I was president of the school that shared an equal degree of culture and refinement. He has followed teaching since leaving the Normal and is now and has been for some years, superintendent of the city schools of Lorain, O.

Miss Lillie Woodruff of Salem, O., was an equally fine and cultured student. She was known as the fine Franklin elocutionist. She was a favorite with both teachers and students. They were both Franklins.

This year brought some strong Philos, Harvey Brugger, who is a professor at Wooster University, J.W. Campbell, now on the Pacific coast. Many terms he edited the Philo Star. He was witty and wise. He had the wisdom not to be abusive although he at times was pointed. When he was to read the Star all would stay to hear it.

Our own John Davison entered the fall term of 1878. He was the same sedate, thoughtful, studious, dignified gentleman then as he is today. I never knew him to engage in any rough, unmanly conduct. As I now see him as a student in my rhetoric class and other classes and on the society stage, he appears to me to say to himself, "I cannot afford to waste time in foolishness." And now is an Encyclopedia of English Literature. He is a fine teacher and a gentleman.

Satie B. Darling, a real darling in fact as well as in name, entered this term, the Hord sisters entered, fine and handsome ladies; Lillie McKinney, of Lima, an excellent lady joined the Normal phalanx, meek Emma Melhorn, now Mrs. Rev. Cook, entered the ranks, and John Maglott, a cousin of Prof. Maglott,
came that year. I think the fall term. He was an A No. 1 student in every respect. C.D. Sheedenhelm, J.L. Easton, Paul Ream, of Sommerset, Anna Ray, Zelma Snook, now Mrs. B.O. Elliot, G.T. Beatty, Nettie Burlison, Myrtie M. Clark, now Mrs. Bickel, Jennie Christopher, Ella Dawley, Albert C. Frey, J.L. Garvin, Lois E. Gardner, Emma Greer, Ella Greer, Ella W. Holmes, several Heeters, E.D. Johnson, C.E. Kircher, Mae Deming, Belle Armstrong, Belle Johnson, Mary Sheedy, now Mrs. C.H. Workman, Ida Branstitter, Ella Maud Crow, Allen Cook, May Deming, Ella Potter, now Mrs. Will Fahl and many together joined the Philos. What old Philo could ever forget the above named workers. Paul Ream, and E. A. Stone, Miss Snook, and lively George Beatty and Nettie Burlison, now Mrs. Douglass, of Chicago, Albert Frey, and Lois Gardner and the Greer sisters, and the Heeters and Kirchner, now the Rev. Doctor Kirchner living in Missouri. We still correspond. Received a letter from him yesterday. He once had the mumps and measles, both about the same time. And Mae Deming, now Mrs. McCoppin, student, librarian, teacher always kind and obliging.
And what shall I say of the two Belles as they were known in those days? They came to Ada from my Wayne county home. I boarded with the parents of Miss Armstrong before she was born. Her father was one of my warmest friends. They were true Philos, fine workers, full of fun, but true ladies. Miss Johnson teaches in Honolulu. Belle Armstrong is married. They still write to me occasionally.

Allen Cook and L.W. Fairfield had lively times in the Philo hall. Cook is practicing law in Canton. Lydia Darst and Vina Brown of near Dayton entered this year. No better students ever entered the Normal. T.B. Harris and W.H. Merrick were strong students. Merrick practices law in Toledo. He is quite popular. Maude Crow a bright and lively Philo, married one of our most brilliant students, C.J. Keyser, of near Ada. He is now one of the professors at Columbia University, N.Y. He was a Franklin and just as strong a worker for his society as she was for the Philos. How strange! C.J. Keyser, and L.S. Keyser, two of our strongest students, were agnostics; I might almost say atheists and now L.S. Keyser is a minister of the gospel, and contributes excellent articles for many religious journals and C.J. Keyser is a devout christian. Among some of the other strong Franklins I will name A.S. Burkett, Z.T. Gilbert, of Forest, A.J. Hoffman, S.N. Ayres and Jessie Ayres, J.E. McAdams, A.J. Myers, G.W. Pennington, R.E. Sawyer, W.G. Brorein, later Senator Brorein, R.E. Byers, a hard worker, Harvey Close, E.E. Carrier, A.M. Ebersole, Ella M. Holmes, Inez Kelly, J.L. Leonard, Maggie McGinnis, Minnie Grafton, now Mrs. Anspach, and I think Maggie McGinnis is now Mrs. Miller, Michael Morrow, and Max M. Mass the Hebrew. He could quote poetry equal to Prof. Davison. J.B. Steefel, Dora Fritz and Florence Fritz and many other united with the Franklins. At least thirty students residing in or near Ada entered school this year.

In the fall of 1878, Mr. Dietrick the contractor, left Ada and never returned. James Bastable, William Guyton and possibly one or two other gentlemen were on his bond and had to complete the building. A number of hands that had been employed at different times, wanted their pay. The bondsmen could not tell whether their claims were just and refused to pay them. They
threatened to burn the building. Many citizens feared that some injury might be done, and suggested that I should pay the claims and give entertainments and dinners and raise the money in that way. "Yes, of course they would help." "No they would not let me stick." "No they wouldn't." The bills amounted to $56 and some cents. I paid them. I still have the receipt book that has most of the receipts. A number of the receipts written "per Shuster" and not signed. These were written for men who could not sign their names.

I tried to get back my $56. The societies got up an entertainment. The receipts were a little over six dollars. Engaged the services of a noted platform speaker. Lost a few dollars. Then asked a few ladies to prepare a supper for my benefit, but no one cared about paying or working for a dead horse. The bills were paid. But who paid them? It was a bitter lesson but I still live. The school was large, the rooms were few and too small and the work was hard. The students, without request, gave us a fine testimonial which we published in our new catalog. Will insert it in this chapter.

Testimonials.

We the students of the N.W.O.N.S., having attended the school for a number of terms and deeming it our duty to inform the public of the appreciation in which the school is held by all who attend, in and of our own free will, appointed a committee consisting of the following named persons: L.W. Fairfield, B.F. Rhodes, Rose D.B. Holeywell, Mary E. Young, C.B. Hickernell, and Asa Martin, whose business it should be to draft an article in which the sentiments of students with regard to the school would be clearly set forth.

The committee submitted the following article, all of which we believe to be true, and to which our signatures are gladly given:

We take pleasure in recommending to the notice of all, the merits of the N.W.O.N.S., situated in the pleasant village of Ada, Hardin Co., O.

The school being self-supporting and under the supervision of live and energetic teachers who have made the subject of economy a special study, affords all the advantages of a superior mental training unexcelled by any school in the land for thoroughness in the departments of which it treats. One very beautiful feature that characterizes the school, is that implicit confidence may be placed in the printed matter which it circulates.

We have found everything as represented in the catalogue, and feel no hesitancy in encouraging all who may be about to enter school, to give the Normal a trial, for we have been there and know where of we speak.
Trustingly that this may do the good intended and so richly deserved, we very cheerfully subscribe our names:

I.J. Konklin  C.S. Barron
Marion Burnett  L.D. Wisner
J.G. Kishler  R. Fowler, Jr.
W.H. Troup  A. Comrie
C.A. Hover  Monroe Davison
M.G. Eggerman  G.B. Kickerness
Orange Thomas  A.B. Feller
T.D. Lanker  Eug. D. Bosworth
H.E. Lacey  C.W. Johnson
John H. Blaser  J.E. Hesser
J.W. Pyfer  Alice N. Hamilton
Albert Hoover  J.L. Shultz
Jennie M. Jacobs  B.O. Elliot
H.V. Waltermire  S.J. Shetler
J.W. Keplinger  J.W. Caldwell
D.W. Steiner  G.W. Moore
Chas. Melhorn  J.W. Light
N.H. Colwell  W.W. Sibley
G.W. Hall  Retta F. Murray
E.B. Smith  J.W. Baker
D. Edith Heter  J.L. Hampton
A.E. Winter  J.C. Sidle
I.J. Lepley  D.D. Landis
L.E. Griffin  F.M. Houser
B.G. Rutter  B.E. Hamet
H.E. Neff  B. Meck
P.S. Morgan  F.L. Wickert
A.S. Rudy  B.F. Freed
E.W. Henry  W.C. Morgan
W.L. Gilbert  A. Freehafer
J.S. Adams  Charles Myers
H.L. Snyder  E.C. Smith
J.W. Wynn  J.W. McClintock
J.F. Longsworth  H. Hero
S.A. Keister  Israel Williams
A.H. Pool  Henry L. Finzel
S.A. Engleman  J.T. Chambers
E.O. Loveland  W.S. Hanna
B.F. Rhodes  Ella M. Neff
W.B. Jackson  A.E. Walton
Minnie Wright  R.S. Banks
J.W. Culbertson  Stanley Woodruff
S.P. Kail  F. Slonecker
Ada, O., June 1, 1878.

Having frequently visited the Normal School in this place, and being acquainted with most of the teachers especially with H.S. Lehr, A.M., the Principal of the school, whose care for and interest in the welfare of the students can not be exceeded; and knowing that the citizens of Ada take a deep interest in the students, giving them every possible aid religiously, welcoming them to their churches, giving them a place and part in the public services, prayer meetings and Sunday school, and in many other ways giving them aid and encouragement; I can heartily recommend the school to all who desire the advantages of a good Normal school.

P.A. Drown, Pastor
M.E. Church, Ada, O.

The Northwestern Ohio Normal School is an institution answering, in every way, the purpose for which it was founded. Its faculty are a corps of energetic and efficient teachers, strictly unsectarian, yet pervaded by a healthful moral tone, the school is in every respect worthy of the patronage of all who may desire the advantages of a higher education.

C.K. Lehmann, Pastor
Presbyterian Church, Ada, O.
The Franklins had their second Triennial Reunion. They built arches in various places and tried in every way to out do the Philos who had their second Triennial the year before. It was a great success. The valedictory oration, commencement day, fell to the Franklins. The contest was sharp and warm. The principal contestants were C.B. Hickernell, R.L. Miller and D.E. Niver. Hickernell was successful and gave a fine oration.

CLASS OF 1878-9.

CLASSICAL

C.B. Hickernell, Findlay, R.L. Miller, Bluffton.

SCIENTIFIC.

J.W. Caldwell, Freedom Mills; Jonas Cook, Oneida; G.F. Getty, Waynesfield; L.E. Griffin, McComb; Cora Houfstater, Plymouth; Retta F. Murray, Paint Valley; D.E. Niver, Centreton; N.G. Stringfellow, Green Springs; S.J. Shetler, Justus; F.D. Ward, Huntington; Mattie White, West Newton; Lillie D. Woodruff, Salem.

TEACHERS.

G.C. Dulebohn, Welsh Run, Pa.

COMMERCIAL.

J.F. Cecil, New Carlisle; L.J. Keck, Royal Oak; E.O. Loveland, Fremont; F.M. Roberts, Bucyrus; Charles Richison, Roscoe.

POST GRADUATES.

CLASSICAL.

Eva Sisson, W.D. Stratton, D.G. Wylie.

SCIENTIFIC.

This was the first catalog in which we published the names of post graduate students. The class was addressed by Hon. William Lawrence of Bellfontaine.

There were fifteen Literary graduates, all Franklins but three--Jonas Cook, G.F. Getty, and S.J. Shetler. Of the Commercial graduates all were Franklins but J.F. Cecil and E.O. Loveland. There were five members in the Commercial class.

This year brought back a number of old students, S.P. Grey, Isaac Garwood, George Henry and others that were strong friends of the Normal. There were a number of students in the early days who were in school many terms but before we began to graduate. I very much wished to add them to the list of graduates. Among the number were Doctor R.L. Souder, Mrs. Doctor Souder, George Henry, Stephan H. Bigger, Wm. Guyton, George Guyton, K.E. Shuster, John Shanks, Isaac Garwood, George Francis and others whom I could name. The year closed with a spirited contest between the societies in which as usual both sides claimed the victory.
CHAPTER 76.

Catalog No. 9 was printed in Ada by Millar & Thompson, editors of the Ada Record. E.L. Millar had been one of our popular and strong students. It was a fine catalog.

The Faculty remained the same, Lehr, Park, Maglott and Rutledge, but for the first time the name of H.S. Lehr appeared as treasurer.

We still published the names of the instructors of the past year. They were Lehr, Park, Maglott, M.J. Ewing, Eva Sisson, W.D. Woodard, Hattie Towley, Annie M. Nation, E. Eugene Davis and F.C. Fryett. Miss Nation, Mr. Davis and Mr. Fryett were employed during the school year. The new Board of Instructors showed a great change. There was a change in the arrangement of classes. In the early days of the school I had charge of all the large classes, reading, grammar, analysis and geography and the class in Ray's Practical Arithmetic. That class was now assigned to a new instructor, Prof. L.M. Sniff, of whom I will speak later. The class in rhetoric was also taken from my column and given to Mollie Schoonover.

BOARD OF INSTRUCTORS FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 1879-80.


Fred Maglott, A.B., Geography, Astronomy, German, Greek and Latin.

M.J. Ewing, B.S. Natural Sciences.

L.M. Sniff, Mathematics and Botany.

Mrs. L.M. Sniff, Instructor in Primary Teaching.

W.D. Woodard, Plain and Ornamental Penmanship and Bookkeeping.

E. Eugene Davis, Director of Music Department and Teacher of Cornet, Violin, Guitar, Harmony and V(oice) Culture.

Mrs. Hattie Rowley, Piano and Organ.

Mrs. Mary M. Lehman, Painting.

F.C. Fryette, Drawing.

We changed the calendar again. We announced five terms for the next school year. We now named the terms the First Fall, Second Fall, Winter, Spring and Short term. The First Fall, Second Fall and Winter terms each consisted of ten weeks, the Spring term of eleven, and the Normal term, six weeks.

Commencement was announced for May 27th, 1880. The school year now contained 47 weeks. This was a poor arrangement as far as the Normal term was concerned, for nearly all the old students wanted rest and went home. We had a vacation of one week at the holidays and four weeks after the short term. Many students had come from a distance and we were compelled to organize classes to accommodate them to keep them for the next year. We managed the Vacation term as we styled it, in various ways. At first we employed teachers paying them salaries. Later we gave those who taught all they made. Some terms the pay was fair; sometimes it was very little.

The reader will remember that the Board of Education of Ada by authority of the citizens had agreed to erect a school building for our use on certain conditions. The time came to begin the First Fall term, August 13, 1879, but the building was not nearly completed. There were no seats in the society halls, the cloak rooms were not completed and some of the other rooms were not finished, nor was the campus graded nor any walk put down from the street to the building. On Saturday evening, August 10, I called on H.S. Shamun who was then president or secretary of the board of Education and asked for the keys. He replied that we could not have the keys until we would hand over the mortgage for $4000. I replied by asking whether the house was completed and whether they had $500 ready to pay us to do the grading and $1500 for apparatus. The money voted had all been put into the building and
more and there were neither stoves nor furnaces for heating; no bookcases for the text-book library nor cases for apparatus, geological specimens, etc. I enumerated what all was wanting. He hesitated a little and replied, "We have done our best, Lehr, and I'll trust you fellows that you will do the fair thing by the district," and then handed me the keys.

It was several years before we got the money for the apparatus and we never got it for the library cases and the cases for the museums, and we never gave the mortgage.

When I contracted with the town for the first building, some of the leading superintendents of the public schools in the state, predicted that I would fail. They said, "The town will let you stick. That is the general experience in such efforts." Now they said, "Lehr, you fellows will never get along with such a combination. You will have a law-suit in less than two years. Your contract is too complicated." I had explained it to several of my friends. We got along without a law-suit. I tried to keep in touch with the public schoolmen of the state. I felt that Prof. Holbrook of Lebanon had failed in that line.

I have frequently been asked why we put those large glass windows facing the hall in the south room on the lower floor where there should have been black-boards. The fault was mine. I expected that in a few years, when the school would be very large the township, or possibly some rich man, would up another large building and then we would use the entire lower half of the building for a museum and for apparatus. We were told that the west wall for room No. 12, now the school office, could be arched and the floor above well supported. I firmly believe that a school could be built up that would average at least 2000 students and possibly 2500 with an annual enrollment of at least 5000 different students. But the "best laid plans of mice and men" sometimes fail. Later on I will relate other schemes I tried to what shall I say?--float--; I'll say float, but like the celebrated flying machine of Darius Green they did neither fly nor float.

What is now the museum, at first were the cloak rooms. Rooms soon became too scarce to have cloak and hat rooms. No. 6 was to be the general office and what was later used as the office was to be the private office of the president of the school; but for want of room No. 6 was used as a recitation room, the room below the belfry for the office, and the president's private office was the hall-way and the stair balustrade served as office chairs.

There was also at first a movable partition that could be raised in Chapel Hall
west of the rear door. It was placed there that Chapel Hall might be made to serve for two recitation rooms by lowering the partition. The plan proved a failure and when we built the frame house we pulled out the partition.
CHAPTER 77.

The attendance the school year 1879-80 was much larger than the previous year. The gain was 311, 45 percent. The gain the school year 1878-9 had been 222 or 47 percent. In two years the gain in attendance was 533. The whole number of different students for the year 1879-80 was 1006.

On the morning of August 13, 1879, were held the first chapel exercises in the new building. As the house was not nearly completed, there were no formal dedicatory exercises, but it was dedicated to the service of the Lord in spirit. The founder of the school read the whole of the 6th chapter of second Chronicles and Rev. Philip Darwon, pastor of the M.E. church, made the dedicatory prayer. Prof. Ewing remarked after the chapel service, "The house was finely and properly dedicated."

Each of the two literary societies was now to have a hall of its own and apparently both societies wanted the north hall; N.G. Stringfellow really preferred the south hall. My plan was for the president of the societies to cast lots; but Mr. Stringfellow proposed to the Philo executive committee that if the Philos would pay the Franklins $25 they might have the north hall. They accepted the offer and paid the money. The arguments in regard to the pros and cons of the two halls I will not repeat.


Of those names above, Ida Sisson is the sister of Mrs. Maglott. She was a fine worker; and the society never had better or more loyal workers than Flora Teagarden, the Misses Peters, the Misses Seitz, the Misses Wehrmeister, Mary Cooney, Minnie Dickenson, Clara R. Donaldson, Crissie Adams, the noted contralto of the Franklins, Nora Stumm, Elmer Teagarden, "Budd" Herbert, the comic singer, Haskins, Rutan, Foltz, Blacksten, "Senator" Apt, Laser, the Amstutz boys, the Steiners, Brice Truner and Minnie Wright. Miss Wright was a good solicitor, a good performer and was called one of the Franklin beauties. F.F. Douglass and Frank Rutan are practicing law in Chicago, Blacksten is practicing medicine in Mo. Apt, the Senator, is a lawyer, but I have lost his last address; Laser practices law in Mansfield, O.; Teagarden and "Budd" Herbert are preachers and are doing well; Shook has a good business in Cleveland and has a beautiful home. He married a handsome and rich wife. Clara Donaldson one of the Normal's finest students, teaches in the Philippines; Meck is a high school principal in Cleveland. Drury edits a paper at Van Wert, O. The Misses Peters and Seitz are teaching in Marion, O.; Will Park holds a government position in Toledo; and H.P. Wagner was for many years my secretary. He was a noble young man. C.S. Culp is preaching and I think Noah Basinger preaches. Ebert is teaching, Minnie Wright is married and lives in Findlay. Jennie Peters, Sade Edwards, H.P. Wagner, Minnie Dickinson and Alice Inskip are dead. Counselor preaches, Sullivan is a Catholic priest. He was a good student. Byron Wentz takes part in politics.

I could relate a hundred anecdotes of those days, but will relate but one. When James Laser came into the office I surmised that he belonged to the class that Lincoln called the "plain" people. I asked him when and how he lost his arm. He answered the question fully and kindly. When he paid his tuition I handed one-half back to him. He refused to take the money. He said, "I will show to the world that I can make my way with one arm," and he has. He has made life a success.
Fred Black entered the Normal this year. I named him among the Franklins. As I now remember he was a Franklin of the Franklins, and he delighted to have a scrap with the Philos. And what a solicitor and what a schemer! Sometimes he would cause a little trouble about some new member, but I always liked him. Full of fun, but a royal good fellow, I never could tell which he loved, the Franklin Literary society or the Democratic party. All agreed that he enjoyed the society of lively school girls. He and Mr. Funk and a student whose name I have forgotten entered the spring term of '80. We had a long hunt for rooms and had to wade through deep snow drifts. He was (a) successful attorney; was at one time mayor of Mansfield. His death occurred only a few months ago at Mansfield.


Then there entered another student that year, W.W. Poultney by name. He had a sharp eye and a Roman nose. It was commonly reported, especially in later years by the Adelphians that Poultney was a Philo. If my memory serves me aright the report was and is correct. We will put Poultney in the Philo ranks. Oh what a worker and a schemer; but on the whole a fair fighter. He loved his society dearly as he will ever love a wife. He loves the school and he loves Ada. He was in school many terms, completed about all the courses in the different departments and taught in the institution a number of years. Ada is his Mecca. He advised against the organization of the Adelphian society. He said it would destroy the annual contests between the Franklins and Philos and he was correct. It happened as he predicted. He said a triangular fight would cause the loss of interest. My argument was that the societies were getting too large, and that we would soon get another large building and have
four societies, but in that we failed. We had so far devoted a third of our floor space to the use of the literary societies. Very few schools, if any, had devoted so much space for that purpose as we did. From the very inception of the school we had been pinched for money. When Mr. Poultney entered the school he was generally considered a skeptic. Now he is a Baptist and has the largest Sunday school class in Washington, D.C. I will speak of him again.
Philos of '79 - '80

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CHAPTER 78.

Philos of '79-'80 continued.

J.W. Zeis teaches in Tiffin, O., and is a county examiner. Mr. and Mrs. Zeis named their oldest son Lehr Zeis. Lehr graduated from the Tiffin high school two years ago and a few days after graduation, while bathing in Lake Erie was drowned. The Smith sisters and cousins, of Bellevue, were excellent ladies and loyal Philos. They all roomed at the Watt house.

E.S. Stevens was fine student. He is now a missionary in Japan. The Dean boys were all good students, W.E. Hart was a fine student. He is a successful physician. L.H. Seager and W.E. Putt and A.E. Ewers are preachers. I frequently see Mr. Ewers. His was is a graduate last year at Winona Lake. J.H. Fimple is practicing law and is very successful. Flora Cunningham took lessons this year on the piano. Some years later she recited to me in Algebra.

Sarah Caley and Eva Thomas were members of the same class. In an experience of fifty years I never had any pupils that were more refined and agreeable that miss Cunningham, Miss Caley and Miss Thomas, now Miss S.D. Fess. I have had many others equally good, but none better. J. Jerome Welty was a noted Philo poet, Anna Plummer a noted elocutionist.

S.D. Hazlett came to Ada a young sprout of a boy; now he is substantial citizen of Ada. He is like the rest of us, not always perfect, but I always like the boy and still like him. It has been surmised that he is a Democrat.

Perry Turner is now one of Ada's substantial citizens. He and I have been warm friends for many years. Miss Lottie Mathews, now Mrs. Jacob Ream, and Clara House came the Fall term of '79. They slept beneath the Lehr roof the first night they were in Ada. Both were among our best students. Mrs. Ream was a good student as she is a saleslady, just as kind and obliging. The Lehr family reckon her as a true friend and appreciate her friendship. She has not forgotten her first night in Ada. Sarah Day, an excellent lady, entered that year. She was a student many terms.

Many instances could be related which occurred that year but will relate but
two. The societies bought fine pianos. J.L. Hampton, a strong Philo, planned and carried out an excursion to Dayton's Soldier's Home. It was Ada's first excursion there. The Philos cleared $520 and some cents. The other circumstance was of a different nature. A strong Philo, a skeptic, read a series of essays on the "History of the Devil." A very brilliant Philo was critic. He criticized the essay severely. The writer declared if the criticisms would be equally "unjust" the next night he would thrash the critic. The essayist was an athlete, the critic was tall and slender, a great debater but no pugilist. I advised the critic to be careful; but he replied that he would flay him the next night. I visited the Philos that night. The essay, as I thought, was crude, but I hope the critic would pass on it lightly; but his black eyes sparkled fire. He slashed right and left. The hall was packed almost to suffocation. The essayist jumped off the stage and made his way to the critics stand. I yelled out at the top of my voice, "Mr. President." The President recognized me. I stood near the critic. All eyes were turned in that direction. The essayist stopped for a moment. I called out, "Who is president of this society?" The president answered, "I am." I replied, "Well then, act or I will take charge." The essayist called out, "I will settle tomorrow." All became quiet. Carrie McDowell, a strong student, cultured, refined, a womanly woman from the neighborhood of the essayist, was in school that term. She was a tower of strength in the society. Mr. Fimple and I called to see her immediately after breakfast. She roomed on Johnson street. We asked her to accompany us to the room of the essayist. She was to do the talking and she did. In less than half an hour's talk she got his promise to drop the matter and he did and said no more about the Devil. A year or two later she died. Her death was a loss to the world. The critic and the essayist have made life a success. I have lost track of the president.
More Tax Troubles

February 9, 1906, V. XXIII, No. 38

CHAPTER 79.

In the fall of '79, we had more tax trouble. School was growing and some people said we ought to pay tax for the last eight years. We fought it. I still have all the papers of the fight. We carried it to the auditor of state. When I left the auditor's office he remarked, "You have missed your calling, you should have gone into politics." In the statement prepared by us to present to the county auditor, in section four we state that the property is now mortgaged to the Union school board for $4000. That was the contract and we intended to do so as soon as the Board would fulfill their part of the contract. Also in section six we state that the property was put on the free list without our solicitation. It was put on the free list in 1871. It, however, took some work to keep it there.

Statement to the county auditor.

Ada, O., Feb. 6, 1879.

Statement to the auditor of Hardin Co., O., by the Faculty of the Northwestern Ohio Normal School, in regard to the condition, valuation, etc., of the property owned by said Faculty.

1. The property is used both for the free education of the public school youth and also for such scholars as may wish to enter said school, by paying tuition.

2. As there are no state Normal schools, the object of the school is, the training of teachers for their profession.

3. One third of the building is used by public literary societies.

4. The property is now mortgaged to the Directors of the Ada Union school as a guarantee to said school that the Faculty of the Northwestern Ohio Normal school will remain in the town of Ada for a period of thirty years to conduct a Normal school and teach some of the more advanced scholars for the public school.

5. The faculty of said Normal school agreed to sell all of its property, both personal and real, for Four Thousand Dollars ($4000) and take notes
payable in thirty years, without interest. But in case of death, of any
member of the said Faculty then the Ada school board was to pay the
proportionate part of the above named $4000 to the legal heirs of said
deceased member, and further, that should any member of said Faculty
violate his contract with said school, his proportionate part should be
forfeited.

6. The real estate is now on the free list and was put there without
solicitation.

We certify that the above is a true statement of the facts in the case.

H.S. Lehr, President of Faculty.
J.G. Park, Secretary of Faculty.

We concur in the within statement members of the Board of Education,
Cochran.

Auditor's Office Hardin County.

Kenton, O., Feb. 8, 1879.

Respectfully forwarded. The men who have signed this instrument both as
to Faculty and Board of Education are of excellent character and
reputation and have, so far as my knowledge extends, made a true
statement, and as far as I can learn, think it would meet the approval of a
large majority of the tax payers of the county to have the property in
question remain on the free list.

J.H. Welch, Auditor.

Respectfully returned to the auditor of Hardin Co., with the remark that
while it is not perfectly clear, as to the "view of profit" I think it is no stretch
of the law to regard this Normal school an "institution of learning" and that
its property necessary to "run" it, might be exempt from taxes. I would
recommend therefore that it be retained on the exempt list at least for the
small remainder of this "decennial" period.

Jas. Williams, Auditor of State.

Respectfully returned to H.S. Lehr and others. Allow me to congratulate
you, "Gentlemen," shake.

J.H. Welch, Auditor.

We also stated that one-third of the building is used for literary purposes. The rapid growth of the school had its effect on literary societies. In the early days of the school the societies convened at 6:30 p.m. and continued till all had performed that wanted to engage in some exercise. The members were divided into classes and every member was expected to perform as assigned; but now it was impossible to accommodate the hosts of new students. We had fitted the old literary hall for special elocution and athletics. Many students asked permission to organize a literary club to meet there before the Adelphian society was organized. That accounts for section No. 3.

While speaking of the incipiency of the Adelphian society I will name some of the students who had much to do with the organization: Emma Olmstead, Meda Olmstead, Billa Wise, Eliza Wise, Minnie Carey, the mother of Britto Martin. I also remember two other students that met there. Mr. A. Brown, of Apple Creek, Wayne county, O. He was the roommate of H.E. Blacksten a strong Franklin. The other one was Thomas O'Farrell. All the above named persons became charter members of the Adelphian society when it was organized.

One term Mr. O'Farrell got the names of fifty-four new members. No Adelphian ever exceeded that number. I think no Franklin or Philo ever surpassed that number in one term. We became warm friends. Some years after graduating from the Normal he entered a Catholic school in Baltimore to prepare for the priesthood and for work among the colored people of the South. He took sick while there and died. He requested the Bishop to write me a letter thanking me for my kindness to him. I appreciated that letter coming as it did from a Catholic to a Protestant. It with hundreds of other letters is still on file at my home.

I received two other similar letters and one of them was also from a Catholic. Miss Beckwith, of Sante Fe, New Mexico, was a student of the Normal about a year. She was a bright and handsome girl. Some years after she left school I got a letter from Mexico, written in Spanish, by a Catholic priest. I got Mrs. Captain Peshine to translate it for me. It stated that Miss Beckwith requested her mother to write to me and to say that although at "Death's Door" she still remembered me and requested her to thank me for some favors and acts of kindness which I had forgotten. Mr. A.C. Taylor, of Columbus, requested his
friends to write to me and one other student whose name I have forgotten. Mr. Poulney has written me many very warm and friendly letters and later on I may insert extracts from some but will not now as this chapter is already too long.

Graduating Class of 1880.


Each member of the class was still compelled to deliver an oration. Many of the orations were fine. By a unanimous vote of the class, the president of the school was requested to address the class.

The second Alumni Reunion was held May 27th. It was pronounced a success. Another successful year had closed.
CHAPTER 80.

Catalog No. 10 for the school year 1879-80, with announcements for '80-'81 was given to E.L. Millar, of Ada, and he furnished us with a finely executed book. He could send it out with pride.

The proprietors or owners remained the same as the previous year and the officers remained the same, but D.L. Retty, a stenographer and fine penman, was employed to assist the president of the school in the office.

The terms and tuition remained the same except that we now charged $1 a week when students paid for less time than a term and we also instituted the now well known Term plan and Year plan arrangements for the accommodation of worthy students without much means. To be candid, it must be confessed that it was also considered a good advertising scheme.

For ten weeks, the Term plan was $26; for the Spring term of eleven weeks, it was $28 and for the school year of 47 weeks we charged but $105; only $2.25 a week for board, room and tuition. After paying board and room, we had but little left for tuition on the year plan and not very much on the term plan but we managed to live and employed good teachers.

The students again brought us a fine recommendation without asking for it. The recommendation again stated that all we advertised could be relied on as true. The recommendation was a valuable contribution to our catalog. Hundreds of students signed it.

The public occasions announced were a Philomathean Reunion for May 25, 1881; Commencement May 25, and the annual Contest between the Franklin and Philomathean Literary societies, Thursday evening, May 26, 1881.

In this catalog we omitted publishing the names of the teachers of the school year just closed as we had been in the habit of doing, for several reasons. One was that scores of students offered to teach a class each term of the year, as they said for the experience. They would ask no pay. They would have their names in the catalog to show to friends and members of school-
boards. We had to quit the practice. The teachers employed for the school year 1880-81, were H.S. Lehr, J.G. Park, Fred Maglott, M.J. Ewing, L.N. Sniff, Mrs. L.N. Sniff, Mollie Schoonover, Eva Sisson, Wm. A. Smith, W.D. Woodard, D.S. Retty, J.J. Jelly, F. Griffin, J.W. Rusk, Mrs. Lola M. Rusk and Miss Crane. Miss Crane remained only about six months. We then employed Prof. Bock to fill the vacancy.

Prof. Sniff proved to be a strong man, well liked as a teacher. As I stated in a former number he had taught at Republic, Seneca county, at Fostoria and also in a college in Kentucky. He brought students from all those localities. He is now the popular president of the Tri State Normal college at Angola, Ind. One of the classes assigned him was the class in Practical Arithmetic. I had to resign that class on account of the large amount of office work. He managed the class to my full satisfaction. We elected Wm. A. Smith to take charge of Surveying, Engineering, Drawing and Architecture.

I recognized that he was strong in those lines of work and persuaded his father to send him to the Ohio State University to more fully prepare himself for his work. He succeeded finely. When Ex-President Grant was elected president of a great railroad in Mexico and advertised for civil engineers, he and N.G. Stringfellow and N.H. Colwell went to Cincinnati to take an examination with other applicants for positions. Five of our students went to the examination. Prof. Smith, Stringfellow and Colwell passed and got good positions. Stringfellow died in Mexico, the other two returned. Smith is in the employ of the B&O railroad and is paid a good salary; Colwell is engaged in manufacturing and commercial enterprises in Boston, Mass. and has grown rich even in the modern use of the term. The boys received fine salaries in Mexico, $250 a month and expenses.

One of the few teachers employed was J.J. Jelly and we made no mistake. He was to teach Voice Culture, Harmony, Rudiments and Organ. He was master of his work and could rightfully be called a hustler. He is now teaching music at Buckhannon, W. Va. This year we also employed Prof. F. Griffin to teach orchestral instruments. He remained with us till we sold the school. He was a faithful teacher and his two sons and two daughters were faithful Philomatheans, especially the daughters and more especially Miss Britto. For many years she led the Philo orchestra. This year we also employed Prof. J.W. Rust and Mrs. Lola M. Rusk to teach Elocution and Gymnastics. They were fine people and good teachers. They remained with us three years. Miss Crane was employed to teach piano. She taught about six months. We employed Prof. Bock to take her place. The number of different students
enrolled the school year 1879-80 was 1006; the enrollment for the year 1880-81 was 1402, an increase of 396 students, 39 1/2%. The increase the two previous years had been 222, or 47 per cent; 311 or 45 per cent and now 396, or 929 in three years. The growth was phenomenal and aroused the envy of some sister schools in Ohio.

We were often asked how it happened that the school flourished so greatly. The answer was always ask our students.

The First Fall term of 1880 began August 10. There were many new students. In the early days of the school nearly every student would take some part in the exercises of the two literary societies. The societies were called to order at 6:30 and would seldom close before 11 o'clock. But now the school was so large that but few could get an opportunity to perform on the stage. Many plans were suggested. Mr. Poultney and others suggested Junior and Senior societies, the Juniors meeting on Friday evenings and the Seniors on Saturday evenings. Many students objected to this plan. I was very certain that we would soon be able in some way to get another large building, then we could organize two societies. For the time being we could use the old society hall, the room now occupied by the College of Commerce for the Practical department. We could and did rent Ream's hall, now the Fraternity hall, in which to teach bookkeeping.

I spoke to a number of students and asked them to help me to organize a new society. W.W. Poultney, Prof. W.J. Ewing and others declared that it was a great mistake, that a third society would kill the interest in the literary contests. I replied by saying that we would have fine halls in our next building to accommodate two societies and they could contest. We never got the large new building and Poultney and his friends were correct, the third society destroyed the interest in the literary contest; but not in soliciting for members.
On the evening of September 3rd, 1880, we met in the third story of the old brick building for the first regular meeting. There had been some preliminary meetings at which committees were appointed to draft a constitution and by-laws, to select a name, a motto, etc. At the regular meeting Prof. Maglott was elected president, Mrs. Maglott vice-president, J.W. Abercrombie, of West Virginia, secretary, M.C. Gray, of West Virginia, critic, and H.S. Lehr, at his own request, marshall, C.H. Handly was elected chorister and W.S. Jones, chairman of the executive committee.

The marshall permitted all comers to enter the hall at any time, but allowed no one to leave the room before the close of the society. At the first meeting the constitution was adopted and name chosen. I have not the Adelphian records at hand, but am told that there were thirty-two charter members. I will name those whom I can remember: J.W. Abercrombie, J.G. Ames, Thos. O'Farrell, M.C. Gray, Lois Kelly, Minnie Carey (now Mrs. Martin), H.G. Minnich, E.E. Rayman, Eliza Wise, Arvilla Wise, Meda Olmstead, Emma Olmstead, A. Brown, W.L. Guthrie, C.H. Handley, W.L. Merwine, Effie McCoy, W.H. Maurer, J.W. Zachman, J.H. Blacker and W.S. Jones, and I think A. Stevens.

Of the charter members above named J.G. Ames, Thos. O'Farrell, M.C. Gray, Eliza Wise, Vitia Wise, Meda Olmstead and Effie McCoy are dead. Minnie Martin resides in New York City, E.E. Rayman is superintendent of the city schools of East Liverpool, A. Brown, is sheriff of Wayne county, O., C.H. Handley is teaching somewhere in Michigan, H.C. Minnich is dean of the State Normal School at Oxford, O., W.L. Merwine is practicing law in Columbus, O. W.H. Maurer I think is superintendent of the schools of New Philadelphia. Two of his brothers later joined the Adelphian society and are now teaching. L.W. Zachman is a minister of the gospel and the last time I heard from J.H. Backer he was sheriff of Pickaway county, O., W.S. Jones is auditor of Logan county, Ohio.

For many years the Adelphians had a hard struggle for existence. The hall was not equal to the other hall. They had a small library and were too weak to solicit on equal terms with the old societies and the old memberships and
friends were all in favor of the old societies. There was a schism in the society and by permission a number of members withdrew, among them H.C. Minnich and C.H. Handley. Minnich then joined the Philos and Handley the Franklins. Handley was one of the best singers in school while he was here and one of my special favorites.

The Adelphian society now has a good half and is prospering finely.

I have neither time nor space to name many of the numerous students who entered the Normal in 1880-81. In fact when I read over the names in the catalog for that year, I cannot tell all who were new students, as I could when the school was small. I taught fewer classes and became less intimately acquainted than when I taught most of the large classes. I will name some of those whom I still well remember.

J.S. Fisher, of Pennsylvania, a graduate of one of Pennsylvania's State Normal schools, entered the Fall term of '80. He remained in school two full years. On completion of his course, the Classical, we employed him as one of our teachers. He was well liked by all the students. After teaching three years he died. He was a noble young man and gave promise of great usefulness.

W.I. Priest, the poet, the great Philo solicitor, the scholar and the gentle gentleman, was one of our new students. He had written a number of poems and in some of them he has complimented me very highly, so much so that altho I had intended to insert one in the reminiscences, I shall omit doing so for I fear I might be accused of vanity. He married Miss Alice Campbell. He now resides on the Pacific coast, is a dentist and is also engaged in business. I have been told that he is prospering, has a fine home and that he is happy.

This year also brought us that genial gentleman, now Dr. C.S. Ames. He was in school long enough to ascertain that Normal girls were the very best, handsomest and brightest. After completing his course in medicine he came back to Ada and married Miss Carrie Randall, one of the fairest Normal daughters. He has a large and lucrative practice. For the benefit of young men who have to go out into the world or battle for success, let me say that Dr. Ames earned his success by hard faithful work. When he first began to practice his profession in Ada, he was not afraid to roll up his sleeves and give a sick boy a bath if needed. He would assist in nursing his patients and caring for them. He worked for success and succeeded. Young man, if you want to succeed, prepare yourself for your calling or business, then strive for success and you will obtain it. Prof. Fisher, Dr. Ames and Dr. Priest were Philos.
J.C. Boone, now a resident of our city entered the Fall of 1880. I think he was a Philo. Alta Close, a great Franklin worker, entered the same term. J. Scott Jennings, now principal of an academy in North Carolina, entered some time during the year 1880-81. He was neat, clean, dressy, cultured, refined, an excellent student. I think he was a Philo.

This year also brought us the Scott sisters, Minnie and Gertrude. They were said to be the handsomest girls in school. Gertrude was a fine student and a true lady and both were Philos. Minnie was in school but a term, but Gertie completed the Classical course. Those excellent students, Josie Wood and D.B. Love, both Philos, entered the Normal this year. Both completed the Classical course. We employed Miss Wood as teacher. She was well liked and very popular. She resigned and married D.B. Love. They reside in Fremont, O. He practices law and is succeeding finely.

The following students entered sometime during the year 1880-81. A.E. Winters of Wayne county, O. He was one of the best who entered that year. He was a Franklin. He is a minister of the gospel and resides at Sandusky City. Anna Basset, Hattie B. Beans, Bertha Childs, entered. The students here named I well remember either as members of some class in which they recited to me or on account of their strenuous society work or on account of some circumstance that occurred which brought them into mere intimate relations than some other students who have since made life a great success and may be better known to the world than some who are named. Among the leading students that I remember whom I shall name in a general way were S.H. Cooney of Hardin county, Mary C. Cooney of Hardin county, Olie Bransfield, P.A. Elder, C.A. Flack, L.A. Pray. S.G. Steiner, J.S. Steele, C.S.D. Shawan, F.L. Starcher, E.H. Starcher of West Virginia, H.O. Williams, Nora Giddings, Emma Vogle, Emily Brandige, T.T. Buce, A.G. Barber, a great Franklin hustler, Milton Cooper, a Philo hustler, W.H. Deming, brother of Col. Deming, J.G. Eates, Ella Franch, Jessie Neiberger, P. Pifer. The last three were remarkably good students and great society workers. Miss French and Mr. Pifer were Franks, Miss Neiberger a Philo. J.E. Wilhelm, of Stark county, O., is now a substantial citizen of Atlanta, Ga., W.W. Axline, a brother of Dean Axline, was a good student. Della M. Bruham, Sarah Brailey and Lydia Baum were among our best students. G.W. August, now a citizen of Ada, entered in 1881. R.E. Tyers of Londonville, O., came to visit the school to see whether what we advertised could be relied on and how he would like the school. He entered, was a good student and brought many of his friends. J.F. Seward, now an attorney in Mansfield, O., was a new student in 1880. Fannie Brigham
entered this year. She belonged to a prominent family in Ohio. There entered Malinda Foucht, Emmett Frase, J.H. Guthrie, four Gabriels from Logan county, O., Carrie R. Hipp, L.F. Heinlin, W.P. Koogle, Rhoda Lee, now a missionary in India, G.W. Remington, May Seitz, Bloom Seitz, the Seipie sisters, Lulu Swallow, Mary Thomas of Texas, Dora Wollam, the Misses Wight, handsome ladies, Mary Glenn Watson a real beauty. She and Grace Jackson roomed at the Watt house. Mary E. Holtz, a strong student was a confirmed atheist, but an excellent lady. Lottie McAdams devoted most of her time to the study of painting and drawing. John Wilkins devoted his time to the study of music. I could name many more whom I remember, but must stop somewhere.

I could relate some circumstance in connection with each student above named but they would not be interesting to the students of other days. I shall make special mention of some of those who entered the year 1880-81 because they remained in school many years and are still remembered in their respective societies. March 1, 1906, V. XXIII.
CHAPTER 82.

U.S.G. Cherry was one of the leading spirits of his day. I can see those sparkling black eyes as in memory he sits before me in the classroom. His lessons were always well prepared, was a fine debater, a good solicitor and a consummate Philo schemer, almost equal to W.W. Poultney. He practices law in Sioux Falls, Dak. Ten years ago he told me his practice amounted to more than $7,000 a year. Thomas H. Cecil was a Philo, a fine singer and an excellent gentleman. We corresponded fully fifteen years after he left school. J.W. Cross, a Franklin leader frequently on the stage has been successful in the profession of teaching. S.J. White, a Philo, strong in the classroom and in debate, is preaching in Missouri. He married Miss McElroy a Philo. She was remarkably strong in debate. She frequently filled the pulpit. A.S. Watkins, now a Rev., a D.D. and a Professor in the O.N.U. has made his mark. He needs no commendation. I well remember when he had typhoid fever and was a very sick boy. E. Ervine, a Philo, is practicing law in Columbus. He was eloquent in debate and in orations and took an active part in helping to organize the military department of the O.N.U. He was one of the first officers of the battalion.

The jovial giant, H.C. Ives, a loyal Philo, entered this year. He and Mr. C.M. Ohl came from one of the western territories. The school was recommended to the parents by a phrenologist who had lectured here. I took him home with me one day to dinner, which so pleased him that he ever afterward advertised the school. The father of Mr. Ives was a federal judge. In his first letter he wanted to know whether chapel attendance was compulsory. I answered by saying that our chapel hall was too small to accommodate all our students but that I have advised attendance and that all our teachers taught the general truths of Revelation as they would love for the union, protection to home industries, etc. I understood from his letter that he was skeptic and knew from the office he held that he was a Republican. The boys came and remained in school some years. The parents visited their sons and I learned that I had been born in a log cabin belonging to the grandfather of Mr. Ohl.

C.D. Kelly, a Franklin, died some years ago. At his death he was prosecuting
attorney of Hardin county. He was a fine student. Clara V. Myers, a Franklin, devoted her time to the study of music. She was a faithful worker in her society, and a good student.

This year brought us H.J. May, who later developed to be a politician, statesman and soldier. He was elected state senator; was appointed quarter master and major in the U.S. army. He died some years ago. He was a Franklin worker. This year brought us two strong students, known as Prof. and Rev. Bertie Smith, a Philo, was strong in the classroom and on the stage. Few equaled her in essay or oration. At one time she assisted in editing the University Herald. R.H. Schoonover, after completing the classical course at the O.N.U. went to Delaware and later to Drew Theological seminary. He is a thorough scholar and a good teacher. I feel certain that were he known as a scholar and a teacher, he would be called to one of the wealthy universities and paid a large salary. The Professor is a Franklin. He and Harvey Sisson enjoyed editing the Franklin Gem and they did it to perfection.

All old Philos will remember J.W. Wollam. He was one of the best solicitors the Philos had and he was also a good Republican ward worker and was an all around good fellow, honorable and upright. Ida Turner was a leading Philo and good solicitor and good on the stage. Samuel Chidester lives in Delaware and is an M.D. He was a noble young man and a good student.

I must not forget J.A. Churchill. The boys called him Jute. He was a universal favorite, especially among the ladies. He was a Philo. The Hershey boys were and still are Franks. They were Franklin pillars. E.E. Hershey is in Montana and is practicing medicine. J.F. Haas, the genial Philo, is a doctor of medicine and practices in West Mansfield. Judging by his smiling countenance and 180 pounds avoirdupois, he must have a lucrative practice.

This year also brought W.L. Starwalt. Everybody liked Starwalt. He took great interest in the military department of the school after it was organized. We were also lucky enough to enroll D.J. Hull and Earl Severcool. They liked Ada so well that they formed a partnership and engaged in business. They resided here a number of years, were married here, but now Dan is a sheriff in Madison county; Earl is landlord in the growing city of Toledo. They were hustlers and as I now remember were loyal Franklins.

W.F. Stevens made his advent this year. He has made life a success. He has charge of the Homestead Carnegie Library in Pennsylvania. He is a Philo. A. Stevens was known as Arizona Stevens because he came from that far away
territory. His father brought him. The constant talk of the father was about the wonderful copper mines of Arizona, the richest in the world, he said. Stevens was an Adelphian. I do not remember whether he was a charter member or not, but I think he was.

Mrs. John Saxon and Mrs. Susie A. Aldrich, elderly ladies, cultured, refined and very studious, entered as students. They had a good influence on the school. It is wonderful what an influence for good two cultured ladies can have on a thousand students. Later Mrs. Aldrich sent a daughter to the university.

This year also brought us another lady of culture, Miss Anna Barington, now Mrs. Rev. Z.B. Campbell. She was a true lady and exercised a good influence on the school. It was here that she became acquainted with the Rev. Dr. Campbell, pastor of the Presbyterian church of Ada for twenty years or more. Doubtless the reverend gentleman owes much of his splendid success as a pastor to his good wife. She was just such a woman as a preacher needs; scholarly, discreet, sociable, kind and pure in heart. The Reverend found a gem in Anna Barrington and he was worthy of the prize.

This year also brought Alice Campbell, an excellent lady, now Mrs. Priest, and Mary Conner now Mrs. Harry Thompson. All who once met Mary Conner will remember her. She brings sunshine wherever she goes. She now resides in Ada. He good husband, Harry Thompson, one of my personal friends, was also a student of the O.N.U.

We also had the good fortune this year to enroll Mr. A.E. Degler. When Prof. Woodard resigned as teacher of penmanship, we employed Mr. Degler. He is a fine penman and a good instructor. He is a resident of Ada and is a good citizen. That gentle, good natured, jovial Franklin, C.M. Freeman, one of my dear friends, joined the Normal ranks. He was full of pranks but never mean. Everyone liked Freeman. He belonged to a famous Franklin quartet and was in great demand on the Franklin stage. He is one of the high officials in the Farmer's Alliance and is one of Ohio's leading fruit men. He owns a large nursery. He married a lovely lady, Miss Fannie Stafford, a leading Franklin.

J.W. Rudy was one of our new students this year. He impressed himself on the new student body as few new students ever did. He is a minister of the gospel and I think at present is located at Joplin, Mo. N.N. Shappel, many years superintendent of the Bluffton schools now a county official of Allen county, joined the Normal host and became a Franklin. And T.A. Edwards, better known as Tommy Edwards, one of the best singers and one of the best
boys that ever entered the Normal halls, entered as a student. He is a Franklin, true to the core. We have had thousands and thousands of good students, and he was one of that noble number. He was one of our loyal friends and sent us many students. He teaches in Berea college, Ky. W.D. Pepple was a good student. He followed the profession of teaching many years. And what shall I say of Mrs. Lulu E. Jelly? She is one of the noblest of women. For many years she was one of our faithful teachers. One cannot speak too highly of her qualities of heart or of her good work as a teacher.
C.S. Ashbrook entered this year, 1881. He also at one time was a teacher in the Normal. Yes, the first teacher in our College of Pharmacy. That department, like everything else had to have a beginning and he helped me start it. All my associates in the school predicted its failure. Mr. Kemp the genial druggist, and Mr. Ashbook alone encouraged the project. Tasie Keckler was added to our number. She became a valuable member. She was a fine musician and did good service for the Franklins.

This year also added the first member of the ever to be remembered quartette of noble ladies, fine singers, loyal workers, true hearted girls the four Park sisters. Eva Park, later known as Eva Griggs, entered school. She was a true hearted woman. No one who ever knew Eva will forget her. She and her sister Mollie have passed away and have gone to that better school where doubtless they now sing praises to our Redeemer. The Park sisters were all Franklins.

E.H. Charles, tall and lank, entered the school. I shall never forget the description E.L. Miller gave of him in the Philo Star. Oh, but for one more night in the old Philo hall when E.L. Miller or Jerome Campbell or Priest could read the Star with all its puns, jokes and witticisms. Those days and nights pass before me like a panorama of visions and dreams, but they will never be real again.

Nora Stumm frequently appeared on the Franklin stage and so did May Seitz and the Seiple sisters. Ida Hathaway became a Normal disciple and joined the Adelphians. She was a noble woman and a student ever to be remembered. This year also added to our ranks that excellent student G.D. Spalding. All old students remember the Spalding boys. The brother entered later. I could name scores of others and true and fine students but time and space forbid.

A peculiar circumstance occurred during that school year. We were unfortunate in our piano teachers. The gentleman who had charge the fall of 1880 felt desperately in love with one of our handsome lady students. The case was serious. The girl was not only handsome, but also a fine scholar,
witty, a leader in the school and was reported to have quite a sum of money in her own name. She was an orphan. She came to my office and asked me what to do. She said that her teacher told her that if she would not marry him he would kill himself, that she could not love him and that her life would be blighted and yet she did not want to be the cause of his death. The answer was, "Do not marry him, I will see him," and as I suspected that he was using intoxicants, told him that in all probability he would have to quit teaching because it was reported that he was drinking. I told him I would have to see his girl, naming the lady. He told me that she had refused to marry him and that he had married Miss______that very day. I saw the lady and found it to be true. She said she married him out of mere pity. She belonged to a prominent family in Ohio. Her brother came to see me after he heard of the marriage. He felt greatly humiliated, but nothing was to be done. Later the brother was appointed to a position in the cabinet of the Federal Government. He died some years ago. The kind hearted girl also is dead. The teacher was dismissed on account of his habits. He was an excellent instructor and had been educated in Europe. Few of the students knew any of the facts.

We also dismissed the teacher of stenography and employed another teacher. While he was in my office as assistant secretary I learned that it was unwise to entrust the answering of the letters to him. The answers were not such as would draw students. Some of his letters were returned to me. Many incidents occurred during this school year some pleasant others not so agreeable. At a future time I may relate a number in one number devoted entirely to incidents.

This year the Philos made great preparations for their reunion. They elected me chairman and had me on for the address of welcome. They gave me a program, I read it hurriedly and did not observe that I was on for the address of welcome. I noticed the names of some strong old students on the program and the week before the reunion I gave a chapel talk urging the students to remain for the commencement and for the reunion. I said that everyone on that program was worth hearing. There was quite a general laugh and some applause. I still complimented those on the program and the more I said, the louder was the laugh and the greater the applause. I did not see the point till I looked at the program on reunion day to announce the performer for the address of welcome. I was shocked and humiliated.

The society planned a surprise by unveiling the oil painting still hanging on the Philo stage. As the painting was unveiled the applause attested the pleasure it afforded the audience. Prof. M.J. Ewing was selected to make the presentation address. It was very complimentary. In an able and scholarly
manner he showed the merits and advantages of such schools as the O.N.U., then Northwestern Ohio Normal school. He said it was the college of the plain, common people where the poor boy and girl found advantages not offered by state or church schools. It was a masterly address.

The artist Miss Fryette then our Art teacher, sent J.L. Hampton to ask my niece, Ida Lehr, for a lock of my hair to get the true color. Old Philo friends, the color of the hair of the founder is not as deep a brown today as then. The hard work, night and day; the thinking, planning and worry incident in building such a large school with so many departments, Literary, Normal, Music, Fine Art, Engineering, Commercial, Military, Stenography, Law and Pharmacy without the aid of church or state, have left the impress on the mind and body of the founder of the school, who always had a feeble body.

The reunion was a great success. Many old Philos returned to the Normal home. The old students had a real feast in talking over old times. It was an enjoyable occasion. The Franklins also had a quiet reunion. I will here insert the commencement program. Gov. Foster was not present on this occasion.

Program, 8:30AM

Overture
Golden Crown..............................................Herman

Anthem

Israel's Sons with One Accord.........................Choir

Invocation
Rev. Dwight R. Cook

Violin Solo.............................................Prof. F. Griffin

Salutatory, Applause.
J.L. Hampton (C)..........................New Lexington, O.

Follow Nature in your Choice of a Profession.
R.J. Babbitt (C).........................Elizabethville, Ky

Quartette (P)

Adversity a Noble Teacher.
H.E. Blacksten (C).......................West Lebanon, O.

Glaciers, Not all Artic.
H.C. Campbell (S)...............................Ada, O.

Solo, The Mountain Bird.................Clara V. Myers

The Nobility of Sociality.
W.J. Cookson (S)..............................Freemont, O.

Freedom.
J.F. Garvin.................................Sidney, O.

The Spirit of the Age.
Nonie Gilbert (S)..........................Ada, O.

Quartette (A) Bugle Horn.

Progress an Inherent Principle of Life.
Mary E. Hotz (S)..........................Deersville, O.

Christianity, its Cost, its Worth.
F.V. Irish (C)..............................Hicksville, O.

From Far-off Shores.
Mary McElroy (S)..........................Millersburg, O.

1:30 p.m.

Waltz, Toujours on Jamais..............Waldtenfiel

Orchestra.


National Unity. T.J. Robinson (S).........................Quincy, O.

Time and Opportunity. A.S. Rudy (S).......................West Minster, O.

Quartette, Beautiful Starlight..............Stillman

John Chinaman in America. B.H. Turner (S)..................Columbus Grove, O.

Our Monuments. Will H. Wagner (S).......................Upper Sandusky, O.
Solo, Parting................................Effie Chandler (P)

On to the Nobler. H.P. Wagner.................................Bucyrus, O.

Valedictory, The Ideal Lawyer. C.F. Zimmerman (C)........................Forest, O.

Glee, The Evening Bells are Sounding..................Choir

Addresses to Class.
Rev. A.N. Gilbert.................................Chicago, Ill.
Gov. Chas. Foster..........................Columbus, O.

Presentation of Diplomas. Pres. Lehr....................Ada, O.

I will give a short history of the members of the class. Babbitt is teaching in Kentucky; Blacksten is practicing medicine in Missouri; Hampton is practicing law in Columbus, O.; F.V. Irish resides in Chicago. He is the author of a number of popular and excellent books. His American and British Authors is not excelled in its line. All his publications are models in their line. He is president of the American Anti-cigarette League. He has made his life work a grand success. The other member was C.F. Zimmerman. The last I heard from him he was teaching in Kansas. There were four Franklin, one Philo. Mr. Hampton was and still is a Philo. He married the most enthusiastic Franklin that ever walked into the Franklin hall, the writer's niece, Miss Ida A. Lehr.

There were twelve scientifics. H.C. Campbell, a Philo, resides in Portland, Oregon, and is worth at least a half million. He has been remarkably successful. He married one of the Swigert sisters, a Philo beauty; and she was as good as handsome. J.W. Cookston, a Philo, I do not know his present address; Nonie Gilbert was and is and always will be a Franklin. She married Mr. Stevens, a Philo. They live in Cleveland, O; are successful and happy. I have been in their good and lovely home. J.F. Garvin, a Franklin, died some years ago. Mary E. Holtz, a Philo, was very skeptical; might be called an atheist. Her oration needed elimination. She objected seriously, but finally consented. Heard from her only twice after graduation. Mary McElroy was a Philo and one of the best debaters ever on the Philo stage. She married Mr. White, a Philo. She died many years ago.

J.H. Peachy, one of the best friends the Normal ever had in Pennsylvania, was and still is a Franklin. He still follows teaching in Mifflin Co., Pa. A.S. Rudy is a Philo. He is an M.D., and practices his profession in Lima. He has made life a success. He still visits alma mater. J.T. Robinson was a Philo.
some years ago he entered the political ring. He was a good student. Have not heard from him for six years or longer. Brice H. Turner was a lively, wide awake Franklin. He resides in Newton, Kansas. He was a popular student. P.H. Wagner, the brother of S.B. Wagner, was a Franklin. For many terms he was a member of a Franklin quartette. He also was secretary in the O.N.U. office a number of years. He was a true and noble gentleman. He died many years ago. W.H. Wagner was a Philo hustler, a good solicitor strong in debate. He is now a minister of the gospel in the Baptist church. He was one of my true friends. There were six Franklins and six Philos.

That year we graduated eighteen from the College of Commerce. There were no graduates from any of the other departments. Many students returned to hear the Philo-Franklin contest. I am unable to find the program. It was pronounced a great success and as usual each society won the contest. Rev. Gilbert, who addressed the class, remarked to me as he left my home the next morning, Mr. President, the president of such a large school should live in a fine house. I then lived north of the Christian church.

Another year closed. The students and the citizens were pleased, but some people said such a phenomenal growth can not continue. But we shall see.
CHAPTER 84.

Catalogue No. 11 with the names of the students for the year 1880-81 and announcements for 1880-81, was printed by G.W. Rutledge at Kenton, Ohio.

Mr. Rutledge sold his interest in the school some time during the school year 1880-81, to U.G. Stringfellow and H.E. Neff. They had both completed the Scientific course at the O.N.U., then the Northwestern Ohio Normal School. They were both Strong men in the class room and on the society stage. I requested that Mr. Neff should go to Ann Arbor and prepare himself to teach zoology and biology as he appeared to be especially strong in those lines of study; and U.G. Stringfellow was to go to Cornell and take a complete course in Mathematics and Architecture. Neff went to Ann Arbor and remained one year. Stringfellow did not go to Cornell but continued to teach another year and then went to Mexico to serve as a civil engineer of a railroad of which General Grant was president. While there he died of smallpox.

In a previous chapter I should have stated that J.G. Park was elected vice president of the school in the fall of 1880. At the beginning of the school year 1876 we began to rent textbooks to our students, At that time I had no one in the office to assist me. I was president, treasurer, corresponding secretary and taught from six to seven hours a day. We elected Prof. Maglott librarian.

When we first rented books we did not require the students to deposit for the value of the books; they only paid the rent. Many students forgot to return their books. We then adopted the plan to make them deposit for the value of the book and nearly all were then returned. As text-books are frequently changed, it was a great accommodation to the students to have the opportunity to rent them.

Prof. Maglott in those early years of the school taught seven and occasionally eight hours a day and as students now began to enter nearly every train, he could not take the time to rent books, therefore we employed as librarian and assistant secretary my niece, Miss Ida A. Lehr. A friend whom I trusted implicitly volunteered at the beginning of terms to assist me free of charge. In
three or four terms I was short about $450. After my niece was employed he offered his assistance to write receipts while I would go with new students to hunt rooms. Those days the citizens did not pay from 50 cents to $1 for a student. That work was mostly done by the president. I told my friend that he could assist me by hunting rooms for new students. I observed that he was displeased. Unfortunately we took in that day a $20 green-back bill marked No. 2. I put it in the drawer of the desk where I sat intending to keep it; but in the evening it had disappeared. I spoke so plainly to my friend about it that he could not help knowing that I suspected him as the thief. After that he never offered his assistance. He was a prominent student. He died many years ago.

The Trustees or owners now were H.S. Lehr, Pres; J.G. Park, Vice Pres; Frederick Maglott, U.G. Stringfellow and H.E. Neff. H.S. Lehr's name appears as corresponding secretary and treasurer, J.G. Park was recording secretary and Ida A. Lehr, librarian.

A Franklin Triennial reunion was announced for May 23, 1882, Commencement May 25, Adelphian Annual entertainment the evening of May 5th and the Annual contest between the Franklin and Philomathean societies, the evening of May 25, 1882.

The school terms were to remain as the previous year excepting that the vacation term was four weeks instead of three. Every sixth year we had to add an extra week for the one day more than fifty-two weeks a year and for leap year, two extra days. The school year 1881-82, therefore, had fifty-three weeks.

The new teachers announced were C.B. Hickernell, Latin, Greek, Mathematics, and Parliamentary Law; Hon. J.J. Burns, Science of Teaching, School of Law, etc; F.O. Hamilton, Stenography.

Prof. C.E. Rowley left the ministry and returned to teach music. We now employed six teachers in the Music department, C.E. Rowley, Mrs. C.E. Rowley, J.J. Jelly, Frank L. Neff, F. Griffen and F. Griffin, Jr. The Rusks still continued to teach elocution.

We employed P.W. Ream to teach Telegraphy. He was a good instructor and did thorough, honest work. In all we had twenty-six teachers. We had no College of Law, or School of Pharmacy; only Literary, Pedagogical, Commercial, Stenography, Engineering, Fine Arts and Music.
The enrollment for the year 1880-81, 1402 and for the year 1881-81, 1918, increase in enrollment, 516, percent of increase 37. The increase in four years was over 1400. It convinced the people that we needed the new building and we were again crowded for room. I lay awake hours and hours scheming and planning for a new building. But I will speak of my next plan later.

An increase in enrollment of 516 in one year meant many new students and from the phenomenal success of our students of those early days, it is easily inferred that many who then entered belonged to the best class of American citizenship. Any set of teachers could feel proud of such students. We needed no rules for their government for it appeared that their respect for the teacher and the school and their good senses and love of learning were a sufficient guarantee for their good behavior. We did not even lock the school buildings. Still every student knew that misconduct would bring reproff and if continued, meant certain expulsion. Every teacher was expected to report all absentees from classes each morning. No drones were allowed to remain in town for they would be reported to the parents.

In the winter of '55-'56 I learned by bitter experience that if a rule is made, it must be enforced. That winter was a cold one. There was a creek about fifty rods from the school-house. some pupils began, sometime in February, to continue skating some minutes after school was called to order. I reproved them several times and one day I said the next time any pupils came in late I will whip them. The very next day two of my largest and very best boys, Sime Ebert the son of an evangelical preacher and William Henry Gill the son of a director came in fifteen minutes late. Every scholar looked at the teacher. The boys were called on the floor. I asked Ebert the larger of the two and who was larger and as old as the teacher, why they disobeyed the rule of the school. He replied, "Teacher we were not on the ice, we walked up the road and discussed what we should do the coming summer: go to school, or work; and for what we should prepare for a profession. We are sorry we are late and will promise not to do so again." They were exemplary young men. There were no better pupils in any school. I hardly knew what to do, but finally said, "Scholars, you know that Mr. Ebert and Mr. Gill are good pupils. This is the first time they have disobeyed, they did not do so intentionally and were not on the ice." Every scholar looked at me in astonishment. Before that day I think I had the good will and respect of every pupil, but I lost my influence over the school to a certain extent and after that was less popular in the district. The pupils referred to it on the ball ground, they would mutter it over so that I might hear, saying had it been some other pupils they would have been punished, they were the sons of prominent citizens, etc. Several parents
reproved me and so did one of the directors of the district. I have repeated this story to many, many training classes as a warning to young teachers. Beware of making many rules; but if you make them, live up to them, else you will lose a certain amount of influence. Many teachers have spoken to me in after years of the lesson. Two I will name, Prof. J.W. Zeller, of Findlay, and Prof. F.B. Willis, of the O.N.U.
CHAPTER 85.

As stated before, the increase in the enrollment for the year 1881-82 was 516 students. Twenty-one states and nearly every county in Ohio were represented in the enrollment for the year. A Cyrus or a Themistocles might be able to remember all the new students enrolled and to which society each belonged or perhaps to no society; but I do not now recall all that were new students, nor can I remember which society if any, they joined. Hundred of students now enrolled who never recited to me. In the early days of the school I called on each student at least once every term, now if I called on all the sick and saw that all were properly cared for every day, in addition to my other work, I was kept busy about twenty hours a day.

I will name only some of the most prominent students as I now remember them. I well remember D.W. Crist, a fine musician, now Hon. D.W. Crist, state senator from Columbia county, O. He was a good student. F.J. Beck, of the same county came the same term. They were roommates. Mr. Beck was superintendent of the city schools of Napoleon, O., many years. He has made life a success. This year also brought us J. Ross Lee one among the best students who ever entered the school and many thousands have entered her halls. He completed our Classical course and so thoroughly that when he entered Ann Arbor to study law he passed the examination and was granted the degree A.B. without taking any additional work. When the state passes laws making the examinations more rigid to be admitted to the Bar to practice law I believe that Law schools would become a necessity. He agreed to take charge of the school on percent if we establish such a school, but for a few years we were to give him some classes to teach in the Literary department of the school on salary till the Law college would be well established. He was not only a fine student but also an excellent instructor. He was a leader in the school, in his society, in the Presbyterian church and in the town as well. He was a leader by nature.

At the opening of a certain fall term he returned to school and came to my office in great glee. He exclaimed, "You have another namesake, Lehr Lee. He is two weeks old, a fine boy. I told my brother to name his boy for my teacher." He repeated the conversation that passed between him and the
parent of the boy. Neither father nor mother had ever seen me. The mother had a sister in school, Miss Effie Brown. All old Philos will remember her. Lehr Lee graduated from the Iowa State University last June. He was twenty-three years old.

All old students who were in attendance in 1883, remember the circumstance at a call meeting of the societies in Chapel hall when Lee and C.E. Kircher had a warm argument. Let us call it a warm argument. Both were Philos and Presbyterians, and later both entered the ministry. I was at the meeting. Later he left the profession of law and went into the ministry. Some years ago he, his wife and only child died. He was a noble man and one of my true friends.

I shall never forget J. Ross Lee, C.M Reed, of Stark Co.; C.L. Rose, of Hardin; D.E. Black, of Morrow; O.W. Coe, of Richland; Maud Fowler, of Wyandot and E.J. Gifford, of Crawford, I remember quite well as (a) leading student. Gifford was a prominent Adelphian.

This year we added C.F. Hoover, a prominent teacher in Wayne Co., O. He had been a student at the Smithville Normal but left there and came to Ada. He was an Adelphian and one of their strongest members. He was one of my true friends.

Among the many well remembered students of those days were Essie Hayworth, of Illinois and Kate Ingalls and her brother, W.H. Ingalls, of Texas. I well remember when Etta Nelson and Essie Hayworth entered the office. The father of Miss Hayworth a Presbyterian minister accompanied the girls. They were blondes; lively, talented, true ladies and excellent students. Miss Nelson is married. I met her two years ago, but can not remember the name she now bears.

Miss Hayworth studied medicine. We tried to establish an elementary medical course and did some dissecting here, but failed in the attempt. She was a member of the first class. She and Poultney said they were Platonic friends; but Plato made some mistakes in several lines. At times Platonic love grows strong. I have been told that Doctor Hayworth died some years ago. She resided in Tennessee at the time of her death. Essie and Ettie were Philos. The Ingalls were Franklins and were prominent students, good in the classroom and leaders in their society. They now reside in Fort Worth, Texas. Miss Ingalls is now a widow and although I dined with her and her son less that six months ago at their beautiful home, I can not recall her name.
All Franklins of those days remember jolly J.S. Hoyman. He was on the stage frequently. He was one of the pillars of society. Jennie Jameson, Belle McCartney, G.H. Simmons, T.A. Shipley, Ollie Uncapher, Flora R. Williamson, and J.J. Wyre were great workers and prominent students. Ollie Uncapher was a Franklin, Flora Williamson a Philo and Shipley an Adelphian.

This year brought us that genial hustler H.W. Bowersmith, now a prominent citizen of Ada. He was a pillar in the Adelphian society. His watchword is success and honesty.

The Caldwell sisters of Fulton county entered and were good students and joined the Franklins. Ida and Alice Campbell entered and joined the Philos. They were leading students. Alice now is Mrs. Priest and resides in San Francisco. Etta Cardot came from Chautauqua, N.Y. A page or two could be devoted to the story of how she happened to hear of the Normal and why she became a student. Another page might be devoted to the experience of Viola Carson.

Franklin G. Edge enrolled this year. He was a brother of our townsman, E.E. Edge. He married one of our prominent students, Mill Lillie Munn. Mr. Edge died many years ago.

Mamie Darst of near Dayton joined the Philos as did nearly all of the Darsts of those days. She was a popular student and had many admirers. J.L. Fowler, G.W. Foltz, D.H. Funk, J.G. Grabiel, L.F. Helms, J.W. Hill and J.H. Higgins were leading students. Foltz, Funk, Helms, Hill and Higgins were Franklins. Grabiel was a Philo. Funk and my friend Fred Black, now deceased, came in March. We waded the snow to find a room. Rooms were hard to find.

Earl B. Hubbell, of Cook county, Ill., joined our ranks. He was a hard worker. He now is a D.D. and a Ph.D. and has charge of a leading Presbyterian church in Chicago. He was and is my friend. One can boast of the friendship of such a man as he is.

Frank Jones, of Stark Co., entered and joined the Adelphians. He was a worker and loyal to the core. This year brought Jesse La Dow. He joined the Franklins. He always was merry and cheerful. One of the editors of the Franklin Gem one evening said that La Dow had fallen in love with his name and that he rented the cow stable by the landlady and got an old sugar barrel and would get the barrel many times a day and putting his head in the empty barrel, would call out in loudest tones, "La Dow! La Dow!" and then listen for
the echo and raising his smiling face would say, "Delightful, what a name" and then would call again. There was a storm of applause but Jess took it good naturedly. He now is a prominent attorney practicing in Mansfield, O. I understand there are fourteen Ada Normal-ites practicing in Mansfield and all doing well. H.F. Merrick and H.A. Myers were loyal Philo workers. Myers resides near Hiram, O. W.L. Mervine, an excellent student, joined the Adelphians and helped them fight their early battles for resistance. He practices law in Columbus and I am told his practice is lucrative. Ada Painter and D.H. Painter this year accompanied Tommy Edwards to the promised land. They were the finest delegation of the noble Painter family to enter the Normal. She was here as a student but a few terms. She was cultured, refined, handsome, and as good and noble as handsome. Later four more of the family entered our school. They were all fine singers, good workers in the class room and among the most popular students that ever entered the halls of the O.N.U. I was invited to the weddings of three of the family and at the death of the mother they telegraphed and asked me to come to their home. I loved them as one loves his own children. How happy I would be to see Tommy Edwards and the Painter family. I can scarcely realize that those happy days can never return. The Painters all were Franklins. They were in great demand in their society, at chapel and in town to assist in singing. Such people help to make the world better. J.C. Hetzler, of Montgomery county entered this year and I think joined the Adelphians. He brought us many students.
CHAPTER 86.

The name of J.W. Halfhill is found on the list this year, of 1882. I learned to like Jim at our first meeting and ever since we have been firm friends. At some of our social meetings we have talked till after two o'clock in the morning. He has been remarkably successful in his profession. The law firm of Ridenour & Halfhill, of Lima, O., is one of the strongest in the state. Ridenour was an Ada student many terms. He was a good student and is as learned in the law as an English judge. Ridenour is a Franklin, Halfhill a Philo.

I have hundreds of letters on file that have been written by my friends. I cannot insert many in this story, but shall give the readers one written by Mr. Halfhill several years ago. Shall omit some paragraphs.

J.W. Halfhill's Letter.

Lima, O. Nov. 9th, 1904.

Pres. H.S. Lehr,

Winona Lake, Ind.

Mr Dear Friend:- I was much pleased to receive your letter last month which arrived just before we started to visit the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, and hence a delay in answering you which you will understand. Concerning the Lima college. You will recall a time when you were the honored guest at our home and we drove over the campus of this institution, looked at the noble proportions of its single building and soon thereafter, the trustees, of whom I was one, unanimously elected you to the Presidency. Much as we hoped that would accept, our disappointment at your courteous refusal was somewhat discounted as we knew the state of your health at that time and many other affairs of importance to engross your attention.

I think we never had a meeting of the Board of Trustees that I did not hold you up as an example for the faculty of Lima college to follow; and many times pointed out the great work you had accomplished in the educational world.

I have burdened you, but unintentionally, and incidentally want you to understand
and appreciate that the very course of events above detailed are complimentary to you and the great work you have wrought as an educator. All of your boys and girls have been missionary workers and helpers of yours, and I well recall hearing a glowing account of you and your school from a neighboring country boy several years my senior. One rainy, muddy Sabbath, I drove to him home and secured a catalogue of your institution and entered at Ada for the fall term of 1881. The great crowd at the depot surprised me; hundreds of trunks being piled up on the platform and scores of them being thrown out of the baggage car of the train on which I arrived. I stood on the car step a moment looking over the crowd and saw you coming down, speaking to everybody and hurriedly giving directions here and there. I was introduced to you by a student of my acquaintance and I trust you will believe me entirely when I say that from the moment I grasped your hand until the present day my admiration for you and your work has increased.

The incidents of those intervening terms until the summer of 1884 were many and varied, but every one of them is a pleasant recollection. You were the center around which all gravitated. If it was a college prank, like tearing up your sidewalk on Hallowe’en, and I remember you coming out of the front door like an avenging angel after the devil and firing blank shots out of your pistol in order to see us run for cover; or whether it was hanging the museum skeleton on a telephone wire, etc., we had you first in mind. But more laudable to us is the impress you made in every class room and the industry you instilled into every student that was not a hopeless case, and few of these remained long at Ada. The first term I was there you taught Civil Government because all the other teachers had their full quota, which you had also, but the class recited in your office at 5 o’clock in the morning.

Your lectures, talks and explanations opened up a wide horizon to me and I fully appreciate why in latter years your judgement has been regarded unerring on nearly all public questions of political and governmental nature. At that time also you certainly had a magnificent corps of teachers around you: Professor Park, Maglott, Neff, Ewing, Darst, Hickernell, Workman, Irish, Mrs. Hickernell and Mrs. Maglott, all of whom were my instructors in various branches, and they certainly were instructors in the true sense of that word. They were your loyal lieutenants and many of them had trained under you.

There is so much to say in a retrospective view like this that I almost fear I will burden you. Not the least interesting are the visits I recall making as an "old student" when your hospitable board would be surrounded by a couple of score at dinner time, and your good wife and daughters were always happy and glad to help entertain these. In one respect it seems like dealing with ancient history for it is a score of years since I went out from the doors of your institution, yet I feel as young as ever and when I see you, your appearance and demeanor is the same. I hear from other sources that your health now is better than in former years and I trust you may long enjoy this life. Probably you will continue in the harness as
long as life lasts, and it would be one of the happiest consummations of my hopes if yet you could come to Lima and preside over an institution which might grow up and equal the one you established at Ada.

You will recall that when I represented you and the faculty in conveying this property over to the Methodist conference, you were full of confidence and hope. It is useless and unprofitable to enter upon this subject but you know where the hearts of our old students are and that they are loyally with you, not only now but through all the years to come.

Both Mrs. Halfhill and mother read your letter and desired to be remembered to you. Come and pay us a visit. You are always a welcome guest at our home. I beg to be remembered to your esteemed wife, and assuring you of my continued and sincere regard for you, I remain, as ever,

Yours very truly,

Jas W. Halfhill

Another young boy Elmer E. Helms entered this year who was and still is an honor to the university. He had charge of a large congregation at Buffalo, N.Y., and is a D.D. He is a Franklin. I shall have occasion to speak of him again in this history.

Eliza Reed, of Summit county, entered the Normal. She was one of the most loyal students that ever entered the school. We corresponded many years. The last I heard from her she was teaching in Cleveland. She was a Philo. G.S. Schroth, of Senaca county, now Judge Schroth entered the Normal this year, and so did C.S.D. Shawn the brother of Mr. Shawn who is superintendent of the city schools of Columbus, O. Flora Williamson of Kenton came and joined the Philos. No more loyal Philo could be found in school. She was called one of the Philo beauties. She was a true and noble woman.

This year also brought Jessie White, of Lake county. All old Philos remember Jessie. She was one of Mrs. Watt's coterie of Philo girls. What a bevy of beauties: Carrie Randall, the Misses Smith, sisters and cousins, Jessie White, etc. S.H. Welsh a leading Adelphian was enrolled. I have heard that he is dead. J.H. Zeis, a brother of J.W. Zeis of Tiffin, O., a strong student entered. He died in Chicago some years ago. At the time of his death, he was principal of one of the ward schools.

W.E. Young, of Holmes county, now a prosperous attorney, practicing in Akron, O., entered school and joined the Philos. He was what the boys called
a hustler. He is in partnership with Judge Wannamaker, of whom we shall speak later. D. Barclay came with D.B. Love and joined the Philos. I have just thrown away six letters concerning a student from Auglaize county who was accused of stealing ten dollars from his roommate. He roomed at the home of Rev. Montgomery. Amelia Buell and Ida Looper came this year. Excellent ladies and good students. Have been informed that Miss Looper died some years ago. She was a faithful attendant at the student's prayer meeting. Pretty Alice Carter entered, and little H.W. Culbertson of Wayne county, now of Chicago enrolled. Culbertson was called "Little Harry." His brother was a six-footer. Esther Denzer, now Mrs. James Dobbins and the mother of the hustling little captain of Co. C entered and joined the Franklins. She is an estimable lady.

As I read the names in the catalogue of that year, scores of faces appear before me for recognition, but space and time forbid. I see them as I saw them twenty-four years ago but when I chance to meet some of them now I find their hair frosted by the departed years.
I must not forget the story of F.D. Ellenberger of Cambria Co., Pa; but must first relate a little practical experience.

The Spring term of '82 I received a letter from a gentleman on Friday asking whether he could see me the next day. He wrote from the French Hotel at Lima and requested an answer by telegram. Mr. Crooks, the agent, told me to write to him at the French house; he would get the answer nearly as soon. I wrote a postal and said he could see me. Supt. Walker, of the Lima schools, had written to me some days before stating that he and Mrs. Walker would be visitors at the Lehr home on Saturday. I had promised my renters on the farm I would be out on Saturday to measure the wood they had cut. Started for the farm at day light and got back a short time before train time to meet the Walkers and the gentleman.

On reaching home I found the man who had written. He said he failed to get any answer and that he came on the night train; said he wanted to return on the next train. The east and west trains came at the same time. He wanted to arrange to send his son to school a year on the "year plan" for $100. We went to the office, I wrote the receipt and he handed me a check on a Sidney, O., bank for $100. He had a blank check of the bank. He said he knew my nephew, Mr. Hampton, who taught in the Sidney schools. I wrote on the back of the receipt "not transferable." He smiled and remarked, "You are a shrewd business man." He said, "You rent books I understand?" I said, "Yes." "Will you let my boy have books without depositing?" I said, "Yes." He replied, "He may feel somewhat abashed and as I am a little short, will you lend me $10." I remarked, "Never mind, I will tell the boy that you will arrange for them. He said his son remained at Lima with an aunt and that he would be here Monday morning and again asked for the loan. I went to the bank and asked Mr. Charles the cashier what he thought of the check. He said he thought it was genuine as he evidently got the blank from the bank. I gave him the money, but had a notion to telegraph, but as there was so little time concluded a sharper would not spend so much time and money for so little gain. The check proved worthless, the boy never came.
About six months later there was sent me a marked copy of the Cincinnati Enquirer with an account of a sharper appearing at a female seminary, as I now remember located in southern Indiana, stating that a gentleman and his daughter was the manager of the seminary and paid all the expenses for an entire year, gave his check for $450, I think it was, on a Louisville bank and got the difference in cold cash. The girl had two large, but cheap trunks, which she left in her room, but left the town for a short visit with the father. The check was worthless, and the trunks filled with paper. On the margin of the Enquirer some one had written, "Misery loves company." The story stated that the swindler not only got the difference in cash on the check, but went to Cincinnati and sold the contract or agreement for room, board and tuition of a lady student for an entire school year. The school had to take the student. I then saw that the rogue had intended to sell the receipt but could not on account of the endorsement.

About six weeks after this bit of experience, F.D. Ellenberger of Cambria Co., Pa., came to my office to enter school for the remainder of the term, only a few weeks. He said he would like to pay board, room-rent and tuition. I wrote out the receipt. He handed me a check for $250. I refused to give him the difference. He declared he was a minister of the gospel but wanted to make further preparation. He was well dressed and looked like a man of affairs. I went with him to the bank and left the check for collection. He was given a receipt for the check to be paid on collection. I loaned him five dollars but destroyed the receipt and gave him one for tuition only and marked it charged. In a week the money came and letter written on the letterhead of some bank calling him brother Ellenberger and wondering why such a fine preacher should enter school. Ellenberger was about thirty-five years old. He showed me the letter and paid his tuition for the few weeks. In less than two weeks he came to the office with a check for $500 and wanted me to endorse it. I refused, replying that he had plenty of money and did not need the $500. He stated that he wanted to go to Iowa and again showed me the letter from the pious banker friend; but I still refused. He got eloquent, said he would never recommend such a school, that I was little, mean, no gentleman, etc. I requested him to leave the office. When I wrote to the bank I learned that some one had lately deposited $250 for Ellenberger but the money had been paid out on check. I escaped the trick. It taught me to beware of checks.

All the Mecks were Franklins. Clara Mathews, now Mrs Adkins residing in Lima, became a Normalite. I think she was a Franklin.

Alvah Myers, of Ashland, J.H.M. Morrison, J.E. Martindale, the Parks brothers
of Pickaway county, C.L. Quaintance, of Wayne county, Israel Williams, A.L. Waugh, James E. Askem, Jennie Aten, Faun Ayres, C.P. Aubert, the Atkinson sisters, the Blower sisters, J.H. Bolton, Cora Bennet, Mabel Carroll, Ollie Courtright, all were fine students.

C.P. Aubert was one among the best Adelphian workers of those days. Cora Bennett was a great Philo hustler and did fine work on the stage, Bolton was a Franklin, Miss Carroll and Miss Courtright were called Normal beauties. Miss Carroll was a Philo and Miss Courtright a Franklin. She is now Mrs. A.E. Walton. Prof. B.S. Young remembers that she was handsome.

This year also brought to our ranks Frank R. Dyer, an ideal student in every respect. In intellectual ability he was far above the average student and he was as honorable as any student that ever entered the school. We have had honorable students by the thousands, yea ten thousands, he ranked with the best. Many years he superintended the Wichita City schools, of Wichita, Kansas. I think at present he is Assistant State superintendent of schools of Kansas.

The Reache family, of Florida, moved here to educate their children. They were Spaniards. They induced other students from Florida to follow them. C.D. Cover, Pharon Davis, F.M. Dotson, W.J. Harrington and James E. Hawes must not be forgotten. They have all made their mark in the world. Dotson had charge of the Law department of the school some years. He is now a leading attorney in Toledo. James E. Hawes is one of the sweet singers of Israel and has delighted and also moved to tears, the writer of these passages on many occasions. He now is a Reverend.

Clara Hubbard, of Michigan, Samuel Hooley, Emma Hollanshead, W.F. Harvey, S.E. Huff, H.E. Irish, Rilda Iler, Tillie Jelly, Laura Kissell, now Mrs. Rev. Herbert, Louis Kelly, Olive Lane, C.G. Luft, Kate B. Mitchell, A.S. McKittrick, Jennie McClay and Bessie McManigal, were remarkably strong students. Miss Louis Kelley, fully three years, was one of the Adelphian leaders. The society in those days almost depended for its continuance on Louis Kelley. She was a leader by nature. The Lane sisters were Franklin leaders.

A.S. McKittrick, now Dr. McKittrick, of Kenton, O., joined the Philo society. He was and is a true gentleman, a royal good fellow, but the Franklins of those days said that he was a Buccaneer and robbed them of one of their fairest and brightest damsels, Miss May Donaldson. I will speak of her later.
McKittrick and Jones both O.N.U. boys are leading physicians of Kenton. I feel honored to number them among my loyal friends.
This year we also added Mr. and Mrs. G.F. and V.S. Mercer, of Salem, Ohio. All old Franklins and in fact Philos and Adelphians as well, remember the Mercers. Cultured, refined, and intellectually strong. Mr. Mercer completed the Scientific course, Mrs. Mercer the course in Fine Arts, the course in Elocution and devoted much of her time to the study of rhetoric and literature. Mrs. Mercer has frequently visited the Normal since she left the halls as a student and is always a welcome visitor.

I shall here insert a poem she wrote for the Founder's Day reunion. There was not time to read it that day as the program was too lengthy, but it was published in the Ada Record.

Who?

Who greets us with a flirt and smile,
A "how-de-do" in hearty style,
A little cough and nod the while,
As, tired out with many a mile,
We first see Ada's classic pile,
And, dazed and blushing look around
At novel sight and novel sound-
And wonder where they all were found,
These people that o'er run the ground;
Who greets us though we're tanned and browned?
H.S. Lehr, Pres. Northwestern Ohio Normal School.

Who takes our name and money too?
Then shows us to a room that's new-
Sometimes-and sometimes not-a few
Have had that room before, and two
Young men or girls can do
A lot towards making rooms grow old
And not half try-so I've been told.
Who swings his wallet filled with gold
And runs along the sidewalk bold?
Professor Lehr.

Who here and there and everywhere?
With coat tail flying in the air,
With Snakes and spiders in his hair;
Be morning wet or cold or fair
He round us up and herds us in
While older students stand and grin,
And look as if it were a sin
To be a "mossback"-as they have been.
Who tells us not to care a pin?
Doctor Lehr.

Who prays for everybody when
We stumble into chapel, men
Boys, and gawky girls, and then
Some old maid teachers-ten
Or twenty, with now and again
A couple that have tied a knot?
Who gets us classes on the spot
And tried to suit us to a dot,
Bare-headed runs across the lot?
Prof. Lehr-for breakfast.

Who, when we get into a scrap.
About some girl with t'other chap,
Or say we do not care a rap
About our books-there's beer on tap-
Who threatens writing to our "pap"
Then comes into our room just when
Our roommate's gone to class at ten
And while we look at ink and pen
And feel like anything but men
Who takes us home again?
Dear Old Daddy Lehr, -(After he gets that promise)

Who, when in solemn row we stand,
Upon the best stage in the land,
Excited, pale, but feeling grand-
A fluttering, graduating band;
Who comes and takes us by the hand
And greeting us with looks so kind
He leaves his picture on the mind
So conscious of the ties that bind,
Then trots around from back behind
A basket of diplomas signed?
Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ohio Normal University, and others.

Who long was here before we came?
Who labored on through praise or blame?
Who gave his life-work, health and fame
And now is asked e'en for his name?
Professor Lehr-Lehr University.

Who, when the lessons are all taught;
Who, when his works have all been wrought;
and when life's battles all are fought;
and life's troubles are as naught,
Expanding thought in every land
Widespread as waves upon the sand,
Outlasting that by workman's hand-
A splendid mausoleum, grand?
Our Father Lehr.
CHAPTER 89.

H.S. Miller, of Wayne county, entered. His father and the writer were schoolmates in the early fifties. He named the son H.S. for his friend. He is now a leading educator in Kansas. Stella Niles, of Clyde, O., entered our ranks. She is now one of the finest musicians in Ohio. Beecher S. Strohl, now a prominent Ohio schoolman, became a normalite. He married Flo Day, Philo leader. She could not be excelled as a solicitor. Strohl also was a Philo. Mrs. Strohl says, "Beecher and I are well mated and happy." C.M Shook, of Randolph, O., now a resident of Cleveland, joined the Franks and the Frats. A fine student, shall speak of him again. Elma Seitz came with her sisters and joined the Franks. Like her sisters, she was a model student.

Among the Engineers whom I well remember were E.S. Deford and E. Reber. Reber was one of my warmest friends. He was a noble young man. After completing the course he was employed by the B&O R.R. company as an engineer. He died many years ago.

This year also brought Miss Maude Garnett. She was talented and beautiful. She died about fifteen years ago in Mexico. Her priest at the request of her mother (wrote) to me concerning her death.

Rev. Updike took lessons in elocution and W.H. Whigam, of Illinois who finally completed the Scientific course about twelve years ago, entered school the fall of 1881.

W.L. Swallen, now a missionary in Corea, entered in '82. He joined the Adelphians, but was one of the number who asked the society to dismiss him or rather him to withdraw. He then joined the Philos.

Late in the fall of 1881, Prof. C.B. Hickernell, now the Hon. C.B. Hickernell, then one of our teachers, came to me and said that a Y.M.C.A. ought to be organized for the spiritual benefit of the students. He was ably assisted by Prof. F.V. Irish. I will quote from a letter written to me some years ago by Mr.
Hickernell: "I was impressed that a Y.M.C.A. was what would complete the intellectual and moral equipment of the school. Having graduated in Ada in 1879, I entered Delaware university in the spring of 1880 and graduated in 1881. I was employed to come back and teach. I said to myself that the door of opportunity for education in the O.N.U. surpassed that of the O.W.U and I made up my mind that the O.N.U. should equal the best in everything and that the Y.M.C.A. was the essential complement to the scholastic advantages in Ada. You cautioned me to keep out and guard against sectarian feelings the Y.M.C.A. might engender. Well, we met in Prof. Maglott's room with seven students. We asked Prof. Irish to give his time and to assist. He was also present. These eight with myself made nine, the least number that would be considered a Y.M.C.A. according to the constitution of the state or national organization."

Elmer Greer was the first Y.M.C.A. president. Through the efforts of Prof. Hickernell and Prof. Irish, ably assisted by Rev. Z.B. Campbell, L.D. Wishard, National Secretary of the Y.M.C.A., was secured to come and deliver a course of lectures. I never attended any religious meetings in all my experience where I so forcibly and fully recognized the presence of the Holy Spirit as I did in those meetings. Wishard and Rev. Campbell had been classmates at Princeton.

The lecture committee consisted of the following gentlemen; C.H. Workman, President; C.E. Kirchner, treasurer; J.W. Culbertson, secretary, and C.H. Apt. B.T. Buchannon, F.F. Douglass, D.B. Love, D.A. Shaw. Workman, Apt and Douglass were Franks; Kirchner, Culbertson and Love, Philos; Buchannon and Shaw, Adelphians.

The talent on the course consisted of Major Dane, Dr. James Hedley, Mrs. Ann Eliza Young, Dr. T. Dewitt Talmage, Hon. Wm. Parsons, Hon. George R. Wendling and Rev. Dr. Thomas. Parsons lived in Dublin, Ireland. I presume we never had a stronger course. The committee cleared over $400.
CHAPTER 90.

The Triennial Reunion of the Franklin Society was held May 25.

The Classical graduates of 1882 were S.P. Fisher, Florence Harford, C.N. Haskins, Thos. O'Farrell, A.E. Winter, one Adelphian, O'Farrell. Fisher was a Philo, Haskins, Winter, and Miss Harford were Franklins.


S.P. Fisher, Ralph Diehl, Thos. O'Farrell, W.T. Mooney and J.F. Millar are dead. D.E. Shaw, an Adelphian, completed the Teacher's course, the first student that we graduated from that department.

Annia Thomas of Indiana completed our course in piano. Prof. Griffin said of B.S. Young, a graduate, "He has learned all I can teach him on the cornet." Miss Thomas and Brig. Young were our first graduates in music. Young is a Franklin, but I do not remember to which society Miss Thomas belonged.

Miss Laura Freeman, of Montgomery county, became a Normalite. She is now the wife of Supt. Mitchell of the city school of Defiance, O. Cora Gregg, of Iowa and Ann Sutton, of Cleveland, excellent and cultured ladies, came to take a course in Normal work.

J.B. Frets, who married beautiful and good Miss Bryan, entered to prepare for the ministry. He is an M.E. preacher. He was a fine student.

R.W. Luttrell, now city engineer of Galveston, Texas, came to take a course in Civil Engineering. He is a wealthy bachelor with an income of $5,000 a year. Lately he entertained the writer at the best hotel in Galveston. He was a good student and has made life a success.
David Meck, now a ward superintendent of schools in Cleveland entered and remained till he completed his course, the Classical, did some teaching for us and after I resigned was employed as an instructor in the O.N.U. Like all the Mecks, he was a No. 1 student.

I already have mentioned in previous chapters all of the above named graduates with but few exceptions. Mrs. Regina M. Dixon was a teacher in the school and never joined any society. Emma D. McElroy was a sister of Mary McElroy the great Philo orator who had married Rev. S.J. White When Mary died Mr. White married Emma. Fisher, Morgan, Workman and Mrs. Dixon all taught in the Normal and were fine teachers.

By mistake J.W. Culberson's name was omitted on the commencement program and also in the catalog. I was very sorry, in fact I grieved over the matter. Mr. Culberson would take no explanation or excuse and never forgave the omission. I put a slip in each catalog with his name and an explanation but it failed to satisfy him.

The boys and girls of those days will all remember the names of Senator Apt and Lady Harford.

All the members of the class of '82 deserve a special mention here, but space forbids. This year we graduated twenty-nine graduates from the Commercial college.

The Adelphians gave their Annual entertainment on the evening of May 5, and the Franklins and Philomatheans had their Annual contest on the evening of May 25. It was closely contested and the audience was large. Rev. Russell Pope, of Chicago, delivered the class address. Another year closed and was pronounced a success.
Before beginning the story of the school year '82-83 I shall make a correction. Excepting catalogs, contracts and letters, I write the story from memory, as I kept no diary, never expecting to write a history of the school or the part I had in founding and establishing it. Not long ago I chanced to meet Samuel Watt of Findlay, O., and E.W. Gilbert, of Los Angeles, Cal. I learned that I had given Mr. Gilbert, C.E. Stumm and Jacob Linard credit for what Samuel Watt and Isaac Diefenderfer did. The circumstance was this. The first Normal building was to cost $8,000. J.G. Park, B.F. Niesz and myself were to pay $4000, and $4000 was to be raised by subscription. Persons subscribing could cast a vote for the location of the building for every $20 subscribed. Profs. Park and Niesz each subscribed $300, I subscribed $100. There were nearly $5000 subscribed, but many refused to pay because the building was not located where they wanted it located and claimed it was unfair for the teachers to vote on the location.

The house was to be completed by August 1, 1871; but in fact was never completed by the contractor, Mr. Wyant, and the roof was concave instead of convex. The water poured through it and it had to be repaired or re-roofed or else we would have to close the school. The various bills unpaid amounted to about $700.

We notified the citizens in June, 1873, that unless immediate action would be taken, we would quit the school. A meeting of stockholders was called and the trustees were authorized to settle with us on some condition agreeable to both parties. We agreed to complete the building and put a new roof on it and they were to raise money in some way to pay the outstanding debts and agreed to cancel all subscriptions which we were to pay back in ten years and we had to agree to conduct the school no less than five years. In the history of 1873 I said E.W. Gilbert, C.E. Stumm and Jacob Linard raised the indebtedness of the trustees or stockholders but that was a mistake. Samuel Watt and Isaac Diefenderfer carried the paper to get the subscribers and Samuel Watt, then postmaster and a badly crippled old soldier, tells me he collected $595 of $600 subscribed.
I shall also say here that O.E. Collins reminds me that he subscribed $20 and paid the same and claims that the Trustees had no right to cancel his subscription; but they could not help but do so by the joint contract. I willingly make these corrections. I can recall comparatively but little of the history of the school, it is so extensive and it must be remembered that these events occurred a third of a century ago.

Catalog No. 12 for the school year 1882-3, was printed at Ada by Agnew Welsh. It was a fine job of work. It contained forty-eight pages. The owners and officers of the school were the same as those of previous years. The new teachers employed were F.V. Irish, Mrs. Regina Dixon, J.H. Baldwin, Miss Gertrude Fryette, J.C. Holland, B.S. Young and S.S. Hamill.

Prof. Irish was to teach arithmetic, grammar, orthography, word analysis and Latin. Mrs. Dixon was assistant teacher of mathematics. Prof. Baldwin was to teach penmanship; Miss Fryette painting and drawing; J.C. Holland architecture; B.S. Young orchestra and S.S. Hamill special elocution. Hon. J.J. Burns, Supt. G.W. Walker, Supt. J.W. Zeller, Supt. C.W. Butler and Supt. D.E. Niver were employed to assist in teaching during the summer months in 1883.

The school terms and tuition remained the same as the previous year. The Alumni were to hold their first Triennial reunion May 22, 1883; the Adelphians had their first Triennial reunion May 23 and the Annual contest between the Franklins and Philos was announced for the evening of May 24. The commencement exercises were to occupy two days, May 23 and 24.

At the opening of the school year 1882-3 we employed S.P. Axline to teach stenography. That is now nearly twenty-four years ago and he still teaches stenography in the same tone of voice as then, he speaks no faster, no slower. He has made the department a great success. We shall speak of his other work later on.

We also employed Mrs. A. Ingalls to teach fancy work, such as zephyr and wax work. This last did not prove a great success and we discontinued the department.

The enrollment for the school year 1882-3 was 2,077 with an increase of only 159 students. We had more students than we could accommodate. We rented the room now occupied by Mr. J.C. Riddle and used for a tine store, for our School of Telegraphy and what is now the Fraternity hall, we rented for the practical department of our Commercial College.
The first fall term opened well, Tuesday, August 8th. But what to do with the students was a hard problem to solve. The practical arithmetic class was too large to do good effective work, so were two of the algebra classes, the class in beginning Latin and some other classes. A number of teachers had recitations at six in the morning and some classes recited from seven to eight in the evening. We could not expect further help from the union school district nor could we raise much by subscription from the citizens. I visited Mr. Harpster, the rich sheep king, of Wyandot county and other millionaires. The answer invariably given was: "You have a private school, money donated to such an enterprise is merely given to individuals." We tried to influence leading citizens of Liberty township to induce the township to build a house for us for the benefit of the scholars of the township on the same condition as those enjoyed by the school youth of the village of Ada; but we worked to no purpose. We had many teachers and paid liberal salaries. The teachers in the College of Music and those in special Elocution were well paid. We finally hit on a scheme if carried out would have given us $25,000 for a new building. This was the plan: Prof. Zollar now president of Adron college, Texas and Prof. L.M. Sniff now president of the Tri-State Normal college at Angola, Ind., were to be taken in as full members of the faculty. H.E. Neff and U.G. Stringfellow had purchased the interest of G.W. Rutledge. Prof. Park, Prof. Maglott and the writer each owned a fourth interest in the school, Neff and Stringfellow each owned an eighth interest. Zollar and Sniff were each to pay $4,000 Neff and Stringfellow each $2,00 to become equal partners, in all $12,000. Then the company was to invest $8,000 and a number of citizens agreed to raise by subscription $5,000, in all $25,000.

We employed Judge A.B. Johnson of Kenton to draw up the contracts between the company and the citizens who had agreed to raise the $5,000 donation providing the building would cost $25,000. We met at the Citizens bank to prepare the papers. While engaged in arranging matters a telegram was brought into the room from Mexico stating that M.G. Stringfellow had died of smallpox. Mrs. Stringfellow requested that proceeding(s) be stopped for the time being.

A circumstance happened shortly after this meeting which it would be impolite to relate, but in conjunction with the death of Mr. Stringfellow caused the scheme to fail. Had there been no sunken road or had Grouchy come to the relief of his emperor as he was commanded, Waterloo bridge would be spanning the river Seine. Had the scheme succeeded, 2000 students would now be crowding the streets of Ada. Still eventually all may have been for the
best. We were discouraged but did what we thought the next best plan. In the spring of 1883 we commenced the erection of the frame building on the southwest corner of the college campus. There were four large, well ventilated, well lighted and well heated, recitation rooms in the house; yet in later years some wicked fellows called it the sheepshed. Some people can never appreciate a thing of beauty when they see it.

The new building helped us, but it was too small. There were constant calls for more classes in all the departments and especially in Engineering and Music. All the classes in the later department had now to recite down town also the classes in Telegraphy. Many of the students who entered that year are now well known not only to O.N.U. students but to the general public as well. Shall give the names of a few of the more prominent students who entered the school year 1882-3.

I find the name of E.A. Brobst, a prominent Adelphian, Grace Shay, a prominent Franklin, C.H. Ball, later a captain in the battalion.

G.W. Bates, now deceased, came to my office the Saturday before the opening of the first fall term of 1882. He was accompanied by two of his friends. They wanted to take the forty week plan for $100. Mr. Bates said, "Do you pretend to give us comfortable rooms and living board, forty weeks for $100?" The reply was, "Yes. Will show the rooms and if the board is not better than you expect it to be, after trying it one week you need not pay a cent." He replied, "But what assurance have we that we can get back our money?" The reply was, "You need not pay till the end of the first week, then if satisfactory you will be expected to pay the $100." I showed them the rooms in what then was the Rice house, the brick on south Main street. They liked the rooms. We went back to the office. Bates who was the spokesman for the trio remarked, "You talk and act like an honest man. We will pay today." The O.N.U. never had a better friend. He completed the Classical course. The three boys joined the Philos. After graduation Bates entered the ministry of the M.E. church.

E.E. Boalt and his sister came this year. Both joined the Philos. They were fine students. E.E. Boalt completed the course in Engineering. A number of Deans entered the same year. All fine students, good boys and nearly all joined the Philos.

This year also brought us that excellent lady, Miss Minnie E. Dickinson of Logan county. She was a fine student and after graduation we employed her to teach in the university. She is now Mrs. D.G. Hall. She was a faithful
teacher and well liked by her students. R.B. Bennett was a good student. No student ever appreciated good grades as did Mr. Bennett. His last year in school, he would visit the office every few weeks and look at his grades. He loved them as a miser loves his gold. He had made life a success. Job Hill and J.H. Hoxey were fine students. Hoxey came from Illinois. He now resides on the Pacific coast. J.P. Leasure a popular student and ardent Franklin, now of Ottawa, O., entered this year. Josiah Bixler, a very strong student, now of Hillsboro, Ill., Editor of the Hillsboro Journal, entered and joined the Franklins.

Clara Donaldson the first of the Donaldson sisters who became Normalites, entered the present year. She was one of the noblest students that ever entered the school. She is a true lady. J.W. Budd now a successful teacher entered and Ella Bay and Flora M. Bell joined our ranks. Miss Bay was thorough student and a true lady as was Miss Bell. This year also brought us G.W. Crile, now Dr. Crile one of the leading surgeons of our country. He resides in Cleveland. He had a national reputation. He was an Adelphian.

This year also brought us the prince of good boys, Delevan Dukes whom I always loved for his noble qualities of head and heart. Some years ago I offered him a position as teacher in the Normal he preferred to remain in Findlay.
CHAPTER 92.

In this catalog I find the name "Simeon Fess." He is now known as Dr. S.D. Fess. I shall never forget our first interview in the school office. He was bashful and his coat showed that he was not the son of a merchant prince. It was of a brownish yellowish color, the worse of wear, but I liked the brilliancy of the eye and at once determined to watch his progress. He did thorough work, but after attending several terms dropped out. I believed that it would be a loss to the world if he would not enter school again somewhere and concluded to write him. As I now remember I said that he should return to school, that some day I would need him as a teacher. I think he still has that letter and I shall ask him for it that I may later on insert it these reminiscences. It is needless for me to say more about him. He is known throughout the country. He married Miss Eva Thomas an intelligent and lovely woman, a true lady. Both have been popular teachers in the Normal. They were married in the Lehr home and their oldest son is named Lehr Hamilton Fess. The readers of the Herald can judge whether I divined correctly.

I have received many kind letters from him and shall here insert part of one written in 1904.

Chicago, Ill. March 30, 1904.

Dear Dr. Lehr: It was a delight to receive your good letter. Quite frequently we have word from some of the Ada people, and we are thus kept in touch with your town. Any word from that section is like hearing from the old home, and you know what that means. From all reports the town and school are doing nicely. I am sorry that your health is not as good as we could hope, but we will rest in the hope that with the coming of Spring and Summer, it will improve as to make you feel yourself again. It is such a comfort as well as delight to the thousands of devoted and loyal friends, not a history, but the history of the School. Such a history will be a permanent contribution to the history of the great state of Ohio. The influence of that institution while nominally educational, is vastly more than that. It has had a marked and varied influence; a social influence to enforce upon the college the recognition based upon honest effort, rather that the accident of birth or fortune; a political influence felt over the state and readily admitted by the politician; a religious influence which took hold of hundreds of men and women and sent them to organizing their powers to make the world better; an economic
influence which seems to permeate the entire institution, and induce the patrons of the school to plan for the future comfort in this life. In other words the Ada student seems to be bent on bringing things to pass. There are so many realms of appreciation of that institution outside of the mere academic work it has done, outside of what is specifically educational as the world regards it, that is ought to be brought to the public attention.

There is only one man to do that; there can be no difference of opinion on that. It is to be hoped that you will add to the history of the school proper, some reminiscences. I have always insisted that you have in your experience with young men and women, rich sources for the best culture for the young. If you could print some letters you have received, covering the many sides of life, they would not only be interesting reading, but they would serve as splendid sources for the marvelous success of that institution. There is not in existence any information so nearly true, and at the same time so interesting to pursue as well as to possess, as that which comes from personal letters.

For the past two years it has been first my duty which soon became my pleasure to go over a large part of the correspondence of our statesmen of the early history of our country. It has convinced me of the rare source of historical study of such letters. The personal element is so marked that you get more than the dry matter of fact. It is the personal element in the school that is and especially has been so dominant. The danger of the history is that much of that element will be omitted unless added in the form of reminiscence.

What a pity that your correspondence could not have been culled and preserved, and later published. Jefferson had at one time 36,000 letters on file. Only a small part of them were printed, yet they comprise twelve large volumes. So it was with Washington, Hamilton, both of the Adamses, Madison, Monroe, Jay, King and many others. The two volumes of The Private Letters of Webster, edited by his son, Fletcher, are invaluable sources of the history of his time. So it is with Calhoun, Clay, Jackson, Seward and many others. One of the chief departments of the American Historical association is devoted to the obtaining and printing the unpublished letters of distinguished people. But I have run wild upon this subject, and I hope my appreciation of the experience you have had will be an excuse for my exuberance.

S.D. Fess.

This year also brought us A.L. Girad, a first-class student. At one time we offered him a chair in the university but he declined, preferring public school work. He married Mrs. Rachel Stringfellow, a sister of Prof. Park. S.A. Ringle, who in later years married that talented and excellent Philo lady, Miss Della Moon, became a Normalite in '82-83.

This year also brought us Geo. B. Griggs, now Senator Griggs, of Texas. He was gay and full of fun, but a good student. He was a leading Franklin, on the
stage every night singing and debating. He now is an attorney, senator and author. His latest volume, Norkoma, is a semi-political romance. It depicts, most tenderly, home and family life and the benign influence of the wife and mother. The language is chaste, the plot intricate and the lessons it teaches are of a high moral order. He is making life a success.

We also had the good fortune to enroll H.C. Jameson, who had been an Oberlin student, but gave the Normal a trial and remained with us and completed the Classical course. He at once took a leading part in school, in the Franklin society and in church work. He is a natural orator, is an A.M., a D.D., and a prominent preacher in the M.E. church. He married Miss Blanche Dukes, a popular and prominent Franklin. She is a member of the Dukes family that furnished the Normal with three beautiful and excellent girls and two brilliant and noble boys, Delevan and Augustus.

R.E. Rayman, a brother of E.E. Raymond, came and joined the Adelphians. He was a leader in his society.

J.B. Ruhl came and joined the Philos. He taught in the Commercial college many years and at present is a prominent attorney in Cleveland. H.E. Smith, of Marion county, was a good student and a Philo leader. He sent us many students. Rue Sellers and her sister Hattie, excellent ladies, entered. Rue now is a missionary in India. She has not forgotten the Normal.

Old Philos will all remember Ella Maud Crow as one of their best workers. She married C.J. Keyser, a Franklin, one of our most brilliant students. He is now a professor of Columbia university, N.Y.

A.P. Schoonover, Chas. Meck, Sadie Bryan, C.C. Corl, the Dunem brothers, and scores of other good and faithful workers entered this year.

B.F. Finkel must not be forgotten. He is one of the best mathematicians that ever graduated from the O.N.U. He is a loyal friend of the school and of his society, the Philomathean. He is teaching mathematics in Drury college, Mo. W.E. Hoover of Wayne county, was a strong student and a noble young man. He joined the Adelphians and married an Adelphian lady. I can not recall her name. He is teaching in a Western state.

C.C. Wentz and Theresa Gouser entered this year and both joined the Adelphians. They became fast friends and are married and live on the Pacific coast. They were fine workers and have been successful teachers.
Clyde Ackerman joined the Franks. He was thorough student. He taught many years, but is now Clerk of the Court, of Allen county. M.E. Aungst of Stark county, now Judge Aungst, was an excellent student in every respect. He was popular and had many friends. Two more of the Maurer family of New Philadelphia entered and joined the Adelphians. All were good students. Lettie Burchfield was known as the Philo beauty. She had many friends and was a good worker.

This year we also enrolled Helen F. Barnes. She was one of our most thorough students and for some years was one of our popular teachers. She is now engaged in Y.W.C.A. work. W.H. Bowdre is now Judge Bowdre of Watonga, Ind. Ter.

Mertie Clark and Rose Clark came this year and joined the Philos. No school could hope for better students. Studious, cultured, refined, womanly, they exerted a valuable influence on the school. Mattie Clark is now Mrs. Judge Bickel, and Rose Clark completed a thorough course of studies at Chicago university and is now engaged in the profession of teaching. M.V. Clevenger, a fine musician, Finley R. Cook, Hol Cooney, A.C. Cessna, W.A. Campbell, A.J. Carrick, now the father of Lehr Carrick, Ira H. Culp, Mollie Fox, Maud Fowler, Malinda Foucht and Emma Ernsberger, all fine students, must not be forgotten. Miss Ernsberger now Dr. Ernsberger, a missionary in Corea. In a letter she wrote to me a year ago, she said, "I never attended a school where those in authority so fully and fairly fulfilled all they advertised." I prize such a sentiment from such a source.
CHAPTER 93.

R.J. Gregory, of Stark county graced our halls. He was number one student and is now a prominent citizen of Canton. I must not forget my friend, A.L. Fetters, of Wayne county; Della Graves, R.P. Grabiel, Kittie Cage, Lucy Howard, Cora Hampton, Carrie Hipp, J.R. Howey, the fine singer, J.L. Higbie, T.E. Higbie and Clay Hugill, of Clarksburg, W. Va. F.E. Higbie is now Rev. Higbie and at present a Trustee of the O.N.U. and an excellent gentleman.

The first regiment in which I served was encamped some months at Clarksburg W. Va. In conversation with Mr. Hugill I learned while a guard at a bridge over the Elk river I called, one morning, at the residence of his mother and asked for something to eat and she gave me some fine hot biscuits. His father at the time was in the Union army.

Flora Henderson, of Hancock county, came and signed a Philo and Franklin card. The most violent contest ensued that ever occurred over any one member in the history of the school. Miss Henderson claimed she never signed a Franklin card; but she proved that she had signed a Philo card. The Franklins claimed that she signed the Franklin card. I shall submit most of the papers in connection with the contest. In those days the name of applicants for membership were counted and society spirit ran high. I still have in my possession the Philo card she claimed to have signed. It was signed Feb. 23, 1883. Both societies requested a decision by the Faculty. I will here insert the second request sent us by the Philo society. I have all the papers on file but will give but one.

Ada, O., March 5, 1883

To Prof. H.S. Lehr, President of the Faculty, of North Western Ohio Normal School: You are hereby notified that the Philomathean Literary society of the N.W.O. school asks for a written decision of said faculty whether Miss Flora Henderson is or is not legally a member of the said Philomathean Literary society. A decision is requested to be given immediately.

By order of Society,

J. Jerome Welty, President
We suspected there had been some sharp practices in soliciting, but it was clearly proven in the case of Miss Henderson that she belonged to the Philos for she had signed that card first and we so decided unanimously.

Ada, Ohio, March, 1883.

The undersigned hereby gives notice to the Franklin Literary society that I never signed my name requesting membership in said society nor did I ever give anyone permission to report my name as such. Hence I ask that my name be removed from the roll book.

Respectfully,

Flora Henderson.

Ada, Ohio, March 7, 1883.

We the Faculty of the N.W.O.N. school, in reply to a petition handed us by a Franklin Literary society of said school, answer by saying:

1. We are not a civil tribunal and cannot decide on civil law questions.

2. As regards the Franklin constitution, we believe by its provisions and the testimony, Miss Henderson was a Franklin before expulsion.

3. We hold that the regulations of the Faculty are paramount to the constitutions of the societies, which constitutions ought to accord with said regulations, but where they do not the regulations of the Faculty Miss H, was not a member of the Franklin society. H.S. Lehr, Frederick Maglott, J.G. Park, H.E. Neff, M. Jay Ewing.

Ada, Ohio, March 7, 1883.

Decision of Faculty of N.W.O.N. school as regards society membership of Flora Henderson.

We the Faculty of N.W.O.N. school in answer to a request of the Philomathean Literary society of said school, decide that Flora Henderson is a member of the Philomathean Literary society.

This decision is based upon our regulations and former decisions that each application for membership into a society of the school must be signed by the
applicant in person and is not based upon civil law, nor the laws of equity. H.S. Lehr, J.G. Park, H.E. Neff, Frederick Maglott, M. Jay Ewing.

At their meeting, the Franklins expelled Miss Henderson. By a rule of the Faculty an expelled member of one society would not be elected to membership of another society. We learned that some persons in order to join another society sought expulsion, hence the regulation or law; but in the case of Miss Henderson we believed and decided that she was a member of the Philo society for we were satisfied she signed the Philo card first if she signed the Franklin card at all. When the Franklins published their next triennial catalogue they marked Flora Henderson, now Mrs. Flora Burkett, as expelled. She met Mr. Burkett here while in school. He was the son of Judge Burkett, later member of the Supreme court. The Judge threatened legal action in the case. I will insert the action of the Franklin society. The respective societies can now go to the Herald office and get the original papers.

Ada, Ohio, December 23, 1885.

Whereas the catalogue committee of 1885, in publishing the catalogue of the Franklin Literary society, of said year, did, without the knowledge of said society, publish the name of one, Mrs. Flo Burkett nee Henderson, as having been expelled from said society, and that the members of the Franklin society knew nothing of the act of said committee until the catalogue was published. Therefore, resolved that, we, the present members abide the decision of the Faculty, that, said Mrs. Flo Burkett nee Henderson, was never a member of the Franklin Literary society. Resolved, that a committee be appointed, by the chair, to past strips over the name of Mrs. Flo Burkett nee Henderson, in the Franklin catalogues, yet unsold, and that a copy of these resolutions be sent to Mrs. Flo Burkett nee Henderson.

Committee, M.E. Thrailkill, Frank McLaughlin, J.C. Boyd, W.F. Teagarden
Among those whom I especially remember as active workers in 1883 were A.A. Hibner, Daniel Irick, W.P. Koogle, D.W. Klepinger, C.C. Keller, now of West Mansfield; M.B. Lehr, L.C. Lorash, Alice Mathews, Ida McDermott, a very strong student; J.C. Moyer, now of Findlay; Anna Mabrick, Sarah McCreary, Della Moon, Emma Melhorn, now the Rev. Mrs. Cook; Mattie Mustard, Eva Monnette, Jennie Neal and her brothers, C.H. and W.P. Neal, of Kelly's Island; O.B. Pendleton, W.A. Price, Allie Peters, a sister of Hattie and Jennie Peters, of Marion, O.; F.M. Ramsdell, now an attorney and ex-mayor of Ada; A.N. Roach now teaching in a college (in) Kentucky; Adella Robins, a very faithful Franklin worker; Leah Rudasil, a Philo worker; H.W. and Fannie Stafford; Fannie is now Mrs. C.H. Freeman; Irwin Stimmel, Mary Sheedy, now Mrs. C.H. Workman of Mansfield; G.D. Spalding, R.H. Sunkle, F.E. Segar, H.H. Spain, now of Columbus, O., one of my warm friends; John L. Saum, A.F. Sager, W.A. Sager, E.E. Shutt, Clara Stemple, W.F. Teagarden, Ida Van Orsdall, B.W. Van Zant and P.I. Tussing.

I shall never forget Mr. Tussing's first recitation in one of my classes. It was a class in higher Algebra, I think the second term's work. The class recited in room 4 in the large brick. Mr. Tussing sat near the rear window. When he arose to explain his work he took the pointer in his left hand and surveyed the class where he should stand that the class might see the work on the board. He talked deliberately and talked to the class, not to the board as too many students and teachers do, nor did he especially look at me, but more especially at the class. I then and there marked him in my class register as available as a future teacher. When in after years our science teacher notified me that he would resign at the close of the school year, I recommended Mr. Tussing to my associates as a suitable person for the position and as I now remember every member heartily concurred in the choice. I notified Mr. Tussing of our action and requested him to attend school at certain institutions of learning and to more fully prepare himself for the work. He did so. He is a magnificent instructor. Certain citizens criticized our action in employing him. They said that he was an infidel. I replied, "But he is honorable and a gentleman." I prize his friendship.
Ada and Carrie Wentworth, fine ladies and ardent Philos, joined the Normal ranks and so did R.M. Wanamaker. Wannie, as the boys called him, is now Judge Wanamaker, of Akron. He was a hard worker as a student, a consummate Philo schemer and an all around good fellow. I deem him one of my true friends. He married Miss Fannie Snow, a sweet singer and a charming lady. She also was a Philo. He and his partner, Mr. Young, have had a lucrative practice and the Judge has been amply able to keep the wolf from the door.

This year we added to our list of students many of the young people residing in Ada. Some were mere children. In this list I find Eugene Ahlefeld, Ella Dickinson, Mattie Gardner, Dora Fritz, Theresa Gonser, now Mrs. C.C. Wentz, Harriet Lehr, Sarah L. Lehr, Lillie Munn, Minnie Nelson, Anna Rogall, Nora Stumm, Emma Walters, Hessie Walters, Stella Irish, Daisy Lowry, now Mrs. Horner, May Kemp, now Tobias, an excellent lady, Anna Gill, Maud Ballard, De Britto and Pearl Griffin, W.L Gilbert, Scott Ballard, Sherm Harmony, S.W. Nogle, George Rockhill, May Elberson. All were good students and all are still known in Ada.

Harriet and Sarah Lehr were my secretaries a number of years. Sarah was a faithful and efficient teacher several years. They both took great interest in the success of the school.

In Special Elocution I find the names Earl Watt, Pet Park, Ella Wilson and Bessie Riddle. In later years Pet Park became Ethel Park and is now Mrs. Prof. J.B. Gregg and Bessie Riddle is now Mrs. Doctor Tussing. Ethel Park and Bessie Riddle many years were secretaries in my office and were faithful and efficient. They handled thousands and tens of thousands of dollars. I found them honest to the last cent. While I was president of the school, the office was always open by seven o'clock a.m. and often before seven; and at the noon hour by one p.m. My daughter Sarah is a Philo, Harriet a Franklin and Mrs. Gregg and Mrs. Tussing are Franklins.

This year I also find the name of Mary Black as a Music student. She is a Franklin of the Franklins and still occasionally sings for the society.

Lillie Gorgas entered this year, a popular student and a Franklin, and Ida Bolton, whose father supposed my secretary, then J.L. Hampton, to be the president of the school. He was greatly disappointed with my appearance. He said he had heard so much talk about the president of the school that he
supposed they he was a fine looking man, large and portly. Turning to his
daughter he said, "Well, I suppose we must make the best of it." Frequently I
was told by persons, especially by parents, that they expected to find the
president to be a large man but no other person spoke so bluntly.

Many other students I still remember but space and time forbid naming all that
deserve to be named. When I look over the list of names of the students who
entered the school year '82-83, I confess that I feel honored, and all
connected with the school should feel honored, in having under their
supervision such noble men and women as those students proved to be. I
take pride in naming them.

For the benefit of students and others to show that it pays to treat persons
kindly, I shall relate some personal history.

In the fall of 1882 the Democrats secured for their great meeting Hon. George
S. Converse, of Columbus, then a member of Congress and Hon. Eshelman,
of Wooster, an ex-member of Congress, and at the time editor of the Wayne
county Democrat.

At the close of the meeting I went on the stage and requested an introduction
to the speakers. I could readily see the gentlemen had been told that I was a
Republican. The reception was rather cold; but I invited the speakers to visit
the school at chapel stating that I would call it a half an hour earlier than usual
and would take them to the school building in a carriage and then drive them
to the train. I spoke as pleasantly as I knew how and both consented to come.
I notified all the early classes that the recitations would be cut short half an
hour and spoke to some of the leading Republican boys to see their friends
and to give the gentleman a royal reception.

I procured the finest conveyance in town to drive them to chapel. The hall was
crowded. No standing room was left. They gave us interesting and spicy talks
and the boys made the old hall ring with applause. After chapel I took them
into the office and showed them our program of daily recitations. Mr.
Converse remarked that he had never met with a more cordial reception, not
even at his alma mater and that if ever he could do us a favor he would do so.

In January he wrote to me and said that there were many duplicate specimens
of marine animals at the Smithsonian museum and if we desired some he
would be pleased to procure them for us. The answer was, send all you can
get. The students of those days and even those of later years will remember
the fine specimens we had in glass jars in our small museum. Those were procured through his efforts. I shall here insert part of the correspondence. We were requested to send a draft for $25 to pay for the bottles and alcohol, but Mr. Converse returned the draft saying that the government furnished all free. Who can say that all congressmen are dishonest?

Washington, D.C., Feb., 26, '83
H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My Dear Sir:- Your favor of 23. inst, in relation to duplicate geological specimens is received. I have addressed a not to Prof. Baird of the Smithsonian on the subject and hope to hear from him in a few days, and when I do hear I will write you again. He is very busy just now making his preparation for the first exhibition in London the coming spring. I am happy to hear of your prosperous condition and success. The blessings you are scattering along the pathway of life for so many will bear fruit.

Very truly yours,
Geo. S. Converse

Washington, D.C., Jan. 11, '84

Dear Sir:- I am in receipt of your letter of the 21st, enclosing an application from Prof. Lehr for geological specimens. In reply, I beg to say that it will give me much pleasure to file this application for action whenever such distribution is made. The mass of material is so great that it will take some considerable time to eliminate duplicates, and prepare them for distribution. Last session I asked for an appropriation of $10,000 to facilitate this selection of material, but the Appropriation Committee, instead, inserted authority to distribute, on condition that recipients would pay all the expenses of preparations. A small fund would soon place at our command, an immense lot of material, with which we could greatly enrich the college and school museums of the country.

Will you kindly ask Prof. Lehr if he would like a series of the collections of Marine invertebrates, made by the U.S. Fish Commission? These are in a much more advanced state of preparation for issuing, and we shall probably in the course of two months be ready to send out a series of perhaps 100 species, representing the principal orders and families of the shells, crabs, star-fish, and other animals that inhabit the ocean.

If he desires it, with your endorsement, I will take pleasure in entering the Normal school of Northwestern Ohio for a series. It will be necessary, however, to provide alcohol and glass-stoppered vials, in which to keep the collection. The cost of these would amount to from $15 to $25.
Yours truly,

M. Baird

The next year Mr. Converse assisted us in securing the detail of a U.S. military officer for our school.
CHAPTER 95.

The members of the Lecture committee in 1882-3 were I.C. Guinther, president, D.B. Love, W.H. Reed, E.E. Rayman, Wendell Burr Price, secretary; F.F. Douglass, J.P. Leasure, E.A. Brobst, L.D. Wisener. Guinther, Douglass and Leasure were Franklins; Love, Price and Wisener were Philos; Reed, Rayman and Brobst were Adelphians.

This year for a commencement roast some of the boys had a red hot paper printed. Among the leaders were R.H. Schoonover, U.S.G. Cherry, Harvey Sission, E.A. Brobst and a number of others.

The day before commencement one of the printers came and told me about the paper and as I now remember brought me a copy. I told some of the seniors how they could get them, but they failed to try. The boys who had the paper published blamed Mr. Brobst for giving me the information but they did him an injustice. I could not help him for I had promised not to give the name of my informant. I trust Prof. Schoonover will now enlighten his friends.

Bishop John W. Hamilton, Dr. M.B. Chapman, now of Harvard university, myself and others, published and sold the Compass while students at Mt. Union college and I was paid in my own coin. Had I been a member of the senior class and got the news in advance, in all probability the roast paper would have been captured, at least there would have been an attempt.

On the evening of May 22, 1883, the Alumni of the school held their first reunion. The banquet was held at the Young hotel, and the address to the Alumni was made by John W. Hamilton, D.D., then of Boston, now a Bishop of the M.E. church. At the banquet table Prof. C.B. Hickernell and others spoke in flattering terms of the great success attained by members of the Alumni.

Rev. Hamilton rose after one of those magnifying speeches and repeated the little poem of the "Fisherman of the Delaware" who had caught "full twenty million shad." After poem there was less boasting.
This was our tenth annual commencement. Shall insert the entire program:

Tenth Annual Commencement of the N.W.O.N.S., Ada, O.
Thursday, May 24, 1883.

Class Motto: Principia non homines.

Musical director, Prof. J.J. Jelley; pianist, Mrs. J.J. Jelley.

Program.

Anthem................................................Choir

Invocation.

Glee..................................................Choir
The Period of Golden Affluence, .....................W.O. Bailey, S, Delphos, O.
We've Launched our Boat but Where's the Shore? ..........Mamie Darst, T Dayton, O.
Conflict Between the Forces of Natural Religion and the Intellect...........I.C. Guinther, S New Winchester, O.
Beyond the Alps Lies Italy.......W.S. Harshman, S Milton, O.
Imaginative Man...................F.D. Henry, C Bluffton, O.
Fate.......................................L.U. Howard, S Ellsworth, O.

Music.

The Goal of Thought...............E.C. Irvine, Frederick, O.
American Politics..............H.E. Ives S Crookston, Minn.
Harmony between Reason and Belief.....C.J. Keyser, S Ada, O.
Our Thoughts.........................Josie Woods, Mt. Gilead, O.
An Impediment to Intellectual Progress,
.............................Benj. Meck, C Brokensword, O.
The Circle and Square.............Frank Mercer, Winona, O. Alexander
Hamilton.....A.R. Mitchell, C Belle Center, O.
Solo, Merry Zingara....................Ailla Branstitter
Course of Human Progress, ............P.S. Morgan, Venedocia, O.
Our Mysterious Possession, ..............Wendell Burr Price, Leesville, O.
Civilizing Power of America.......E.E. Raymond, C St. Paul
Add a Step....................Eliza P. Reed, S Twinsburg, O.
Heat, an Agent of the Earth, ..............A.S. Stevens, S Clifton, Arizona Ter.
The Rhetoric of Love.................Ollie Uncapher, Marion O.
Liberty, Our Nation's Choice.........J.R. Walton, S Huron, O.
The Moral Crisis..................S.B. Wagner, S Bucyrus, O.
Purer Politics..............Israel Williams, S Buckland, O.
Class Poem.......................W.I. Priest, C Bryan, O.

1:10 P.M.

Violin..........................................Frank Giffin
The Use & Abuse of Power, Honorary Oration, (F) Frank F. Douglass, C Shiloh, O.
Earth's Battlefields.............Flora Williamson, Kenton, O.

Music.

Heresy.................................J. Ross Lee, C Jewett, O.
Class History.................C.E. Kirchner, West Alexander, O.
Valedictory, Cycles of Ages, ....................................(A) W.H. Reed S Nebraska, O.

Music.

Class Address.................Hon. Chas. Fostor Gov. of Ohio
Address and Presentation of Diplomas.....President H.S. Lehr
Glee, Loud the Storm.......................Choir

Benediction.

Of the literary graduates, sixteen were Philos, ten Franks and three Adelphians. Of the Engineers, Churchill, Cookson, Harshman, Wood were Philos, Ingalls was a Frank. I do not remember to which society if any, Mr. Drummond belonged. Mrs. Mercer and Miss McAdams were both Franklins.

During the year, fifty-three completed the Commercial course and forty-one the course in Telegraphy.

John Maglott, P, the salutatorian, is a physician. He practices in Mansfield, O. W.O. Bailey, P. is one of the proprietors and owners of the Tri-State Normal college at Angola, Ind. Mamie Darst, P, is married and lives in or near Dayton. I.C. Guinther, F, is superintendent of Galion public schools. W.S. Harshman, P, is Prof. of Mathematics at the Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md. F.D. Henry,
F, is dead. Do not know the address of Mr. L.M. Howard, P. E.E. Irvine, P, practices law in Columbus, Cannot give the address of H.E. Ives, P. C.J. Keyser, F, teaches at Columbia university, N.Y. Josie Wood, P, is now Mrs. D.B. Love. They reside in Fremont, O. Benj. Meck, F, the father of Lehr Meck, practices law in Upper Sandusky. Frank Mercer, F, practices law in Salem, O. A.R. Mitchell, P, is dead. P.S. Morgan, P, resides in Van Wert county on a farm. On account of failing health he had to quit teaching. Wendell Burr Price, P, practices law in Colorado. Elmer E. Raymond, A, is superintendent of the public schools of East Liverpool, O. Have not heard from Eliza P. Reed, P, the last five years. A.S. Stevens, A, resides in Arizona. Ollie Uncapher, F, is married and lives in Marion, O. J.R. Walton, F, is superintendent of schools at West Lafayette, O.

S.B. Wagner, F, resides in Ada. He is a general agent for a large cement company operating in Michigan. Israel Williams, F, has not written to me the last ten years or longer. W.I. Priest, P, is a dentist and merchant of dental instruments and lives at San Francisco. He was class poet, but I fail to find the poem. F.F. Douglass, F, was the Franklin honor man elected by the society. He practices law in Chicago. Flora Williamson is now Mrs. Wagner and lives in or near Kenton, O. J. Ross Lee, P, is dead. He was brilliant and noble. C.E. Kirchner, P, is now a D.D. and preachers at Marysville, Mo. W.H. Reed was the Adelphian honor man and delivered the valedictory. Have not heard from him the last six or seven years.

I know the address of but three of the Engineers. Harshman is at Annapolis, Md. W.H. Ingalls is at Ft. Worth, Texas, and C.H. Wood resides at Mt. Gilead, O. Mrs. Mercer the artist and elocutionist and poetess lives in Salem, O. Do not know the present address of Miss McAdams.

The Adelphians held their first Triennial reunion on May 23rd. It was quite a success. The annual contest between the Franklins and Philos was hotly contested. The audience was large, the contestants all did remarkably well. It was considered one of the best contests in the history of the school.

The school year was a decided success in numbers and financially. Of the class Miss Wood, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Kirchner and Mr. Lee were for some years regular teachers in the Normal. Four other members taught classes several terms. Gov. Charles Foster addressed the class. The town was full of teams and the halls could not contain half of those who sought entrance.
CHAPTER 96.

Catalog No. 13 was again printed at Ada by Mr. Welsh and was a fine number, well finished. It contained 52 pages. It was the largest we ever had published.

The proprietors remained the same with the exception the name of Mrs. U.G. Stringfellow took the place of her deceased husband who had died the preceding winter in Mexico. H.P. Wagner was elected office secretary and was very efficient.

The length of the Summer or Normal term was changed from six to eight weeks and the tuition for the First Fall, Second Fall, Winter and Spring terms was now raised from $8 per term and for the Normal term $7.

The commencement exercises still occurred in May and the Philomatheans were to have a Triennial. Reunion May 21, 1884. The catalog contained the names of the teachers and students for the school year '82-'3 with announcements for '83-'4.


To Prof. Darst were assigned the classes which had been taught by Prof. Sniff. I also gave him the Teachers' Training class which I had never before entrusted to any of our teachers but I had too much other work to teach it myself. He had much experience in teaching having taught at Lebanon, Ladoga, Ind. and at Mansfield, O. To Prof. Workman, who had recently graduated from the Normal, we assigned the classes in reading, rhetoric, civil government and composition and letter writing. To Prof. Neff, who had just returned from Ann Arbor, we assigned the classes in the sciences. To Prof. S.P. Fisher we assigned classes in Latin, Greek and German. To Miss Josie Wood we gave classes in Mathematics and Latin. Prof. J.L. Hampton took charge of the Fine Arts department. Prof. Jelley, Mrs. Jelley and Prof. William Miles were employed to teach music. We now had six teachers in the Music department. Major A. Ream was employed to assist in teaching telegraphy. We thus added a fine corps of teachers to our force of instructors.
But the want of room and of a sufficient number of teachers the previous year caused a loss in the annual enrollment of fifteen students, the enrollment was only 2062.

I shall in future name a less number of students than heretofore for two reasons. First the story becomes too long and as I did less teaching and taught smaller classes and other duties increased, I became less intimately acquainted with the students in general. I still taught three to fours hours a day, read and answered all the letters, looked after the advertising, prepared the catalogs excepting the copying of the names of the students; the secretary did that; the secretaries also did much of the arranging from the grade books, the list of seniors, juniors, etc. I endeavored to look after the sick students and the conduct of the students. The teachers were requested to hand in the names of all absentees from classes. My time was fully occupied. I seldom left town for a day and mostly then to attend the meetings of teachers.

W.H. Buck, of Stark county, O., the son of the physician in whose office I read medicine from Aug. 1 to Nov. 1, 1865, brought with him of his pupils and friends, seventeen students the Spring term of 1884. He had been teaching a village school east of Alliance. He is now teaching school in Missouri. He was a number one student. This year we also enrolled that genial and excellent gentleman, F.A. Ernsberger, now the Rev. Ernsberger of Ada, O.

W.R. Haines, of Mt. Union, entered this year. He was one of the best, most cultured and honorable students that ever enrolled in the school. He was also one of the finest and best singers that ever sang on the Philo stage. He is at present managing a fruit farm of over 800 acres in a valley in western Utah. He is one of my warmest friends. I should have remarked above that Mr. Buck and his friends joined the Philo society.

G.A. Spence, now Dr. Spence, an excellent student, came and joined the Franks and captured one of Ada's best girls and sweetest singers, Miss Mina Park, one of the noted quartet of the Park sisters.

M.C. Aungst, now Judge Aungst, of Canton, O., entered this year. He is one of the staunch friends of the O.N.U. and I felt honored to call him one of my friends.

A.P. Albaugh, of Carroll county, now Dr. Albaugh, became one of our students. Some years ago he sent a large and fine collection of marine shells
and other specimens for the O.N.U. museum. We left them there when we sold the school. Dr. Albaugh has an extensive and lucrative practice.

The same year brought us J.G., Mary and Addie Roof, of Carroll county, and all fine students. Later Dr. Albaugh married one of the Roof sisters. The three Crow sisters of Kentucky, came and joined the Philos. Florence Blackford, of Findlay, an excellent singer and worker, E.S. Neeley, now Judge Neeley, and a trustee of the O.N.U., Clare Olney, now Prof. Olney, L.H. Price and W.W. Williamson entered as students of the Normal. All exceptionally strong students. Williamson edits a paper in Columbia City, Ind. Price and Williamson were frequently called the "twins." W.V. Smith, dealer in real estate now, resides in Texas.

M.J. Braucher and W.L. Bender of Stark county, became Normalites. Braucher is now a leading attorney residing in Canton, O. Have lost trace of Mr. Bender. Bernard Daly, of Arizona, now of Washington, was a leading Philo worker. He is now rated to be worth over a million. He could richly endow his alma mater. T.S. and H.S. Fox entered and took an active part in organizing the military department of the school. Before the government appointed a commandant for the school, we appointed H.S. Fox Colonel of the battalion. Edward Dresback entered and joined the Franks. He was a prominent and good student. After leaving school he preached, then was elected to the state legislature and now practices law. His brother entered the same year and so joined the Franks.

W.E. Finley, now a prominent teacher, joined our lists and became a Philo. Helen Dixon and Maude Hanna were cultured ladies and very prominent students. Miss Dixon is married and resides in Cleveland. Maggie Drown one of the famous Drown sisters entered this year. She died many years ago. O.P. and C.E. Blue entered and joined the Franklins. They were prominent students and took an active part in organizing the military department of the school. O.P. now resides in Columbus, C.E. in Kenton. They are succeeding finely in their professions.

Alvin M. West, who first started the Normal Bookstore, entered school and became a Philo. He was a leader in his society, in school, in church and in town. He was elected Mayor of Ada. He now resides in California, travels extensively, has become wealthy and is still single.

This year we enrolled three Delaware students, the first from that stated. All students of those days will remember, tall, jovial, W.H. Bennington. He joined the Adelphians and took an active part in the work of the society. He married
tall and handsome Myrtle Bear, of Pennsylvania. They now reside in Kansas and are succeeding finely in the battle of life. W.H. Gifford, a noted Adelphian entered this year. He now practices law in Mansfield and has a lucrative practice. W.M. Glasgow, of Wooster, now superintendent of schools at Barbertown, O., became a Normalite. He was a fine student. Thomas McNamara, of Trumbull county, Ohio, a hustler joined the Adelphians. Jennie O'Bannon was a strong student.

O.C. Trissler will be remembered by all old Philos. They will remember his flowerey orations. I. Boserman, of Indiana thirty-five or forty years old, a fine student as any one could wish, entered and joined the Adelphians. He was a student a number of years, entered the ministry and died about ten years ago.

E.H. Burdick, of Connecticut, one of the tallest students that ever entered the Normal came this year. He reached Ada on an afternoon train and a train came from the west about the same time. The west train brought T.D. Lowry of Kansas. Lowry entered the office a few minutes after Burdick had entered. He was nearly as tall as Burdick. They concluded to room together. At the close of the school year Burdick went to Kansas with Lowry and while visiting there married Lowry's sister. I was invited (to the) wedding.

This year also brought excellent lady, Miss Lizzie Darst. She was only about fourteen years old when she first entered the Normal. She was a student many years. She is married and lives near Dayton, O.
W.C. Ewing was enrolled as a Normalite and joined the Philos. All the Ewings of Allen county were Philos. W.C. Ewing was a model student as he later was a teacher and now a citizen of Ada. He was fortunate in capturing one of Ada’s fairest girls, Miss Florence Garrett, now Mrs. Ewing. What a fine opportunity to get good husbands the Ada girls have had, and used to its fullest extent.

Fred and Sherman Guthrie, mere lads, became Normalites and joined the Adelphians. Fred became a leader in his society and one of its best members. He is a prosperous attorney and resides in Marion, Ohio.

This year also brought us May Donaldson. She was one of the leading students of her time. She was a leader in the Franklin society, in the Y.W.C.A. and in church. She is still a leader in society and in church work and still devotes much time to literary work. I said in a former chapter that she now is Mrs. Dr. McKittrick, of Kenton.

G.W. Schmidt, of Holmes county, was a leading student and a Franklin.

Joseph Gilmore was for many years a leading Philomathean. He was a thorough scholar and is now county surveyor of Hardin county.

The Normal was so fortunate this year as to its list of fine students that prince of honorable, upright young men, S.A. Hoskins, of Union county. He joined the Franklins and soon became a leader in his society. He is now a president of the Board of Trustees of the O.N.U. He is an attorney; succeeds finely in his profession. He resides in Wapakoneta. I am pleased to say that I believe him to be one of my true friends. I shall have occasion to speak of him again.

Mollie Drake, now Mrs. C.G. Luft, of Forest, registered, and George and E.E. Karns, of Holmes county, matriculated as Normalites, E.E. Karns, later for many years, was a teacher in Mt. Union college.

Mina Lowry was a pillar in the Adelphian society and a fine student. Charles Lemert, not the Hon. Charles Lemert, Attorney at Law, joined our numbers. He resides in Kenton and has made life a grand success. E.D. Murch must
not be forgotten. He is a minister of the gospel and is doing a good work and is very successful.

William Miles, now Gwilym Miles, the noted singer, one of the greatest Elijahs in the world, entered as a student. His father taught voice culture in the O.N.U. Wm. Gilpin is now a noted teacher of Music. He entered in 1884. Jennie Preston, a sweet singer, an excellent lady, now Mrs. Prof. Owens, became a Normalite in 1884.

A.B. Stauffer came, joined the Adelphians. He was a good student and an excellent penman. Later we employed him to teach penmanship and he still holds the position.

When Prof. Owens entered school he was a raw Welshman. In some way both the Franklins and Philos got his name on their soliciting cards. I was unable to decide to which society he rightfully belonged, and therefore said he might join the Adelphians. The trial took place in the rear of Philo hall. I shall never forget the grateful look he gave me when I cut the Gordian knot. There was something in the boy, when developed, would be of use to the world and especially to the Normal. I watched him to ascertain his traits of character and his line of work. I soon learned his preference, went to him and told him to prepare himself as some day I might want him to teach music for us. He now earns a salary of $4000 a year. We are fast friends. I shall ask him to some day give me a written statement of the trial in Philo hall.

Emma Hufford became a Normalite that year. Later she took the course in Stenography. She took my letters many terms. She was prompt, accurate and reliable.

This year also brought us Sherman O'Hara, later W.T.S. O'Hara, and still later Capt. W.T.S. O'Hara of Co. B, and still later major O'Hara. He was an active, energetic worker and is succeeding finely in his profession. He practices law in Toledo.

The military department of the school was organized the first fall term of 1883. Its origin was like this. That fall the citizens of Ohio were to vote on the adoption of two amendments to the constitution. The second was to prohibit the sale and manufacture of intoxicating liquors in the state. Prof. J.J. Jelly and others collected a number of boys and girls residing in the village, procured little flags bearing various mottos and drilled the children on the school campus to march, ready for election day. I offered my services and
tried to drill them in somewhat of a military manner. A number of the students suggested that it might be a good plan to organize a company and drill for exercise. A number of the boys belonged to what was then called the National Guards. They told me that I was a back number in military drill and when I examined their books soon found that they were correct.

Over a hundred of the boys volunteered and we organized two companies. The boys elected the officers. Among those elected were E.C. Irvine, C.H. Wood, C.H. Ball, H.S. Fox, O.P. Blue, S.B. Wagner and others. Mrs. Fox was elected Colonel. The boys were enthusiastic. They wanted guns. We learned that old army Enfield rifles could be purchased at Columbus.

In April, 1884, I went to Columbus and brought 110 guns and accoutrements. I still have in my possession the receipt for the payment which I will here insert.

Columbus, O., April 30, 1884.

Prof. H.S. Lehr
Pres. N.W.N.S.
Ada, O.

110 Enfield Muzzle Loading Rifles
@ 2.25, $247.50
110 Bayonet Scabbards, Waist Belts
and Plates @ 50c, $55.00
Total amount $302.50

We also bought blank cartridges. General James Robinson, of Kenton, a warm friend, was then our member of congress. he told me that Ohio was entitled to U.S. army officers as commandants at schools and but one was in service at the state university. He requested me to apply for the detail of an officer. We applied through him. He, Hon. George converse, of Columbus, and Judge William Lawrence, of Belefontaine, all assisted. Robert Lincoln was Secretary of Way under Arthur's administration.

It got into the papers that Prof. Lehr of the Normal school at Ada, O. had applied for the detail of an army officer for its military department. Soon six other educational institutions applied for a detail.

Secretary Lincoln appointed Major General Baird of Chickamauga fame to go to Ohio to inspect the schools applying for a detail. He sent me a telegram when he would arrive. I met him at the station with the best turnout in town,
took him to my home. Mrs. Lehr employed special help and we endeavored to entertain him as well as we possibly could. I had bought a few choice cigars for him I supposed he would enjoy a smoke and he did. I trust my preacher friends will not read this number. After dinner we started for the school campus. He lighted a cigar that cost me twenty-five cents. I had posted myself on the battle of Chickamauga and spoke of the part he took in the battle. We had organized two companies of 100 men each but had only 110 muskets. When he saw the men in line he exclaimed, "What a fine set of men. With a corps of 10,000 such men I could break through the line of any army. Your men are older and finer looking than those of the four school I have already inspected." He named the schools he had inspected. He said the students were mostly young boys. We had many teachers in our ranks. He recommended our school for the appointment.

Wooster had applied for an officer. The Democrats had gerrymandered Ohio and had put Wayne county into McKinley's district. The Major said to President Arthur, "If Wooster will not get the appointment I can not be re-elected." General Robison was at home, a candidate for Secretary of State. Hon. George Converse wrote me a letter saying, "Unless General Robison will come and see to the appointment McKinley will get it for Wooster." Robison was in Cleveland. I telegraphed to him. He replied saying he had the promise of the President and Secretary Lincoln. Converse telegraphed, "There is great danger, Robison should come at once."

Two days later and the papers announced that Wooster had the appointment. We felt exceedingly blue and discouraged. Robison was angry. The matter was compromised by McKinley offering a bill in the Lower House to increase the number of officers that might be appointed so that Ohio would be entitled to three. We got the third, Lieut. H.L. Roberts was appointed.
Problems with the Military Department

July 6, 1906, V. XXIX, No. 7:1-2

CHAPTER 98.

Roberts was a weakling and unfit for the place. He would allow no cadet to wear shoulder straps and put all the men into one company. The department decreased rapidly. When here about two years he told me that Colonel Roger Jones of the regular army would be here that day to inspect the company. But twenty-one men fell in for inspection. The guns were in poor condition. The Colonel said to me he would have to report adversely and that we would lose the appointment. In about two weeks we were notified to send the canon, muskets, etc., to Cleveland. I called a meeting of the School Faculty. It was decided that I should go to Washington and see what could be done there. Lieut. Roberts and at least one of my teachers laughed and so did some of our citizens and said, "Prof. Lehr will find he is not in Kenton or Columbus. What can he do at Washington, especially since the administration is Democratic?" That was about what I thought. But luckily the Democrats had put Hardin county in a Democratic congressional district the year before and General Le Fever was our congressman.

When he was a candidate for congress I wrote to him and invited him to visit Ada and to be my guest. I met him at the train with a carriage and Mrs. Lehr with extra help prepared an excellent dinner and supper. I told him to come on Friday and I would introduce him to our students at the society meetings. I did so. The halls were crowded to suffocation. He made a short address in each hall, was roundly applauded and was greatly pleased with his receptions. I introduced him to a number of old soldiers for he was their true friend. He ran about forty votes ahead of his ticket in Liberty township and his attention had been called to the fact. He wrote me a kind letter in reply and said if I should happen to visit Washington I should call to see him.

I stopped at the Ebbitt, one of the best hotels in the city. I reached the city in the evening and the next morning called at the home of General LeFever. He saw that the driver remained while I called. He said he had some calls to make and said if convenient he would ride back with me and make some calls on the way back to the hotel. I remarked I would take him to any place in the city. He readily accepted.
He said he would see the President and would ask for an interview the next day. He introduced me to a number of leading men in both Houses of Congress. Among the number were Mr. Campbell later Governor of Ohio, "Tom" Reed, of Maine, Randolph Tucker of Virginia, and Senator Daniels of Virginia. I asked the General to dine with me the next day at the Ebbitt and to ask three or four of his congressional Democratic friends to dinner. I requested the clerk to prepare a separate table in a nook of the dining room. I placed the General at the head of the table and said, "Order whatever is wanted." I had heard the General was fond of wine. He ordered at least two kinds. As I now remember Mr. Campbell did not take any wine; and I can say most frankly that the writer of these reminiscences did not taste a drop. That dinner cost me $7.50 a plate and I charged the school only a dollar a plate. I never told the Faculty that some of my guests drank wine. We were at dinner fully two hours. When the General introduced me to President Cleveland I was greatly surprised to learn that we had a field full of students and that through the influence I had with the student body I could carry North Western Ohio for any candidate.

He said that there were several thousand students there when he visited the school. The fact was that we had only about 1100 that term. The President requested us to visit the Secretary of War, Mr. Endicott. We did so. He said the report of the Inspector General was greatly against us. I referred him to the report of General Baird two years before and handed him a statement I had prepared at the suggestion of General Le Fever. I shall here insert that paper. I could now prepare a better one.

Hon. Wm. C. Endicott, Secretary of War, Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:- On the 28th of December ultimo I received an order from the President stating that 2nd Lieutenant Harris L. Roberts 19th infantry, was relieved from duty as instructor at our school. About nine days later I wrote to Adjutant General Drum in regard to a successor being appointed. His answer was that no one would be appointed. That the report of Colonel Roger Jones Inspector General was unfavorable.

Permit me to make a few statements.

First:-That for a number of years the Ohio Agriculture College was the only school in Ohio where Military tactics were taught although two instructors were apportioned to the state.

Second:-Our school was the second school to apply for a detail and before an
appointment was made we organized a department and bought 112 muzzle loading Springfield rifles.

Third:-After we had applied for a detail a number of other educational institutions applied for a detail and the President sent Major General Absalom Baird, Inspector General to visit the schools making applications. General Baird reported in our favor but by some means Hon. Major McKinley of Ohio got the detail for Wooster.

Fourth:-By an act of Congress the number of instructors allowed by law was extended to forty instead of thirty and Lieutenant Roberts was sent to our school as instructor in military tactics.

Fifth:-With all due respect to Lieutenant Roberts I am compelled to say that he was not adapted to the work as he should have been and never was popular among the students.

Sixth:-As soon as it was ascertained that he was relieved, the number of cadets doubled and every musket is now in use. With an active, energetic officer, one adapted to such work, we could have constantly enrolled in the battalion and active drill, two hundred men.

Seventh:-Our annual enrollment is over two thousand students of both sexes with an average attendance of over one thousand. Many remain but fifteen weeks taking the commercial course but the great majority stay from two to three years.

Eighth:-Our students are mostly the sons of farmers and mechanics scattered through the rural districts of Ohio and adjoining states and in case of necessity they could be relied upon to lead the yeomantry to battle.

Ninth:-Ours is not an endowed school but a school patronized and loved by the people. It is self-supporting.

Tenth:-If you cannot consent to appoint another man for our school, will it be possible to leave arms with us and to furnish ammunition as heretofore if we will employ an instructor ourselves?

Trust that you will not forget those who help themselves, and that you will not forget that it was our institution that inaugurated the spirit of military drill in school, we will leave all to the direction and good will of the President and to your honor.

Your obedient servant, H.S. Lehr.

President of the Ohio Normal University.
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CHAPTER 99.

While in Washington General Le Fever took me to see the Secretary of War. He treated us very kindly and I again heard that I was much more prominent in Ohio politics than I had ever before known and that we had more students that I was aware of. Mr. Campbell called to see me and other members of congress called. I was asked whether I thought of entering the political field and one, I think Mr. Campbell, asked whether I had any intention of ever being a candidate for governor.

When I left Washington General Le Fever remarked, "When our constituents call on us in Washington they expect us, for a single vote, to pay about all their bills and give them our time. You got a number of votes for me and have paid all the bills." I told the President, and Secretary of War about what kind of a man we wanted. In about a week after returning home a telegram was brought to me at chapel announcing that Lieut. John Baxter, Jr., had been appointed commandant for the military school at Ada.

I shall never forget that applause and shout. It was not only Kenton and Columbus, but now it was Washington. The kindness and respect shown General Le Fever had accomplished what I could not have done under other circumstances.

Let me again admonish my young friends to be kind and respectful. A Republican and a Protestant, yet I have host of friends who are Democrats and Catholics. One finds good people among all classes.

I want to add that Lieut. Roberts was appointed to Ada through the influence of his mother a real diplomat and a lady of culture and refinement. Judge Lawrence recommended his friend Lieut. Sharpe, but Mrs. Roberts won. Her husband had been a major in the regular army.

THE LETTER OF JUDGE LAWRENCE.

First Comptroller's Office,

Washington, D.C., March 10, '84
Hon. Robt. Lincoln,
Sect'y of War.

Sir:-I am advised that Prof. H.S. Lehr, president of the Normal school at Ada, Hardin county, O., desires that a military officer shall be detailed to his institution to teach Military science. I respectfully recommend that you will detail Lieut. A.C. Sharpe as military instructor as said school. I am personally well acquainted with Prof. Lehr and also with Lieut. Sharp. The Normal school at Ada is in a flourishing condition, its president a most excellent gentleman, and I think it would be a public utility to place a Military instructor there. I know Lieut. Sharp and esteem him as a gentleman of the highest character and intelligence, well educated, and in all respects qualified for this duty.

Very respectfully,

William Lawrence.

I do not remember the exact date when Lieut. Baxter arrived in Ada to take charge of the battalion. He was just the man for the place. I am confident that there was not another officer in the whole army that could or would have done so well. He is an ideal and real gentleman and soldier. There was not a teacher in school as popular as he, and much more popular than the president of the school. I dearly love the man. In battle men would execute prodigies of valor under such a leader. And what was especially fortunate, Mrs. Baxter was as much of a lady as the Lieutenant was a gentleman. I acknowledge that I asked the good Lord to send us just such a man as we needed and he did; but I did not fail to do all in my power to get an officer. "Faith without works is dead."

Lieut. Baxter reorganized the department and permitted and commanded the officers to wear shoulder straps and all the insignia of the various officers. Lieut. Roberts permitted no one to wear shoulder straps, as the boys called them, but himself. If I remember correctly Major Baxter at once organized companies A, B, and C. Under his charge the department was a great success. I shall have more to say of the department later.

The winter term of 1884 soliciting was stopped in the Philo and Franklin societies in the society halls while the societies were in session. I shall here give the minutes of the conjoint meeting in chapel hall to make valid the agreement.
Ada, O., March 3, 1884.

Chapel Hall--A conjoint meeting of Franklins and Philomatheans was called to order by H.S. Lehr. M.J. Ewing acted as chairman and J.G. Park acted as secretary. The object of the meeting was to prohibit soliciting in the above said societies during the time of the sessions. The following motion was made by C.H. Ball and seconded by Mr. Bates. That the Franklin and Philomathean Literary societies, conjointly prohibit soliciting new members for said societies in their respective halls, during the time of any regular session, on and after March 14, 1884. The above motion was carried unanimously. After passage of this motion the meeting was adjourned by the president.

M.J. Ewing, chairman.
J.G. Park, secretary.

Many prominent students entered the school year 1883-4 whom I would like to mention but one must stop somewhere. I shall, however, say A.T. Scott, of Pennsylvania, came that year. He was a true and faithful student and always on the side of right. He has sent many students to the O.N.U. and was present at the alumni reunion in May, 1906.

Commencement week of 1884 the Philomatheans had their Triennial Reunion. It was a great success. Many old Philos returned to meet old friends.

In the class of 1884 were found the first graduates who had completed what we then called the University course, later and more properly the Philosophical course.

E.C. Irvine, of Columbus, and W.I. Priest, of San Francisco, completed that course. Both were and still are Philos. Ervine is an attorney at law. Priest is a dentist and a dealer in dental supplies at San Francisco. Priest wrote the class poem. It was a fine tribute to the class and to the school. It touched the hearts of all and especially the heart of the president of the school.

There were nine classical graduates, five Franklins and four Philomatheans. One Harry Sisson a noble young man, is dead. He and R.H. Schoonover were bosom friends.

Nellie Ward was a good student, strong in literature, was a Philo. Last I heard of her she was in Washington, D.C.

U.S.G. Cherry, quite an orator, a Philo and one of my good friends, practices
law in Sioux City, South Dak., and has been very successful.

Jolly J.S. Hoyman a Franklin was a great favorite with students and teachers. Do not know where he is, nor do I know where J.W. Jones, a Philo, now resides; but I think he teaches somewhere in Jackson county or Gallia county, O.

Jess E. La Dow, who always wore a smile on his goodly face, was a Franklin. He practices law in Mansfield, O., and has a lucrative practice.

W.W. Poultney the Hector of the Philos, managed to be at the head of every movement in school and in his society. He is a clerk in one of the departments of the government and resides in Washington, D.C. He is still single or was the last time he wrote to me. I always considered him one of my tried and true friends; but he has not written me a line the last three years.

F.C. Rutan, a Franklin, lives in Chicago. He is a promoter, deals in stocks, and I infer from his conversation that he is worth nearly a million in cold cash. R.H. Schoonover is now Prof. Schoonover, Dean of the Greek and Hebrew departments of the O.N.U. The university has no more faithful and true friend than Prof. Schoonover. He married that excellent lady and strong Franklin, Miss Mae Thompson.

There were twenty-four graduates in the Scientific class. Rev. G.W. Bates, Prof. B.F. Hoover and Miss Hayworth were Philos, Hoover was an Adelphian. I have lost track of Ella Bay, C.W. Brown, S.J. Darbyshire, Edward Maag, Lizzie Templeman, Bertha Wehrmeister, S.H. Welsh and Jessie White. Some of the above corresponded with me a number of years.

Jessie White, one of Mrs. Watt's girls, a Philo worker and leader was married some years ago and went to the far West. S.H. Welsh was an Adelphian leader and good student. W.B. Carter teaches in Summit county, Lydia Darst in Montgomery county, H.S. Fox lives in Dayton, my friend, J.W. Halfhill practices law in Lima, Jennie Haller resides in Lima, J.C. Laser practices law in Mansfield, J.P. Leasure practices law in Ottawa.

R.E. Rayman is superintendent of the schools of East Liverpool, S.A. Ringle is engaged in different lines of business in Cleveland, Alberta Smith is now the Rev. Mrs. Wiltsey and C.H. Wood is engaged in business in Mt. Gilead.

Five completed the teachers course, Ida Carney, E.R. Dean, Helen Dixon,
Bertha B. Doty and Eliza Jennings. Nine completed the course in Civil Engineering. E.E. Boalt follows his profession, R.W. Lutherell resides in Galveston, Texas and is the city and county engineer. W.H. Mustard is a county official and lives in Paulding.

The last I heard from E.E. Hershey he was in Montana. He married Miss Catlin a real beauty. Hershey and Miss Catlin were Franklins. Boalt, Finley and Mustard were Philos and Luthrell was an Adelphian.

Fifty completed the Commercial course and throughout the year and fourteen the course in Telegraphy.

Commencement week was a great success, J.P. Leasure was valedictorian of the class and had a fine oration. The audiences on all occasions were large, the town was full of teams and liverymen and hotel men were happy. Another year had closed successfully and Friday morning after commencement the president and secretary began work preparing for the next year.
CHAPTER 100.

My Dear Friend, Dr. Lehr:

I have just read in the Herald this week's installment of O.N.U. History.

I find among the list of graduates for 1883 the name of Charles E. Kirchner. A man of that name first directed me to the O.N.U. and I have often wondered what became of him. To satisfy my curiosity and to give you an idea of how your students advertise the school I am writing this letter.

In the spring of 1888 twelve young men attended a "Summer Normal" at Pillow, Pennsylvania. Among the number I remember M.L. Willier, John A. Harman and J.G. Willier. I was among the number. One day I saw an advertisement in a copy of a western paper which told of the college at Logansport, Indiana, of which C.L. Kircher was president.

I sent for a catalogue. Our crowd had already received catalogues from most of our State Normal schools and colleges. At that time rates were much higher than at present in the Normal schools and we could not figure out how we could attend any of these schools. Our school term at that time was five months and we were to receive twenty-five dollars per month as salary. The Kirchner catalogue gave us new hope.

Prices were about like O.N.U. prices at that time. By close economy six of us felt sure we could go to Logansport. Before spring came again all but Mr. Hartman, M.L. Willier and yours truly changed plans. None of us at that time had heard of Ada. About February I wrote to Mr. Kircher for further information. In response I received a letter saying the Logansport school was closed and advising me to write to Ada for a catalogue. This I did and when it came the three of us studied it diligently. Mr. Willier had at one time attended the State Normal at West Chester, a suburb of Philadelphia. It was then, and is now the most aristocratic Normal in the State. It was the only school about which any of us knew anything personal.

About March Mr. Willier resigned his school and accepted an agency for a line of subscription books with a Philadelphia house. He selected Ada as his
headquarters and at once left for that place. When he reached there he became very homesick, the book would not sell and he discovered that his agreement with the company had numerous unsuspected loop-holes that prevented him from drawing his expected salary. He visited the O.N.U. chapel and found everything very different from what they had been at West Chester. He at once wrote me a long letter saying that I should not think of coming to Ada. He told me that he had actually seen students at chapel without white shirts or collars and they looked like a poor lot generally. Everything looked blue through his homesick eyes. Harman and I were in a quandary. We had told all our friends that we were going West to school and we did not dare back down as they had all prophesied the we would back down and not go. I looked through all my old school papers and found an advertisement for Scio College where rates were also said to be low. I sent for a catalogue but before they could send us one the day came for us to depart. To remain at home meant jeers from all our companions. We packed our trunks and bought tickets for Scio with nothing but an advertisement for our information as to the school.

When we left Pennsylvania we expected to see "Prairie" country. We were much chagrined to find south-eastern Ohio more hilly than our section of Pennsylvania. Harrison county was especially hilly. Scio is nestled among the hills. We were tired and hungry when we arrived. We asked the President to show us the "boarding club" about which the catalogue spoke. He was very busy but sent a student with us down to an old freight depot building or warehouse. It was used as a "Club" building. We were shown a big stack of canned tomatoes, a few bunches of bananas, a pile of potatoes and a lot of large cracker barrels. Everything was dilapidated and dirty. When we came back to the President's office he took us through several of their recitation rooms. They were very low and very dirty. He wanted us to register and pay tuition at once. We told him we were too hungry now and would return after dinner. I left my overshoes in the office and we left.

After dinner at a restaurant we held a council of war. We decided we could positively not stay at Scio. Home we dared not go. We thought of one (of) our Western State Normal, but that was not "Out West" and we did not have the courage to give our friends the opportunity to laugh at us for getting "sold" so easily. We finally decided that perhaps we could stand it at Ada after all. We went to the ticket agent and asked for tickets to Ada. He told us he had never heard of such a place. I insisted there was a large school there but he said he would not think of going there. Told us Scio was all right after the greenness wore off.
But we had enough of Scio. I got a folder and showed him where Ada was and he then told me he could not sell us a ticket there. Finally we figured what it had already cost us and decided to go back to Pittsburg and get tickets there. Neither one of us had ever been away from home before and we were not posted about rail-road affairs. so we bought tickets to Pittsburg and there bought tickets to Ada.

One of the guards at the Union Depot looked at our tickets and asked us if we were going to the Big School. We bashfully told him we were. He at once became friendly and told us it was by far the best school in the country. He had several friends who had been there and he had often gone through there as conductor. Told us about the many students and about "That little old fellow, Lehr, out there" who was about the biggest proposition you ever heard of. We felt jubilant. When the gates opened he called to a train hand and introduced us and told the man to take good care of us that we were to be Ada students. The train hand took us into the car and later on came through again. I asked him several questions about Ada and all he told us made us feel good indeed. During the night he let us arrange two seats in such a manner that we could sleep a little and told us not to worry that he would see that we got to Ada all right. At Crestline he told the new man about us and we talked with him for a long time. The Crestline man knew all about the school and we certainly felt good over what we learned.

When we reached Ada Mr. Willier met us at the train, half expecting us as he knew we had left our homes. He was over his homesickness and felt better. Harman stayed all summer. He is now a prosperous farmer and agent. He was a very successful teacher for many years. I visited him last year and he is very much interested in the old school. He has photographs of Lehr, Park, Maglott and Darst hanging over his book-case. Willier is in the Civil service at Washington. His brother J.G. later completed a course in Business at Ada and passed with a very high percent the Civil service examination and is now an assistant Examiner at Washington. Both are true friends of the school.

Now was this man Kircher who had the Logansport school the man you mention in your article? I always felt that I owed him a debt of gratitude for advising us to go to the O.N.U.

Our school here closed last week. I feel that I have been very successful in my work. I have been reelected with an increased salary amounting to seventy dollars. Hon. S.L. Coffin, Prohibition candidate for governor gave us
ten thousand dollars lately to partly endow a chair in Political Science. I am to take the chair next year. They are trying to raise fifty thousand dollars. Mr. Carnegie has promised the last twelve thousand dollars.

I see that the school at Findlay is to be put on the old O.N.U. basis. Well it may succeed. The principle is O.K. but the promoters usually figure without the personal equation which made the O.N.U. great. There is a vast difference between running a school as "Lehr ran his" and having Lehr run it. All the difference between a maching and a genius.

I am pleased to read that your health is so much better. I trust that many years yet be yours with us. We all need you.

Elta joins me in best wishes and regards.

Every your friend,

Irwin Billman
Storm Lake, Iowa.
CHAPTER 101.

Catalogue No. 14 was printed by Agnew Welsh at the Ada Record office and as all his work, was well done. The proprietors now were H.S. Lehr, J.G. Park, Frederick Maglott, Warren Darst and Rachel Stringfellow, Darst had purchased the interest of H.E. Neff. The officers remained the same as the previous year.

In the announcement for 1884-5 we made a change in the length of the Normal term. We experimented some years and concluded to make it nine weeks. At first it was six weeks, then eight, now nine. I wanted it to be ten weeks, the same as the other terms but my associates wanted a longer vacation. We also changed the time of commencement week from May to July. The change materially helped the increase in the attendance of the Summer term.

The public occasions were as follows: Adelphian Annual entertainment, May 9th, 1885, Class Day July 21st, Senior Reception on the evening of July 21st, Triennial Reunion of the Franklin Literary society, July 22nd, Commencement exercises July 23rd and 24th, Annual contest between the Philomathean and Franklin Literary societies on the evening of July 24th.

The new teachers employed were, J.V. Smith, Mathematics and the Natural Sciences; C.L. Rose, French; G.A. Deal, assistant in Bookkeeping and Commercial Arithmetic; A.B. Stauffer, Penmanship; O.W. Ream, assistant in Telegraphy. Of the Teachers announced for 1884-5 there still remain in 1906, Frederick Maglott, Mrs. Maglott and Professor Stauffer.

The tuition for the terms containing ten weeks was $8.00, for the Summer term of nine weeks, $7.00; and when pain in advance for two terms, $15.00; for three terms, $21.00; and when paid for a year, we made a reduction of 14 per cent. The term plan for ten weeks was $28.00; for the Summer or Normal term, $26.00; for forty weeks, year plan, $100; for forty-nine weeks, year plan $115.

As stated in a former number, the enrollment for 1883-4 was 2062, for the school year 1884-5 it was only 2019 a loss of forty-three. The loss was
caused on account of the large classes, want of room and proper facilities for handling so many students.


It becomes necessary to name a less number of new students for the story had already continued over two years and must soon be brought to a close. The starvation period of the school had ceased and our books show that the owners now cleared from $10,000 to $12,000 each year. Many people presumed after the school was established that it came into existence spontaneously, continued to grow without care and guidance. One gentleman now a trustee of the school remarked to the writer about four years ago that he had known and watched the growth of the school since '71, through panics and change of teachers and he knew that it would make no difference who would sever his connection with the school its growth and progress would continue the same. A number of circumstances have been related in this story for the information of those who have thought in the past that the school came in existence spontaneously and continued to grow without the most careful management.

But hereafter there shall be named a less number of prominent students. The year 1884-5 brought us that excellent student D.H. Bailey, now a trustee of the O.N.U. and several years Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the school. I continued with the school three years after the sale of the school to the church and in my relations with Rev. Bailey found him honorable, upright and truthful. Our relations were most pleasant. It makes a lay member have a higher ideal of the church to associate with men of such character and who live what they preach. Mr. Bailey is a Philo.

Errett Gates came this year. He also was a Philo and a fine student. He is a minister in the Christian church and is at present connected with the Divinity schools of Chicago university.

On Saturday, August 7, 1885 Frank Garman, of Halverda, Westphalia, Prussia came to my home and said he wanted to enter our school as a student. He said he had graduated from a German university but came to America to become acquainted more directly with American manners and customs, to study English, etc. I asked him how he had learned of our school.
He replied, "I have studied the history of the Civil War especially and I learned that most of the great generals of the Federal side came from Ohio and men of the eminent civilians were from the same state. I sent for the Educational report by the Commissioners of Education to learn the names of the Educational institutions of Ohio and there learned that the Northwestern Ohio Normal school had the largest attendance and concluded it must be the best." He remained two or three terms. He came through a reasoning process.

This year also brought Frank Herbert, now Doctor Herbert a prosperous dentist, of Denver, Colorado. Like his brother, L.G. and his sisters, he was a good student, always obedient and respectful.

S.W. McCullough of Holmes county, A. Rose Morris of Portage, K.I. Perkey of Nebraska and N.H. Stull of Ada were strong students. Miss Morris, McCullough and Perkey were Franklins and I think Mr. Stull was an Adelphian, but am not certain. Perkey was mixed up in the Fraternity affair. He married Ella Hunter one of our noblest and best students. She was a Franklin.

Noah H. Stull was one of Ada's poor boys; but the Normal gave him an advantage by which he, like so many, many Ada boys and girls have profited, also profited, and is now one of the leading educators of the state.

One must not forget H.H. Bundy, Lula Black, Laura Kissell, Abbie McKeau, Jennie Preston, H.M. Schuffell, G.C. Steiner, A.P. Schoonover, P.H. Beck, Cora Brewer, Fannie Bretz, Edith Bowers and Cora Bucks, all Franklins. What a constellation of Alpha Franklin stars. Bundy was a Frat and Franklin and resides in Cleveland; Lula Black, one of the most loyal Franklins, a real political wirepuller of the most approved pattern, but an excellent lady. She is one of the good citizens of Ada and lends a helping hand in every good cause.

Laura Kissell, a true lady, is now Mrs. Doctor L.G. Herbert; Abbie McKean, a true hearted and noble girl, died many years ago; Jennie Preston, the nightingale of the Philos, is now Mrs. Prof. Hugh Owens; Schuffell, Steiner, Schoonover and Beck were excellent students and among my warm personal friends; Edith Bowers, an excellent lady is one of Ada's good teachers; and Fannie Bretz is now Mrs. Steinmetz one of our highly respected citizens. She is a true and faithful christian lady.

And what shall I say of the two Coras, Miss Brewer and Miss Bucks? All the students of the later eighties remember Cora Brewer and Cora Bucks. Miss
Brewer is now Mrs. Williams of Sandusky. Mr. H.B. Williams, one of our leading students and who is now superintendent of the Sandusky city schools, was so fortunate as to draw her as a prize. Miss Bucks is now Mrs. S.B. Wagner the genial book merchant for many years. They live happily in Ada. The two Coras were favorites with students and teachers. I am pleased to say that I had the privilege of numbering them among my warm personal friends. Mrs. Wagner is another nightingale and is always ready and willing to sing on all occasions. She is an active christian worker and has also done most valuable service for the Franklin society.
CHAPTER 102.

Nathan Melhorn entered as a student during the school year of 1884-85. Like any other members of the Melhorn family, he was a model student and always one of my favorite boys. When a mere boy we employed him to teach in the university and he rendered excellent satisfaction. He was Philo fighter and was frequently on the Philo stage. He is now the Rev. Nathan Melhorn and resides in Philadelphia. Were I now president of the O.N.U. he would soon be a D.D.

Geo. F. Andrews was added to our number. He was a good student and has been remarkably successful as a teacher and in business. He married beautiful Stella Grawood, the fine elocutionist and the first graduate as I now remember whose parents were both students in the early days of the Normal.

Maggie Buckles, now Mrs. W.E. Hoover came and joined the Adelphians. Effie Brown, loved by all, now deceased, Flora L. Bane and Lottie Bupp all three joined the Philos. D.C. Cooper, of Jefferson county now residing in Stark county, joined our ranks. He has been remarkably successful as a teacher and in business. A. Cooney, Mungeon Cooney, J.H. Cessna and J.G. Cessna, all of Hardin county were fine students. I shall always remember L.W. Colwell of Sangamon county, Illinois. I learned to love him for his good qualities of head and heart. He was a strong Philo.

Geo. Demuth and G.W. Deaton both attorneys at law are succeeding finely. Mr. and Mrs. B.H. Games, and Anna Washburn were leading Adelphians. I found Games one of our most honorable and upright students.

J.E. Holland a leading Philo now practicing law in Chicago and J.F. Hertline an equally strong Franklin became Normalites. Hertline resides in Sandusky city.

This year brought that genial gentleman and good singer, G. Goldsmith, known as Goldie. He was a member of the famous quartet, S.B. Wagner, D.H. Painter, G. Goldsmith and John Thomas. A.S. Eyman, author of "A Fellow" or "The Taylor's Dummy," entered this year. I have been told that Schindewolf's dummy inspired him with the thought of writing that popular comical song. He
G.A. Huff, an excellent gentleman, entered and Miss Gertie Kirkpatrick, loved by all students and teachers, an excellent student, came and joined the Franklins. Carrie Randall, now Mrs. Doctor Ames, enrolled as a student. She joined the Philos and soon became a leader in society and in school. On a number of occasions where lady students needed disciplining I asked Mrs. Ames to accompany me. When the citizens of Hutchison asked me to organize a college for them I offered Mrs. Ames a position as a teacher and later offered her a position in the O.N.U. The citizens of Ada know her to be a model woman.

Anna Poling, now Mrs. Gill, entered and joined the Franklins and soon became one of their best solicitors. W.E.D. Rummel, a leading Philo, was one among the best students who entered the year 1884-5. I still hear from him. F.L. Runser, J.A. Syler, Marcus Shoup, Guy Stumm, were good students and prominent. This year also brought us those excellent ladies Eva and Minnie Thomas, both Philos. Eva Thomas is now Mrs. Fess. I have already spoken of her in former numbers in terms of highest praise but shall further add that she was many terms one of our popular teachers. She was a leading Philo. She is a most amiable lady.

H.G. Woodrow a strong student entered school and joined the Franklins. Ida Selleck, now teaching music in Ada, entered our College of Music in 1885. Ora Hoy, later Mrs. J.W. Hill entered in 1885. She was a lovely lady. She died in 1904.

W.E. Myers, a number of years an instructor in our College of Engineering and still later county surveyor of Hardin county, entered as a student. His work as a student procured for him a professorship in the university. He is a true gentleman. He married a leading student and sweet singer, Miss Nellie Wilkinson. They reside in Kenton, Ohio. This year also brought us that elegant and handsome lady, Miss Ella Wright, now Mrs. Knowles. She was a Philo as were Prof. and Mrs. Myers and also M.D. Merrick now an attorney at law practicing in Toledo. Merrick took a leading part in society work and was a prominent student. I learn that he is one of the leading attorneys in Toledo. We still correspond.

In May 1885 the Y.M.C.A. assisted by the proprietors of the school sent E.E. Helms to Atlanta, Georgia, as a delegate to the national meeting of the association. In the fall of 1884, Orvill Goodale of Angola, Ind., wrote to me and
requested me to recommend to the trustees of their Normal school competent and suitable persons to conduct their school. I recommend C.E. Kirchner, now Rev. C.E. Kirchner, D.D., pastor of the Presbyterian church at Maryville, Missouri, and Walter S. Harshman now professor of mathematics at the U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland. Mr. Kirchner was very strong in all lines of study and especially in the languages. Harshman was a master in mathematics. He has few equals in the U.S. At present the president of the college at Angola. L.M. Sniff and five of the leading teachers are Ada men and fine teachers and gentlemen.

In the spring of 1885 the owners of the Northwestern Ohio Normal school enacted one of the most important changes and business measures in the history of the school. We changed the name of the school to Ohio Normal University. We changed from Northwestern Ohio to Ohio because our patronage now embraced the whole of Ohio and extended far beyond the borders of Ohio. The last year we had enrolled students from twenty-one states and two foreign countries. We retained the name Normal because normal means natural and we endeavored to follow natural methods in the teaching, organization, methods and management of the school.

At least two factors are necessary to constitute a true university, the one a collection or combination of colleges giving instruction in many lines of learning and preparation for life, the other special and extensive opportunities for "original investigation." The Normal school in 1885 embraced a collection of colleges. We then had what we called the literary, commercial, engineering, music, fine arts, telegraphic, stenographic, pharmaceutical, law and military departments, in all ten colleges in which was given instruction in their respective lines of culture and preparation for the active duties of life.

We lacked in a great measure the apparatus and library advantages required for "original investigation." Many of the so-called or self-styled universities, lack both factors and are merely colleges and minor colleges at that.

We not only changed the name of the school but incorporated it May 21st, 1885, as an "Institution of Learning not for Profit." We then no longer owned the school as individuals but as Incorporators and had to elect trustees who would hold the property in trust. No member of the former owners could sell his former share of the property. There were five incorporators, H.S. Lehr, J.G. Park, Frederick Maglott, Rachel Stringfellow and Warren Darst. Mrs. Stringfellow and Prof. Darst each owned an eighth at a time of incorporation. The law specifies that incorporators must elect a Board of Trustees. We
elected ourselves trustees and thus ate our cake and kept it.

Judge Charles Melhorn acted as our legal advisor and informed us that it was not customary for the trustees of such a corporation to elect themselves instructors and charge salaries. Trustees could however conveniently be paid their traveling expenses and as we had to travel from our homes to the school buildings frequently and board ourselves, we divided what proceeds were left after paying all the expenses of properly conducting the school. Why did we thus incorporate? Because before incorporating we could not legally and did not confer degrees of any name or kind. Had any three trustees at any time conspired they could have elected or failed to reelect any member and elected some one else. When Warren Darst bought the good will of Rachel Stringfellow we elected that honorable, upright gentleman, S.B. Wagner, owner of the Normal bookstore, as a fifth member. He remained in his store and charged no traveling expenses.

There have been two schools in Ohio that conferred degrees without the legal right. One Ohio school located in eastern Ohio sold degrees. The writer was one of a party that informed the proper state officials and the farce was closed. About fifteen years ago a little, one-horse, university in Indiana sold degrees. It quit selling degrees about ten years ago. The reader can readily see why we incorporated, but it was a dangerous risk for the owners. We now had the legal right to confer any degree as much so as any church or state college or university.
CHAPTER 103.
The Early Periodicals and the Establishment of The Herald.

I have heretofore written nothing about school papers published at different periods in the history of the school. In the last three years we have moved from Gilbert street to Main street, from Main street to our new home on Union street, from Ada to Winona Lake, Ind., and then back again to Ada. Many of my letters and papers have become mixed and my health has not been good, so I have neglected to resort my papers and letters. As far as I have searched I have found a the first copy of The Educational Advance published by Bent L. Thompson. It was the first attempt to publish a paper connected with and in the interest of the Normal and the students. Financially the school had no connection with the paper further than this; we agreed to pay $50.00 annually for the support of the paper. The first number was published April, 1873. The articles were "County Examinations," by Examiners; "Our Calling," J.W. Zeller; "Truth and Falsehood," S.P. Gray; "Man's True Greatness," C.W. Butler; "Geography," S.P. Gray; "Veiled," A.D. Snively; "Clothed in Gems," Miss C.A. Thomas; "Music," Isaac Garwood; "The Shepherd's Watch," A.B. Pierson; "Homeless," poem, Miss Mollie Schoonover; "Conservation of Central Forces," "Elevation and Subsidence of the Earth's Crust," "What the Leaf Does," "Paper Car Wheels," "Normal Record," "Locals," "Memoriams," and many advertisements. The paper continued less than two years.

The next attempt to establish a paper in connection with the school was made by E.L. Millar and G.W. Rutledge in December, 1877. I have failed to find the first number but have the second number. We agreed to take $100 a year in advertising. I fear if Parlette & Snyder will examine the last page but one they will think that we advertised more extensively in 1877 than in later years.

Our "Ad" occupied two columns. In Vol. 1, No. VIII, we took an entire page. The paper was a semi-monthly of twelve pages. It was an excellent paper. The workmanship was fine and the articles first-class. The societies still met at 6:30 p.m. and continued till through with the program.

I have on file but not at hand the first copy of The University Herald published
by Cherry, Wagner, and Poultney. What a trio! Strong mentally and morally. I shall let S.B. Wagner tell the first of the history of the Herald and shall ask that either Snyder or Parlette tell of its later progress.

It was in June 1885 that we started and U.S.G. Cherry, W.W. Poultney and myself worked hard and faithfully for some time. Soon Cherry left Ada and Poultney and I worked all the harder. We managed to keep about even with our expenses but that was all.

Miss Alberta Smith edited the paper from February 1887 to May 1887, but the outlook for pay was so slim that she also decided to give up the work. Then it was for me to decide whether I should let it die or make another effort to continue. I felt that the Herald had a place in the hearts of the many students and should be continued and I got O.B. Pendleton to edit it for me from June 1887 to April 1891, when the invincible Ralph Parlette took charge of the editing. He seemed to be the right man in the right place. In February 1893 I sold out my entire interest to Ralph Parlette and E.E. McCoppin.

We started it as a monthly and during Pendleton's time it was changed to a semi-monthly and later in Parlette's time it was changed to a weekly. I shall never forget the struggle for existence the Herald had for a number of years nor the kind words of encouragement and good advice and help received from Brother Agnew Welsh who published it for us until O.B. Pendleton set up a printing press of his own in the Murray block.

Some of the teachers of the O.N.U. contributed many valuable and interesting articles for the Herald and so the paper grew to be a welcome visitor to many students.

Under the careful management of Parlette & Snyder it had grown to be one of the largest school papers in the country as you know and I hope it may continue to be the "tie that binds" the interests and sympathies for the students old and new.

The managers again asked help. They said, "A school paper is to the advantage of the university," and they were correct. We paid a certain amount several years but I cannot now say how much without referring to the books. I think it was $50 a year. We always advertised in its columns. The paper has been ably conducted and is a great benefit to the school.

The twelfth annual commencement began Tuesday, July 21st. Those years
we had recitations and examinations on Monday of the last week. Class day occupied the whole of Tuesday afternoon. The forenoon was occupied in decorating literary halls, in fact much of Monday was thus occupied. I still have the program. Tuesday evening we had the Musical commencement. Wednesday the 22nd day and evening was Franklin Triennial Reunion day. Thursday, evening and Friday was Literary commencement. The engineers were permitted to speak but not compelled, but in those days they had to prepare a thesis at graduation.

Three completed the philosophical course, L.M. Bowers, L.B. Dyer and D.B. Love. L.M. Bowers practices law in Upper Sandusky and Love in Fremont. Have not seen or heard from Dyer the last fifteen years. Bowers was a Franklin, Love and Dyer Philos.

There were twelve Classical graduates Helen Barnes, J.R. Frets, L.G. Herbert, H.C. Jameson, L.S. Lafferty and E.J. Teagarden, were Franklins, and I think A. Ernsberger was a Franklin; W.H. Buck, C.S. Jacobs and S.J. White were Philos. C.C. Wentz was an Adelphian. I do not remember to which society B.T. Buchanan belonged, if any.

Helen Barnes is in the Y.W.C.A. work. She is a remarkable strong woman. W.H. Buck is a teacher in Missouri. Have not heard from Buchanan the last eighteen years. A. Ernsberger is now Prof. Ernsberger at Cayon, Texas. He was a good student and one of my warm, personal friends.

J.R. Frets preaches in Pennsylvania. He is a Methodist. L.G. Herbert had been in the ministry but is now on the lecture platform and ranks in the first class. He is eloquent and magnetic and has enough spice mixed in the solid teaching to make his lectures popular. He is a D.D. and worthy of the title. H.C. Jameson is eloquent in the pulpit and on the lecture platform. He also a D.D. He resided in Dayton. E.J. Teagarden preaches in Danbury, Connecticut. He has preached there fifteen years and is very popular and strong in the pulpit.

S.J. White is also a preacher and fills a pulpit in Missouri. I cannot recall the name of the town. Teagarden and White belong to the Christian church. C.C. Wentz teaches at Santa Rosa, California. He still writes to me. Have not heard from L.S. Lafferty for two years and from C.S. Jacobs the last sixteen years. Miss Barnes, Frets, Buck, Ernsberger, Jameson, Lafferty and Wentz are Methodists. Do not remember to what church Buchanan and Jacobs belonged when in school.
Thirty-five completed (the) Scientific course. J.A. Baughman, a Philo, practices medicine in Missouri. We corresponded many years. He married beautiful, cultured and wealthy Kate Woodward, who registered from Illinois. She died eight or nine years ago. D.E. Black, I think was a Philo. He follows teaching. S.A. Brobst was an Adelphian. have not heard from him for twelve or more years. O.W. Coe, I have been told, died some years ago. G.G. Crile, an Adelphian, is a physician. He stands at the head of his profession in Cleveland. He was an excellent student, studious, refined, manly. We corresponded a number of years. Ira Doling teaches in Iowa. He recited to me the first term I taught in Ada then Johnstown, over forty years ago. He was a good boy. He is a Philo. Emma Darst is married and resides in or near Dayton. She is a Philo.

T.A. Edwards, now Prof. Edwards, teaches at Berea, Kentucky. He is a loyal Franklin and is loyal to the O.N.U. He visited Ada commencement week 1906. He is one of natures's gentlemen. But here we must end this chapter.
CHAPTER 104.
More of the Great Students. A Tribute to Dr. Lehr.

There were three Finley brothers in school. I met one at the Teachers' association, Put-in-Bay, but I have forgotten whether it was W.L. Finley, who graduated in 1885. One of the brothers died a year or two ago. I think W.L. Finley teaches in Northwestern Ohio. He was a Philo.

V.M. Fulton was a Philo. He is practicing law. C. Theresa Gonser, a strong Franklin, is now Mrs. C.C. Wentz and lives and also teaches at Santa Rosa, California. The society papers were full of witticisms about Wentz and Gonser.

W.E. Hart, a most lovable and genial gentleman, was a Philo. He is a physician and practices in Michigan.

Geo. B. Griggs, now Senator Griggs, a leading Franklin, is a lawyer, statesman and author, and resides in Houston, Texas. He is a high priest in many secret orders. Ever since his student life at the Normal, we have been close personal friends. Every O.N.U.-ite should get a copy of Nerkoma, his last book.

C.H. Hasley, a Franklin, a sweet singer, a good fellow and one of my warm friends and favorite students, is teaching in Michigan. I loved him almost like a son.

Frank Jones was a leading Adelphian worker. The last I heard of him he was teaching school. Have lost track of A.E. Kling.

Addie McLean, a strong Franklin, was a leading student worker in all lines of school duties. She was a good girl liked by both teachers and students.

My dear and true friend, E.O. Loveland, died many years ago. He also was one of nature's gentlemen. He was a Philo. Mrs. Dora A. Lafferty, when first she entered the Normal was a Frank and a good student. J.L. Murphy, a Philo, entered the ministry.
He married one of our prominent lady students but I cannot now recall her name. Both are dead.

W.I. Miller I think is a brother of Rev. Miller, many years pastor of the Christian church in Ada. There have been so many Millers and Smiths that those names sound to be as common nouns. If he is a brother of Rev. Miller he was a Franklin and now resides in one of the Dakotas. W.L. Merwine, a strong student, is an Adelphian and practices law in Columbus.

J.L. Newhouse went to Missouri after graduating. Have heard from him but once since he left alma mater. J.L. Nefe, a fine student was an Adelphian. W.D. Porterfield, a strong students, follows teaching as a profession. He was a leading Philo. O.B. Pendleton is a Franklin. He is on a farm in Licking county. L.H. Price, a leading Franklin, is dead. Have not heard from Frank Ranie since his graduation. Carrie Stark, a leading Franklin, was teaching the last time she wrote to me. She was an amiable and cultured lady.

Anna B. Seltz, one of the Seltz sisters all prominent and good students and leading Franklins was a member of the class '85. She was a true friend of the Normal. (Yes, she has taken the Herald over since 1885 and has them all on file, Ed.)

B.W. Thomas, a good student, was a Franklin. My good friend, H.G. Woodrow, was member of the class of '85. He was a noble young man. Have not heard from him the last five or six years.

Anna Washburn, now Mrs. "Arizona" Stevens, was a prominent Adelphian. She married an Adelphian. They live in Arizona. J.L. Walters, a leading student and a prominent Franklin, I have been told, died some years ago. W.E. Weyandt, a leading attorney in Wooster, O., was an Adelphian. He was as prominent in school as he now is an attorney and citizen.

Frank Jones wrote the class poem. H.G. Woodrow composed the class song. Helen Barnes had the valedictory on class day. It was a real classic. The Franklin honor-man was H.C. Jameson. He had the salutatory subject, "Ingersoll and Simpson." G.W. Crile was the Adelphian honor-man, subject of oration, "Influence of Science." the Philo honor-man was S.J. White. He was valedictorian, subject, "The philosophy of History." J.A. Theyer, D.D. of Pittsburg, Pa., addressed the class.
Dr. L.G. Herbert, a member of the class of '85 and I have always been warm personal friends. I shall therefore be pardoned of inserting here a part of a recent letter.

"Dr. H.S. Lehr, Ada, Ohio.

"My Dear Friend: I reached this city yesterday evening and leave for La Porte this morning. I have thot much of you since our old fashioned talk of Wednesday afternoon. Surely your days must bring the kindly compensation which are due from the years of your splendid usefulness.

"You have stamped the impress of your noble endeavors and holy ideals, upon many thousands of girls and boys who are now rugged women and men, bearing great burdens in society.

"What the country and the world owes you none can tell. what of the new and better ... of service have come from your brain and hear, to be lived again and again in the seal and sacrifice of us all, only the Infinite can know.

"Personally, I may say that you, of all men, save my kingly old father, have had most of good influence over my life. With small capital in money, a plant far from adequate, so far as buildings were concerned, its biggest and mightiest force those patient men and women who taught us, the old school stands second to none in Ohio in its influence upon the state, the nation, and the world.

"I am so glad that you remain sweet and serene, optimistic and happy. May the coming years deal gently with you and bring you yet many opportunities for useful service."

The contest Friday night, July 24th, was well attended and a great success. We crowded the last week of the term commencement week, full of rich ... the best possible to keep up an interest to the last. The audiences all were large and enthusiastic and another school year was crowned with success.
In catalog No. 15, on page 4, we published an address to our friends and patrons which I here insert:

TO OUR FRIENDS AND PATRONS:

"We present to you this catalog under our new name. To many of you it may be a surprise that we have changed the name of the Institution. The great principles upon which the school is founded shall continue to be her Palladium in the future. The government, methods of teaching, general management and moral training will remain unchanged. The reasons for changing are these:

1. We are entitled to the name from the fact that we give instruction in all departments of knowledge.

2. We changed because our students demanded it on that ground that we were entitled to it.

3. Fourteen years ago, when the school was formally opened, we gave it a local name because its patronage then was local. Today its field is not only the State, but the whole Union; and even foreigners have been numbered on our rolls. Then we had but three departments: Literary, Commercial and Musical. Now we have not only the above mentioned, and greatly enlarged, but also Engineering, Law, Medical, Military, Fine Art, Telegraphic and Stenographic.

Then we numbered five teachers; now we number twenty-eight. Then as is the custom in small schools, the teachers had to attempt to teaching something in every department over the whole course of human knowledge; now each instructor has his specialties, that he may perfect himself in his work."

We now had the legal right to confer any degree whatever, but did not think it best to state the fact that heretofore we conferred no degrees.

We made one change in commencement week. Heretofore we had recitations and examinations the last week on Monday and commencement week closed Friday with the Annual Literary contest between the Franklins and Philo societies. It was a general request to close on Thursday because many
students were from a distance and could not reach home when starting on Saturday morning.

The public occasions were as follows: Adelphian Annual entertainment on the evening of May 8, 1886.


The reader will observe that the week was crowded full of entertainments. The Lehr family, as the students of those days may remember, endeavored to entertain the old students who returned, especially those belonging to the society holding the Triennial Reunion.

**MEDICAL DEPARTMENT ORGANIZED.**

The new teachers employed were J.H. Coleman, M.D., Anatomy. A number of students and one prominent instructor were intending to study medicine and persuaded us to organize a Medical department. We prepared a Medical department. We prepared the room in the basement of our large brick building west of room 25, west of what is now the Y.M.C.A. reading room, for a dissecting room and in which to store the subjects for dissection. We soon found that it was wholly impracticable to conduct a medical college with the buildings and resources we had and in such a small town, for we could have no clinical department. The attempt was a failure.

**COLLEGE OF LAW ORGANIZED.**

J. Ross Lee, one among the strongest students that ever graduated from the school while I was in charge, was employed to organize and take charge of the College of Law. He had taken the course in law in Ann Arbor. He was a thorough scholar, an excellent teacher and a true gentleman. He, Mrs. Lee, and their only child died many years ago.

Ella A. Reily was employed to teach Painting and Drawing.
J.C. Holland continued in charge of the School of Architecture. He was a fine teacher and well prepared for his work. He prepared at Cornell, N.Y. We were not able to keep him. He is now located in Topeka, Kansas, and has earned a fortune at his profession. He was loved by all his students. He is still one of my warm friends.

At the close of the catalog year, in July, we found that we had lost forty-five on the enrollment of the previous year, having an enrollment of only 2019 and the year before we had 2064. The loss was caused by the crowded classes and want of a sufficient number of recitation rooms. The little frame building with but four good recitation rooms which we now began to use, helped us greatly. That and the new name and granting degrees gave us a new impulse and the growth was very great the school year 1885-86.

Catalog No. 15 gave the announcements for 1885-86. I must omit much that passed that year of society contests or fights as then called, disciplining, etc, but the "fraternity fight" must not be omitted.

A FRATERNITY ORGANIZED.

Some time in May, 1886, a committee of three prominent students called at my home and asked me whether I would object to the organization of a "college fraternity." I knew but little about fraternities as there were no fraternities connected with any of the school where I was a student altho at a later period fraternities were organized at Mt. Union college, my alma mater.

I belonged to the Masons and still belong. The boys told me that fraternities at college were like the Masons and other secret orders. I made the great mistake of giving my consent without consulting my associates in the management of the school. Had I called a meeting of the Trustees or Faculty as we were usually designated I am very certain that consent would not have been given. As I now remember I never mentioned the matter to the other members of the Faculty, as I considered the matter of minor importance. But you may well imagine my surprise when one Monday morning eighteen fine students, in fact they were among the best of the scores and scores of fine students then enrolled, marched into chapel wearing the insignia of the order, and to hear them hissed, hooted and insulted in various ways. I was greatly annoyed and was criticized sharply by many when it was ascertained that I had given my consent for the organization. The "anties" as they were called, had many arguments against the fraternity: it would destroy the democracy of
the school, injure the literary societies, etc., etc. The fraternity men replied that
most of the "anties" were sore because they were not asked to join. The fight
waxed hot, exceedingly hot. I shall here give the names of the "frats" as nearly
as I can remember then and also the names of a number of prominent
students not connected with the order. The enrollment that term exceeded
1100.
CHAPTER 106.
The Fraternity Debut.


The fraternity was a chapter of the "Kappa Sigma" order and I learned later a branch of the Kappa Sigma fraternity at Cornell university, Ithica, N.Y.

As those boys are now men and all, or nearly all, prominent in their chosen profession I shall give you a short sketch of each. My friend S.A. Hoskins is practicing law in Wapakoneta, O., and has been very successful in his profession. He is at the present time, at the head of the Democratic state ticket, candidate for Secretary of State. The nomination came to him unsolicited. As he is fully competent to fill the office, is honorable and upright, I shall vote for him and as he is an old O.N.U. boy and at present president of the Board of Trustees of the O.N.U., I know my Republican friends will not object if I urge all old Ada students to vote for him and I do urge them. I learned to respect and love him while a student for in all society and fraternity contentions I found him truthful and honorable. Two years ago I wrote to Mr. Hoskins for the names of the "frats" as I had forgotten some. I shall here insert a few sentences from the letter:

"There are many other incidents of my experience in Ada to which I could call your attention, if you so desired, but probably this is sufficient. One of the impressions personal to yourself that I cannot refrain from mentioning, and that is the first time I ever saw you. It was about the month of May, 1882. I entered the little front office feeling that I was a long way from home, I think being the enormous distance of about fifty miles. You greeted me pleasantly and I told you I wanted a room. I scarcely had the words out until you were bounding down stairs two or three steps ahead of me, and told me you would fix me out. You went south on the old wooden sidewalk and as the boys say, we could have played checkers on your coat tail, but you brought me to a halt in front of Mrs. Perry's, being the second house on the west side of the street south of the university. There I obtained a very nice room and board and began my
experience which ended in 1887.
"Your reception of me, was not out of the usual manner of receiving the students in the institution, but at that time it seemed very unusual to me. From that time on I found you a constant friend under all circumstances and nothing can ever change my friendship or estimation of your character. I think this feeling is shared by all those who have attended under your ministration. If there are any further matters to which you desire to draw my attention, I will be pleased to answer you.

Respectfully,

S.A. Hoskins."

E.E. Helms is now the Rev. Dr. Helms, of Buffalo, N.Y., one of the most eloquent divines in New York. I shall refer to him later in connection with H.C. Minnich.

John Montgomery is now the Rev. Dr. Montgomery of Findlay, O. He is eloquent, a ripe scholar and a profound reasoner. I name the above gentleman first for it was mainly through them that I got the fraternity boys to agree to abandon the organization. I shall never forget the long talk with Dr. Montgomery, then Mr. John Montgomery. It was at the Heffelfinger house. How grateful I feel to him and others who helped me and the school to stop the trouble and turmoil caused by my consenting to the organization of the fraternity.

Bernar Daley resides in the state of Washington. Four years ago he was candidate for congress on the Democratic ticket. He is reported worth from $500,000 to $1,000,000.

Frank Segar is practicing law in Fremont, O., and has an extensive practice; Lawrence Segar preaches for a large Evangelical church in Cleveland. He had resided there many years and is well liked by his people and his fellow ministers.

D.C. Meck is a high school principal of one of the ward schools in Cleveland. He is also a member of the city board of school examiners and is a member or the school examiners and is a member of the committee on legislation. He is well liked as a city principal.

Have lost track of J.P. McAfee. The last I hear from L.A. Smith he was teaching in Logan county, O.
F.D. Shook resides in Cleveland and is engaged in business. Have visited him in his beautiful home. He lives on one of the 400 avenues.

H.H. Bundy resides in Cleveland. At the last reunion of Ada students I failed to see him. J.E. Verden practices medicine in New York City and I have learned that he has an extensive practice among the higher classes of society. J.G. Ames died many years ago. The last I heard from C.P. Aupert he lived in Columbus and I think practices law there but am not certain. H.S. Fox lives in Dayton, O., and is prospering finely. Have lost track of J.C. Adams. H.E. Valentine has been state Senator and Mayor of Bucyrus and has succeeded finely in business.

D.E. Henderson is a prominent attorney at law in Lima, Ohio. K.I. Perkey read law in Lincoln, Neb., in the office of Hon. W.J. Bryan. He now resides and practices law in Montana. W.E. Hover is teaching in one of the western states but I have forgotten his address and fail to find his last letter, but I remember that he enclosed a program of a meeting of the state teacher's association of his state and he was president of the association.

G.A. Spence was a strong student. We corresponded a number of years after he graduated from the university but have not heard from him the last twelve years or more.

Some of the students then in attendance were neutral at least I thought then so. As I now remember, W.H. Meck, now Senator Meck, State school examiner and principal of the Dayton high school said little if anything on either side, and H.C. Minnich, now Dean Minnich of the State Normal school at Oxford, O., took no special part in the contest; and there were scores of others who voted but said little or nothing.

W.W. Poulney now practicing law in Washington, D.C., and superintendent of the largest Sunday school in the city, took an active part in the proceeding but was less bitter in his opposition than some others.

H.B. Williams, a strong student, now superintendent of the city schools of Sandusky, O., and also a member of the State Board of school examiners and a strong student was one of the leaders in the opposition ranks. So were the McKean brothers, especially John E. John E. McKean is now one of the leading educators of Ohio.
All the following persons were "anties" but some more bitter than others. W.O. Bailey, then taking post graduate work, is now Prof. W.O. Bailey of Angola, Ind. A. Ernsberger is superintendent of schools at Coyon, Texas.

R.M. Wanamaker is now Judge Wanamaker and one of the leading Republicans of Ohio.

I.C. Guinther, now superintendent of the Galion city schools; C.J. Keyser professor at Columbia university, N.Y.; W.H. Mustard, teacher, county official and prosperous in business; H.C. Woodrow, superintendent of a city school in Kansas; W.R. Haines the sweet tenor singer, now the proprietor of one of the largest fruit farms in the world; J.M. Sarver superintendent of Canton city schools a number of years; Grant Mouser, member of congress from the seventh district, a Republican elected in a Democratic district; S.P. Axline, Dean, College of Law, O.N.U.; Allen Cook, now Hon. Allen Cook, Attorney at Law, Canton, O.; Frank W. Dotson, now practicing law in Toledo, Robert E. McDonald, now Judge McDonald, Carrollton, O., T.A. Nation, Attorney at Law; Mel Marquis now a lawyer; G.W. Crile one of the most prominent surgeons in the U.S.; A.S. McKithrick, a prominent physician in Kenton, O.; J.E. Holland president lawyer practicing in Chicago; W.E. Putt, a popular M.E. preacher; A.R. Thomas a teacher in the schools of San Antonio, Texas, J.W. Gilmore, county surveyor of Hardin county; Ed. Griffis the popular editor of the Sidney Journal Gazette, S.D. Fess, now president S.D. Fess, of Antioch college and editor of the World's Events. E.E. Dresback, now Hon. E.E. Dresback, Attorney at Law; W.F. Drown at present holding a lucrative government position in Washington, D.C; J.W. Hill, now the Rev. Dr. Hill one of the most eloquent divines in America, filling an M.E. pulpit in Brooklyn, a city of churches and great preachers; Kirk M. Hoffman now practicing law in Greenville, O.; C.L. Hoover who married Orl Hathaway, now both teaching in the state of Washington, he being superintendent of schools; W.S. Jones now auditor of Logan county, O.; J.T. Kenny, a prominent Ohio lawyer, R.C. Myers for several sessions a prominent member of the House in Kentucky; M.D. Merrick, now Judge Merrick of Toledo; L.D. Wisener one of our prominent students and now a wealthy farmer; J.R. Walton, superintendent of the Perrysville schools; D.W. Younker, Attorney at Law, Greenville, O; O.C. Ringle, a wealthy real estate dealer, Cleveland, O.; Beecher Strobl, a popular Ohio educator; M.E. Trailbell, a prominent Attorney at Law, Columbus, O.; O.C. Trissler, noted on the lecture platform; A.S. Watkins, now Dr. Watkins, professor of English, O.N.U.; H.E. Ward, strong, very strong in the pulpit, preaching in California; W.L. Swallen a missionary in Corea; A.J. Bixler editing a paper, The Hillsboro Journal, Hillsboro, Ill.; O.E. Gates, a teacher in the
I could and would like to name scores more of prominent students who have succeeded admiringly in various walks of life, such as B.H. Games, J.D. Murphy, J.F. Haas, H.M. Shufell, G.W. Bricker, W.S. Brackney, Emerson E. White, Israel Lones, E. Rudy, Walter Somsley, C.C. Starr, D.H. Bailey now Rev. D.H. Bailey and a member of the Board of Trustees of the Ohio Northern university; F.L. Runser, Clyde Akerman, Harry Brugger, C.E. Budd, H.C. Blosser, and many others.

Shall give the names of a few of our prominent lady students of that term. Nonie Gilbert, now Mrs. Stevens of Cleveland; Cora Bucks now Mrs. S.B. Wagner; Clara Donaldson, Mary E. Donaldson, Della Mows, Ella Wright, Clara Myers, now a teacher in Western Reserve university and one of the most highly educated and intellectual women in Ohio; Ella Hunter, now Mrs. K.I. Perkey; Eya Thomas, now Mrs. S.D. Fess; Emma Ernsberger, now missionary in Corea; Fannie Snow, now Mrs. R.M. Wannamaker; Vic Snow, Minnie Parker, at one time a teacher in the O.N.U., later Mrs. R.C. Myers, Abbie McKean who died many years ago.

Many more might be named but space forbids; but I must not forget Lydia Love, now Mrs. Davis. Her husband was killed in China during the Boxer rebellion. She is an admirable lady; nor should Catherine Retzer, the noted Adelphian worker be forgotten, and Ola Shultz one of the noted Philo poets.

The Fraternity contest was bitter and altho I had erred the member of the Faculty stood by me faithfully and manfully.

In a conjoint meeting of the three literary societies an amendment was added to the conjoint articles forever prohibiting a fraternity man from becoming a member of any one of the societies.

The anti-fraternity organization at one of their meetings passed a "peace resolution" which I shall here insert.
PEACE RESOLUTION.

Whereas, the organization known as the Fraternity of the O.N.U., so far as they have power within themselves, disbanded and expressed that they hold the interest of the institution above their own mutual interest, and have considered the position of our organization with due regard.

Therefore, be it resolved that what we in meeting en masse extend to them the assurance that we hold them in the same fraternal relation as existed between us previous to their organization, and that we assure them that this body was organized from a view of the principles of right and not for the purpose of personal aggrandizement, and that we promise honest opposition to any who may use this opportunity to personal ends.

A.S. McKitrick,
Com. L.F. Prevost,
B.F. Martin.

This year we also had a strenuous effort made by the Adelphians to become participants in the annual Literary contest at the close of the school year. Many thought the society would have to close its door and adjourn sine die. The Franklins were working to please the Adelphians and get most of the members if a break should occur. many favored the plan to admit the Adelphians but there were not enough Philos to carry such a joint article. One morning a certain Franklin asked permission to call a conjoint meeting of the three societies. Permission was granted; but when the meeting was called W.W. Poultney demanded to know what Philos had signed the call for such a meeting. For such a call to be legal required the signatures of three regular members of each society. The call had not been signed and the meeting adjourned without transacting any business on that occasion. But there were some strong speeches made by Mr. Wisener, Mr. Poultney, Mr. H.E. Valantine and Mr. C.L. Hoover, also by others but those four I especially remember.

I shall here insert the call.

Mr. President:

We, the undersigned members of the three literary societies, do hereby petition for a conjoint meeting of Franklin, Philomathean and Adelphian societies to be held one week from notice, for the purpose of considering the question in reference to the Adelphian society entering the contest alternately with the
Philomathean and Franklin societies within the Spring term of each succeeding school year.

I wish the old boys and girls could see the original manuscript. The writer was a fine penman. I filed the call among my papers. I wish I had a copy of those speeches. To the students those society affairs were as real as are the most bitterly contested political conventions. It was as these meetings and in their halls that the O.N.U. boys learned to act their part so well in life.

In those days each society furnished its own music. The same singers would not go from hall to hall the same night, nor would the societies adjourn a regular meeting unless on most extraordinary occasions.

Frequently there were real parliamentary contests. The societies still met at 6:30 p.m. and continued till the program was completed. Frequently there were as many as eight on the debating class and there would be essays and orations. Then we had real literary societies; and what a help they were to the school.

I shall digress to relate a short history or two of the prominent students of the year 1885-86.

The readers of the Herald may remember that in a former number I stated that in 1875 we bought and transferred the Normal school at Fostoria, O., as much so as a school can be transferred. Some teachers who were not transferred continued to conduct a Normal school there several years but the school was closed. In 1885 a Mr. Kelley again started a school at Fostoria and in the spring of 1886 came to Ada and asked me to recommend two strong men who would make good teachers as he needed two teachers to assist him. I recommended E.E. Helms and H.C. Minnich.

Both were in the senior class. Helms completed the Philosophical course and Minnich the Scientific. He employed them. The next year I was asked to come to Hutchinson, Kansas, to organize a Normal college in that city. I asked Helms and Minnich to go with me. The citizens of Hutchison subscribed $240,000 for the project in land donations; but when the Kansas boons subsided, the value of land fell from $500 an acre to about $50. The house never was built. Helms was to act as vice president and the president who intended to remain at Ada would visit Hutchinson twice a year on a good salary. The people of Hutchinson treated the boys well, put them in their public school at good salaries. Later Mr. Helms was elected General
Secretary of the Kansas Young Men's Christian association. The positions the "boys" now hold justified the confidence I held in their ability. As stated before the Rev. Dr. Helms is one of the leading clergymen of New York and Prof Minnick is now Dean of the State Normal school at Oxford, O.

One more circumstance I shall relate, J.W. Hill now the Rev. Dr. Hill of Brooklyn, N.Y. was an eloquent "boy." Some parties, probably envious, said, "John Hill is not original, he copies speeches." Like a son he came to me and asked me to select his subject. I did. "Watchman, What of the Hour." He surpassed himself on that occasion.
CHAPTER 108.
Character of Commencement. Programs in the Old Days.

Commencement week in the early history of the school was a great week for the students, the town and the school. All the graduates in the Engineering, Law and Literary courses were compelled to deliver an oration commencement week. This would encourage those intending to graduate to take part in the literary exercises of the societies.

I shall insert the program of commencement week for 1886. I asked Senator Sherman and Senator Voorhees to address the class but Congress was not expected to adjourn and I procured one of the great preachers of Chicago to address the class. He was a Presbyterian. It made no difference to the proprietors of the school whether the orator was a Democrat, Republican or to what church he belonged so that he was clean and a great orator. We wanted a crowded hall and a good address, no matter what the cost.

I shall give the letters of the two senators.

Senate Chamber, Washington, D.C. June 14, 1886.

My dear Sir:

Your kind note of the 12th is received.
It is now pretty certain that we will not adjourn here in time for your commencement. Still, I will have your request in mind.
I send you for the benefit of your institution a copy of a work recently issued on Aquatic animals.
Very truly yours,

John Sherman

Dr. H.S. Lehr, A.M.
Ada, Ohio

Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 5th has been received and its contents noted. It would indeed afford me great pleasure to accept your kind and complimentary invitation. As it
is, however, my labors are such that I am unable to do so.
Wishing you great success, I am,

With respect,
Very truly yours,

D.W. Voorhees.

The Thirteenth Annual Commencement of the
Ohio Normal University, July 21 and 22, 1886.

CLASS DAY, MONDAY, JULY 19.

Anthem.................................................Choir
Invocation............................................L.H. Heager
Salutation, Memory Building....................May Donaldson

Duet, "Quis est Homo".............Mrs. Hampton, Annie Rogall
French oration, Le Bonheur......................J.F. Jackson
Latin oration, Enno Quam Videri.............J.S. Phillips
Piano Duet.................................Minnie Nelson and Fannie Richards
Philosophical oration, Causes of Low Civilization, .................F.E. Seager
Class Poem, Life's Primal Shore.............K. Hoffman
Quartettes, The Belfry Tower, ...Cora Bucks, Minnie Nelson, W.R. Haines, J.C. Hershey
Greek oration, Alpha and Omega............E.K. Helms
German oration, Stimmen von dem Rheim.........J.H. Kennedy
Vocal..................................................Annie Rogall
Class History and Prophecy,.....G.A. Adams, A., ......G.A. Spence, F, J.E. Virden, P.
Class Song......................................J.C. Hershey
Valedictory.......................................Della Moon

MUSICAL, WEDNESDAY, JULY 21.

Quartette, Sancta Mater..Annie Rogall, Mrs. Ida Hampton, V.M. Miller, J.C. Hershey
Invocation...........................................Rev. Lease
Baritone Solo, (a) Be Comforted (b) The Lord Worketh Wonders, (c) Arm, Arm Ye Brave....H.C. Blosser, Ada, O.
Piano, Einzieg Der Gaste Auf Wartburg, ..................Minnie Nelson, Ada, O.
Glee, The Moonlight Sail............J.C. Hershey, Dalton, O.
Cavatin--Sop.--Oh, Endow Me.......Mrs. Ida Hampton, Ada, O.
Bass Solo, (a) Thus saith the Lord, (b) But Who May Abide, ..J.C. Hershey, Ada,
O.
Concert variations on the Carnival of Venice, arranged for the voice by Jules Benedict,........Annie Rogall, Ada, O.
Part Song, Shine Out Stars............H.C. Blosser, Ada. O.

COMMENCEMENT, WEDNESDAY, JULY 21.

Music....................................Griffin's Orchestra
Saintation, Development of Modern Civilization, .........................L.H. Seager, S,
Grove City, O.

Is Life Worth Living?
Affirm.........................G.A. Adams, S., Democracy, O.
Deny.........................C.L. Hoover, S., Grove City, O.

Genius V. Talent.
J.S. Adams, S.........................Caledonia, O.

The Influence of the Party Spirit. Chas. Aubert, C.........................Lockburne, O.

Christianity, the Pillar of Civilization. D.H. Bailey, S......................Westminster, O.

Trio, Il Naviganti, ............Annie Rogall, V.M. Miller, Willie Miles


Chaff and Wheat. Cora Bennett, S.........................Irin, O.

The Barque is Launched, Where is the Harbor? Cora Bucks, S...........Stoc...burg, Pa.

Silent Forces. J.S. Beck, C.........................Lancaster, O.

Herald of Light. Sattie Cannan, T.........................Richwood, O.

Vocal, Man the Life Boat.........................Wm. Miles

Man's Dominion F.M. Conner, S.........................La Rue, O.

Medical Science. Bernard Daly, S.........................San Antonio, Texas
Broken Friendship Clara R. Donaldson, S.........................Greenwich, O.

Wasted Talent. May E. Donaldson, S............................Greenwich, O.

What are You Going to do About it? E.E. Dresback, S..................Circleville, O.

Comrades in Arms...........................................Male Chorus

Man, a Variable Quantity. W.F. Drown, S.....................................Rawson, O.

The Public Men of our Day R.R. Dunn, E.................................Wharton, O.

We have Launched Our Boat. W.W. Pelger, S.............................Ashland, O.

The Power of Concentrated Thought. A.D. Fetiees, S....................Congress, O.

The Signs of the Times. J.C. Forsythe, S.................................Northwood, O.

JULY 22, 8:30 A.M.

Anthem..................................................Choir

Invocation.........................................Rev. Atwater


Is Law Universal? A.C. Fries, S..............................Frazeysburg, O.

Our Random Line. F.M. Fries, E......................................Tidd, O.

Focused Rays Produce the Flame. J.G. Gault, S......................North Jackson, O.


Anarchy and Foreign Immigration. W.R. Haines, C........................Alliance, O.


Utility of Science. Job Hill, S........................................Ada, O.

Duet.............................Annie Rogall and Prof. Miles
Elements of Progress. Kirk Hoffman, S..........................West Baltimore, O.

Polygons. J.F. Jackson, S...............................Hicksville, O.

The Decline of Oratory. W.S. Jones, S..............................Marlboro, O.


Vocal, Ah, Not So True,.........................Mrs. Ida Hampton

Caesar's Teachers. F.F. McKean, S............................Dundee, O.

From the Sheepfold to the Throne. G.E. Mckean, S..................Dundee, O.

The Independence of American Literature. Livie McLaughlin, S..............Ada, O.


Victories not all Won on the Bloody Battle-field. A.S. McKittrick, S...........Jerome, O.

Benefits of Christianity to Women. Florence Maffet, S..............Upper Sandusky, O.

The Voices of By-Gone Ages. Zorilda Martin, S...........Paint Valley, O.

We are the Young Musicians.........................Male Chorus

Our Country's Progress. M.C. M... ...................................O.

On the Anvil under the Sledge. H.C. Minnich, S..........................Potsdam, O.

Neither For nor Against. R.M. Minton, T...............Bowling Green, O.

Truth Triumphant. Della Moon, S..............................Avon, O.


Datum Line. W.E. Myers, E.................................Edinburg, O.
Mathematical Achievements. W.T.S. O'Hara, E..............................Syracuse, N.Y.

Education Indispensable to Good Citizenship. Minnie Parker, S....................Xenia, O.


After All, Who is Right? W.W. Poultey, U.................................Ada, O.

1:30 P.M.

Music........................................Griffin's Orchestra

The Will to Win. W.A. Price, S........................................Ricksville, O.


Labor, Not Inheritance. O.C. Ringle, S..............................Greenwich, O.

Moments With One's Self. C.L. Rose, C.....................................Ada, O.

The Dignity of Labor. J.M. Sarver, C.................................Canton, O.

Opposition, an Element of Success. F.E. Seager, C...............................Fremont, O.

Men and Their Influence. M.R. Simpson, T...................................., O.

Duet, The Two Sailors.....................Wm. and Howell Miles

The Influence of the Press. G.A. Spence, C..............................West Rushville, O.

Christianity, not Intellect Imperial. Mrs. Rachel Stringfellow, C...............Ada, O.

Responsibility. B.W. Strobl, S........................................Custar, O.


Development. M.E. Thrailkill.........................................Wahoo, Neb.
Vocal, Staccato Polka..........................Annie Rogall

America's Future. O.C. Trisler, S.................................Hamerville, O.

Truthfulness of Human Knowledge. J.E. Virden..............................Coshocton, O.

The Character of Peter the Great. J.R. Walton, C..............................Edgerton, O.

The Increasing Purpose. A.S. Watkins, S.................................Rushylvania, O.

Duet........................Mrs. Ida Hampton and Annie Rogall


The Grandeur of Columbia. L.D. Winegar, C.......................Van Wert, O.

Done with Dreaming. Ella Wright, S.................................Wauson, O.

Forces of History. D.W. Younker...............................Versailles, O.

Valedictory, Should there be a Higher Plane of Politics? Claudius P. Aubert, C........Lockbourne, O.

Vocal, Accents of Liberty.............................Wm. Miles

Class Address..........................S.J. McPherson, D.D., Chicago

Presentation of Diplomas..........................Pres. H.S. Lehr

Benediction..............................Rev. Campbell

It will be observed that four completed the Philosophical course then called the University course, fifteen the Classical, forty-seven, the Scientific, five the Teacher’s, eight, the Engineering, six the course in Music, fifty-six, the Commercial and eighteen, the Telegraph course. The contest between the Franklins and Philos was close and one of the best. The Philos had the Salutatory oration Wednesday morning, the Franklins Thursday morning and the Adelphians the Validictory. The Philos elected F.E. Seager, the Franks, E.E. Helms and the Adelphians, C.P. Aubert.
A Letter from Rev. E.E. Helms Relating to the Early Frats

October 19, 1906, V. XXIX, No. 22

CHAPTER 109.

Since writing to the Fraternity contest I have received a letter from Rev. Dr. Helms which I shall here insert. I now well remember that Lawrence Berger was one of the boys who helped in "pouring oil on the troubled waters" for which I shall now thank him. The Faculty needed all the help we could get. I also recall that J. Calvin Boyd, now of Rialto, Cal. was a Fraternity man.

I had intended to insert a letter from W.W. Poultney of in this number but shall use it later and here insert the letter from Dr. Helms.

My Dear Old Professor:

Your Fraternity write-up received thro "the Herald." I could not but be intensely interested in it. However there are some minor errors. Boyd (J.B. I think his initials are) was the moving originating spirit. You do not mention his name. He entered school that year, joined the senior class and graduated. I am confident he gave the Philosphic oration on Class day. He was a Kappa Sigma elsewhere. He was full of persistency. I didn't want to join. He wouldn't let up until, to get rid of him, I gave in. He was a fine fellow. There were fifteen fellows. Shook and Bundy were among those who joined later.

The three who plead in vain for disbandment when they discovered the feeling of the school and Faculty were, Montgomery, Lawrence Segar and Helms. These three withdrew. The others held secret meetings. Hoskins (and what a fighter he was, honorable and strong, may he win in his present political fight, I wish I could vote for him) contended we could not sideband with any ... of honor or self respect. I believe after the lapse of twenty-years, for all this happened twenty years ago last spring, the one mistake the boys made was in letting (I will not say leading) the student body to believe they, we, had disbanded and then after the furor had settled, holding secret meetings for continuing the fraternity. For, after the storm's lull, the three societies supposing the fraternity was a think of the past, elected as the honor men, Segar (Philos), Aubert (Adelphians), Helms (Franklins) in truth all or nearly all of the honor places on the Class day program as well, were filled, by election, by fraternity men; the student body and Senior class supposing they were Ex-Frats not longer Frats. I have never felt it was quite right. I like a fight, but a fight in the light. However, the memory is but a thing to laugh over now.

After we were supposed to have disbanded the remaining boys held a meeting in the Young hotel one night. Dave Meck came to my room (I then roomed in the
north part of town at Sharp’s with Brundy) and tried to get me to go to the meeting. I said, "I was elected the Honor man of my society on the supposition that I was no longer in or of the fraternity and I cannot and will not go." He argued and plead more than thirty minutes, but I refused to go. That was the night the boys were discovered and more than 600 students, I was told, surrounded the hotel and but your pouring oil on the troubled waters, there probably would have been a riot most serious. Lawrence Segar, Montgomery and I were not at that meeting.

I think W.R. Haines, the singer was one of the fifteen but I may be mistaken. I know Minnich was strong in his opposition and a leader in the fight. He and I were, are always have been, bosom friends. He was reared in the Dunkard faith (became a Methodist when we roomed together in Delaware, has been a delegate to the General Conference, is a High Mason, etc.) and was at that time yet religiously opposed to all secret orders. I believe he was the only opposed on religious grounds.

I still believe that a number of the hottest "anties" were antis solely because they were not asked to join. In fact in late years some of them have laughed and told me so. Great days those! They mightily entered into the making of men.

With highest personal esteem,

Thy son ever,

Elmer E. Helms

Oct. 1, 1906.
CHAPTER 110. 
Entering the year 1887. Adelphians Recognized in Contest.

In catalogue No. 16 the trustees remained the same as the previous year.

The announcements of the public occasions were as follows: Adelphian Annual Entertainment, May 19, 1889. Class Day, Monday July 18, Senior reception on the evening of July 18, Triennial reunion of the Philomathean Literary society the day and evening of July 19. Commencement exercises of the Musical and Literary Departments Wednesday and Thursday, July 20 and 21. Annual contest between the Philomathean and Franklin Literary societies on the evening of July 21.

The length of the terms and the expenses remained the same as the previous year. The new teachers employed were Bernard Daly, anatomy; Charles Ashbrook, pharmacy; B.F. Holl, painting and drawing; Mrs. Ida E. Darst, piano; Ottimer Ream, telegraphy.

Bernard Daly took the place of Dr. J.H. Coleman, B.F. Holl of Ella S. Reiley, Ottimer Ream of P.W. Ream and Charles Ashbrook was placed in charge of the College of Pharmacy which we organized some time during the school year 1885-6.

As soon as there was a law enacted compelling pharmacists to be examined by the State Board of Examiners before being legally permitted to practice pharmacy, we recognized the fact that Schools of Pharmacy would be a necessity and the Trustees of the Ohio Normal University organized the first school of pharmacy in Ohio. We had a College of Law and a College of Pharmacy before Ohio State university with the state of Ohio back of it as paymaster. Our facilities were, indeed, meager. The recitation room was small and the apparatus not plentiful, but the teacher did his part nobly. He did not devote all of his time to teaching as at first the number of students was small, but the friends of the school now know the result of the effort to start the school. It has been one of the best paying departments of the university.

The enrollment of different students in all the departments for the school year
1885-6 was 2364. We enrolled students from twenty-four different states and three foreign countries and eighty-four counties of Ohio. Hardin county furnished 308 students, Wayne sixty-five, Hancock ninety-nine, Ashland twenty-eight, Delaware thirteen, Van Wert thirty-six, Miami thirty-one, Greene sixteen, Lorain twenty-three, Stark forty-seven, Seneca forty-four, Portage thirty-eight. I name the above counties because Wayne, Stark and the other counties named had colleges or normal schools.

We enrolled 1904 in the Literary department, twenty-seven in the engineering, 203 in the commercial, 100 in phonography, ten in law, thirteen in the College of Medicine, five in pharmacy, 348 in music, 338 in fine arts including freehand drawing, fifty in special elocution and twenty-five in telegraphy. Total number of graduates in all the departments 154. The total enrollment for the year was 2364, a gain of 345 over the previous school year. The gain was due doubtless to the increased facilities, four more recitation rooms and the power to confer degrees.

So many new students entered the school year 1886-7 and in the later years while I was president of the school that in future I shall speak only of those who completed some course of study. The story would become too long and as my duties increased as president and corresponding secretary of the school I became less intimately acquainted with the students for I did less teaching, and hard work, care and anxiety, began to tell on my power of endurance and I felt unable to get to the meetings of the literary societies each week as I did in the early years of the school.

The Adelphians so far had not been permitted to contest with the Franklins and Philomatheans at the close of the school year.

They had an annual entertainment some time in May; but they demanded recognition in the contest commencement week. I had hoped and prayed for a large new building with double halls and we would then organize a fourth society and the two could contest some night commencement week, but we failed to get the building.

The school year '86-7 brought them the consummation of their wishes. At a long, long conjoint session the three societies there was (printed) a conjoint article to admit the society to participate in the annual contest. The first year the Adelphians and Philos were to contest, then the Franklins and Adelphians and the third year the Franklins and Philos and thereafter to rotate in like manner. Only a few Franklins opposed the amendment, but many of the
Philomatheans fought it bitterly. The leading Adelphian speakers as I now remember were Valentine, Bowersmith, Bauserman, C.E. Hoover, W.E. Hover, Gunthrie of Marion, O., Clara E. Myers, Ori Hatheway and E.E. White. There were others but I cannot recall their names. W.W. Poultney, Wisener, Wannamaker, two of the Grabiels, two of the Deans and other Philos opposed the amendment strenuously but it finally carried. Poultney predicted it would kill the spirit of the contest and it did. In later years but few remained for the Thursday night contest commencement week, and the Philos and Franklins contested more strongly in other lines especially in getting members. The change did not help the Adelphians very much. What they needed was a better hall which in later years we furnished them.
During the fall of 1886 and the winter and spring of 1887 a number of real estate men of Hutchinson, Kansas tried to induce me to leave Ada and start a school at Hutchinson. I told them plainly that I could not and would not leave the school at Ada which was in a flourishing condition, altho we needed more room. They finally agreed to pay all of the traveling expenses of myself, Mrs. Lehr and any other parties whom I would recommend as suitable persons to be connected with a school there. If they would erect a suitable building I was to give them my name as president and visit the school twice each year. This last stipulation was not mentioned in the contract nor was it stipulated that I had to move to Hutchinson. E.E. Helms was to be vice president and to act as president. Helms and H.H. Minnich were to be my associates in the school. This is hardly part of a history of the O.N.U. and yet in a manner it belongs to the story as a reminiscent. I shall here insert the contract.

**CONTRACT.**

This agreement, made this 24th day of March, 1887, between Brown & Bigger, Hutchinson, Reno Co., Kansas, parties of the first part and H.S. Lehr, Ada, Hardin Co., Ohio, party of the second part.

Witnesseth: That said parties of the first part agree to undertake to secure donations of lands and money sufficient to erect a building suitable for a normal university to be known as the Kansas Normal university, and incorporated as such. Said university is to be located at or near Hutchinson, Kansas, and not to exceed two and a half miles from the Santa Fe depot. Said building not to contain less that 23 rooms of capacity mentioned in exhibit hereto attached, marked "a," to be constructed of brick or stone, with metal roof, properly ventilated and lighted, heated by steam or furnace, and supplied with necessary furniture for the commencement of school.

Parties of the first part further agree to see that the water from the city water-works is conducted to the premises, and a street railway constructed and operated thereto, and electric wired extended to the building. Said buildings
are to be constructed on plans and specifications to be approved by second party before the contract is let for the name.

The further agreement is, that the land donated, and on which said building are erected, shall not be less than twenty acres in extent. Said buildings are to be furnished completely and they are to be ready for use on or before April 1st, 1888, but the time may be extended to August 1, 1888. The assumed cost of said premises is One Hundred Thousand Dollars ($1000,000) and first parties are not liable for any greater sum.

Parties of the first part agree to secure party of the second part against any loss on account of taxes that might be levied against said premises, and to obtain exemption there from as long as said premises are used for school purposes only.

Parties of the first part further agree to secure a subscription in money, not less than Twenty Thousand Dollars ($20,000) to be paid over to trustees to be appointed hereafter, to be used by party of the second part for maintenance of the school, and for no other purpose. However, said fund may be used at the option of the second party towards the construction of said building. In that event said fund is to be replaced out of the first proceeds of the sales of lands or lots donated for the construction of said building.

Parties of the first part further agree to secure eight lots on some line of street railway convenient to said university, and to have erected thereon a building suitable for the residence of the president of said institution, not to cost less than Eight Thousand Dollars ($8,000), plans to be furnished by party of the second part.

Warranty deed to be made to H.S. Lehr for the same clear of all encumbrances, whenever said party of the second part opens the said university.

It is agreed that to each subscriber of said contribution fund herein mentioned, there shall be issued certificates of scholarship entitling the holder thereof or his assigns to present and use said certificate in payment for tuition at said university the same as cash, at the charges established by the faculty of said university, provided that they be presented not later than five years from date thereof.

Party of the second part agrees that the title of the twenty acres of land and
buildings thereon, shall vest in the said trustees appointed by the consent of the majority of the donors, each vote to be based on a hundred dollar valuation given on said property, to be so held by said trustees for the exclusive benefit and use second party, so long as it shall be used for school purposes, not to exceed ten years. At the end of said ten years, said trustees are authorized by the terms and conditions of their trust to make an absolute deed of conveyance of said property to H.S. Lehr, party of the second part, his heirs or assigns or associates, provided said school shall be conducted during the term of said ten years, and brought up to a standard equal to that now attained by the present Normal university of Ada, Ohio.

Party of the second part agrees to maintain said premises in a proper state of repair during said ten years at his own cost and expense, and to heat and light the same, and to conduct the school in every particular as a first class university to suitably adorn the campus with trees, lawns and walks. The repairs herein mentioned refer to natural wear and tear only. Said buildings are to be insured in standard companies by arrangements to be made by parties during the first ten years.

The party of the second part is to have all proceeds arising from the said school to manage and keep up the same; but should said premises be used for any other than school purposes, the trustees thereof shall have the right to enter and take possession of the same for the benefit and use of the donor.

Party of the second part agrees further to pay the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (5000) for the construction of said building, One Thousand Dollars ($1000) to be paid as soon as the foundation is completed, Four Thousand ($4000) when the building is completed.

It is further understood and agreed that should said first parties fail to secure the said donations of lands and money to undertake this contract, they shall be released from the same, provided they give notice of the same to second party, on or before July 1, 1887.

This agreement shall not bind the second party's window or heirs in case of his death or of his being incapacitated before the commencement of said school.
CHAPTER 112.
Commencement of 1887. Wonderful Array of Musicians.

We expected to pay our $5,000 out of the $20,000 the citizens of Hutchinson were to pay and use the balance to pay the salaries of the teachers the first and second years or as long as needed.

The Hutchinson people expected to pay for the building, etc., out of the sale of land. The Santa Fe. R.R. Co. subscribed forty acres of land estimated to be worth $40,000, and many individuals subscribed land and money liberally. But in the course of three months after the signing of the contract the boom in land began to recede and altho the plans and specifications furnished by James Holland of Topeka, Kansas had been accepted and some work had been done we were asked to release the company signing the contract to which we agreed providing that Mr. Helms and Mr. Minnich were employed at good salaries in the public school of the city.

Miss Carrie Randall whom we had employed to go with us as teacher was willing to cancel the contract and made a new contract with Doctor Ames certainly much better than the one made with us. She is still filling that contract with the Doctor.

We had not contracted with any other teachers but I had in mind, J.P. Leaf for teacher of engineering and Mr. and Mrs. V.M. Miller for the music department.

Mr. Helms and Mr. Minnich were employed in the public schools.

The fourteenth commencement exercises began July 18th and continued four days. Monday, the 18 was Class day, W.E. Putt had the invocation, Flo Cunningham the salutation, Charles Michel, later Prof. Michel, had the French oration, vocal solo, V.M. Miller; Latin oration, W.L. Sallen; philosophical, S.A. Hoskins; piano duet, Mrs. Luella Miller and Delia Heenthal; German oration, J.W. Klinker, Greek oration, John Montgomery; duet, violin and piano, Harry L. Case and Helen Leaf; Ethics oration, Clara E.L. Myers; Class history and prophecy, D.C. Meck (F), N.E. Valentine (A), L.W. Colwell (P), class song, V.M. Miller, valedictory, Carrie B. Randall.
The regular commencement program is too lengthy to insert. The exercises occupied two whole days. The music was said to be exceedingly fine. Mr. and Mrs. Miller, Anna Rogall, Mrs. J.L. Hampton, William Miles, Carrie B. Randall, Allie Evans, Dora Fritz, A.S. Elyman, G. Goldsmith, Ora Hoy, Clara Myers, three Painter brothers, Jennie Preston, Fannie Snow, C.L. Thomas, S.B. Wagner, Florence Head and Myrtle Berryman. And to the above should be added some fine performers on the piano, violin and cornet.

The array of fine musicians was so great and magnificent that we crowded them into quartettes and octettes to get as many as possible on the various programs. How I would enjoy to preside just once more at such a musical and literary feast as on the occasion of the commencement of 1887.

The seventeen who completed the Classical course were J.G. Ames who died many years ago. He was an Adelphian. Josiah Bixler a fine student is at present editing a paper in Illinois. He was a Franklin. Have not heard from J.R. Cassad the last fifteen years. W.H. Dean and W.S. Dean were Philos and good students. They still reside in Coshocton county, Ohio, or did the last I heard from them. O.E. Gates, now the Rev. Dr. Gates is a professor in the Divinity college of Chicago university. He was a strong student and a Philo.

The last I heard from E.V. Harris he was teaching in Senaca county, O. He was a Philo. S.A. Hoskins a Franklin is now president of the Board of Trustees of the O.N.U. and was a candidate for Secretary of State on the Democratic ticket. Of course every O.N.U. boy voted for him. Cora Johnson is married and lives in Nebraska. She was a Franklin. J.W. Klinker, a good student was an Adelphian. Do not know what he is doing or where he is. John Montgomery, now the Rev. Dr. Montgomery, was a Franklin and for many years the Franklins elected him to contest with the Philo debater in the Annual Philo Franklin contest. G.W. Rutledge a strong Philo remarked to the writer the day Montgomery graduated, "I am glad we are getting rid of him in the annual contest, he is hard to beat." D.C. Meek was a Franklin. He had made life a success. He is principal; in a ward school in Cleveland. He married a popular Franklin girl, Miss Gertie Kirkpatrick. Chas. Michel, later Prof. Michel, is now Dr. Michel and a professor in a school of Technology in Potsdam, N.Y. W.E. Putt was a Philo and a good student. I shall insert one of his letters at the close of this chapter. Floyd D. Shook a prominent Franklin, now of Cleveland, has been very successful in his beautiful, palatial home.

C.L. Thomas, of Madison county, O., is now the Rev. C.L. Thomas. He was a
Philo and a noble young man. That year we had two students by the name of C.L. Thomas. The one from Medina county, was in the music department. A.R. Thomas was a Franklin. He is now teaching in the public schools of San Antonio, Texas. He was prominent in his society and in school. O.C. Trisler, the last letter I had from him, lived in Cincinnati and was in the lecture field. He never wanted for works when on the Philo stage.

Have lost track of quite a number of the fifty-seven Scientific members of the class. While president of the school I endeavored to keep up correspondence with all the literary and engineering graduates of the school. In later years there were so many Pharmacy and Commercial graduates and I had so little social intercourse with them that only a few were in the habit of writing to me.

Do not know what W.A. Adams, Jennie Bradley, G.E. Bennett, W.O. Cline, Carry Case, W.F. Church, G.H. Dukes, J.T. Herbert, A.S. Knoll, Jas. L. King, J.F. McNeely, J.G. McMillian, I.E. Richardson, Francis M. Smith, C.C. Starr, A.H. Seymour, Auna E. Smith, B.A. Souders, C.H. Thomas, w.G. Malory, Alice Swihart and C.L. Webb are doing or where they now reside. All the above named graduates corresponded with me several years and some have written as lately as with the last two or three years but I failed to keep their letters on file. H.W. Bowersmith one of the Adelphian pillars is a resident of Ada. He followed teaching many years but is now engaged in building up his chosen order, the "Woodmen." W.H. Bennington now resides in Dayton. In a previous number I stated that he was an Adelphian. It was a mistake. He was a leading Franklin and a great fighter. He is engaged in manufacturing one of his own inventions.

Isaiah Bauserman was a strong student and an ardent Adelphian. He died some years ago while in the ministry of the Christian church. He was one of my regular correspondents. H.H. Bundy, a great Franklin worker resides in Cleveland. J.E. Barstress resided in Pennsylvania and is a minister of the gospel. W.F. Church wrote me a very kind letter about two years ago which I intended to insert in these reminiscences but I fail to find it. He wanted the school called Lehr university to which I always objected. He is a warm friend of the school and still resides in New York.

C.W. Chidester, one of my warm friends practices medicine in Delaware, O. As I now remember, Church and Chidester were Philos. Charles E. Chittenden was a Franklin worker, eloquent in debate. He nw practices law in Toledo. L.W. Colwell is engaged in business and has made life a success. I loved him almost as a son. He still resides in Sangamon county, Ill. He was a
Philo worker but always fair and square. Emma Ernsberger is a missionary in Corea. I inserted in a former number of this story a portion of a letter she wrote to me two years ago in which she said she found the O.N.U. the most truthful in its advertising of any school she ever attended and she was a student in several church schools. She said, “You always fulfill what you promise, and even more.” Such testimonials from a true christian woman makes a green oasis in the desert of life. G.W. Foltz a good, faithful student and a great Franklin worker practices medicine in North Baltimore, O. W.H. Gifford, a staunch Adelphian practices law in Mansfield and has a large patronage.
Effie Graham, a loyal Philo, is still teaching in Illinois. She was a good student. A.L. Girard was an excellent student and as I now remember a Franklin. He married Mrs. Rachel Stringfellow, a sister of Prof. Park. The last I heard from them, about six months ago, they were in Richmond, Va. D.E. Henderson, a great Franklin worker, resides in Lima, O. He practices law and is succeeding finely in his profession. W.E. Hoover is one of the leading educators of his state. Two years ago he was president of the state teacher association. I can not find his letter and do not remember his town or state. He was an Adelphian and an eloquent debater. Ori Hathaway a brilliant student and an Adelphian married C.L. Hoover an Adelphian. They have both been teaching many years, in Portland Oregon. Miss Nellie Johnson, a loyal Philo, lives with her parents in Riverside, California. Geo. R. Kelley, a Philo, was superintendent of the schools of Cridersville, O., fifteen years or more. Lately resigned and has moved on a farm. I remember him as one of my friends and a good student.

The last I heard from Louisa Leonard she was teaching in Seneca county, Ohio. She was a Franklin. W.D. Long is a dentist and resides in Dayton. He was a Franklin. Marion Littleton, a Philo resides on a farm in Hardin county, Ohio. V.M. Miller the Franklin singer practices medicine in South Dakota. I think the town is Aberdeen. Have lost his last letter of about a year ago. Leah E. Myers, a loyal Franklin, is dead. Clara E.L. Myers, one among the best students we ever enrolled was for many years a popular teacher in the O.N.U. She now teaches in Western Reserve University, Cleveland, O. A.D. McElroy teaches in the Cleveland public schools. The last I heard from W.T. Morgas and W.D. Pepple they were teaching. Carrie Randall a leading Philo for many years, a good singer and a good student, is now Mrs. Doctor Ames. She married a Franklin. Mrs. Minnie Stauffer a Franklin worker married an Adelphian. She is now Mrs. Prof. A.B. Stauffer. I cannot recall her maiden name. W.F. Stevens a Philo as I now remember resides in Sandusky, O., and I think practices law, but it may be the brother who graduated later who practices law and that he practices medicine. Have not heard from him the last eight or nine years. N.V. Smith resides part of his time in Upper
Sandusky, O. and part of the time in Huston, Texas. C.C. Starr, a fine student, a true Adelphian and one of my favorite students has not written to me the last five or six years. A.A. Thomas is now the Rev. A.A. Thomas. He lives where he practices. He is as true to the ... he preaches. He is as true to the right as he sees it as the needle to the pole. He is one of my true friends.

Two students by the name of C.H. Thomas enrolled in our schools one as a preacher, I forget which one. The last time I heard from U.G. Ulery he was living in Toledo. He married an O.N.U. blackeyed beauty but I can not recall her name.

H.E. Valentine now the Hon. H.E. Valentine is the father of the well known anti- trust law, known as "Valentine law." He was a loyal Adelphian and a prominent student. He resides in Bucyrus. E.E. White, a fine student, an eloquent debater was an Adelphian. He moved to New Whatcome, Oregon. He died a year or two ago.

Six completed the course in Pharmacy, J.L. Congdon, E.R. Harding, O., McDowell, W.S. Poling now residing in Anderson, Ind. W.L. Starwait practices medicine in Fremont, O. Homer Witten resides in Cambridge, O. Five completed the course in music, five in telegraphy, and fifty-five in the Commercial course.

The Adelphians elected H.E. Valentine for the honorary oration. He had the salutatory. The Philos elected Eva Thomas now Mrs. Dr. Fenn for the salutation. The valedictory fell to the Franklins. They elected John Montgomery now the Rev. Dr. Montgomery. I shall here insert a letter of Rev. W.E. Putt written nearly two years ago. It is a good advertisement for the school as it is today.

Mason, O. Feb. 5, 1906.

Prof. H.S. Lehr.

My Dear Dr. Lehr:--I often think of you and at every opportunity make inquiry about you. I thought I would write to you and express my appreciation for you and the great help you were to me in those days when I needed a helper. Of course, you are aware that I did appreciate you, but I write this as a reminder. My days at the old Normal were happy and profitable ones indeed. Your kindly counsel and interest in me meant far more than I then expressed or even knew, but as the years come and go I see it all the more. My experiences in other colleges convinces me that your institution was conducted on the right plan. All the professors were approachable. You felt at home with them, they were of
you and for you. In other universities there is a frigidness that chills and repels; if you came in personal touch at all it will be possibly the senior year. The personal contact counts. You were to me a father while the professors were to me brothers and sisters.

Prof. Maglott was an inspiration to me as were Mrs. Maglott, Prof. Park, Darst and Ewing. These men and women are dear to me. Dear Doctor, I wish for you many years and the best of health so that you may enjoy the honors conferred by your multitude of friends--boys and girls of the Normal.

Sincerely,

W.E. Putt

Carl Michel was a member of the class of '87. for many years he was one of the popular teachers in the O.N.U. He was very strong in mathematics, thorough in Greek, Latin, English, German and French. In 1901 he resigned and as stated before he now teaches in Potsdam, N.Y. His salary is $1800 a year for nine months and but three hours a day. He had many friends while teaching in the O.N.U.
In catalog No. 17 the trustees remained the same, only that Mrs. Rachel Stringfellow had changed her name to Rachel Girard.

The school terms remained the same in length as the previous year, but we added a new term—the vacation term. We had been employing teachers to give instruction to those students remaining in Ada during the vacation of two weeks; but in 1886 the vacation term was to continue three weeks; that meant that every sixth year the students and inhabitants of Ada had a year containing 53 weeks. The one day over in 365 days and in leap year two days more that 52 weeks gave us an extra week. We added this week to the vacation term that we might always begin our First Fall term the second Tuesday in August.

In order to give our regular teachers rest, we employed extra teachers for the short or vacation terms. We generally employed former students who had been successful in the profession of teaching.

The public occasions announced were similar to those announced the preceding years.

The school was still growing in numbers, in popularity and usefulness. People were astonished that a non-sectarian school should do the Christian work that was done by teachers and students. Scores of the O.N.U. students entered the ministry in various denominations and many, very many entered the missionary field.

The different students enrolled the last school year had been 2438, a gain of 74 over the preceding year. Twenty-five different states and territories were represented, three foreign counties and 30 of the Ohio counties. The counties having colleges and self-styled universities were well represented.

There was quite a change in the teaching force. J.L. Hampton resigned as principal of the Commercial college. George A. Deel was elected to the
vacancy and J.B. Gotschall was elected as assistant teacher in the Commercial department. He took the place vacated by Prof. Deel.

Prof. S.P. Fisher died of typhoid fever the previous year and Ernest Atwater was elected to the chair of Greek and Latin and as the school was growing we needed more teachers and had to employ an additional teacher for the language department. We employed that excellent instructor and fine linguist and mathematician Charles Michel to teach Greek, German and French.

W.W. Poultney was put at the head of the Engineering department and was well liked by his students. He was a fine teacher.

Lieut. John Baxter, now Major Baxter and Quartermaster, U.S. Army was detailed to take charge of our Military department. As I have said in a previous number, he was "a great success." No teacher was ever more popular in the O.N.U., and deservedly so, than Major Baxter. He is a good instructor and an ideal gentleman.

Prof. J. Rose Lee resigned as teacher of Law and we employed Robert E. McDonald principal of the Law department. He is now Judge McDonald.

Col. Albert Rogall was elected Professor of painting and drawing. Prof. Holl had resigned. Ottimer Ream resigned as teacher of Telegraphy and C.L. Rogall was elected to fill the vacancy. We now had thirty instructors. We closed the school of Medicine. It proved a failure. We did not have the facilities to ever make it a success.

The members of the Lecture committee for the year 1886-7 were Clara Myers, H.W. Bowersmith, E.E. White, Adelphians; R.M. Wannamaker, W.L. Swallen, L.D. Wisener, Philomatheans; G.W. Foltz, Josiah Bixler, John Montgomery, Franklins. The members on the course were, Col. L.F. Copeland, Bishop Johnathan Weaver, Rev. T. DeWitt Talmadge, Rev. S.J. McPherson, D.D., Robert Nourne, Schubert Quartette, Dr. Joseph Cook, Hon. R.G. Bert, Rock Baad of London, England. One member of the committee, Emerson E. White is dead and every lecturer on the course is dead.

Catalog No. 17 gave the Announcements for the year 1887-8. That year we had an unusual number of society scraps to settle. In looking over my files of papers I find so many accounts of scraps that I hardly know which to insert or what to leave out. Sometimes one society would take the advantage then again another. I remember that in the spring of 1883 the Franklins brought
Daisy Lowry from Kenton and paid her tuition about 10 a.m. Her father was really living in Kenton at the time. She was quite young, but fine on recitation. The Franklins, at a call meeting elected her as contestant on recitation. The Philos ever on the look out discovered the scheme. My good friend, W.I. Priest, was president of the Philo society. He handed me a paper dated 1:20 p.m. April 28, 1885. I shall insert it here to remind the members of today how hard the boys and girls of the early years worked to make the societies and school what they now are.

PHILOMATHEAN NOTICE TO FACULTY.

Ada, Ohio, April 27, 1883.

To Faculty of the N.W.O.N.S.

Regarding the Faculty of the N.W.O.N.S. as the highest and only tribunal to which to refer disputed questions of the societies, the Philomathean Literary society hereby instruct their committee appointed for arranging program for contest to refer the matter to the Faculty for an immediate decision as to whether or not, according to the resolution passed by the conjoint committee for arranging program for contest, Miss Daisy Lowry, of Kenton, Ohio, can participate in contest.

Signed by president,

W.I. Priest.

Handed in 1:20 p.m. April 28, 1883, J.G.P.

The spring and summer terms of 1888 were noted for society work. Many of the Philos believed that to admit the Adelphians to the annual contest would destroy interest in that noted entertainment and they were correct. The believed that it would be better for the school to either have four or but two societies. We had only three halls and could have but that number of societies. One plan was to have senior and junior Philo and Franklin societies and then drop the Adelphian society which had a poorer hall than the old societies, nor had it the friends scattered everywhere to work for it and was therefore quite weak. Another plan was to have regular and associate members. We as a Faculty feared that plans for it might lead to electing persons members who were not students and give them power in governing the societies which might prove prejudicial to the school. I shall here insert a communication from the Philomathean society. I often wish my readers could
see the original manuscript which I still have on file. When filing them away I little thought of ever using them by giving them to the public.

PHILOMATHEAN COMMUNICATION.

Ada, Ohio, May 15, 1888.

Prof. H.S. Lehr.

Dear Sir:--Your communication in regard to the proposed amendment to our constitution received and duly presented to society. In reply will say that the duties of an associate member are not defined neither are his privileges. The amendment seems to have been proposed without due forethought and is not complete or at least what was intended in a great measure to have been incorporated in it is not. Most likely it would be best for it to go overboard and then at a convenient time take up an amendment in the same line but more replete. However, the above is the opinion of the Executive Committee and myself, the society as before, awaits your decision.

Very truly yours,

J.B. Ruhl

I shall here insert our answer. I kept a copy of all communications with the society except some that were kept by Prof. Park Recording Secretary of the Faculty.

In our contract with the Union School District we reserved the right to divide among the societies the students of the village admitted free of tuition according to our contract. We did this lest as some time all the town students might join one society to the detriment of the other societies. It would not matter so much now since the societies no longer give pay entertainments.

ANSWER OF THE FACULTY.

Ada, Ohio, May 15, 1888.

Pres. Philomathean Literary Society.

Dear Sir:--Your communication of even date received and contents carefully noted. It certainly shows a great deal of frankness and honesty. We admire the spirit of it. As the proposed amendment now stands we are compelled to reject it. We can not consider it because it does not define the duties of such
members, nor define their privileges. Further, we hereby notify the Philomathean Literary society of Ohio Normal University, that in the future, until further notice, all pupils of the Ada Union School district not belonging as a regular member of any of the three societies of the Ohio Normal University, will be assigned to the Adelphian Literary society of said school. In course of time we expect to divide the said union scholars equal among the three societies.

Very truly,

H.S. Lehr.
Beginning the Year 1888. More Society Scraps

November 30, 1906, V. XXIX, No. 28

CHAPTER 115.
Beginning the year 1888. More Society Scraps.

The societies in the eighties still elected honor men as they were called. In the early history of the school I gave the origin of the custom. The contest between different candidates often caused much bitterness. One of the bitterest fights in the history of the school caused by this custom occurred in May, 1888, in the Adelphian society. I shall here insert some of the papers I have on file concerning the contest for honorary oration--shall send some of these to the writers.

According to a Faculty reservation at the founding of the societies in 1871, only regular members of a society could vote and to be a regular member it was necessary to be a student of the Normal. From the language of the following document it can readily be understood that fraud was charged.

A PROTEST.

Ada, O., May 28, 1888.

To Faculty of O.N.U.

We the undersigned members of the Adelphian Literary society have reasons to believe that a certain person secured receipts on last Friday night for the sole purpose for voting for an honorary member; we have reasons to believe that receipts were given to entertain persons for the purpose of securing their votes for a certain candidate--we have reasons to believe that in event of another election the same methods will be resorted to; and therefore we respectfully protest against the granting of receipts to any persons except those who intend to become bonafide members of the O.N.U.

O.J. Cory,
T.E. Quail,
T.L. Gifford,
M.C. Wisely,
J.G. Leonard.

To the Faculty of the O.N.U.
This is to certify that H.E. Valentine a present active member of the Adelphian Literary society of the O.N.U., situated in the village of Ada, O., did at a legally called meeting of said society for the purpose of electing an Honorary member of the graduating class of same University for the year 1888, enter protest against the legality of said election on grounds which are as follows:

First, that on said election parties voted who were not regular constituted members of school.

Second, that said parties had not prior to said election obtained receipts of registration of the Faculty of said institution.

Third, said parties did then and there on the 25th day of May at said meeting of said society vote against a request of the President of said institution as being contrary to a regulation of the Faculty in such cases made and provided.

H.E. Valentine.

Ada, Ohio, May 28, 1888.

To the Faculty of O.N.U.

Whereas, W.H. Gifford did at the election for honor man to represent the Adelphian society at commencement, protest against the decision of said election as illegal.

Whereas, at a regular meeting of the above said society a majority of the members did expunge from the minutes of said society, the protest of W.H. Gifford.

Whereas, the minutes being the record of the society not any part.

Whereas, the minutes as now recorded are the work of but a part.

Whereas, any member has an inalienable right of protesting against any and all proceedings of said society.

Whereas, such protests have a right and should be recorded.

Whereas, protests can be expunged from said minutes by unanimity only.

Whereas, such expunging was the act of a majority I pray you that the action of said majority be reversed and that the minutes of said meeting be restored to the original for the following reasons.

1st. As Robert's Rules of Order nor the constitution contain no information on the
act of expunging the above act of protesting remains good and valid because in legal works all acts are considered good unless some artificial and legal reason can be assigned against it and we here hold the same to be true.

2nd. As Robert's Rules of Order nor the constitution assign any legal reason why said protests should not remain as the part work of said society. We insist that the actions of said society in expunging said protest from the minutes of said meeting is illegal.

W.H. Gifford.

Ada, O., May 29, 1888.

To the Faculty of the O.N.U.

We the undersigned members of the Adelphian Literary society have been informed that certain persons whose names appear on our rollbook have not paid their initiation fees. We therefore request that you decide whether or not such persons are entitled to a vote in the meetings of said society.

O.J. Cory,
F.E. Quail,
H.E. Thompson.

At a call meeting of the Faculty, three members voted that the proceedings of the society May 26th were legal. The president of the school handed in a minority report--the majority made no written report.

MINORITY REPORT OF FACULTY.

To the President of the Adelphian Literary society, of the Ohio Normal university, Ada, O.

In the matter of election of honor man, to represent said society at the coming commencement, I beg leave to render my opinion as a minority report.

First. I believe the proceedings to have been illegal from their incipiency. 1st. Because the call was issued by a person acting as president, Miss Kate Hanley, was not a present member of society, and no other could act. 2nd. Because said person also acted as president in calling the meeting to order and appointing a vice president to preside over the meeting, when your constitution provides who shall act in case of absence of the president and vice president.

Second. There were illegal votes cast at said election, although I believe that the majority of legal members voted in favor of the person declared elected, yet
under the circumstances I believe it would have been right and proper and just, to have declared the election null and void, and to have held a second election.

Third. To say the least, I believe that the proceedings during the first part of the session of May 26, were irregular if not illegal for the person who presided is not, and was not a member of said society.

Fourth. The above decision is in accordance with what I said on Friday afternoon and also with what I told the members after they had assembled in their hall, and I am confident if what I said had been followed, it would have been better for all parties and especially for the society.

Very respectfully,

H.S. Lehr.
I tried hard to get some statesman of national reputation to address the graduating class of 1888 to advertise the school and to have a large attendance the last day of the year. Having all the members of the class to speak brought many that otherwise would not have been in attendance. I failed to get statesman or noted politician, so had to be contented with an eminent preacher and president of Eureka college, Ill., Prof. B.J. Radford. His address was fine and well received.

I always tried to keep in touch with some of the leaders of both the Democratic and Republican parties. On this occasion I tried to get S.S. Cox, then of New York, or Senator Daniels, of Virginia. Will here insert a letter form Hon. S.S. Yoder:


My Dear Lehr:-Your kind and flattering letter of the 25th received. I had a long talk with Hon. S.S. Cox and urged him to go to your place, but a congressman and author must be excused. He would enjoy it and you all would have appreciated his wit and pathos. He sits just in form of me and whenever I do anything successfully he comes to me and congratulates me heartily, I will speak to Senator Daniels and urge him to go. By the way if you have not yet, you ought to get S.S. Cox's books in your library. I will sent you his speeches on the tariff, and others if you desire. Confidentially, how do you stand, or what is your opinion on the tariff? What do you teach in your institution on Political Economy? I will enclose skeleton of a speech I made at Lima in which I give an outline of my views on the tariff. I would like to have your opinion on it. I will see the President some time and will speak of you socially.

With many thanks for your kind words I am very sincerely yours.

S.S. Yoder.

CLASS DAY PROGRAM.
Invocation........................................Frank Dyer, P
Salutatory.........................................Rose Clark, P Duet......................H.B. Criswell
and Myrtie Rouse, F German Oration.........................C.A. Maxwell, P
Latin Oration..................................J.W. Jones, A
Vocal Solo......................................Allie Evans, F
Ethical Oration.................................D.W. Klepinger, F
Class Poem....................................D.D. Thomas, A
Piano Solo.....................................Hattie Millette, P
Greek Oration..................................W.H. Powers, P
Philosophical Oration.........................O.J. Cory, A
Trio.................................Flo Head, Allie Evans, Hattie Millette
Valedictory.................................R.M. Knoble, F

For want of space have omitted the subjects. The societies were not named in
the program but I give them above as I still remember to which society each
one belonged. Flo Head was a Philo.

Tuesday and evening was Franklin Reunion day and a great success. The
banquet was held in what is now a fraternity hall, then rented by the university
for a Commercial hall, the practical department as then styled.

Wednesday forenoon Musical Commencement. The graduates were Myrtle
Rouse, piano. She was a model student, and a true lady. She now resides in
Boston. Allie Evans, voice, also was an excellent lady and one of my personal
friends. She died many years ago. Flo Head, voice. She also was an excellent
student and one of my personal friends. She married one of my dear friends,
Wendell Barr Price. They reside in Colorado. H.B. Criswell, cornet. He was
also a good student but took but little part in society work. I think he was an
Adelphian. Hattie Millette completed the course on piano and was one of its
most accomplished performers on the piano that ever completed that course
while I was president of the school.

We had fine singers this year as well as the previous year. In addition to the
above names we had Anna Rogal Root, Ida Lehr Hampton, J.L. Thomas
Goldsmith, Fannie Wanamaker; the famous Mendelsohn quartette, Wagner,
Painter, Thomas and Goldsmith. How proud we were of our singers. I became
intimately acquainted with all of them for they all knew how much I enjoyed
good music.

Wednesday, July 11th, 1:15 p.m., began the regular Literary Commencement
which then included not only the regular literary graduates, but also those in
Law, Elocution and Engineering. This year there were no graduates in Law,
one in Elocution, sixteen in Engineering and in the Literary department, nineteen Classical, fifty-one Scientific and three in the Teacher's course. Of the Classical, S.F. Axline, a nephew of Dean Axline of the College of Law, is practicing in Findlay, O., he reports that he is succeeding finely.

F.R. Dyer now assistant superintendent of public schools of Kansas, resides in Topeka. I shall here insert his last letter. Mr. Dyer a loyal Philo was the valedictorian of his class:

Topeka, October 3, 1906

My Dear Professor Lehr:-I have been reading the chapters of your O.N.U. history. I cannot tell you how thoroughly I enjoyed going over the names of the old boys. I had a sort of reunion all by myself. From a view point at this time in life, as I think over the boys I knew then, I am convinced that I have never met a more loyal or warm hearted lot that we had at the Normal in the '80's. How are you? It would do my soul good to see you once more.

Yours,

Dyer.
Fred E. Guthrie a true Adelphian is practicing law in Marion, O. He is as loyal to the O.N.U. as ever. J. Gordon Grabiels, who had the salutatory oration commencement day, is a Presbyterian minister and lives at Winona Lake, Ind., he married that staunch Franklin, Hannah Myers.

J.E. Holland, a brilliant student from Harrison county, Ohio, is practicing law in Chicago. I have learned from reliable sources that his "muck rake" scratches many, many dollars annually.

Laura B. Hobbs, of Belmont county, Ohio, was a strong student. She gave great promise of a successful life. Have not heard from her for some years. Have also lost track of J.W. Jones and E.E. Long.

C.A. Maxwell teaches in Harrison county, Ohio. He and J.E. Holland came together. Both joined the Philos.

Abbie McKean an amiable and cultured lady died a few years after graduation. She was greatly esteemed by teachers and students for her good qualities of head and heart. She was a Franklin. D.A. Milligan, a loyal Philo, was a hard worker. He resides in Mahoning county.

W.H. Meck, senator, state school examiner and principal of the Dayton, Ohio, high school and especially in the Franklin society. We still correspond. He has written me some warm letters of friendship.

W.H. Powers, a Philo, was remarkably proficient in all his work and especially in Greek and Latin. He taught Greek and Latin several years in the O.N.U.

Rue Sellers, an excellent lady and a thorough student is now a missionary in India. In one of her letters she speaks most kindly of the religious work and influence at the O.N.U. It was an inspiration to her and had its influence in causing her to enter missionary work. Have lost track of E.G. Underwood and W.W. Wyant. The last letter from Wyant came from Pennsylvania.
G.W. Walker, a member of the Franklin orchestra, and a good writer and debater teaches Latin at Steubenville, Ohio, in a $135,000 high school building. We still correspond. He taught some classes in Latin while a student at the O.N.U.

Metta Wood, one of my true friends and a true lady, is now Mrs. Hare and resides at Mt. Gilead, O. She was a great Philo worker.

W.E. Young, a Holmes county Democrat, was a leading student and a scheming Philo. He and R.M. Wannamaker, now Judge Wannamaker, have been remarkably successful in the profession of law. They have a patent "muck rake" which gathers over $8,000 annually. Have visited their fine office in Akron.

Carrie Galer was an excellent student, cultured and refined, and H.J. Gardner and S. Hall were fine students but cannot now give their address. I can readily recall the faces and voices of Miss Galer and Mr. Gardner. Miss Galer, Mr. Gardner and Mr. Hall were Scientifics.

As stated before, there were forty-eight Scientifics. Among the number was Cora Brewer, one of the most cheerful, obedient, amiable, and popular ladies ever enrolled in the Normal. She was a friend to every one and all were her friends. We were sorry when she graduated for that meant a separation from the school. She was a Franklin and married a Franklin, Mr. H.B. Williams, superintendent of schools at Sandusky.

C.E. Blue, a fine student, is practicing law in Columbus. He was a Franklin. The last I heard from J.W. Cross he was teaching in Union county. He was a Franklin hustler and a good student. S. Chapman was the Adelphian honor man commencement day. He is now the Rev. S. Chapman and lives in Utica, Ohio. He married an Adelphian; beautiful Miss Livingston.

One of the strong members of the class and a fine representative of the school was Rose Clark. For many years she taught English in the Rock Island, Ill., high school. In July 1906 I recommended her to the board of managers of Winona Lake as a suitable person for principal of the Winona Lake Female seminary. She was unanimously elected to the position at a good salary. She is a Philo.

E.M. Fries, an excellent student, was a member of the class. He is now Judge
Fries and resided at Bowling Green, Ohio.

B.F. Finkel, one of the finest mathematicians in the United States and in fact is recognized as such by the great mathematicians of Europe, was a member of the class of '88. He teaches in Drury college, Mo. He is a loyal Philo while Hannah Cokely a member of the same class and a Franklin is now Mrs. Finkel. I almost feel inclined to tell how she helped to "haze" an unsophisticated new student. I know students will occasionally have a little sport--the boy was not injured he simply escorted from some entertainment a boy dressed as a girl. He survived and scrutinized more closely ever that occurrence. Prof. Finkel is still one of my correspondents.

E.M. Hettrick, a Philo, and a loyal worker in the military department of the school who now resides in Findlay, O., has succeeded finely in business.

Cora Hartman, later Mrs. Mittlette, now deceased, was mild, amiable, cultured and refined. She was one of the most popular students in school. In later years she completed the course on the piano. She taught music in the O.N.U. two years.

Susan Hursh is a teacher in the Baptist school for colored girls in Atlanta, Ga.

Three years ago I visited Mr. and Mrs. J.T. Rose in Atlanta. While there I met other Ada students. They took me to visit the Methodist school for boys. There I found an old friend, Mr. Murray, president of that school. On Sunday Mr. Murray, Mr. Rose and Mr. Wilhelm, an Ada student of 1875-6, took me to a religious service at the Baptist school. A little negress took me to the reception room and called her principal or matron. When we entered the room she came to me, leaned on my should and wept. She said she had seen no one from Ada since her graduation and she seldom got to speak to a white person. The teachers of the colored schools are entirely ostracized by the whites. Mr. Murray, who was associate principal with Prof. Darst at Ladoga, Ind., invited me to dine with the family. He said that if Mr. Rose or Mr. Wilhem would dine with them they would be ostracized by all the white people. The Rockefellers mainly sustain the Baptist school in Atlanta.

T.S. Hogan, a strong student, is now a prominent attorney residing at Wellston, O. H.A. Jones is superintendent of the East Toledo schools and is one of Ohio’s popular educators. The last I heard from G.J. Jones, he was teaching in Jackson county, Ohio.
D.W. Klepinger, a popular and enthusiastic Franklin, was a good student. He teaches near Dayton. I wonder whether he remembers the winter term when a dastard dipped the boarding house tooth picks in Creton oil? The scoundrel wrote to a friend at home a former student. He sent me the letter that I might trap the fellow without giving the name of my friend who sent the letter. I soon had him trapped. He was expelled and never taken back in the Normal. Do not know the address of E.M. Knobel or what he is doing.

Gertie Kirkpatrick one of my good friends and a popular Franklin is now Mrs. D.C. Meck, of Cleveland, O.

A.D. Kumpt, a strong student, corresponded with the writer about ten years. Have now lost track of him. J.P. Leaf, of whom I have spoken before, is following engineering as a business, has been very successful and resides I think at Beaver, Pa. Mr. Leaf was a Philo.

W.D. Long, a Franklin is a dentist and practices in Dayton, O. Do not now know the address or occupation of Zenah McCullough, E.E. Moore, W.J. Miller and A.J. Mohr. Miss McCullough was a prominent Philo and E.E. More a prominent Adelphian. A.J. Myers died many years ago.
C.O. Morrison was one of the most thorough scholars that ever completed the scientific course while I was president of the school. When Prof. M.J. Ewing resigned we employed Mr. Morrison and after teaching two terms he was the most popular teacher in the institution, not excepting any member of the Faculty. He had however been assistant teacher of the sciences one year before Prof. Ewing resigned. While teaching he took sick and went to a hospital some weeks or perhaps months. When he returned the students met him at the station with the best cab in town and the school band headed the procession. He was not spared to the school long. Death claimed him for a shining mark. The Philos have his picture in their hall. He was a teacher by nature and a true man, one after God's own heart.

K.I. Perky was a brilliant student. After graduation he went to Nebraska and read law in the office of William J. Bryan. He married that excellent lady, Ella Hunter. Both were loyal Franklins. He now practices law in Montana.

Lillie B. Phillips an excellent lady resides near Ada. Have not heard from Frances Robinson, Epsie Rogers, H.H. Shipton, W.L. Thomas and H.L. Williams for some years. Miss Rogers was an ardent Franklin and a good faithful worker in the Y.W.C.A.

J.B. Ruhl practices law in Cleveland and is a member of the Board appointed to examine applicants to enter the legal profession. Marcus Shoup practices law in Xenia, O., and Jess his brother practices medicine in Washington, D.C. He has a fine office and tells me that he has a lucrative practice. S.E. Shook taught many years in Ashland college, Ashland, O.

D. Driver Thomas was the Adelphian poet. Some year ago he published a volume of his poems, entitled Poems of Adelphia. E.W.G. Vogenitz, a Franklin, and Emerson E. White, an Adelphian, are dead. White was one of our leading students and an excellent teacher. W.W. Williamson edits a paper in Columbia City, Ind. Have lost track of O.J. Leach.
Sixteen completed the course in Civil Engineering. Six states were represented in the class. Maryland, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Indiana, and Kentucky. Two completed the course in Pharmacy, five in the course in Music, one in Elocution, one hundred and seventeen in the Commercial course and eighteen the course in Stenography.

The annual contest between the Franklins and Philos was exceeding good and the school year 1887-8 was a success financially as far as the managers were concerned and the students seemed well pleased and happy.
Beginning the Year 1889 First Flag Contest

December 28, 1906, V. XXIX, No. 32

CHAPTER 119.
Beginning the Year 1889. First Flag Contest.

In catalog No. 18 are found the following changes in the teaching force of the University: R.H. Schoonover, Latin and Greek; L.M. Williams, Engineering; Rose D.B. Holywell, Arithmetic, Analysis, History and Orthography; Eva Thomas, now Mrs. S.D. Fess, Latin; C.O. Morrison, the Sciences; Anna Rogall, now Mrs. Root, Piano.

I have already spoken of all the above named teachers in previous numbers. They were all fine teachers, such as the proprietors always employed. No school can maintain its prestige long on second class teachers.

In October, 1906, in conversation with two strong teachers in country school they named the college where they had been students the summer term of 1906 and remarked that some of the professors were paid less than country teachers but were paid all they were worth. Both said they would enter the O.N.U. in 1907.

In the announcements for 1888-89 is found the first contest of the Adelphian Literary Society with one of the old Societies. Shall give the public occasions for the year 1888-89 and especially the commencement week that later generations may know the strenuous life of the early years of the school.

The contest between the Adelphian and Philomathean Societies occurred on the evening of May 16, 1879. Class Day, Monday, July 15, 1889. Senior reception at the home of the President of the University on the evening of July 15th. Triennial reunion of the Adelphian Literary Society on the day and evening of July 16th. Triennial Alumni reunion on the evening of July 17th.

Commencement exercises of the Music and Literary departments, Wednesday and Thursday, July 17th and 18th, 1889. Annual contest between the Philomathean and Franklin Literary Societies on the evening of July 18th.

On February 29, 1888, occurred the first Flag contest. I shall cut a page out of catalog No. 18 and ask the Editors of the Herald to publish as much of what is
found there as they may have space to spare. In those days we published the names of all the officers of every grade that served during the school year.

We always appointed or elected new officers after the contest for the Summer term. I am sorry we did not put an initial letter after each name to designate the company. I think there were but three companies then, as under the wooden man, Lieutenant Roberts, the department nearly died. There were but twenty-one men left when he quit and he began with 200 or more.

The Flag contest did not originate with the proprietors of the school. The honor belongs to Lieutenant, now Major Baxter and Mr. Samuel Myers, then, as I now remember, Major of the battalion. He had been a captain the previous year.

Joseph McArthur was the first leader of our military band. He helped to organize it. We were induced to purchase fine band uniforms. The coats were of fine cloth, with gilt braid. The band consisted of sixteen members including the leader and the drum major. We paid $240 for the coats and helmets and $275 for the instruments. The helmets are all gone. I presume some of the coats are still in possession of the University.

In 1890 or '91 the last week of the First Fall term the school band played for a political meeting. Some party or parties stole five of our fifteen dollar coats. After that experience we purchased cheaper uniforms. But the drum major always demanded his bear skin hat.

The University and Ada owe a debt of gratitude to Major Baxter, Captain Samuel Myers and Joseph McArthur for originating and bringing to perfection the annual Flag contest.

FROM THE CATALOG.

When the season in favorable target practice is held; and many cadets, during the past year, have developed skill as rifle shots. A feature of the department during the winter and spring terms, was a Color contest between Companies A and B composed of men who had drilled the longest. Both contests were very spirited, and on both occasions company A commanded by Captain A.D. Kump, carried all the honors. The drills, exercises, and studies of the department are so placed as not to interfere with regular academical duties; and it is recommended that all who can possibly do so, should avail themselves of the advantages to be gained by military instructions. Nations
are but individuals, or families, on a large scale, and are as subject to difference, and contentions. The clash of arms will come again as surely as time goes on, and the young men who are diligent in gaining military knowledge at our Colleges and Universities are the ones who will promptly organize, drill and officer the citizen soldiery, the main dependence of our country. During the past year a total of four hundred and twenty-four young men have drilled for periods of one term, or longer, and the following named have credibility filed the appointment of Officers or Non-Commissioned officers in the Cadet Battalion:

CAPTAINS.


FIRST LIEUTENANTS.


SECOND LIEUTENANTS.


FIRST SERGEANTS.


CORPORALS.

January 4, 1907, V. XXIX, No. 33

CHAPTER 120.
Some Saloon History. Passing Thru the Reign of Terror.

The enrollment for the year 1887-88, 2410, was a loss of twenty-eight, as the previous year was 2438. There were twenty-seven states represented, two foreign countries and eighty-six counties of Ohio.

We announced that the Ada Council had voted out the saloons. They were voted out in 1884 and in the summer and winter of 1886 the council had a bitter fight to suppress the "Blind Tigers," as illicit selling places were called. Prof. Park, N.R. Park, John Davenport and the writer were members of the council that voted out the saloons.

In 1888, Prof. Park and his brother, Col. N.R. Park; were no longer members of the Council. The Council got tired fighting since we were generally beaten because those caught drinking seldom knew what they drank. The citizens called a mass meeting at the M.E. church to adopt some plan by which the illegal selling of intoxicants might be stopped. There was a committee appointed to devise some plan and put it into execution to stop the traffic. The committee consisted of Prof. Warren Darst, Rev. Gersham Lease, Charles Edwards, the writer and another member but I cannot recall his name. The committee instructed me or rather selected me to take the matter in hand. I proposed to the Council that the committee would pay the costs of the prosecutions if we lost the case or cases. Persons were asked to solicit subscriptions to defray the expenses. William Whetzler, Henry Morrow, and I think Oscar Collins, were asked to do the soliciting. I still have some of the subscription papers and the receipts for the various expenses. We employed detectives to watch the places where it was suspected that liquor was sold.

At first thought, I intended to insert some of the subscription list but shall not do so. What appeared so strange, was that many of the most radical temperance advocates subscribed such small amounts. Three men subscribed $5 each, Dr. Ames, Peter Ahlefeld, and James Bastable. Mr. Bastable told me not to put his name on the paper I had. Most persons subscribed from 50 cents to a dollar, some few gave two dollars. We employed Robt. Black and Charles Melhorn, later Judge Melhorn, as our
attorneys. Mr. Black’s bill was $70. I paid him $60, telling him that his donation would have to be $10. After collecting all I could I was short $70. The action was brought before Wm. Lantz then the mayor of Ada. I galhed the fight before the mayor on Friday evening, the trial continuing several days. On Saturday night a large, slate-roofed, frame barn on my farm in Washington township was burned to the ground. My renter lost nearly all his farm implements, a horse, colt and some cattle. Some weeks later the mayor’s stable was burned. I had many fights with some of the saloon men and on several occasions some of their friends planned to kill me. I could give the time and the names of those connected with the plots, but for certain reasons shall not do so. I had only $1000 insurance on my barn.

SOCIETY ADJUSTMENTS.

The Faculty or Trustees still had trouble in getting the Adelphian society to recognized by the two old societies. To get matters properly and peaceably adjusted required great care and prudence. I shall insert a few papers still on file.

Whereas, the Adelphian Literary society becoming discouraged at the outlook for the future, and having petitioned the Faculty of this institution to place it on an equality with the other societies and whereas, the Faculty after deliberating on said petition have concluded that these matters shall be decided by the two older societies; Therefore, Be it resolved: 1st. That we consider the demands of the Adelphian society in the main as just and right. 2nd. That we as a society are willing to go into conjoint session with the Philomathean society to consider any practical measures to accomplish the fulfillment of the purposes of said petition.

Passed by Franklin Literary society Nov. 14, 1888, by unanimous vote.

Ella C. Hunter, Secy.

To the Faculty of the O.N.U.:

At a meeting of the Philomathean Literary society held Nov. 19th, 1888, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved that the Adelphian Literary society be placed upon equal footing with the Philomathean and Franklin Literary societies as regards the annual
contexts. The chair appointed as a committee to report those proceedings to the Faculty, J.M. Rudy, N.R. Melhorn, and D.R. Jones. Report is hereby submitted.

D.R. Jones,  
J.M. Rudy,  
N.R. Melhorn,  

Ada, O., Nov. 30, 1888.

To the Honorable Faculty of the O.N.U.

Gentlemen:

The Philo Literary society, having considered at a called meeting Nov. 14, 1888, certain resolutions of the Adelphian Literary society submitted by you for the action of this society, beg leave to report, That the resolutions "To prohibit all soliciting on the trains and at the depot," "To admit the Adelphian Literary society to the Commencement Contest," and "To limit during each term the members of each of the three societies of this school to sixty, unless the entire number of new members should exceed one hundred and eighty, when those remaining shall be apportioned as provided in the conjoint articles," were each considered and acted upon separately and by vote of the society rejected.

D.A. Milligan, Pres.,  
S.H. Myers, Secry.
CHAPTER 121.
Society Trouble Continued. A Thief Detected.

Resolved, That, in accordance with the "plans of distribution of students among the three Literary Societies connected with the O.N.U., as adopted by the Faculty of said institution," the Adelphian Literary Society will continue its organization as a Literary body, beginning Dec. 18th, 1888.

E.E. Kinney, Pres.
C.J. Biery, Sec.

Ada, O., Dec. 18th, 1888.

We, the undersigned members of Adelphian, Franklin and Philomathean Literary Societies respectively, hereby request a conjoint meeting of said Societies to be held in Chapel hall on Thursday Dec. 20th, 1888, beginning at 8:45 a.m., for the purpose of revising article seven (VII) of the Conjoint Articles of said Societies and also article (IV).


Philomathean--L.D. Wisener, S.D. Fess, W.A. Milligan.

Whereas, It has become known that different sources, that the Faculty of this institution has declared its intention thru its president, to repeal its regulations in regard to soliciting adopted by it during the Second Fall term of 1888, and

Whereas, As these regulations have been very beneficial to our Society, and believing it to be impossible for our Society to compete with the other Societies of this institution is soliciting, therefore

Be it resolved, That we the members of the A.L.S. strenuously object to the intended set of the Faculty and ask a further trial of these restrictions which have proved so beneficial to our society.

And be it further resolved, That if this act is taken by the Faculty of this Institution, that we the members of this Society, will not make any attempt to compete with the other Societies in soliciting as this has been tried often and long enough to
convince any one of its futility. Reported by Emerson E. White, adopted by the A.L.S.

We had some students that needed care and discipline. The son of a minister, and I was told the parents were excellent people, stole money, books and clothing when he left school. I learned of his actions the day he left. I immediately wrote to him to come back and settle all the bills or we would send the sheriff after him. I shall insert a few of the father's letters.

LETTER NO. 1.

May 29, 1889.

Dear Sir:

As my son is not at home at present, I will answer myself. George says he is innocent of the charge you have against him, and I think he is falsely accused of that charge or why did you not accuse him before he came home but waited till the next day and then send those letters for him to come back to Ada. He came home with the intention of going back to your school in the fall, but if he has to pay that amount he can not come back to school. Now if you will send me a receipt in full I will send you twenty dollars as I think fifty dollars is a very unreasonable amount. George sent Mr. Brown two dollars and seventy-five cents since he came home.

Yours,

(Answer to this)

LETTER NO. 3.

June 24, 1889.

Mr. Lehr, Dear Sir:-In my prostration of body and mind, I will endeavor to write to you, and plead with you in behalf of my son, as I am almost deathly sorry, that he has yielded to such evil, evil deed; and from his appearance he feels awful sorry to; as tho he wished himself out of existence. He has made promises to us to never do the like again, but lead a better life. I feel it my duty to express my heartfelt thanks to you and those other men for being so merciful towards us, by not exposing us, by arresting our son, for it certainly would have been an awful stroke on me and my husband. As we are both ministers, we are quite mortified with the acts of our son, but we have hopes of his reformation. Therefore, I plead with you to not expose us by arresting the boy, if not for his say, oh please, Mr. Lehr, for his parent's sake, prevent it. He won't prosecute you for anything that you have said. He nothing of my writing to you.
Yours truly,

Mrs.

In letter No. 2 the son threatened to prosecute for slander, but he had to confess and pay back all he stole.
CHAPTER 122.
A Sample of the Bad Ones. Letters from Eminent Men.

The spring and summer term of 1889 we had four students that needed drastic discipline; three boys and one girl. They were expelled. When that best we wrote to the parents and stated the facts. I shall here insert a letter from a minister of the Gospel in answer to a letter of information.

HUMILIATED MINISTER'S LETTER.

President H.S. Lehr, Ada, Ohio.

Dear Sir: It was with a sad heart that I read the contents of your letter this morning. This is the second time I have been compelled to question my son's manliness. Luckily I got the morning's mail myself and had a talk with my son before he went away to spend the Fourth. He is honest, I believe, for he admitted every charge except one. . . . . It was hard to believe that my son would steep so low as to connect himself with the saloon element. He admits having been in saloons in Ada several times to drink beer, but says he never was drunk in that town. As to playing billiards and pool and being a bummer, that all goes with the saloon element.

He told me all about his past career while away from home, and said if this had not come to my ears that I should never have heard anything to his discredit. He seemed discouraged and I know he felt it keenly.

It will be kept a secret by myself and son and hope that nothing more may come to my hearing of detriment to my son. May he who reads our inmost thoughts evermore guide and direct his footsteps in the paths of right.

I feel certain and hope that letter may be the last word I may ever hear of detriment to my son's character.

In one sense I am glad you informed me, yet in another I think it would have saved me much trouble if I had never known it. I have hopes for him in the future.

Very truly,

FORAKER ADDRESSES CLASS.
We made an effort to have Hon. Wm. McKinley, then Representative in Congress, or some other prominent statesman to address the Alumni Association at their Triennial Reunion, July 17th, and Governor Foraker to deliver the address to the graduating class.

Governor Foraker addressed the class from the east steps of what is now known as the administration building, then called the New Brick. The audience was estimated at 3500. Mrs. Foraker accompanied the Governor. They remained over night at the home of the President of the school. The Governor and Mrs. Foraker received from six p.m., till eight.

It was our object to keep the school before the public continually by favorable, free advertising in the leading periodicals. I shall here insert a few letters.

LETTER FROM MCKINLEY.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, Ohio.

Dear Sir: Your favor of April 23rd would of been answered earlier but this is really the first opportunity I have had owing to press of other matters. I regret very much that I will not be able to attend your Reunion this year. Concerning the new movement in the South of which you speak I want to say that the Republican party will not and must not forsake its fundamental principles. If it did it would be unworthy the confidence of the people and unworthy of its founders and those who have done battle for it these many years.

There is but one of settling the Southern or any other question, and that is on the ground of a full recognition of the Constitutional rights of all men. Anything short of this will be a failure, and deservedly so.

Very truly,

Wm. McKinley

LETTER FROM HON. BUTTERWORTH.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, Ohio.

My Dear Professor: I have your letter of the 13th inviting me to deliver an address before the Alumni Association of your Institution on the 17th of July. It is quite possible that I will be in the western territories at that time on the stump. I am compelled, therefore, to decline your invitation and in so doing I beg to thank you for the courtesy extended, and to say that I should be very glad to
comply with your request were it possible for me to do so.

Yours truly,

Benj. Butterworth.

LETTER FROM GOV. FORAKER.

Pres. H.S. Lehr, Ada, Ohio.

My Dear Sir: I have your letter of the 22nd inst. Accept my thanks for its expressions of personal regard. You are doubtless, ere this, in possession of a copy of the letter I wrote to the Secretary of War. I sent it to you by the hands of Mr. Campbell. You will learn from it exactly what I have said and done in the matter to which your letter relates. No doubt your Military instructor will remain undisturbed. No one, so far as I know, ever had an idea of interfering with Ada.

I appreciate very highly the compliment you have paid me in inviting me to address your school next commencement day. My engagements are such that I cannot make any promise about the matter other than that I will bear in mind the date and the invitation and if, when the time comes, I can do so, I will gladly spend a day with you, not however, for the purpose of making an address, but merely that I may become better acquainted with your school in which I am not lacking in interest I can assure you. Should I be there, I might say something, but it would be purely informal and not occupy more than a very few minutes. You can well understand how it is that I have no time for the preparation of lectures or addresses. I can only talk upon such occasions according to the promptings of the surroundings.

Yours truly,

J.B. Foraker.
In catalog No. 18 I find the name of W.W. Poultney, now a prominent attorney in Washington, D.C., among the list of post-graduates. He had completed most of the courses furnished by the University and had been for many years a leading student, loyal to the school and to his society. He had been a faithful teacher. With but one exception he had been a student of the University the most terms. L.D. Wisener excelled him in that line. Mr. Poultney has sent many students to his Alma Mater. I shall always remember him as a dear friend and shall here insert his last letter.

LETTER FROM W.W. POULTNEY.

Sept. 6, 1908.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, Ohio.

Dear Friend: I see from the Herald that you think I have forgotten you. You are mistaken. Neglecting is not forgetting. I have neglected to write, not because I have forgotten, but because I felt so sure you know I never could forget you that it was not necessary to tell you of it. Don't fear, my friend, that you will ever be forgotten so long as I have a memory to draw on. The happiest time of my life was the nine years I was at Ada and every day of that time you were a part of that life and I must forget it all if I forget you. There is not a day passes that I do not have a living picture of you and Prof. Park and other old Ada friends hung on the walls of my memory, that so beautiful are the recollections of those days, I seem to be living them over again. Forget you? Oh, no! Do you know where my memory runs oftenest? To Ada. Do you know what particular spot it goes to and stays the most persistently? To the old Philo hall. Do you know who is memory's guide and always makes these visits at the same time? The little nervous bodied, big-hearted, generous-souled man who took me as a boy and made a man of me. Do you know who always met us as we came down the stairs? Prof. Maglott and a little farther on is Mrs. Maglott. A thousand times a year I send my memory out to meet you and I have done so, so often that it has become as vivid and as apparently real as if I really were there. At the postoffice, I always would meet my good friend, Prof. Park, and soon after
Mrs. Park comes along with the buggy and we all three go out into the country for a roadside supper or an afternoon drive and talk. Forget Ada? Forget its inspiring spirit and those who held up his arms while he worked and prayed for a blessing on the school and each one and all of us! Forget all this and all these! All alter friends may be forgotten sometime, but never these. Forget Ada and its hearty welcome and its sad goodbyes? As soon expect a captive jew to forget his own Jerusalem or wipe from the tablets of his memory his Moses, his David and his Absalom, as to ask or expect us to forget Ada and its inspiring spirits--but enough of words. They cannot express it all--I will try no further but I am still as ever just the same.

Yours truly,

W.W. Poultney.

SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR 1889.

The whole number of graduates in the various courses for the year was 236. There are too many to speak of all and I do not now know where many of them are or what they are doing.

The last I heard from Emma Alice Park she was teaching in Cornell University. After completing our Philosophical course she entered Cornell University and completed some course there. She was a remarkably strong student.

R.R. Bryan is a preacher and resides in Indiana, Paul Claranel Currick is an M.E. preacher.

S.D. Fess, of whom I have spoken very kindly in a former number, is President of Antioch College at Yellow Springs, O. He is one of the prominent educators of our country.

Mrs. Sallie Fisher is now Mrs. Swallen. Her first husband Prof. Fisher, died while he was one of the instructors of the University. Her maiden name was Willson. She is a missionary in Corea.

Ella C. Hunter is now Mrs. Parkey. They reside in Montana. She was a fine student and a leading Franklin. Miss Park, Mrs. Fisher, and S.D. Fess were Philos. R.R. Bryan and P.c. Currick were Franklins.

Frank E. Higbie is an M.E. preacher and a trustee of the O.N.U. He was and still is a Franklin. Timothy Sylvester Hogan practices law in Welston, O. He
was a Philo. Effie Harvey, a Franklin is dead. John W. Millette is a physician. He was a Philo. J.Calvin Moyer, a Frank, resides at Findlay. Stephen Morgan, a Philo, resides in Jackson, O. He served four years in Congress. William H. Nickles was a leading Adelphian.

J.N. Rudy and Mrs. Alice Rudy nee Pasmore, reside in Missouri. He is a minister in the Christian Church. He was a Philo, she a Franklin. D.S. Pence, the handless penman, resides in Wichita, Kansas. He was Philo leader and schemer and a royal good fellow.

Bessie Riddle, now Mrs. Dr. Tusing, a Franklin, was my secretary many years. She was efficient and faithful. She resides in Lima.

Jame(s) Finley Young married Sarah Caley one of the finest ladies ever enrolled in the Normal. As I now remember she was a Frank and he a Philo. He follows teaching. I cannot recall his town altho I frequently meet him at Teacher’s Associations. Robert H. Sunkle was a Franklin, H.E. Thompson an Adelphian.

Arlington U. Betts, a remarkably strong student, amassed a fortune, enlisted in the army, was sent to the Philippines and was later appointed Governor of one of the large islands. He occasionally invites me to some of his receptions. I have not accepted. Percy S. Lowry was a Philo leader. John C. Biery is superintendent of the city schools of Napoleon, O. He was a Frank and married an excellent Franklin lady, Miss Jennie Lyons, of Cleveland.

R.B. Burnett, a good Philo and a good student, loved to look at his grades. He visited the office at least once a month to take a good look at his record and it was fine. His brother-in-law, M.C. Smith, was a strong student. He now resides in Columbus, Ohio.

My good friend, John Davison, was a member of this class. He now superintends, at a good salary, the city schools of Lima. I have spoken of him before. C.F. Hartje, a prominent Philo is dead. My friend, U.V. Hynes, now resides in New York City. He has sent many students to the O.N.U. He has been very successful in his profession.

Clara Russell is now the Rev. Mrs. Anderson. She had entered the ministry and is a ready writer and a fluent speaker. She now resides in Ada and frequently fills the pulpit. She was a Frank. D. Rue Jones was a Philo leader and a good student.
The fine essayist, poet and good fellow, Edwin E. Kinney, came to the O.N.U. from Montana. He was a loyal Adelphian. We corresponded many years. He occasionally writes excellent poetry for the Herald. His address is Lowell, Mass.

Clarence Shafer, a good student, was blind. He employed students to read for him. I heard some years ago that he died in a western state.

Newton W. Tobias, the boys called him Toby, came from Alpha, O. Among good fellows he is the Alpha. He is one of the popular druggists of Ada, and married that charming lady, Mae Kemp.
CHAPTER 124.
Beginning the Year 1890. More Letters from Prominent Men.

Catalog No. 19 was printed by the Ashland Printing Co., of Ashland, O. They offered to do the work in fine shape for $70 less that we had been paying for 12,000 copies. It was by far the poorest job we ever had done for us. In this instance the cheapest was the dearest.

The enrollment of students for the school year 1888-89 was 2473 a gain of sixty-three over the preceding year.

The changes in instructors were as follows: W.E. Myers, C.E., took the place of H.L. Williams; Mrs. Minnie R. Myers of Rose D.B. Holywell; S.D. Fess was added to the corps of teachers to teach U.S. History and Mathematics; J.B. Ruhl of Geo. A. Deel; C.C. Sherrard of Prof. A.C. McKinley in Pharmacy. Prof. S.P. Axline was elected Principal of the College of Law in place of F.M. Dodson who resigned in order to open an office in Toledo where he now practices his profession. Frank Axline was added as teacher of Stenography. We now had thirty teachers. I fully believe that no College or University in Ohio at that time had more efficient, earnest and conscientious corps of teachers than the O.N.U. The writer still taught from three to four hours a day.

INSTRUCTORS FOR 1890.

I shall name the teachers as found in catalog No. 19 and let the reader judge for himself. J.G. Park, Fred Maglott, Warren Darst, Mrs. Eva Maglott, M.Jay Ewing, C.W. Workman, R.H. Schoonover, Charles Michel, W.E. Myers, Mrs. Minnie Myers, Eva Thomas, now Mrs. Fess, C.O. Morrison, S.D. Fess, S.P. Axline, Major John Baxter, J.B. Ruhl, J.G. Geishall, C.C. Sherard, A.B. Stauffer, Mae Deming now McCoppin, Col. Albert Rogall, J.J. Jelly, Mrs. Stella Jelly, William Miles, Mrs. Ida R. Darst, Miss Anna Rogall, new Mrs. Robt. F. Griffin, Frank Axline and C.T. Rogall. The above named teachers were all strong in their line of work. To the later students all the above named teachers are known with but few exceptions. Ewing, Workman, Morrison and Miss Thomas have not taught for a number of years. They were remarkably efficient and popular.
I have already spoken of the popularity of Lieutenant now Major Baxter. Mrs. Minnie Myers died twelve years ago. She was a popular teacher. C.O. Morrison, one of the most popular teachers ever employed in the O.N.U. died about fifteen years ago.

The public occasions were as follows: Baccalaureate sermon, Sunday, July 20, 1890, Class Day, Monday, July 21, Senior Reception Monday evening, Philo Triennial Reunion Tuesday and Tuesday evening, Commencement Wednesday and Thursday, Annual Contest between the Philomathean and Franklin Literary Societies Wednesday evening and Annual Contest between the Franklin and Adelphian Literary Societies on Thursday evening.

This was the first announcement of a Baccalaureate sermon and the first time we announced two contests between the societies. But it was in vain. When we admitted the third Society to the contest it broke the charm and from that day on the contests became less interesting until they become entirely extinct. The length of the terms and the expenses remained the same as the previous year.

The school year 1889-90 brought its anxieties. The prosperity of the O.N.U. incurred the envy and ill will of the other Colleges and Universities in Ohio. They could not account for its prosperity. Some said it was the cheap board, others said we educated our own teachers, others claimed that it was the military department of the school that was the secret of its success.

As has been stated before, when we applied to the government for an instructor for our military department it got into the large dailies and at once six other colleges and so called universities applied for an instructor; but Ohio was entitled to only two and the State University already had one, therefore only one school could be accommodated. The Secretary of war by order of President Arthur appointed Major General Baird to inspect the various school. He decided in our favor. General Robinson was our member of Congress. He told us we would get the appointment. He then was also a candidate for Secretary of State and came home to work for his nomination. Hon. George Converse, of Columbus, a Democrat who was my warm friend as I have stated in a previous number, sent me a telegram that unless Robinson would come to Washington at once Major McKinley would get the appointment for Wooster University. He answered, "No danger, I have the promise of the Secretary of War." But McKinley carried his point with the President and Wooster got the appointment. They compromised by offering a bill to enlarge the number of possible appointments from thirty to forty, I think it was forty,
which entitled Ohio to three and we got the third, Lieutenant Roberts.

Now Mt. Union, also McKinley's district, and Delaware as well as some other schools wanted an officer appointed as instructor in Military Science. A number of Ada students were clerks in the various departments in Washington and in some way heard that Ada was to lose the department and that it was to be moved to Delaware. Colonel Cooper was then our member of Congress. He was my warm political friend. He informed me there was danger but at first did not give me the name of the party or parties back of the intrigue. Some accused Governor Foraker as favoring Delaware. I wrote to the Governor concerning the situation and Rev. Z.B. Campbell, of Ada, G.W. Rutledge, of Kenton, and E.L. Millar, of Kenton went to Columbus to see Governor Foraker about the matter. I shall here insert the Governor's letter in reply to mine and will also insert one from Hon. Charles Foster and one from Hon. W.C. Cooper our member of congress. It will be seen that the letter to Hon. Chas. Foster lacked my signature. My secretary enclosed the copy of the letter that was to go on file and sent it and kept the signed letter.

GOV. FORAKER'S LETTER.

Columbus, O., May 21, 1889.

H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Dear Sir: Mr. Rutledge, Mr. Millar, and Mr. Campbell have all been here to talk with me about the report that seems to have come to you concerning the removal of the military instructor from Ada to Delaware. I have fully explained the matter to them in so far as I have knowledge in regard to it, and had already, before I saw either of them, written a letter to the Secretary of War of which the enclosed is a copy.

I told Mr. Rutledge I would send this copy to you in order that you might know precisely what the situation was. I do not apprehend that there will be any trouble for you.

Yours truly,

J.B. Foraker.

I have given copy of letter to Mr. Campbell.

HON. CHARLES FOSTER'S LETTER.
Fostoria, O., May 24, 1889.

Mr. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Dear Sir: I have a letter from Ada which is not signed that I presume is from you. I enclose letter such as you want that you may see what I have said and forward it yourself. My position is a little peculiar. I am a trustee in the Delaware University. My sympathies are with you: with this statement you will understand why it is that I do not mention Delaware.

Yours truly,

Chas. Foster.

REPRESENTATIVE COOPER’S LETTER.

Washington, D.C. Jan. 11, 1891.

H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Dear Sir: The House several days ago passed the act providing for the detail of seventy-five officers as military instructors in the various Colleges of our country. I sincerely hope this will enable you to retain an instructor in Ada. I assume you have been aware of a powerful effort to substitute Delaware for Ada. The prospect only lacking my endorsement in order to be successful.

Yours truly,

M.C. Cooper.

Rev. Z.B. Campbell always was loyal to Ada, the O.N.U. and to his friends. He went about doing good. G.W. Rutledge is now dead, was at one time a teacher in the O.N.U. but at the time County Auditor. E.L. Millar an alumnus of the University was at the time editor of the Kenton Republican and now is editor of the Trade News and resides in Duluth, Minn. Rev. Campbell, Rutledge and Millar were Republican and were active workers in county and state politics.

When the number of officers possible to be appointed was raised to seventy-five Delaware got an officer whom she still retains. At Wooster drill was made compulsory in order to have two companies. The number of students at that time not being as large as now. Drill was very unpopular and the night before the last inspection the boys painted the canon red and purposely made such a
poor show that the inspector reported adversely and the arms were take away and transferred to Mt. Union. The inspector came here the day after inspection at Wooster and gave me the above information. Drill was unpopular at Mt. Union and they soon lost the department. The drill there was also compulsory. The O.N.U. still retains its Military school and it is in a flourishing condition.
CHAPTER 125.
Beginning the year 1890. More Letters from Prominent Men.

As will be seen by a number of letters which I shall insert in this number, I still continued to take some part in the politics of both parties. I mean the Republican and Democratic parties. I shall here insert the copy of a letter written by me to Gen. Robinson. It should be remembered that Gov. Foraker addressed our graduating class July 21, 1889.

LETTER TO GENERAL ROBINSON.
Ada, O., July 29, 1889.

Hon. J.S. Robinson, Kenton, O.

Dear General: I have just returned from a little trip and am informed by some of my friends that I should either drive over to Kenton or write to you and speak a few words in reference to the position of Prof. Workman in regard to the U.S. Senatorship. I talked with Prof. Workman a few weeks ago and I have found out that he is not pledged to any one. If he would express himself to any one he would to me. When Gov. Foraker was over here last week I told him that I was a Foster man for the senate. He says that he is no candidate for the senate. I know is an excellent gentleman and I like him but I am sure if he is nominated the other party will nominate Hon. Mr. Eggerman. Mr. Eggerman is a good man and a graduate of our school, taught in the public schools a number of years, is a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church, and no one can say any evil of him, at least not as far as I know. He will naturally carry a strong vote here, and I do not know a man who could hold his own party better here than Prof. Workman. Personally I am just as good a friend of Mr. Eggerman as I am of Prof. Workman. I like them both. I admire them both for their candor, uprightness, etc., but, of course, my political views differ from those of Mr. Eggerman. I write this letter not to prejudice any body against . I love him. He is a brother of mine not only politically, but also in church relationship; but I know Workman is a strong worker, and will make a lively campaign. I write this as much in the interest of the party as I do in the interest of Prof. Workman. You are at perfect liberty to show this letter to any of my friends, or to the friends of any of the candidates in Kenton. Always remembering you for your many kindnesses to me and the school that I love so much, I subscribe my self,
Your obedient servant,

H.S. Lehr

Columbus, O., Sept. 5, 1889.

Dr. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My Dear Professor: I will see Commissioner Hancock today in the interest of Superintendent, and will do for him all I can, both on his account and on your account. Mrs. Foraker and I have the most pleasant recollections of our visit to Ada. We frequently speak of it, with a hope that we may be able to see more of you and your family in the future. Thank your daughters for their invitation for my daughters to visit them at their home. It may be that next year they can do so, but until next vacation, they will have to buckle down to their books in school. Should I go to Ada next year, I will try and take them along. In the meanwhile, allow me in turn, both for our daughters, and ourselves, to invite your daughters and yourself and good wife to visit us at any time when you can. Our latch-string will always be out to you and yours.

Hastily, etc.

J.B. Foraker.
On Nov. 3, 1888 the Trustees, sometimes by the students called "The Faculty," adopted a resolution that when the whole number of new students any term was 180 or less that the societies should be permitted to solicit as had been the custom, but if the number exceeded 180 the Trustees or Faculty should have the right to distribute the number exceeding 180 among the three societies as they deemed best for the school and the societies. We did this to aid the Adelphian Society.

We soon found that any action on the part of the proprietors of the school to in any way abate the soliciting spirit was not conducive to the best interests of the school. The members of the literary societies were good workers for the school. They would travel miles to make a convert for "their" society. This would mean another student for the school. It was free advertising for us. We therefore concluded it would be best to notify the societies that we would annul the regulations of Nov. 3, 1888.

NOTICE TO SOCIETIES.

By order of the Trustees of O.N.U. you are hereby notified that Section 1 and 2 of Regulations adopted by said Trustees Nov. 3, 1888, in regard to soliciting and electing members by the several societies connected with said school, are hereby rescinded until further notice by said Trustees.

H.S. Lehr, Pres.
J.G. Park, Sec.

Aug. 10, 1889.

Our classes grew so large that it became evident that we must have more room or stop growing. The trustees discussed the situation in their meetings. We did not hold the school as a company, only as trustees. No one could sell the share or part he owned before we were chartered as a university with power to grant degrees.
Our six teachers of music and the teacher of special elocution furnished their rooms in which they taught and we had rented the room now occupied by the University Herald office. We used that for the Commercial College offices.

I wrote to Calvin S. Brice with whom I became acquainted while serving in the army and asked him to assist us in erecting another school building, stating that we would call it "Brice Hall." This is his answer.

10 Wall St., New York, Nov. 1, '89.

President Ohio Normal University, Ada, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Lehr:

I have your favor which I have read with interest. I know the great work which has been done by you and your associates at Ada. And am not sure but what is of more real service to the country that any which will be done at Oxford, my alma mater, although you are in no sense rivals. I hope when in Ohio sometime to be able to spend some little time with you, and in the meantime I am

Very truly yours,

Calvin S. Brice.

Some weeks after receiving this letter Mr. Brice came to Lima and requested that I meet him, stating that I should bring with me our charter. I complied with his request. I shall try to repeat as nearly as possible that interview. He was very friendly. I shall give his questions and my answers as I now remember them.

Brice--Have you with you your charter?

Answer--Yes. (Handing him the charter.)

Question--Who are your trustees?

A--Myself, Prof. Park, Prof. Maglott, Prof. Darst and Rachel Girard.

Q--You are all instructors in the school.?

A--No. Mrs. Girard is not teaching.
Q--You each draw a salary?
A--Why, no, we divide what is left after paying all expenses.

Q--Do you divide equally with Mrs. Girard?
A--No, we pay her a certain amount what we think is a just interest on the interest she owned before we chartered as an "institution not for profit."

Q--Then you conduct the school not for profit?
A--Why, yes, in a manner. We chartered that we might legally confer degrees.

Q--You five procured this charter?
A--Yes.

Q--But I see in the charter the fifth name is Rachel Stringfellow?
A--Yes, but since then she married Mr. Girard.

Mr. Brice--I see the situation. You chartered the school, but you still virtually own it. You elected yourselves trustees, which is not the general method. If I or anyone else should erect a building under present conditions you could sell all to other parties and pocket the money. I will agree to do this. I will donate $15,000 to put up a building to cost $25,000 and you men either furnish $10,000 or get donations from other sources to that amount. The building you say is to (be) called Brice Hall, but you must allow me and others who donate to appoint or elect the trustees. I am willing to permit the present board of trustees to remain as trustees, but you must be the minority. On these conditions I shall donate $15,000. I think I can interest Hon. Chas. Foster, who is your friend, to donate liberally. Present what I have said to your associates and report to me.

I reported. His proposition was not accepted. One of our number made a statement something like this: "The new board of trustees could at any time limit the number of trustees to a certain number of years and say of our number, or all of us, might not be re-elected and further, doubtless they would put us on salaries such as they might choose to pay, or not elect us at all and
appoint or elect some of their political friends." And what the member said was true, although I had no special fears.
Chapter 127.
A Chapter Revealing the Wide Political Influence Wielded.

I wrote to Mr. Brice and reported that his proposition was not accepted. A year or two later he built Brice Hall at Oxford, O. Another of my schemes came to grief. But at the time I did not drop the scheme of getting Mr. Brice interested in our school. I still hoped for help from some source. I shall here remark that Prof. Wright, now teaching in the University was then my stenographer and remembers the Brice correspondence, altho I still have the letters.

At the fall election of 1889 the Democrats carried the legislature and Mr. Brice announced himself as a candidate for the senate. I at once began to work for Mr. Brice among my Democrat friends. I wrote to one of my friends in Wooster. He was my pupil in 1857. He was a leading Democrat, rich, intellectual and influential. Among the many letters I have of friends (referring) to the campaign I shall insert but the one from Wooster.

WOOSTER LETTER.

Wooster, O., Dec. 10, 1889.

Prof. H.S. Lehr,

Dear Sir: I was pleased to hear from you but surprised to find you interested in a Democrat, perhaps you have been teaching free trade doctrines until you are almost persuaded to become a Democrat. My son, Elmer, following in the footsteps of his mother was a Republican. One year in Wooster university made a first class Democrat out of him. Free trade doctrines taught by a Prohibitionist Professor did the good work. In answer to your questions first I am prospering and am enjoying a large practice. Michael J. Carroll whose farm joins our old place is the man to refer too. John Zimmerman. Druggist of Wooster is the senator elect. I have been the family physician for both these men and consider them among my warmest friends. I buy most of my drugs from J. Zimmerman. Of course I supported both of them on nomination and election. They have both been warm friends of my father and if Jno. McSweeney should decline to be a candidate I believe I can control these two votes. My acquaintance with Mr. Welser, Mr. Carrol's confere is not such that I could speak with confidence as to his vote. I think Mr. Brice would make a good U.S. Senator and the only objection to him is that he is no longer a resident of Ohio. I have as yet had (but) little time
to think of this subject (and) will take the matter under consideration. Excuse this rambling letter as I have written it while patients were annoying me by coming into the office while I was writing. Hoping that you and yours are continuing to prosper as usual.

I remain yours, respectfully,

I asked my friends in Wayne county to use their influence for Brice for senator. It happened that Wayne county that year had the state senator and two representatives and that for many years while teaching in Wayne county I had bought many books for my scholars from Mr. Zimmerman, the senator, and that Mr. Carrol, one of the representatives, lived only half a mile from my father’s home and that his children had been my pupils, and fortunately happened to be warmly attached to me and that Mr. Weiser, the other representative, had been a student at the O.N.U. and as we were both Wayne county boys had become warm friends. Wayne county was not originally a Brice county but Mr. Brice gave me the credit of securing the Wayne county votes and at least three more. I shall insert a few more letters that some may know what labor and management it cost to build up a great University without church or state aid. Dresbach and Wagner were Ada students.

LETTER FROM MR. BRICE.

Dec. 14, 1889.

H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Dear Sir: I have the letters from representatives Wagner and Dresbach kindly forwarded by you. They are very interesting and throw light on the situation. The suggestion that you can do some work in Richlands is a very good one, and I hope you will not fail to swell the tide that seems to be rising in our favor. I have been disappointed in going over to Ada, because some members have made appointments with me which broke up my arrangements; but the first leisure evening shall be devoted to you and your school. Meantime I am under obligation for your kindness, and please keep me advised as here to fore.

Yours truly,

Calvin S. Brice.

Dec. 20, 1889.

H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.
My Dear Professor: I have written Mr. Brice to visit you. Give him a royal reception. Don't fail to tell him how I stood by the University while I was in congress, and downed Payne, Whitney and McKinley. It was a famous victory. Kind remembrances for Mrs. Lehr.

Faithfully yours,

Benjamin La Fevre.

When the Military department was reported a failure under the command of Lieutenant Roberts we were ordered to ship the cannon, guns, etc., to Cleveland. Case School of Applied Science was to have the third officer apportioned to Ohio. Major McKinley was working for Delaware, Senator Payne and Mr. Whitney then in the cabinet were working for Case School. This explains Gen. Le Fevre's letter. In a former number I explained how I got the support and warm friendship of General Le Fevre.

The commencement of 1890 the Philomathean Society had its Triennial Reunion. The committee of arrangement requested me to write to several men of national reputation to deliver the address. I still have their answers to my letters, but shall give but one an autograph letter from Ex-President Grover Cleveland. Any Democrat wishing to see the letter can have the opportunity by calling at my home.

CLEVELAND'S LETTER.

Dec. 29, 1889.

H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Dear Sir: Your letter of the 21 is at hand. I am gratified by your invitation to deliver an address on the 22 day of July next before one of the Literary Societies of your University, but it is impossible for me to accept the same. Many engagements and pressing occupations between now and the date fixed and the fact that such date will come with a period which I have set apart for rest and recreation will prevent my visiting at that time your very interesting and useful institution.

Yours very truly,

Grover Cleveland.
Thru members of congress and especially thru the friendship of Hon. Charles Fraser when Secretary of the Treasury and thru senators I got fine appointments for worthy students. Thru Foster I got H.J. Price admitted as a Lieutenant in the Regular army and a Mr. Mendhall in the U.S. service as engineer. He has since done much service in Alaska. He sent me a number of his reports printed by the government and which I put in the O.N.U. library. He made extensive maps of Alaska on reports on the fauna and flora of that territory.

Celywn Hampton, a brother of J.L. Hampton who married my niece, Ida A. Lehr, resided in Perry county, O. He wanted an appointment to West Point. I got him an appointment thru Hon. C. Cooper our member of congress. He took the place of Mr. Matthews who resigned.

I have many, many letters in answer to requests for positions in the mail service, in the pension, treasury and other departments of the governments but shall only insert that of Col. Cooper in regard to the appointment of Mr. Hampton.

COOPER'S LETTER.

Washington, D.C., Jan. 1890.

Prof. H.S. Lehr.

My Dear Sir: I have at your request and as a favor to you appointed Mr. Hampton to the recent cadetship at West Point and have sent him the proper papers.

Yours truly,

W.E. Cooper.
Unlettered Letter of Complaint. Fire in the Main Building

March 1, 1907, V. XXIX, No. 41

CHAPTER 128.
Unlettered Letter of Complaint. Fire in Main Building.

A number of old students have requested me to insert more letters in the reminiscence since that will make the story more historical they say.

In the long period as president of the school I got many letters, some signed others unsigned, from citizens who roomed and boarded students. They would give me hints and plain facts of misdemeanors; such as drinking, gambling and whatever they thought I ought to know that would be for the best interest of the school. They also would bring their trials and troubles to me to settle. Many letters could be given but shall insert but one of the kind.

LETTER OF COMPLAINT.

Ada, Ohio, February the 7 1889.

Mr. Lehr -it is not with plesher that I pen these lines but it is becase I dew not now what als to dew you now the truble I have had with my boys I dew not see whare I was to blame but am very sorry for I was proud of my Students and I tryed to dew every thing in my pour to make it plesent and home like but I fail to pleas them and thare fore Hary Whitehill thanks he will torment the life out of me he comes her more than he stays at his Room and allwase has Comers here to Smook and Spit on my Stoves and Waler my beds and yuse bad talk and tuck tooth picks and put them in pepper ... and put them on my table tuck my py and put clandpepper in them and then put them back on my table this was in my abcence and broke of the the door nobbs and a duble lamp glove and owes me 39 sents for board and when I tride to make him leve the room today and git off my bed the rest of the boys told him to stay and laft and made fun of me and then when I saw him go out I told him I wanted him to stay whare he belonged he sead he wold come just when ever he pleased and wold be back in a bout ten minets and So he did and has been back more than half a dozen times so I will haf to ask you to protect me as I Cant dew any think with him you dont need to read this out in Chaple with out you out to yours with respect.

Sometime in March I wrote to Governor Campbell and asked him to address the senior class on commencemence day. He kindly consented. I have several of his letters, but shall insert but one. It was our plan as proprietors to use no
partiality in politics and in sectarian affairs. We held sacred our religious and political principles but endeavored to treat all parties and sects fairly.

A LETTER FROM GOV. CAMPBELL.

Columbus, July 19, 1890.
My Dear Sir: I can scarcely express my chagrin and disappointment at learning yesterday that I would be obliged to make some change in regard to my appointment at your University for next Thursday. I thereupon wired the Honorable Charles W. Baker, of Cincinnati, to ascertain whether he could fill the vacancy for me, and learned that he could. Upon so hearing I immediately wired you, and am in receipt of your kind and considerate dispatch in reply.
I beg to apologize, but, tho the change was unavoidable, I will not feel that my apology has been accepted in good faith unless I am permitted the pleasure of attending next year upon a similar occasion.
You will be the gainer by the change this time, however, as Mr. Baker is an orator of high ability, and of the most pleasing address. I feel sure that when it is all over the faculty and students will both join in singing his praises.
Will you be kind enough to explain this matter to those who will be present, as I make it a point to scrupulously keep my engagements, and it is very seldom, and only by some unexpected turn of affairs, that I am prevented.
Trusting that the exercises (of which I have received such handsome programmes) may be successfully carried out.

I am, sincerely yours,

James E. Campbell.

The last day of school of the Second Fall term of 1889 our large brick building, now called the Administration building, caught fire. Two years after the fire, L.M. Cook, of Alabama, in a letter, told how the fire originated. At that time Ada had no electric lights. The school buildings were lighted with oil lamps. Mr. Cook was the Adelphian jester. In his confession he stated that he went to Wagner’s bookstore to get oil but the store was closed. He then went to the Faculty oil barrel in the cellar of the large building, filled his can and left the cellar. He had lighted a match that he might see when his can was full, blew out the match and threw the stub away. He had hardly left the building when there was a burst of flame in the cellar.

We had bought a barrel of oil but a short time before the fire, had about thirty tons of coal and a large quantity of kindling wood in the cellar. Much oil had been permitted to flow on the ground in drawing oil for kindling purposes and the waste paper, kindling and coal had become permeated with oil. The fire
spread rapidly. It started about 6:30 p.m.

One of my classes was to take an examination at 6 o'clock. I gave the questions to my daughter, Sarah, and told her to stay with the class as we had company that evening. The examination was held in the northwest upper room known as room No. 4. The fire spread rapidly that my daughter was nearly suffocated with the oil smoke for the barrel soon exploded and threw the oil over the wood and coal. Unfortunately the large fire engine was out of repair and it took much time to get it into service. The small hand engine did good service but the water had to be carried from the residence of Prof. Maglott and from other wells and cisterns. The fire soon started in the back stairway which acted as a chimney or flue. It appeared impossible to save the building, for there was the barrel of oil over half full, the wood and coal, the stairway flue and the steam engine out of repair; but as it were, by a miracle, the building was saved. Fervent prayers went up to the Father for its preservation and fervent and devout thanks were returned after the fire. Man should, under all circumstances, do all he can, but then with the work I believe in the efficacy of the prayer of faith. I still thank God that the building was spared.
The New Year 1890 Opens. Education and Politics.

March 15, 1907, V. XXIX, No. 43

CHAPTER 130.
The New Year 1890 Opens. Education and Politics.

Catalog No. 20 shows an enrollment of 2476, a gain of but three students over the previous year. Large classes, want of room and general lack of facilities were injuring the school.

There were but few changes in the teaching force. F.E. Snow took the place of C.T. Rogall in Telegraphy. We added Hattie D. Millette to the corps of Music teachers, and C.B. Magill and Mrs. S.P. Axline as assistant teachers of Stenography. The length of terms and rates of tuition, board and room rent remained the same as before. We still continued to publish the names of all the officers of the battalion, but we never thought how interesting it would be in later years to know to which company each belonged. We should have affixed the company letter to each name. H.L. Williams was Lieutenant Colonel, E.I. Miller Major.

I still took some part in politics and generally with a view of helping my friends and thus in the end to help the school. Among the hundred of letters from old students and others it is difficult to select such as will be of greatest interest. McKinley had, in the past been favorable to Wooster and Delaware and to Mt. Union. I knew his power and kept on trying to secure his influence for the O.N.U.

MCKINLEY LETTER.

Washington, D.C., Aug. 4, 1890.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, Ohio.

Dear Sir: I have your favor of July 30th enclosing an application made by Mr. Bigger, which I will see gets to the secretary. I will strongly endorse the same. I am very much obliged for your offer of support this Fall, and am sure you can do me very much good in Wayne and Stark counties.

Very truly,

Wm. McKinley.
Hon. Charles Foster was a firm friend of the school and I felt very grateful for what he had done. In the fall of 1890 he was a candidate for congress and I agreed to get the names of the Republican votes of his district and report to the various county committees. Shall give three of his letters omitting letters from committeemen.

FOSTER LETTERS.

Fostoria, O., Oct. 18, 1890.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My Dear Friend: The counties of my district are Hancock, Seneca, Wyandot, Marion and Union. The chairmen are: Seneca, John K. Kohn, Tiffin, O.; Hancock, Presley E. Hay, Findlay, O.; Wyandot, P. Cuneo, Upper Sandusky, O.; Marion, J.F. McNeal, Marion, O.; Union, W.H. Wills, Milford Center, O. I think I can get passed on the Hocking Valley road. If you will send me the names and time and points to be made, I will try and get the passes. I am very much obliged for your kind interest in my behalf.

Yours very truly,

Chas. Foster.

Fostoria, O., Oct. 28, 1890.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My Dear Sir: I have your favor of today with names of students not willing to pay their way home to vote. Have written to the various Committees in the different counties, with names and instructions how to get them home. They will attend to the matter promptly. We must have them home. Thanks.

Yours very truly,

Chas. Foster.

Fostoria, O., Dec. 24, 1890.

Mr. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My Dear Sir: I have your letter of Dec. 22nd, inclosing check for $2.30. The boy that returned that money, I predict, will prove to be a man.

Yours very truly,
Chas. Foster.

Mr. Foster had sent me some money to pay the way of those to whom the committees had failed to send traveling expenses. One of the boys got the money when at home and gave back what I had given him.

MCKINLEY LETTER.

Chicago, Ill., Nov. 17, 1890.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Dear Sir: Many thanks for your kind letter of Nov. 6th. The victory will come. Practical operation of the bill will dispel misrepresentation. With many thanks to you I am.

Sincerely,

Wm. McKinley.

While I was helping two Republicans I did not neglect my Democratic friends and retained their good will. Shall insert invitation to Thurman Club Banquet:

The Thurman Club request the honor of your presence at the "Old Roman" Banquet in honor of Allen G. Thurman, on his 77th Birthday Anniversary at Columbus, Ohio, Thursday, November Thirteenth, Eighteen Hundred and Ninety, at Seven P.M.

SOCIETY LEGISLATION.

The Societies were still following the custom of electing Honor men for salutation and the valedictory for commencement day. In a former number I explained how the custom began. The practice caused much scheming and many heartaches and much strife in the Societies. After the election of a member for the honorary oration for the commencement of 1891, the Franklins voted to never again elect a member for that oration. I shall here insert the article and its acceptance by the Faculty.

FRANKLIN RESOLUTION.
Moved by Austin Hunter. That we so amend the By-Laws of the F.L.S. as to introduce a Section 13 to Article 8, which shall read: This Society shall never elect ... Honorary Member for commencement. Carried.

Accepted by Faculty, Feb. 12, 1991, H.S. Lehr, President.

The other Societies soon took similar action and we made changes in the commencement exercises which were needed because the classes became so large with the growth of the school that all the graduates could not have the time to deliver even six minute speeches in two days. I shall speak of the changes later.
I still tried to keep in touch with those in charge of the political affairs of both
the great parties. I shall here insert a few more letters.

LETTERS FROM SECRETARY FOSTER.

Washington, D.C., March 5, 1891.

Mr. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My Dear Sir: I have received from Fostoria the dispatch which you were good
enough to send me upon my appointment as Secretary of the Treasury, and I
desire to thank you for your congratulations and the personal pleasure which you
express at my selection for this important trust.

Very truly yours,

Chas. Foster.

The last letter was in answer to a request to give to M.J. Price an
appointment as 2nd Lieutenant in the regular army. And he got it. He
had to pass an examination which he did credibly. As I now remember
there were twenty-two appointed from a number of the leading
Universities of the country. Mr. Price stood No. 5 in the list. His grade in
mathematics was 100. Quite a number failed.

Washington, D.C., June 26th 1891.

Mr. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My Dear Friend: I have your letter of June 22nd and have referred your
application to the Secretary of War, with a strong endorsement. I trust your
wishes may be gratified.

Very truly yours,
The year closed with 235 graduates. At that time I still kept trace of the alumni and alumnae and published the address of each in each catalog, but since we sold the school I only write to those who write to me and therefore know the present address of very few of the graduates of those days. W.A. Brundige is a minister in the Christian Church. Flo Day married that excellent gentleman B.W. Strohl. They both teach in Elmore, O. Both were members of the class of '91. Mrs. Strohl was a fighting Philo.

Austin Hunter resides in Indianapolis. He is a minister in the Christian Church. He was a stanch Franklin. F.H. Hoff is teaching in a western state or was the last I heard from him. J.C. Houser quit teaching and entered the legal profession. He was a Franklin. We corresponded many years, but have not heard from him the last two years. He resides in Pennsylvania. Willis P. Koogle is practicing medicine. C.C. Lewis, a fine student resides in Kentucky. He was a Franklin.

The students of '90-'91 will all remember the Hunter and Lewis affair. The story is too long to tell.

Ella S. Maybach, the great Adelphian worker, I think is now teaching in Cleveland. W.S. Maxwell resides at Jewett, O. He was a Philo. Hannah C. Myers, an ardent Franklin, married V.L. Grabiel and lives at Winona Lake, Ind. H.J. Price is captain and probably a major in the regular army and is in the service in the Philippines. I got his appointment thru the influence of Charles Foster when he was Secretary of the Treasury.

E.A. Powell is practicing medicine in Cleveland. He had a good practice and a fine home. He married that excellent lady, Mamie Halfhill. I have enjoyed their hospitality. L.H. Rogers is practicing law in Lima and is succeeding finely.

W.E.D. Rummell, a fine student resides in Des Moines, Iowa. He is Secretary and Manager of Still College of Osteopathy.

Kernan Robson was one of the hardest working students ever enrolled in the O.N.U. while I was President. He was a Philo. W.G. Sargeant, a minister, died recently after a long illness. His wife was the talented musician, Anna Saywer.
J.W. Zachman is in the ministry. They were fine students. C. Hope Charles an excellent lady, resides in Ada. G. Goldsmith teaches music in Bucyrus.

J.J. Houser teaches in Seneca county, Ohio. I think I am right. I know he teaches in northern Ohio. He was one of the Franklin pillars when he first entered school and belonged to the first nine base ball club.

S.E. Klopfenstein is in the ministry. I meet him every year at Winona Lake, Ind.

Henry Lamb practices law in Columbia City, Ind. He was an active Adelphian.

S.H. Myers resides in Chicago. He was a great worker in the Philo Society and invaluable in the Military Department.

Cora F. Morrow was one of the best and most original thinkers ever enrolled as a student in the O.N.U. Hannah Peterson resides in Findlay and Kittie C. Phillips, an excellent student, near Ada.

C.C. Ross practices medicine in Columbus, H.M. Schufell practices law in Canton and J.H. Sayre is superintendent of schools in Zion City, Ill. She should have the credit of being the Franklin who first advocated the plan or custom of framing the society program and hanging it in the hall way.

E.E. White a law graduate of '91 died some years ago at New Whatcomb, Wash.

J.A. Fogle a Democrat and J.B. Ruhl a Republican are practicing law in Cleveland. Kuhl is a member of the State Board of Examiners. Lottie L. Atkinson was a leading Franklin singer and Viola Allen equally good served the Philomatheans.
Ralph A. Parlette was a member of the class of '91. He had been a student at different times two or three years before graduation. The school was growing large and it was impossible for me to become intimately acquainted with all of them. My attention was called to him by various incidents; but the one impressed me was the interest he took in the welfare of his sister. In all my varied experience as a student and teacher I never knew a young man, a mere boy, to so love a sister and to take so such a deep interest in her welfare as Ralph A. Parlette. He is also a devoted son. I love to hear him tell of the death of his sainted mother. How he watched to see whether he could in some way see her spirit take its departure from the body. We have talked for hours at a time and one never wearies to hear him talk. He speaks in the most kindly way of his parents. I need not speak of him as a writer or of his success on the lecture platform for all the readers of the Herald know that as well as the writer. They know his quaint humor, his wit, his pathos, his philosophy, his irony and his eloquence. All know that today he is one of the most popular lecturers on the American platform. His lectures are instructive as well as humorous and abound in the philosophy of good common sense.

I love him for his candor, humor and true worth. He is a true friend. It would be impossible for him to be an ingrate. Some people are your friends as long as they think you can do them a favor, when they have what they want or can get no more, they will smite the hand that helped them. That is not Parlette. I have on file a number of his letters to me, but modesty and time and space forbid inserting more than one.

PARLETTE'S LETTER.

Columbus, O., May 4, '95.

Dear Dr. Lehr:

You have just written me a letter that touched me, and I have put it away beside one you wrote a year ago, in a bunch I call my "heart-warmers." I am grateful that you should take the time out of your busy day to personally write me, and grateful
for what you say. Whatever my mistakes of judgement be, I want to keep good at heart. I want to succeed, but if success and goodness of heart cannot be gotten together, then I'll sacrifice the success. Your interest in advising me when my sister was in school is one of the most beautiful acts of your career. Sister is now in a happy home in Marion, Ohio, superintendent of a Sunday School and busy in unselfish work because she married a christian man.

But this is a busy world, and we whirl thru the days like a wheel in some machine, with too little thought of our friends. A dozen times the desire has been in me to write you a long letter, and it was buried under the mass of great and better work. I read your articles every week in the Herald. Fifty years from now the O.N.U. history will be priceless. You are writing for generations unborn, as well as the old students who every week read your work. I am glad you wrote it, for tho I thought I knew much of the school's early history, yet I never realized there was half so much of discouragement and obstacles in the way. You staid at the helm when other fellows frightened and left because there was not enough of money coming in. I honor you for it. In later years when the school was strong and had money in plenty, people forgot the starvation at eh start and grew careless in their appreciation of the man who stood true to his ideals and lived for the future.

I am sorry for the troubles at Ada. Such has been the history of too many successes and too many men who have done great things. And as long as human nature has it imperfections such things will happen. But that is only for a short time. I see day ahead when thousands will stand at an open grave and weep when the founder of the O.N.U. is laid to rest. And flowers will rain upon it and all bitterness will be more deeply buried. But you are good for many years yet; God grant it that you may be spared. And your life is a very strong refutation of Osler. I think over the men who have most helped me. I think of my father, and then you come next. You saw something in me, which I even yet can only catch faint glimpses. But I am learning. This lecture work has grown beyond my dreams, and has been a great education to me. But never rank me with McIntyre, for I can never reach him. Next year I have a list of dates reaching over the country from Massachusetts to California at prices from $100 and over. The thing horrifies me sometimes, for I am naturally too retiring to stand on the platform.

Pardon so much for writing. I had only intended to write a page, but when Dr. Lehr is the subject I become enthusiastic; and as I don't often see you I want you to feel that I am still among your list of most appreciative friends. I wish I was near enough to get in personal contact with you. While I am in a sense glad you are appreciated and honored at Winona, yet I hope the time will speedily come when you may return to your new home in Ada and spend your declining years among your books and friends there--for tho you may sometimes feel like Elijah that Israel has turned away from you, yet you must be assured that there is a host of them still in the old town. And the old friends are the best. With kindest wishes and regards to all your household,

Cordially,
I well remember a number more of the members of the class, but space forbids naming more.

Dr. M.B. Chapman, a Mt. Union college mate preached the baccalaureate sermon and it was one of the finest ever preached to an O.N.U. class. He was then stationed at New Haven. He is now in the College of Theology at Harvard.

Hon. J.T. Brooks, a college classmate, addressed the class. At the time he was First Vice President of the B.R.R. and attorney for the road.
An episode occurred on Franklin Reunion day that will long be remembered by those present and can never be forgotten by the founder of the school. I have always given Mrs. Prof. Maglott much credit for the occurrence of that special event altho no one ever even hinted as to who originated the project. On July 21, 1891 there was unveiled in Franklin hall a bust of the founder of the school. After commencement he was asked to go to the studio of Lorado Faft, one of the finest artists in his line of work in America, to perfect it. It took the artist five days to complete it. Prof. Brig. S. Young delivered the presentation speech. For once I knew nothing whatever of the arrangement. I again thank my Franklin friends of those days, which now almost appear as ancient history, for the honor shown me.

I trust the readers of the Herald will pardon me for inserting Prof. Young's address in these reminiscences. Think the writer not vain, for the circumstance is a part of the O.N.U. history.

PROF. YOUNG'S ADDRESS.

My announcement is in reality a pleasant duty that has devolved upon me to perform. Today marks another epoch in the history of our society. Our Sixth Triennial Reunion day is here and in a few more short hours its pleasures and disappointments, will constitute a portion of our history.

To the old Franklins who have returned we trust that the many hearty greetings and expressions of good will here met with may long remain with you and be cherished by you as so many bright ones in the desert of existence and that you may return to your home feeling that from an intellectual and social standpoint the Reunion was all you had anticipated.

Realizing that the "unexpected events in life are frequently the most enjoyable," the committee has purposely omitted the publishing of this portion of our program.

The exercises of this week mark the close of the most prosperous year of this
University and of our society. The spirit of Franklin fellowship has never been more marked than during the past twelve months, and the literary work accomplished during that period had been of the very highest order. Today the F.L.S. is in the very zenith of her glory, and as in the past we pay that rational tribute to ability, and homage to merit, which at once constitutes our duty and pleasure. We have ever had for our highest ideals the foremost men in their respective fields of literary culture. We have just listened to the most glowing tributes paid to the foremost historians and scholars. 'Twas the spirit of Franklinism that has filled our libraries and adorned our society home with images of the statesman, the poet, the musician, and philosopher. Bethoven, who

"Could untwist all the chains that tie
The hidden should of harmony."

Mozart, whose musical works, as Percival has said, speaks to us in

"Voices of melting sweetness that blend
With pure and gentle musings till the soul
Commingling with the melody, is borne
Rapt and dissolved in ecstasy to
Heaven."

lead their subtle and enchanting influence to our labors.

Milton, who Macaulay says was "The glory of English literature, the champion and martyr of English liberty." Milton who tho, surrounded by perpetual night gave to the world the most divine production of the human mind, whose name will out live time itself. Shakespeare, whose literary works have been read probably more than those of any other English writer. Irving, the pronounced "Goldsmith of America." Burns, in whose poems are such a blending of tender pathos with broad humor as to endear him to the heart of every reader. Each command our admiration and occupy their position in the literary world by virtue of the sublimity and individuality exhibited in their respective fields of literature. Clay, whose brilliant oratory and influence in the early periods of our country will cause his name to ever occupy a prominent position in American history as a wise statesman, an honorable senator and an inflexible patriot. Lincoln, our first martyr President whose memory will be revered next to that of Washington. Each from an humble sphere in life, advanced to the high positions of American citizenship, beckon us on to renewed effort, to more
noble pursuit, and teach us the possibilities of this great common earth. Franklin, the printer boy, the statesman, the philanthropist. Franklin, who by his early life of self denial was enabled to raise himself from a position of destitution to one of affluence, whose scientific researches startled the world, whose life is a most striking example of what energy, virtue and industry will accomplish is advancing the fortune of their possessor, stands as our most exalted exponent of a successful life.

There is still another star to be added to this bright constellation which sheds its halo of glory about our society home. Another whose high position among his followers has not been gained by a single bound, but has been reached by a struggle began amidst the most adverse circumstances and carried on thru a life of trials and discouragements that would have withstood the onslaught of one less gifted, and determined to succeed. His song is as yet unsung by the poet, but his ability and success in his chosen field of labor has been such as to command our respect and admiration. Another whose life has been characterized by a continuous self denial, that truth might reign over all. That the darkness and uncertainties of ignorance and superstitions should give way to sunlight of truth and knowledge, the world's most potent powers. Another, whose aim and object in life has ever been the higher education, the uplifting of his fellow men. His zealous work in his chosen cause has ever been characterized by its enthusiasm; his influence has been as wide and deep as the seas; his handiwork is seen in every vocation in life, and can be traced to the very confines of civilization itself. Strong, generous of heart, free to forgive, with armor ever worn in the cause of justice and right, his daily prayer has ever been, teach me to guide aright the footsteps of those trusting in me.

About a half century ago his eventful career began. Born amidst the most humble circumstances, surrounded by but few of life's comforts, his first recollections were those of the school boy attending his father's loom. His early schooling was unsymmetrical and irregular, little calculated to develop the mind in those strict methodical business principles which only could win such success as has crowned the efforts of his maturer years. Un schooled in the language of the land of his birth, but filled with a desire for knowledge, his first school books were bought by his own earnings and mastered chiefly by his own indomitable will and energy. The misfortunes and obstacle met with in his early educational pursuits, and overcome, seemed only to urge him to press on with renewed vigor. Nothing daunted him, life was before him and it's hidden mysteries must be laid bare.

At twelve he entered school; at sixteen he began his career as an educator; at
eighteen he entered college where by practicing that frugal economy which had ever characterized his life and aided him on in his work, he was enabled to complete his course. His college work ended, and the country in arms he thrice offered himself as a willing sacrifice upon the nation's altar that its government might be preserved. The war ended he again gave himself up to literary work, success still attending his efforts. Victory after victory was enrolled upon his banner and today my hero stands preeminent as an educator, and at the head of this illustrious institution.

When we look about us and see it's great and ever increasing influence in developing the minds and hearts of the land, its great power for good, we can scarcely realize that its founder and present head, began life's battle in the humble capacity of a loom attendant, that its present power in the bringing of men nearer to God thru education and christian training, was but half a century ago, as germ gathering strength and vigor to extend itself thruout the world. Little did the German youth think, ambitious as his thoughts may have been, as he gathered nuts with which to purchase his first meager text books, that as he labored he was laying a foundation upon which he would change the course of many lives and direct them on their way to eternal bliss and happiness.

What a lesson in the possibilities of existence, do we learn in following the story of the school boy, the frugal student, the gallant soldier, our revered instructor, whose life is so closely entwined with our hearts and to whom we owe such debts of gratitude! Who so indifferent to the success of life's struggle that he does not feel the reviving influence of contact which such a life? Who, "tho his heart be he cemetery of a thousand disappointments," does not feel an inspiration to put forth renewed effort to reach the goal of success? Who so insensible to the virtues of a well spent life that he will continue in a life of idleness and neglect? Why go back a century and point to the career of a Franklin as an inspiration and an exemplification of what can be accomplished in the brief span of life allotted to us? Why travel back thru a tangled thicket of years for that with which we have been in daily contact? Has not our "spool boy" been raised from humble obscurity by that same loyalty to purpose as crowned the "printer boy" with honors? The end is not yet and who dare attempt to pierce the veil of the future and mark the boundary line of success such as has attended him to whom we pay tribute to day.

We live in deed, not years; in thoughts not breaths;
In feelings not in figures on the dial.
We should count years by heart throbs.
He lives most  
Who thinks the most, feels the noblest, acts the best.

Sir, the enjoyments of this occasion would not be complete, did we not remember and pay tribute to him, through whose instrumentality we have been brought so close together. Him whose kindly influence has been so productive of good in our society's welfare. We have ever looked to Franklin as our ideal and he has been a stimulus to our work, but the supreme and all prevailing influence in our success has been derived from your words of counsel and advice.

We trust that the present pleasant relations between yourself and the society may long continue, and that we may continue to be recipients of your admonition and assistance.

When we scan the faces of those old Franklins who have returned after absence of years we realize that the days are gilding by, that each day takes a little bit of youth, and that ours is but a fleeting existence. Death in his ruthless flight has claimed many who were with us at our last Triennial and ere another shall roll around others who today are near and dear to us will have been summoned before the great tribunal. May the alwise Providence continue your life of good work into the very eventime of man's alloted existence, and when you are called upon to join the innumerable caravan may your summons be as peaceful and as gentle as the rustle of an angel's wing and accompanied with the admonition, "Well done thou good and faithful servant, enter into the joys of thy Lord."
Beginning 1891. Preliminaries of Campbell-McKinley Debate I.

April 2, 1907, V. XXIX, No. 47

CHAPTER 134.
Beginning 1891. Preliminaries of Campbell-McKinley Debate.

Catalog No. 21 was printed by the Werner Company at Akron, O. It was a fine catalog. It showed an enrollment for the year '90-'91 of 2810 different students, a gain of 334 over the preceding year. All the counties of Ohio but three were represented and thirty-three states and territories and two foreign countries contributed students.

In those days if one inspected the catalogs of our largest Ohio colleges and so called universities, excepting the O.S.U. and Western Reserve, the patronage came almost entirely from within a radius of fifty miles. But as our students went out into the callings of life they would tell of the wonderful work done at Ada, the cheap tuition, the good, cheap board, cheap rooms, well furnished and well cared for, the good societies, the christian work the fine military discipline, the good teachers, their assiduity, etc. This saved us printers' ink and postage and students crowded our halls from far and near. Many came several thousand miles. The college counties as we were pleased to call them contributed handsomely this year. Allen County had a college but sent us 114, Hancock sent 75, Wayne 54, Seneca 54, Stark 48, Portage 25, Delaware 20, Franklin with all her colleges contributed 27.

The length of the terms, their arrangements, tuition and board remained as the previous year.

Three teachers, Mrs. Eva Thomas Fess, Mrs. Minnie Myers, and Prof. William Miles, resigned. The new teachers employed were W.H. Powers, Latin and Greek; Mrs. Mollie Hickernell, Latin and Mathematics; Clara L. Myers, Arithmetic, Grammar, Orthography, and Physical Geometry; H.J. Price, Mathematics; G.R. Anderson, Mathematics; Sadie Fisher, Latin; A.V. Muller, German and French; S.G. Smith, Voice Culture, Harmony and Director of Chorus, and after the catalog was in press we also employed Rienzi Thomas, pianist.

The new teachers were all remarkably strong in their lines of work with one exception. Prof. Smith was not adapted to our line of work. One of our number
met him at a Teachers' Institute in Pennsylvania and recommended him. Prof. Park and I doubted his adaptation to our work, but we employed him. He was a fine gentleman. Prof. Muller is now teaching in Lockport, N.Y. and has been there many years. Clara L. Myers is teaching English in Western Reserve University, H.J. Price is Captain or Major in the Regular Army, G.R. Anderson is with the American Book Company, Sallie Fisher is a missionary in Corea, Mrs. Hickernell has quit teaching, and I have lost track of W.H. Parson. We now had thirty-five teachers.

I tried, in every way possible that was honorable, to win the good will of Major McKinley as he was then called. In the fall of 1890 I managed to gain his good will. I met the political committees of Wayne and Stark counties, spent some time at the Wayne county fair and refused pay from the committees, but foolishly forgot to charge the same to "school expenses" for I did was really all for the school. I also retained the friendship of Gov. James Campbell.

In a former number I related that when I went to Washington to get back our Military department that Gen. Le Fevre introduced me to Mr. Campbell who was then a member of Congress. Mr. Campbell became interested in our cause and helped very materially in having it restored to us for it had already been ordered to Cleveland for Case School of Applied Sciences. When Mr. Campbell was a candidate for governor the first time I went to a political meeting that he was to address. Sent my card to his room and he greeted by very cordially. I told him that I left my school work to come and tell him that I had not forgotten his kindness when we were in dire need of all the help we could get and that altho I was a Republican I would take no part against him and that he could rest assured I would not vote against him. As I now remember I voted for neither candidate for governor and did not contribute to the Republican campaign fund that fall. My usual contribution was $15. Mr. Campbell told me that day that he would always be good to do a favor for the school. My Republican friends may criticize this action on my part. But I never did believe in stabbing the hand that helps you. The ingrate is the most despicable of all God's creatures, the meanest of men.

Campbell was elected. The next commencement he was asked to address the graduating class. He consented but was called to New York and sent Hon. Charles Baker, of Cincinnati, to deliver the address, but asked to address the class next year. He was renominated for Governor and I went to see him and asked whether he would not be willing to meet Major McKinley, the Republican candidate, in joint debate at Ada instead of addressing the class, stating that it would greatly advertise and benefit the school. His reply was,
"Will the Major accept?" I assured him that the Major could hardly afford to refuse to discuss the issues of the campaign before the students of such a large school. His reply was, "If it is any accommodation to you I shall meet the Major in joint debate, but you must arrange the matter with the Major and explain to him that I consent to meet him in a joint debate because you greatly desire it to advertise your school." To all of which there was ready consent.

I wrote to Major McKinley and told him Gov. Campbell was willing to meet him in a joint debate at Ada on the issues of the day and that the Governor consented at my earnest solicitation, that it would be worth very much to our students in many ways more than any ordinary term in college classes and that it would be of great advantage to our school, etc. He replied by saying that he was not favorable to joint debates, that little if any good ever came of them, etc. For certain reasons I cannot give the letter. But as he was to speak in Kenton, Aug. 29, I determined to see him there and have a personal interview. After much persuasion and recalling my work in Wayne and Stark counties he consented. I also armed myself with a letter from the governor consenting to meet Mr. McKinley in joint debate I shall give the correspondence with the candidates and the state committees, but shall insert few if any letters.

LETTER FROM GOVERNOR CAMPBELL.

Columbus, Aug. 21, 1891.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My Dear Sir: I am in receipt of yours and beg to thank you for your kind congratulations, and also to say that I have not forgotten my promise to speak at Ada during the campaign.
I presume no political speeches will be made by us until late in September, as we are unable to open the campaign early, owing to our poverty.
I may also add that if you think a joint discussion in your city will be desirable, and will arrange for it, I will be agreeable thereto.

Sincerely yours,

James E. Campbell.

At Kenton Major McKinley, as we then called him, wrote me a letter, while I sat by his side, consenting to the joint debate. The letter speaks for itself. There was no chance for a misunderstanding.
Kenton, O., Aug. 1891.

Dear Sir: Replying to your invitation to meet Gov. Campbell in joint debate, on the issues of dividing the Republican and Democratic parties, at Ada, which you advise me you have already arranged with the Governor. I beg to say it will give me pleasure to meet the Governor at the place named on such dates as the State Committee will arrange, not to interfere with appointments already made.

Very truly,

Wm. McKinley.
I shall give the correspondence of the officials of the big debate in regular order omitting nearly all of my letters.

EXECUTIVE TELEGRAM FROM REPUBLICAN STATE COMMITTEE.

Columbus, O., Aug. 31, 1891.

H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Prof. H.S. Lehr: Major McKinley has instructed us to fix date for joint debate at Ada in accordance with his letter to you, August twenty-ninth, and we accordingly name Thursday, October 8th, as the first date he has unassigned which date we hope will be acceptable to Governor Campbell. Order of discussion to be the subject of future conference.

A.M. Hahn, Chairman.

Columbus, Sept. 21, 1891.

H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My Dear Professor: I am in receipt of yours just as I am starting ... in the hope of recovering my health. I have referred your telegram and letter to the state committee, and have no doubt the time you name will be agreeable to them. Of course it is entirely within their control.

Sincerely yours,

James Campbell.

LETTER FROM THE DEMOCRATIC STATE COMMITTEE.

Columbus, O., Sept. 8, 1891.

H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Dear Sir: Your letter with regard to Governor Campbell has been received. I will
confer with the Republican State Committee as to the opening and closing of the debate, time, etc., etc., and will advise you. My understanding is that our date, October 8, is perfectly satisfactory to every one.

Very truly yours,

James E. Neal, Chairman.

LETTER FROM THE REPUBLICAN STATE COMMITTEE.

Columbus, O., Sept. 9, 1891.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Dear Sir: We are in receipt of your letter of September 4th, and note what you say in reference to a letter addressed to you by Governor Campbell. Will you please confer with Governor Campbell or the chairman of the Democratic State Committee in reference to our telegram to you of August 31st, saying that Major McKinley would name October 8th as the first day he has unassigned to meet Mr. Campbell at Ada.

We have had no communication whatever with the Chairman of the Democratic State Executive Committee.

Yours truly,

Wm. Hahn, Chairman.

AFTER A BIG TENT.

Rutherford B. Hayes, Fremont, O.

Hon. Sir: There is to be a joint discussion at our village between Hon. Wm. McKinley, Jr. and Gov. Jas. E. Campbell, Oct. 8th.

Should the weather be inclement we will not have a hall large enough to accommodate the crowd expected on that occasion.

I have been informed that you are in possession of a large tent that will accommodate ten thousand people. Could it be had for that occasion, and if so what will be the cost? I will guarantee that it will be returned in good shape. An early reply will greatly oblige.

Very respectfully,

H.S. Lehr.
HAYE’S TENT.

The tent referred to has been used by the Society of the Army of West Virginia and has belonged to the town in which the Reunion was annually held. This year Huntington, West Virginia has the Reunion and may have the tent. By corresponding with the mayor of Huntington you can have the facts.

H.

We failed to get the tent but Providence favored us. The day was fine altho rather cold.

ARRANGING PRELIMINARIES.

Columbus, O., Sept. 14, 1891.

H.S. Lehr, Esq., Ada, O.

Dear Sir: In answer to your letter let me say that the custom of joint debates is for two to preside, one from each political party. Just who these gentlemen will be I am unable to say, but I have no doubt in the world but that they will accept your kind invitation to dine with you. I am to meet Mr. Horn today and have no doubt but that we will arrange to have the debate occupy the two hours. One hour each side. The gentleman who opens to have three quarters of an hour, and then to be followed by the other party, he having one hours, and then the opening gentleman to close in one quarter of an hours. This may not be the final arrangement, but I am inclined to think that it will. I will advise you as soon as the matter is attended to.

Very truly yours,

James E. Neal, Chairman.

LIMITING THE TIME.

Columbus, O., Sept, 15, 1891.

H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Dear Sir: Your letter advising me that the 8th of October will be agreeable to Governor Campbell for the joint debate is received. We will be glad to confer with the chairman of the Democratic State Committee at once to the order of the debate and the sooner the details can be arranged the better. As to the matter of presiding officer, that can be arranged in any way satisfactory
to you. (I will say however that with Ex-President Hayes known views regarding his personal participation in politics I don't believe he had better preside at the meeting).

As Governor Campbell proposed the debate, Mr. McKinley would be entitled to the opening and closing. I would therefore suggest to the Democratic State Committee that the whole time be limited to three hours. Each to occupy one-half of that time. Mr. McKinley to consume one hour in opening, to be followed by Governor Campbell who should occupy one and one-half hours, and Mr. McKinley to conclude in the remaining half hour.

If Governor Campbell should prefer two hours on a side instead of one and one-half hours on each side, that will be agreeable to Mr. McKinley. In that event Mr. McKinley would occupy one and one-fourth hours in opening. I shall be glad to complete arrangements with the Democratic State Committee at once.

Very respectfully,

Wm. Hahn, Chairman.

It will (be) observed that I suggested Ex-President Hayes for president of the meeting. I first felt the Republican committee. It is readily seen that it was thought improper, I was too anxious for a great display. It would have been a great mistake to have made such a proposition to the Democratic committee.
Beginning 1891. Preliminaries of Campbell-McKinley Debate III.

April 26, 1907, V. XXIX, No. 49

CHAPTER 136.
Beginning 1891. Preliminaries of Campbell-McKinley Debate.

Columbus, O. Sept. 20, 1901.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Dear Sir: We are just in receipt of yours of the 17th, and note what you say in reference to the joint debate to be held at Ada, between McKinley and Campbell. We think you had better come to Columbus some day this week and you can probably make arrangements while you are here. We have had no communication on this matter with Wm. Neal the Chairman of the Democratic State Executive Committee, but we are ready at any time to have a conference and adjust the matter.

Yours truly,

Wm. Hahn, Chairman.

NEAL WANTS IT TWO HOURS.

Columbus, O., Sept 21, 1891.
H.S. Lehr, Ada, Ohio.

Dear Sir: I have your letter with Mr. Hahn's enclosure. I can only say that I suggested to Mr. Hahn over two weeks ago that the debate should occupy two hours. One hour a side. Mr. Campbell desired to open, speaking three-quarters of an hour, followed by Mr. McKinley be speaking one hour, and Mr. Campbell to close in one quarter of an hour. I understood as did you that this matter was to be determined by Mr. Hahn and myself. When I met him the next day he said he had written to you that day. I responded by saying that he and myself were the ones to determine this matter, and if we could not agree as to whom should have the opening and closing that I would draw cuts with him. This I am willing to do, and will see him in person today. If he is not willing to accept this proposition, I don't know what fairer one could be made. I argued with him that two hours was as long as it would be possible to hold the audience.

Very truly yours,

James E. Neal, Chairman.
THE FINAL AGREEMENT.

Memorandum of agreement entered into between Wm. M. Hahn, Chairman of the Republican State Executive Committee, and James E. Neal, Chairman of the Democratic State Executive Committee, concerning joint debate, between Gov. James E. Campbell, and Hon. William McKinley, Jr. at Ada, Ohio, October 4, 1891.

The debate to last three hours. Governor Campbell to open in one hour and five minutes and Major McKinley to follow in one and one-half hours. Governor Campbell to close in twenty-five minutes. There shall be two Chairmen: Mr. J.M. Van Fleet, Chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee of Hardin county, to represent Governor Campbell, and Mr. James C. Howe, Chairman of the Republican Executive Committee to represent Hon. William McKinley, Jr. Should either one, or both of these gentlemen decline or be absent, then some one else to be named by the respective parties shall act. The chairmen are to preside and give a simple introduction, and call each party to time at expiration of time. The debate to begin at 1:30 o'clock, Ada time.

The undersigned being unable to agree as to which of the speakers should open and close the debate, the matter was decided by lot, Prof. H.S. Lehr, tossing a silver half dollar.

Wm. Hahn,

James. E. Neal,
Chairman Dem. State Ex. Com.

The agreement was, head up, McKinley should open; tail up, then Campbell should open the debate. It was tail up.

Immediately after tossing the half dollar some one offered me a dollar for the piece of silver. I took the dollar. The recipient said, "I would not take ten dollars for this 50 cent piece."

It will be observed that the chairman of the County Executive committees were to preside. It was afterward mutually agreed that Rev. ... B. Campbell should preside. The Democrats at first objected to the arrangement but by my persuasion they finally agreed to the new arrangement.

As soon as the agreement was signed I telegraphed to Agnew Welsh editor of the Ada Record.
Columbus, O. Sept. 23, 1891.

Agnew Welsh, Ada, O.
Signed, sealed, settled, Oct. 8th, 1:30.
H.S. Lehr.

Columbus, O., Sept. 29, 1891.
Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My Dear Sir: Your telegram of the 20th to Hon. Wm. McKinley has been handed me for reply.
It will be impossible for Major McKinley to remain over night at Ada.
We have not yet determined where he will speak that evening, but he will be assigned somewhere along the line of the P Ft. W, & C. Railroad. The date will be announced later on.

Yours truly, Wm. Hahn, Chairman.

Columbus, O., Sept. 30, 1891.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My Dear Sir: Will you please furnish us a copy of the letter sent you by Major McKinley, dated August 29, 1891. In looking over the correspondence we find we have not the letter referred to in our dispatch to you of August 31. We do not care to write Major McKinley for a copy, as he is not in Canton and we thought we could secure it from you. Please answer by return mail.

Yours truly,

Wm. Hahn, Chairman.

MCKINLEY INVITED TO DINE AT THE LEHR HOME.

Columbus, O., Oct. 2, 1891.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My Dear Sir: We are in receipt of your of 1st inst. and note what you say in reference to Governor Campbell staying for dinner and holding a reception at your home. We are unable to say at this time anything definite in reference to Major McKinley’s stay at Ada, and I am unable to say whether or not I can time to attend the Ada meeting. If possible I will do so. Nothing would give me more pleasure than to accept your kind invitation to be present and take dinner with you.
We hope that the Ada meeting will be looked after by our friends equally as well as our Democratic friends will undertake to do. It is important that you advertise the meeting thoroughly along the line of the Pennsylvania railroad. No doubt your people are prepared to accommodate a great many people and we predict that this will be one of the largest audiences in the state.

We received a letter some time ago from a gentleman suggesting that the two parties be separated, that is, the Democrats be on one side, and Republicans on the other. We want to say that we think this would be very bad politics. We don't think you would entertain such an idea. Let them all be together. After the meeting is over of course the Democratic papers will claim that Mr. Campbell had the largest number present, and our papers will possibly make the assertion that we had the largest. The only drawback about the debate is that the counties near you are all largely Democratic. If the debate had been held somewhere in the Western Reserve you can see that the question as to who had the largest following present would be settled very quickly; but, however, this may be we are not afraid to have our gallant Governor talk to the rock-ribbed Democrats from the surrounding counties, and we believe he will do our cause good in this debate. I thank you very much for the interest you have taken in this matter and hope it will result in the election of the entire Republican ticket in Hardin county.

Yours truly,
Wm. Hahn, Chairman.
CHAPTER 137.
More Details of the Great McKinley and Campbell Debate.

May 3, 1907, V. XXIX, No. 50

It will be observed from the correspondence that it was much harder to get the consent of the Republican committee on a number of points than the Democratic committee. Gov. Campbell gave his consent first for the debate. Had he not, McKinley would hardly have consented to the discussion. Many Republicans and some Democratic papers opposed Ada as the place. Numerous others towns and cities were proposed but the Governor stood firm for Ada.

Shall give a few extracts from the Columbus Press.

HELPING TO ADVERTISE HIM.

Columbus Press: Joint debates between candidates are usually arranged between the respective party committees. That enterprising Normal school professor who had tried to work some advertising for his school out of the matter, has done gratuitous work.

Columbus Press: Prof. Ladd has succeeded in closing arrangements for the joint debate between Major McKinley and Governor Campbell at his college in the cross-roads town of Ada, Ohio. As an advertiser Professor Ladd is a great success. Not in the history of Ohio politics has a political campaign been so successfully turned into an advertising scheme by any individual concern. Many people will thus hear of Ada, Ohio, and find it on the map who never heard of it before.

The editor and proprietors of the Press knew the same for it occurred in the columns of the paper nearly daily for at least two weeks. It was simply a thrust. Many fine complimentary notices could be given.

Mr. Agnew Welsh kindly prepared a scrap book containing extracts from many local and city papers. Later on may give two of the three extracts.

I engaged Mr. W.D. Carpenter, of Lima to prepare lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. for not less than 130 persons. The candidates and their special friends,
all newspaper men, editors and reporters and the county committees were invited to lunch and it was supposed that some who were not invited would enjoy the privilege and a number did. I bought 400 cigars for which I paid $25. The two candidates could each invite four guests for the evening dinner and the chairman of the state committees and the chairmen of the county executive committees were invited. The dinner was an elaborate affair of nine courses.

MENU.

Blue Points on half shell
Lemonade
Soup
Lake Trout baked in wine and served on toast
Turkey with dressing and cranberry sauce
Mashed Potatoes Pickles Olives
Celery Sweet Cider
Lemon Sherbet
Fried Oysters Chicken Salad
Lemon Pie
Plum Pudding with wine sauce
Neapolitan Cream
Chocolate and White Cake Coffee
Fruit

Mr. Carpenter asked whether he should serve wine. Permission was not granted. He said the trout to be good should have a wine dressing. Permission was granted for that. Mr. Carpenter also stated in his contract that only the dish washers could be in the kitchen. Mrs. Lehr and the daughters had to stay out that they might not learn his methods of preparing certain
dishes. The colored waiters were brought from Cincinnati.

The caterer served fine red lemonade instead of cider. The Major sat by my side and as I now remember that I drank at least three. The next morning before breakfast Mrs. Lehr said, "I thought you said you would not serve wine." My reply was that there was no wine served. She said, "Come and see the empty bottles." And there they were and two bottles and a half of claret left. The lunch and that dinner cost "a right smart sum." I told the Democratic Chairman, Mr. Neal, since I was a Republican the Democrats could have their choice of the lower suite of rooms or the upper suite. They chose the lower. When the candidates left in my surrey for the fair grounds the Governor looked back and said, "Major, I am on the ground floor." "Yes," replied the Major, "But Governor I am on top." Mrs. James Bastable prepared a floral horseshoe for Governor Campbell and presented it to him just before he began speaking. The Governor instead of placing it on the table set it on the floor and leaned it against the leg of the speaker's table and by some accident knocked it over. I reached for it but the Major was too quick for me. He picked it up, held it till the Governor sat down and then handed it to him. At dinner the Governor said, "Major, I got a horseshoe today, and you didn't." McKinley replied, "Yes, Governor, but you knocked it down and I picked it up." Coming back after the debate I invited Prof. Workman into the surrey. The new moon was plainly to be seen. The Major said, "Professor, look at the moon over your left shoulder, it is a good omen." "I did as soon as I saw it," Prof. Workman replied.

When we got home the newspaper men called me out on the lawn and formed a circle. A Chicago reporter acted as spokesman. "We know what you want, it is to advertise your school. We met here at one o'clock and resolved that if you would ask us to write up your college that we would ignore it entirely, but you have said nothing. You gave us a fine lunch, good cigars and plenty of them, you had pages of both parties, treated Democrats and Republicans alike, now watch the papers tomorrow."

It would be unwise to give many extracts from the reports. Quite a number made the compliments stronger that the facts would warrant. Here is one from the Philadelphia Press, "Some few weeks ago, Professor H.S. Lehr president of the Ada Normal school, a gentleman of prominence thruout the state, and a politician of note, called a meeting of chairmen of the Central committees of the two parties at his home in Ada, and by common consent, it was agreed to hold the debate in October. The consent of both Major McKinley and Governor Campbell was secured and arrangements to carry the plan to a
successful ... were at once begun. The most sanguine expression of the
committees and Professor Lehr were more than realized in the attendance
and the enthusiasm displayed, a gratifying condition of both being the
overwhelming majority on the Republican side."

Extracts from the Pittsburgh Post: Ada, O., Oct. 8:--"This evening both
candidates held an informal reception at President Lehr's house. Hundreds of
the towns people and strangers pressed thru the house and shook hands with
Mr. McKinley and Mr. Campbell. Bands serenaded outside and there was
activity generally about the house."

Modesty forbids copying extracts from the St. Louis Globe Democrat and
papers from Chicago, Boston and other cities. They would be more
appropriate after my decease. One Chicago paper added, "The Ada Normal
University did not suffer any by the joint debate. There is a very Lehr-ned as
well as shrewd man at its head."

A lady in Connecticut wrote and related what she had read in a Boston paper.
From what the paper said she thought the Ada University the proper place to
send her daughter and she sent her. She remained two years or more and
was a fine student. All the citizens took an active interest in making the
occasion a success.

The commissioner of Schools, Mr. Miller, was friendly to the O.N.U. When J.J.
Burns was Commissioner he was very friendly and so was Mr. LeRoy D.
Brown. They were Democrats.

A LETTER FROM MR. MILLER.

Columbus, O. Sept. 27, 1891.

H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My Dear President Lehr: Sorry I was not in when you called. I intended to
write some days ago, but my work, (p)revented. Let me assure you,
Professor, it will give me much pleasure to come to your school, and have a
good talk with you. When would you like best for me to come? I can come
almost any day, save Saturdays, as these are about all engaged for Teachers'
Association.
Do you want me at the time of the joint debate? Write me fully, and you will
find a friend in me. Wishing your success.
Very truly,

Chas. C. Miller, Commissioner.
Correspondence with the Great Political Leaders of the Day.

May 10, 1907, V. XXIX, No. 51:1-2

CHAPTER 138.
Correspondence with the Great Political Leaders of the Day.

Some members of the State Committee thought that Senator Sherman was not so much interested in Republican success in certain counties as he should be, urged me to write to him and ask his assistance in those counties. After the debate they sent for me to come to Columbus. It was not a pleasant task, but the letter was written. The Senator on this occasion answered by an autograph letter.

SHERMAN'S LETTER.

Mansfield, Ohio, Oct. 19, 1891.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My Dear Sir: Your kind note of the 13th came during my absence. We are doing all we can to aid the doubtful counties and I shall spend the balance of my time before the election in them. We hear more favorable accounts now from Guernsey county, tho I seriously fear the family fight will lose us that importance county. Thanking you for your kindness, I am, as ever,

Very sincerely yours,

John Sherman.

Much correspondence passed between me and Secretary foster and others interested in the senatorial contest between Senator Sherman and Mr. Foraker. Much of it is too personal and plain to give to the public. I was blamed for influencing Prof. C.H. Workman to vote for Foraker. The fact is that Mrs. Workman was strongly in favor of Foraker and she had more influence than any one else.

Had an invitation to be present at the inauguration ceremonies of Governor McKinley, but school work so near the opening of a new term of school, was too urgent for me to accept the invitation.
We wanted a man of national reputation to address our graduating class and thought it probably that thru the influence of our friend Vice President Stevenson for that occasion. After some correspondence the Senator wrote that he would be in Lima June 29th to meet him there and that he would give me a strong letter and a pass over the Erie R.R. to Bloomington, Ill., the home of Mr. Stevenson and advised to make a personal call on Mr. Stevenson.

THE LETTER OF SENATOR BRICE.

Lima, O., June 29, 1892.

H.S. Lehr, Ada, Ohio.

My Dear General: If you owe me anything whatever of any accommodating turn, you will be forever acquit and my creditor in turn if you will do one thing for me (and my friend Prof. Lehr the bearer). He is the head of the greatest American University, greater than Harvard or Yale or Princeton in that he teaches more students in a year, more things, and things they really want to know and just what they want to study them, and all without endowment, aid or assistance, except what comes from and to the divine fire that burns within him. He is our first Educator today, and worth you or any man's knowing. His students are the best that Ohio can furnish and of other states as well. Give one day, July 21st, at Ada, O., and it will do you good, do our party great good and do the innumerable company of his students and their friends more good than all. You know that I would not put it stronger than I think the facts warrant.

Sincerely,
Calvin S. Brice.

The Vice President accepted and agreed to address the class. But on July 7th received a letter that it was impossible to fulfill the promise.

LETTER OF MR. STEVENSON.

Bloomington, Ill., July 6, 1892.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Dear Sir: I write you a line to say that I have been notified that presence will be required in New York on the 20 or 21st of this month. This will prevent the possibility of my attending your college commencement as I had hoped to do and I regret it very much, but it is impossible. I enclose letter of Senator Brice as requested.

Very truly,
Commencement came on the 21st of July. I at once wrote to the two candidates for Secretary of State and to our friend O.T. Corson, Commissioner of Schools, and invited them to come to our commencement exercises and to talk to the class.

Mr. Taylor, the Democratic candidate, made a short address the Republican candidate preferred not to speak. Mr. Corson made the address.

The juniors had captured in some way the orations of some of the seniors and at a junior roast delivered them or a least part of them the Saturday night before commencement. Some of the seniors declared they would not speak commencement day. The juniors printed on the front walk some "roast" about the senior orations and Mr. Corson learned the facts. He began his address by stating that he had prepared an address for the occasion, but the juniors stole it and that he would have to do the best he could. The applause was great. The seniors did not applaud so much as the general audience, but he soon captured the seniors and delivered a fine address.

Rev. J.H. Hartman, of Cleveland, a college mate at Mt. Union, preached the baccalaureate sermon.

During the school year 280 students graduated from the various colleges of the University, eighty-three from the three Literary courses, nineteen in Civil Engineering, thirteen from the College of Law, forty-seven in Pharmacy, one hundred and seven from the College of Commerce, three in Stenography, five in Elocution and four in Music, altho three hundred and seven students pursued some course ... music, sixty were enrolled in the Art department and thirty-six in Telegraphy.

Many fine students graduated from the school in that year but I can not speak of all, and shall name few.

Two completed the Philosophical course, Clyde Akerman and J.R. Jamison. Mr. Akerman at present holds a county office and lives in Lima, O., Harvey Brugger a fine student holds a superintency in some Ohio town. Bertha Breimaier is now Mrs. Pendleton.

O.P. De Witt wrote to me frequently a number of years, but I can not recall his
present address. Have not heard from him the last two years. (His address is National Park, N.J. ED) Shall always remember him for his honorable action in a case that occurred about some trouble about furnishing music for the societies. Prof. Park, Prof. Maglott and Prof. Fess will remember the occurrence and that he refused to certify to a false statement when requested to do so. B.H. Gamen also a member of this class acted very honorably in certifying to the truth in the same case. Shall not relate it but let it rest in peace, but thought it proper, at the time, to get a written statement from Mr. De Witt and place it on file.

Harry H. Frasier a brilliant students, an all around good fellow and a strong Adelphian is principal of the Tiffin, O., High School.

J.W. Guthrie, an equally good student, but a Philo, is principal of the Alliance, O., High School.

Jessie Irick a Franklin, a noble lady married Rev. M.L. Buchie and lives in Cleveland.

Hattie Knapp, a fine student, still resides at Deep River, Connecticut, J.F. Kingsley, of Massachusetts, entered the ministry.

J.J. Lumbert, a fine student, has been teaching in the Dayton, O., High School about twelve years.

J.F. Mitchell teaches in Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa.

E.C. Moore was an original thinker, a logicial, a rhetorician and a hard worker. We corresponded a number of years but have lost track of him.

Kinna Miles, a thorough student, married G.R. Anderson, a member of the class. He is in the employ of the American Book Company and I think resides at Pemberton, O. Miss Miles was a strong Franklin and as I now remember Mr. Anderson was an equally strong Adelphian.

H.H. Spalding, a strong Philo, resides in St. Regis, Mont. Mary R. Young, a Philo, married E.E. Edge, now attorney at Law in Toledo. She died about five years ago. She was a fine student and was frequently called the Philo (b)eauty.

R.W. Barnes resides near Ada. He was a great Y.M.C.A. worker and always
kindly helped to care for the sick.

J.W. Bittichofer, a fine student, teaches in some town in Crawford county, O.
The last I heard from W.A. Coy he was in business in California.

Laura Hollister, an M.E. minister's daughter, came to Ada to school while her
father resided in Alliance, an M.E. college town. She was one of the prominent
students of her day and a leading Philo. She is married and lives in Cleveland.

A.N. Krieg is superintendent of a school in northern Ohio. S.H. Layton is
superintendent of schools of Fostoria, O. and is succeeding finely. J.S.
Lehman teaches in northern Ohio. After graduating he was employed to teach
in the O.N.U. He taught in his alma mater two years.

The last I heard from T.G. Powell he was a state senator in West Va.

Clyde K. Painter practices Law in Bowling Green, O. He is now the Hon. C.K.
Painter.

Frank E. Quail a leading Adelphian, resides in California. He was elected
county surveyor last fall.

W.F. Rangeler, a good student and loyal Philo is dead. E.D. Riley, of May's
Landing, N.J., prepared our botanical specimens for the Exposition in
Chicago, 1893. It contained many specimens and they were well prepared.

G.C. Stumm, a good student, resides in Denver, Col.

Nelson Sauvain, one of my warm friends was a teacher many years in
Wooster University. Last fall he took charge of the schools in some city in
Michigan. W.E. Simms, I am told practices medicine in Columbus.

P.H. Sigrist and L.A. Sigrist teach in eastern Ohio.

Walter Swihart, a Franklin, enrolled from Churbusco, Ind. The last I heard
from him he resided in Glendale, Ariz. He is the author of an interesting book
of fiction called "Xavier Langston."
W.H. Wagers practices law in Toledo, O., and has a lucrative practice.

Frances Wildes, now Mrs. Dennison, resides in Toledo. She was an ardent Philo.

Ida Umbaugh a loyal Philo and a fine student is dead.

Ella Sullivan a strong student and Philo worker lived at Passaic, N.Y. the last I heard from her.

H.C. Heckerman one of my warm friends married the Adelphian Beatrice Minnis. The last letter I received from them, they resides at Bedford, Pa.

Ethel Alma Park, now Mrs. Prof. Gregg, was a member of this class. Have spoken kindly of her in a former number and she richly deserves all I said in that number. She is a Franklin.

C.H. Adkins, now the Hon. Mr. Adkins resides in Oklahoma and practices law. I.F. Bricker practices law in Philadelphia. W.T.S. O'Hara is in Toledo. Adolph Remele is in Detroit, Michigan.

Mary Black, a Franklin of the Franklins teaches in the Lima, O., schools at a good salary.

There are scores of others whose faces come up before me and society affairs, class troubles, love affairs, etc., crowd the mind and a something appears to say, "Do you remember me?" But some have never written to me since graduation and others not for some years and cannot give the address or business and space also forbids.

On Wednesday evening the Philos and Adelphians contested, on Thursday evening the Franklins and Philos. The net proceeds of the Philo-Franklin
contest were handed to me. I still hold the receipt of the Franklin treasury. The amount was $39.36. Another year had come to a successful close.

BEGINNING A NEW YEAR.

Catalog No. 22 showed an enrollment of 2932 different students a gain of 123 over the previous school year. The length of the terms, tuition and board remained as the previous year.

Death called from our number Prof. C.O. Morrison, one of the best teachers ever serving as a teacher in the O.N.U. E.B. Hall and E.A. Powell were elected to teach his branches. Miss Helen Barnes, a thoro scholar in her line was elected to assist in teaching Rhetoric and Literature. W.E. Myers was elected county surveyor and resigned as teacher of Engineering and G.W. Cantrell was chosen to teach Engineering. Walter Swihart was elected to assist in teaching mathematics, and Clinton Alspach as Curator of the Chemical Laboratory. E.E. Edge was chosen in the place of J.B. Ruhl as Principal of the Commercial College and C.B. Wright was elected to assist in teaching Stenography. He is still connected with the University and still teaches Stenography and is also the Corresponding Secretary of the University, one of the offices long filled by the writer of these reminiscences.

The school was still growing. All the departments or colleges of the University were in fine condition but the College of Engineering especially was gaining. Mr. Brown chief engineer of the Pennsylvania Railway system sent me a very fine letter with his nephew a Mr. Brown whom he sent here to study engineering. He spoke about the efficiency of our students in their line of work. I meant to publish it in our catalog, but in some unaccountable way lost it. Later, Mr. M.P. Heckerman, of Bedford, Pa., wrote to Mr. Brown asking advice as to where he should go to study engineering. Mr. Brown was in Europe but his chief assistant, now the Chief Engineer of the Pennsylvania system of railways answered the letter which we published in our catalog a number of years, in fact we published two of his letters in our catalog but shall insert but one.

MR. RICHARD'S LETTER.

Philadelphia, Aug. 25, 1890.

M.P. Heckerman, Bedford, Pa.
Dear Sir: Mr. Brown being in Europe I beg to answer your favor of the 19th inst. The boy had better remain where he is as long as you desire, and if our work keeps up I would recommend by all means that he take a special course in Engineering which you indicate. There is a school in Ohio which makes a specialty of special courses and as far as I am able to learn is the most reasonable and best school for this purpose. You might communicate with them on this subject. I believe the name of this school is the Ohio Normal University, Ada, Ohio.

Respectfully,

J. Richards.

In his other letter Mr. Richards said that our graduates compared quite favorably with those from other educational institutions in this country and in Europe. Later Mr. Richards sent a brother here to study engineering and later a number of other students. He communicated with me about sending a young man here in 1908 and sent him and he may be here today. One of the vice presidents of the Pennsylvania Railroads sent a grandson here to study engineering and a number of other officials of the road residing in Harrisonburg, Pa., sent their sons here for the same purpose.

There are several reasons why the O.N.U. students are so efficient. The first is the kind of students who come here to work, not to spend money. Second, the strong teachers in their respective lines of work. Third, the practical work that is required of the students. Fourth, the general spirit of the school work, constant work. The writer is pleased to say that the spirit still continues.

I still found it expedient to keep in touch with both the leading political parties. I shall insert a few more letters from prominent men.

LETTER FROM VICE PRESIDENT STEVENSON.

Bloomington, Ill., July 25, 1892.
Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, Ohio.

My Dear sir: Upon my return from New York this morning I find your letter of July 14th. It reached here after my departure for New York. This will explain why you have received no response before. I greatly regret not being able to visit you on the 21st, but as you know it was simply impossible. I had the pleasure of meeting your friend, Senator Brice, and heard him give Mr. Cleveland a very graphic and interesting description of your university. The Senator is certainly your warm and devoted friend.
Yours very truly,

A.E. Stevenson.

Cincinnati, O., Aug. 9, 1892

Dr. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Mr. Dear Doctor: I write to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th inst. and to enclose you a copy of a letter I have written Mr. Elkins in compliance with your request. I sincerely hope on your account, as well as his own, that Mr. Moore may be successful. You enquire about the politics this fall. I hope and believe they are all right, but the truth is I do not know much about them. I have been so occupied with my business as to make it impossible to give much attention to political matters. As yet there does not appear to be much interest or enthusiasm excited on either side, but I suppose the battle will open in September and from then on until November we shall have quite enough of it.

Very truly yours,

J.B. Foraker.

Cincinnati, O., Aug. 9, 1892.

Hon. S.B. Elkins, Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir: I am sorry to trouble you by presenting so many requests of my friends, and I avoid doing so when I can, but I am in receipt this morning of a letter from Dr. H.S. Lehr, President of the Ohio Normal University, Ada, Ohio, requesting me to write you in behalf of Mr. E.C. Moore, who as an applicant for appointment in the regular army. I am not personally acquainted with Mr. Moore, but Dr. Lehr commends him as an excellent young man and a good scholar, and in short, as one who is in every way worthy and deserving such a position.

I know Dr. Lehr would not give him such a commendation if he were not entitled to it, for the Doctor is one of the first citizens of our state in every sense of the word. He has about twenty-four hundred students in attendance at his University, and I hope he may be gratified whenever it is possible
consistently with public duty to do so.

Very truly yours,

J.B. Foraker.
The first fall term of 1892 I taught the class in political economy. All the members of the class did not agree with the teacher on certain points and it was decided that the teacher should write to the Secretary of the Treasury. It was a custom in my classes in civics and political economy from 1873 as long as I taught those classes to leave disputed points for decision to the members of the Cabinet in whose line of jurisdiction the disputed question came. On several occasions students got fine letters from members of the Cabinet. Shall here insert a letter from Secretary Foster.

FOSTER'S LETTER.

Washington, D.C., Sept, 1, 1892.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My Dear Professor: Acknowledging the receipt of your esteemed favor of the 24th, I would reply to the queries which you make, as follows:

The greenbacks are redeemable in coin. Legally they may be redeemed in either gold or silver coin, but as the only coins in actual existence at the time of their issue were gold coins, equitably they are redeemable in gold. The Treasury notes issued for the purchase of silver bullion under the act of July 14, 1890, are redeemable on demand in coin. The provision of law is as follows:

"That upon demand of the holder of any of the Treasury notes herein provided for the Secretary of the Treasury shall, under such regulations as he may prescribe, redeem such notes in gold or silver coin at his discretion, it being the established policy of the United States to maintain the two metals on a parity with each other upon the present legal ratio, or such ratio as may be provided by law."

As a matter of practice, I may say that both the legal tender notes and the Treasury notes issued in the purchase of silver bullion are redeemed in gold upon demand of the holder.

The purpose of keeping one hundred million dollars in gold as a reserve in the Treasury was to assure the payment of the legal tender notes in gold upon demand.
Very respectfully,

Chas. Foster, Secretary.

Washington, D.C., Dec. 16, 1892.

H.S. Lehr, Ada, Ohio.

My Dear Sir: Yours of the 15th received. I note your suggestions as to politics, for which I am obliged. will be glad to see you in relation to the last suggestion, but I am giving at the present all the time I can spare from my Senatorial duties to the disputed Senatorships in the West, to prevent the Republicans from capturing all of them, as they claim they will do. I will be very much absorbed in these matters until the last of January.

Write me as fully and frequently as you may wish.

Very truly yours,

Calvin S. Brice.

P.S. -- Whenever you want a pass advise me where you would like to go, but I presume you will not want it before the first of January when a series of new passes will be issued.

Calvin S. Brice.

Volumes could be written on cases of discipline and friction between students and the Literary Societies but nearly all that must be omitted, altho at the close of these general reminiscences I shall give several numbers on students' pranks and several other topics. In the spring of 1893 we had a case of insubordination in the battalion which shall be here inserted but the name of the offender will not be given.

LETTER OF APOLOGY.

Ada, Ohio, May 30, '93.


Dear Sir: I hereby extend to you my most sincere apology for addressing you as I did yesterday afternoon on the campus. I realize that my conduct was ungentlemanly, and that you have sufficient reasons for demanding my
suspension.
Pres. H.S. Lehr advised me that I should write you immediately, and ask of you that you withdraw your request from the faculty. I herewith do so and assure you that I deeply regret my conduct, both on account of you and myself. I am naturally quick tempered and was partially irresponsible for what I said. I am sure there has been a misunderstanding between us, and that our matters can be properly arranged.
I wish to inform you that the company was disbanded without my knowledge, and I am sure with my deepest regrets.
Lieut. Dirlane is at present working up the company and I understand he is having good success. I will help him all I can.
Sincerely hoping that you will accept my apology and withdraw your request I remain

Yours respectfully,
Strong Students of the Years '92-3. A Letter from Willis.

June 21, 1907, V. XXX, No. 5

CHAPTER 141,
Strong Students of the Years '92-'93. A Letter from Willis.

The lecture committee for the school year were C.B. Magill, J.P. Myers, Rachel Cere-- Adelphians; W.E. Simms, J.B. Gregg, E.L. Bloom--Franklins; B.E. Finley, N.W. Culbertson, Sarah L. Lehr--Philomathean.

During the school year 1892-3, fifty-four former graduates came back to take post graduate work. We still occupied the whole week with commencement exercises. The total number of graduates in all the departments was 297. If I distinctly remembered each graduate and knew where all now are and what each one now living was doing, space would forbid naming all, but I cannot remember each one distinctly, nor do I know how many are still living, nor where they all are or in what occupation engaged, shall, therefore speak of but few of the many. This I remember that we had many strong students and many of whom I have not heard from for many years.

The last I heard from J. W. Barger he was in business in Columbus, O. H.W. Bowersmith, an Adelphian pillar of his day, resides in Ada. He is as much of a hustler as ever. M.L. Buchele preaches for a large Disciple congregation in Cleveland. He married Jessie Irick. Both were loyal Franklins. Rose Charles, now as M.D., is a missionary in China and practices his profession in missionary service. A.L. Freehafer, a hard worker and bright student, teaches in Idaho. Occasionally on Saturday afternoons, when all alone in the school office, I would study the program, classes and our teachers. If any teachers were likely soon to resign the question would present itself, whom shall we employ to fill the vacancies?

Among the thousands of students every year in attendance at our school, many able young men and women could be found who would succeed admirably as teachers or in almost any profession or line of business. In thinking over the list, I concluded to write to two former students and tell them to make further preparation for the profession of teaching as we would in all probability elect them to chairs in the University. I told one of them, now Prof. J.B. Gregg, to go to some university and make special preparation to teach physics and chemistry. He went to Ann Arbor. He was a member of the class
of '93. The other member to whom I wrote is now Prof. F.B. Willis. They both still teach in the O.N.U. I have not apology to make to former or present students of the O.N.U. that I wrote to the above named gentlemen, their work speaks for them. There are few teachers in Ohio who can equal their work. Prof. Gregg recited but a few lessons to me in psychology but the few lessons were sufficient to attract my attention to him as a student. It could readily be seen that he was a thinker and original.

Jolly Frank Willis was in one of my algebra classes a whole term which gave me a fine opportunity to study him in different lines. I soon learned to love him and today I love him, I might almost say as a father loves a son. His record while a member of the State Legislature shows his industry, practibility, his honesty and candor. Senators and the Governor could not influence him to vote contrary to his conviction of duty. We visit to and from and when absent from one another we correspond. I have on file a number of his letters and shall here insert one.

A LETTER FROM PROF. WILLIS.

Ada, Ohio, Feb. 25, 1905.

H.S. Lehr, Winona Lake, Ind.

Dear Professor:--I thank you most sincerely for your kind words of commendation concerning my feeble effort in the recent issue of the Herald. There were many other things concerning the school its origin and its ideals, which I should like to have said but thought perhaps they would hardly be in place in an article which was written as a sort of advertising circular. It is so perfectly self-evident to me that the school should be run for the accommodation and convenience of the pupils, rather than for the pleasure of the instructors, that I do not see how anyone can dispute the proposition, and yet how few schools there are in this country that are run upon that basis. Most of them have their iron-clad system into which the student must fit or else get out. When I look at the dozens of small colleges in Ohio and see the absurd business principles according to which they are conducted, it is amazing to me that they have not been starved out before this time. If you started out to find a body of men utterly devoid of practical judgement and business sense I think you would not make a mistake if you picked out the faculty of the ordinary college. They live in an unreal world. Their lives are largely built upon theory. It is a pleasure to know that the policy of this great school founded by our wisdom had been totally different from that of the
ordinary institution of learning. It has striven to accommodate the pupils and give them what they wanted when they wanted it, without any useless unreeling of red tape. The school has prospered wonderfully in the past; it will continue to prosper as long as it follows this policy of meeting the demands of the public. There does not now appear to be any intention that this policy will be departed from. All are agreed that the greatest and most important features of this school as compared with other schools are not its points of similarity but rather its points of dissimilarity.

I have often expressed to you personally my esteem of the marvelous work you have accomplished. It is too early yet for us to get a proper historical perspective of the educational history of Ohio for the past fifty years. When that history shall be written there is no doubt in any mind that the central figure of it all will be the man who saw the need of the times, who founded a school of the people and for the people, and placed education within the reach of those who otherwise could never have tasted of its sweets. This estimate I think is entirely conservative and in making it I have tried not to consider the great personal obligation I owe you.

No man in this world aside from my father and brothers has ever done as much for me as you have, and there are tens of thousands in this country that can tell the same story.

I agree with you entirely in your view of the Senate's action with reference to the reciprocity treaty; I think they made a stupendous mistake. You know well that I believe earnestly in the doctrine of protection; but some of our protected industries are going clear beyond reason in their reciprocity. We ought to have free trade relations with the Philippine Islands. The duties on lumber ought to be very materially reduced as a means of preserving our forests.

I doubt the wisdom of the Senate's action on the arbitration treaties. John Hay is not doubt the greatest diplomat we have had in the State department for three-quarters of a century.

I do not think the Republican party will split over the question now before it. There will be some kicking on the rebate bill, but in my opinion the "conservative" interests will see that if they fight and defeat government regulations, it will lead ultimately to government ownership.

I hope that you and yours are well and prosperous. Let me hear from you again.

Yours very truly,

Willis.
Comment on a Group of the Old-Time Students. I

June 28, 1907, V. XXX, No. 6

CHAPTER 142.
Comment on a Group of the Old-time Students.

J.F. Hertlein followed teaching a number of years. He now practices law in Sandusky City. Hertlein was a fighting Franklin. J.F. Kramer, a fine student, practices law in Mansfield. Sarah Lenora Lehr was office Secretary several years and taught Greek and English three years in the O.N.U. she was greatly esteemed and loved by her students. She was an active worker in her Society and the Y.W.C.A. She was elected a delegate to the State meeting when but fourteen years old. The Philos elected her valedictorian of the class. She is married and resides in Illinois.

E.M. Marquand practices medicine at Conesville, O., J.P. Myers is the pastor of the Disciple Church at Paulding, O., Charles Gilbert Martin practices law in some city in Pennsylvania and succeeds finely, C.B. Magill preaches for a Presbyterian congregation in some city in New York. He married pretty and good Ella Doods. Both are Adelphians.

Frederick Overmeyer teaches in a western state, W.H. Powell is an M.E. preacher. Miss Erie Pickernell, a fine student and an ardent Philo teaches Elocution and Physical Culture, F.E. Slabaugh practices law in Columbus, W.E. Simms practices medicine in Columbus, C.P. Taylor practices law in Toledo. Kattie Thomas, now Mrs. Ice, was a very strong student. She was a popular teacher in the O.N.U. a number of years. Viola Wilkins, a fine student, teaches at Delta, O., Wilbur O. Weir is superintendent of schools at Dunkirk, O., J.M. Wollam, a Philo leader a number of years, one of my warm friends, died several years ago in California. Nannie Angus was a great Adelphian worker and A. L. Beck a Philo worker. The boys reported that two pharmics put ... brick bats in a bushel, pretended to have just come as new students and Mr. Beck kindly carried the load while showing the boys to a number of rooms. Mr. Beck was a good student and a leader in his society. C.W. Burkhart practices law, E.L. Byran is superintendent of Schools at Malinta, O. He married Minnie Wynn, a fine student. Edward E. Corn, a warm friend of the O.N.U. practices law at Ironton, O. N.W. Culbertson resides in Chicago and I think practices medicine. Mervin Day practices law in Toledo. Alberta Gray is married and lives in New Hampshire, O., Clay Gaumer, ex-captain of
Company C, is one of four Prohibition representatives in the Illinois House of Representatives. He resides in Champaign, Ill. W.H. Gregg is now known as Judge Gregg, W.J. Fullerton and W.G. Gilmore are dead, Flo Houseley is married and lives in Toledo. All the students of those years will remember Flo and her friend, Eugenie Starbuck at the Watt house. Have not heard from Eugenie for some years.

Sadie Kirkpatrick, an excellent lady, teaches in the public schools of Ada, Robert H. Lee, a noted Philo debater, is dead, E.S. Matthies lives in Van Wert and is a common pleas judge. He married Miss Mary Crouch. Both were Philos and fine students. D.H. Painter, a member of the celebrated painter family of good singers, four boys and two girls, all Franklins and among the best of students, resides in Minneapolis. One could not help but love the Painter students for they had so many good qualities. D.H. Painter is principal of the Minneapolis high school at a good salary. He married beautiful Carrie Young who died about six years ago.

The last I hear from G.B. Spaulding he was cashier in a bank in Denver, N.H. Stull is Superintendent of the DeGraff schools and is also county examiner of Logan County, O. D.W. Sullivan is practicing medicine in New York. Belle Wert is teaching in the Baptist College for colored girls in Atlanta, Ga. She tells me she is entirely ostracized by the white people of the city. W.L. Atwell is now State Senator Atwell, he also is Superintendent of Schools at Johnstown, O. Frank H. Foster is practicing law in Toledo. Wm. R. Richards, who completed the course in Civil Engineering, is a brother of Mr. Richards, Chief Engineer of the Pennsylvania system of railroads. Mr. Richards sent his brother here to study Engineering. Raymond Stanley, of Bordentown, N.J., who was a member of the class graduating in Engineering, was a grandson of one of the Vice Presidents of the Pennsylvania railroad. I.P. Core, an excellent student roomed at the home of the President of the School two years.

Some well known students completed some one of the courses in Music. Shall name those whom I remember. Belle Adams, now Mr. Vogenitz, completed the course on the piano. some years before she completed the course in Voice Culture. She is a fine musician and did much for the school and the Franklin society. She still occasionally sings on the Franklin stage. Dora Fritz, now Mrs. Correll, belonged to the celebrated Franklin Gwendolen quartet. Anna Herbert, now Mrs. Koehnle, was one among the sweetest singers that have graduated from the University. She was as strong a Philo as her brother, Dr. Herbert, was a Franklin. As the family resided in Ada she
appeared on the Philo stage very frequently. She now sings in a church choir in New York at a fine salary. Some time ago she wrote me a kind letter as I ever received from a student. I intended to insert it in these reminiscences but fail to find it on file. I greatly appreciated that letter.

Belle Montgomery, now Mrs. Sutphen, was a faithful student. Both of her parents had been my students. She resides in Columbus. Nellie Wilkinson, now Mrs. W.E. Myers was a fine vocalist, one of our best alto singers and a lady of culture. She resides in Kenton. Miss Fannie Snow, now Mrs. Judge Wannamaker, resides in Akron. The writer has visited her in her beautiful home. She was a fine singer and a strong society worker and a leader in her society. Since leaving Ada she has studied under the best teachers in New York and is a fine musician. Mrs. Wannamaker, Mrs. Myers and Mrs. Sutphen were Philos.

When Anna Sturges, of Learkana, Ark., came to take the "year plan" she wept and said, "must I stay in such a room You ought to see the home I am from." It was one of our best "year plan" rooms. She had been sent here thru the influence of my friend, Gen. Jacob Donaldson, who had told the brother of Miss Sturges of the wonderful school at Ada. Gen. Donaldson and Mr. Sturges both were then living in Washington, D.C. Miss Sturges changed rooms, stayed two years and completed the Scientific course with the class of 93. I would gladly speak of other students and other incidents but space forbids. There were twenty-two graduates in Engineering, sixty-nine in Pharmacy, ninty-nine in the Commercial course and eleven in Music. Hon. J.H. Shinn, commissioner of Schools of Arkansas, addressed the class.

Another very successful year had ended. It should be stated that the alumni the students and teachers of the school held a very enjoyable reunion at the Ohio State building at the Columbus Exposition. It was a great success. I do not remember the date for I have lost the program, but I well remember the interest W.W. Poutney took in the reunion.

Catalog No. 23 showed an enrollment of 2834, a loss of 98. the loss was easily accounted for, as many young men and women would consider a month's visit at the Exposition equal in value to a summer term at school, and the panic or financial crash kept many at home. Several students wrote that they could not come back for they had their money in the bank and the bank failed and therefore they could not return to school.

There were no changes in the expenses or the length of the terms. The
following new teachers were engaged for the coming school year: N.R. Melhorn, Physics and Chemistry. He proved a great success. Miss Minnie Dickinson, now Mrs G.D. Hall. She was to teach Latin. She is a noble lady and was an excellent teacher. F.B. Willis, Mathematics. he had been in my class in Algebra and I found him remarkably strong in that line. Later I found him strong in every line of work. He has more than filled my expectations as a teacher. He still teaches in the O.N.U. and is one of the most popular as an institute instructor and also on the lecture platform. He is morally as good as an instructor. C.B. Magill was employed to assist in teaching Arithmetic. He entered the ministry and is now preaching in a city church in N.Y. We had thirty-two teachers.
CHAPTER 143.
Comment on a Group of Old-time Students.

The school year 1893-4 brought its hard work, burdens and trials and added its furrows and gray hairs and yet it also brought pleasure and profit. It may be well that roses grow on thorn bushes. The previous year a very talented lady had been a student of the O.N.U. Her husband was a travelling man as I now remember. They had two children. She was preparing herself for teaching. The husband did not appear a financial success but it appeared to me that there were shortcomings on both sides of the house. After leaving the O.N.U., she started a school in an Indiana town. She sent me a poem of real literary merit; but it was sad and did not fully conceal disappointment and bitterness. I wrote a letter in reply and in the most delicate manner possible for me, indicated her possible shortcomings, for I thought she had some, altho it was easily seen that he failed to supply the needs of the family. I cannot now find the poem but I have her reply to my letter which I here insert.

LETTER.

Munci, Ind., Nov. 14, 1893.

H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Esteemed Sir: Your very kind favor reached me duly and for its expressions of good will and wishes for success, I beg to thank you.

That you have praised my verses for something of literary merit, pleases me; but that you so gently, so dearly, both on and between the lines, have expressed something sweeter than praise of them, in another sense, brings the quick stir of emotion to my heart, and tears to my eyes, the same as if some angel had touched my shoulder when the way seemed hard and uncongenial, and pityingly had whispered, "I know." I thank you.

I suppose the O.N.U. is prospering and shall always be pleased to hear of its continued success. You may be justly proud of its merits. I expect to send my boy to you in a few years more!

My little home-school is a new venture, and I cannot predict its future. I believe we are doing first-class work, tho, and I feel that something will come of it.
Again thanking you and with best wishes for yourself and school and kindest regards to your daughter and old teachers I remain,

Sincerely yours,

I have on file four letters of 1894 from Senator Brice but shall publish but one of them. If I publish two of them I might be accused of vanity. The one was a letter of introduction to President Cleveland, one was private and one party named in that letter, a Republican, still lives and it would be improper to insert it, and in the third he asks my opinion on certain political questions.

SENATOR BRICE'S LETTER.

Washington, D.C., March 17, 1894.

H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Dear Sir: I would be obliged to have you write me, after thinking and discussing with our friends, on the tariff bill as it is likely to presented. As you know the Wilson bill, when it came to the Senate, was taken up by Messrs. Jones, Vost and Mills, members of the Committee on Finance, and entirely reframed as to the schedules. A duty of one cent per pound was put on sugar and forty cents a ton on coal, all of course, without and suggestion from me, or indeed without my knowledge, as they were very secret in their consideration. When the bill was reported to the Democratic caucus, which I had caused to be called after a conference with Mr. Cleveland, I protested against a bill made on such lines, claiming that they must either go to the Democratic platform of 1892, or put it on the lines of Mr. Cleveland's letter of acceptance of 1892, or must follow the general lines of the Mills bill, which had been ratified by two Democratic conventions that if they proposed to have raw material, they must strike out coal; if they propose to have revenue duties they must put them on coal, iron and sugar, reducing coal, iron, sugar, etc. at a rate not exceeding one-half of the McKinley Bill rates. The result of several days continuation was a recommittal of the bill to the Committee, which will soon report a bill to the Senate, the details of which are not yet determined upon, except that it will include the income tax to which I have not yet made any statement, or taken any position. It is the universal consensus of opinion, and objection is made, that the income tax provision will lose us the States of New York, Connecticut and New Jersey, which have hitherto been deemed essential to the Democratic success. I have been receiving many letters from Ohio, as well as the opinion of visiting Ohio friends, to the effect that the adoption of the income tax will not give the Democracy of Ohio an additional vote, but will drive away, practically, the entire Gorman vote, upon which we have always depended when we were able to carry the state. So far as I am personally concerned, (I care nothing about the income
tax and its effects. I am only anxious to know what your opinion is, and the position which should be taken on that question, so far as the interest of the Democratic party is the state of Ohio is concerned. I will be obliged for as full information from you, on that subject as you care to write me.) This letter and the reply will be confidential.

Truly yours,

Calvin s. Brice.

The Senator knew that I was in favor of free sugar and free coal and in favor of an income tax and still hold the same views. He had learned my views on the above name questions from my previous answer to one of his letters.

I shall give but one case of discipline altho we had a number of cases. We then had, in our village, four or five saloons and two of them had back rooms where men and boys would meet to gamble. They were plague-spots. Any school is much more easily governed where there are no saloons than where the boys can get all the intoxicating liquors they want.

Drinking was much more common then than now in almost every community. The saloons caused us much trouble. I made the rounds to visit them after twelve o'clock at night for some of the boys would think that "Old Prof." will hardly be around so late. We expelled several students during the winter for drinking. There were two bright fellows that I tried hard to save and one of them is today a useful and honorable gentleman, an educator and one of my warm friends, the other also reformed but I have not heard from him for some years.

A gentleman whom I had met at political conventions brought his ward, a Mr. Culver, to enter our school. He told me that he came of a bad family and had caused him some trouble but he thought from what he had heard of our school that possibly we might reform him and make him a useful citizen. We enrolled him, but in about two weeks I wrote to his guardian to come and take him away. Before he got her some parties broke into our school office and into Mr. Wagner's book and notion store and stole money, books, razors, knives, jewelry, etc., to the amount of several hundred dollars. Mr. Wagner reported to Fred Rice, the town marshall to ferret out the thieves. I went to see Culver and his friend, one of the bright boys, a fine debater. That night they slept together, they were still in bed. I asked them where they were during the night. They said at their room. I had been around inquiring and found that they had
been at several saloons and had also been seen crossing the school campus quite late, after eleven o'clock. I said boys, you were at several saloons, naming them and named some persons who had seen them. They confessed that they had been there. I then said what were you doing so late at the chapel buildings? They denied being there. I said let us go and see some parties who saw you there late at night. I named the man who had seen them. They refused to go. I said I will have you arrested for breaking into the school office. One whose father was an attorney replied he would make me pay soundly for accusing him of such a deed. I then asked where they went after breaking into the office, whether they looted Wagner's store before or after looting the office? The bright fellow was brave. Culver said but little.

I knew that God had seen them and I said, you were seen. who was the third person with you? You had persons watching while one did the work. I hit the mark. The bright boy said he would go home and have his father prosecute me. Culver got nervous. I told him I would send for his guardian. He remarked, "He is my foster father and mother is my aunt. It will kill her if you telegraph for him." I was looking for his guardian to come almost any day as I had written for him to come. I told Mr. Wagner that Culver and Mr. were two of the guilty parties and to have them arrested. Mr. Rice thought I was wrong. We had lost a box of pens from the office and I had lost a pair of fairly good gloves. That was all we lost. As far as we could see they had taken no books.

I suspected a third party, a chum of Mr. ; but I was mistaken. When the father came to pay for the goods stolen he said, "I think you suspected Mr. as the third person. You are mistaken. The guilty one is a prominent citizen and a church member." I said who is he? He refused to give his name. He remarked, "If you watch you will some time catch him." And he was caught later. I started out as a detective. The bright boy had traded my gloves at Snow's saloon. There was a mark on one by which I could describe the gloves. Mr. Snow gave me the gloves. I found where Mr. and Culver had sold, traded and given away jewelry, knives, razors, etc.

The bright boy started home, Culver confessed but left town before he could be arrested. The father came before Culver confessed and said what he would do. I showed him the gloves and the mark on one of them. My Secretary said she could certify that they were the gloves his son had traded at the saloon. He asked me to give him the gloves, he would go and see Mr. Snow. I laughed at him and he smiled, but I could see he felt blue. He went home and sent me the following letter:
CHAPTER 144.
The Wagner Bookstore Theft. The Thief Detected.

THE FATHER’S LETTER.

Jackson, May 16th, 1894.

Dr. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Dear Sir: Since writing you this morning I received yours of the 15th inst., and note carefully what you say. My son says that he gave Miss a ring at least six weeks before Mr. Wagner's store was entered, that she returned it the day before he came home, and that night gave it to a woman by the name of Johnston. My son says that Green's statement that he sold or pawned a razor or anything else to him, Green, is utterly false. Miss Head also had the same ring that the Johnston woman got. The people may suppose that my son knows something about Culver, but I know that he knows nothing about him whatever, and was not in that store with him.

That night my son traded the pin for the glass of beer, traded off an old shirt stud or sold it for a nickel. My son wrote to me while at Ada several times that he wanted such things as shirt studs, pin, cuff buttons, etc., and I sent money to buy them. My son says that he sent no gloves to the saloon keeper to be pawned, but was present at one time when Culver pawned a pair of gloves to the saloon keeper.

Those efforts at Kenton will amount to nothing; all precautions have been taken.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Wagner employed an attorney and the Governor of Ohio was requested to make a requisition of the Governor of West Virginia for Mr. . The Governor granted it. Mr. Lew Wells, the Sheriff of Hardin County was sent to arrest him. Wells came back and said he could not find him. He had friends scattered thru the mountain regions and that it was a dangerous job to arrest any one who had popular friends.

While Mr. Wells was in West Virginia or soon after, the father came and paid Mr. Wagner what he thought was the boy's share of the plunder. Sever years after, Culver committed some crime, was arrested and sent to prison.
The father of the bright boy saw the justice of our actions and concluded to send a daughter to the O.N.U.

**A SECOND LETTER.**

Jackson, May 21st, 1894.

Dear Dr. Lehr: I write to ask you what you think of the propriety of sending my daughter of Ada to attend the musical department of your school. She desires to take piano and vocal lessons, and will be ready to go in about three weeks. Do you think my son's conduct while there will have any tendency to bar her from society? If so I would prefer to send her somewhere else. Can you secure her a place to stay where she will have good associates? If so tell me where. She associates with the best people here and I desire that she should associate with the best people there. Please answer my questions fully, and also tell me what it will cost me per month including board, room rent, tuition, use of piano, and laundry.

Yours truly,

The son wrote a letter to one of his chums who handed it to me. I put it on file and for the benefit of young men who may read these reminiscences shall insert it.

**LETTER FROM THE BRIGHT BOY.**

Jackson, W. Va., May 23, 1894.

As I have been very busy the past week or two I ask your pardon, for my delay in answering your letter. I am going to Kanawah County to pierce the wilds of that silver region and take the deposition of the Hoodoos who are about as mossy as the Cumberland mountains. I hear that they are pretty vicious and savage, but I will have two or three of their own kind along with me, therefore I do not think they will become very pugnacious. They are afraid of a stranger too and my strangeness will be a fortification for my defense. Of course you know it will be nice trip.

Well how are you getting along at school, and how are all the girls? Are you going to Valparaiso this fall? I do not know whether I will go any place next year or not. I have read all of one volume of "Teachers' Commentaries on Law" except one hundred pages and think I understand it quite well. I have lost no time since I have been home, but have improved it well. I sincerely hope you are doing the same. There is no use of wasting your life, when you can make something out of yourself. I have neither smoked nor drank since I have been home. I hope you have done as well. If you do not quit now, before the habit of drinking gets deeply set, you never will, so it is of the greatest importance that you quit now. I did not talk this way two months ago, but I now see my mistake. I am not in the
"Salvation Army" yet, neither do I think I will be, but I have quit all those habits which tend to shorten life, weaken intellect and degrade society. I would never have quit drinking until death, had I remained at Ada, but I have quit, I know I am right, and there is no influence strong enough to cause me to recommence. Already I have gained in weight and health, I feel that I am gaining strength, and I know that my working capacity is far greater than it was. You had better quit, if you don’t you are gone. I must close for this time. Write at your convenience.

Your friend,

A FINAL LETTER FROM THE FATHER.

Jackson, W. Va., May 14, 1894.

Dr. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Dear Sir: I reached home this morning. My son was more pleased to learn of the result of our work at Ada and Kenton. He says that if he has ever said anything amiss of you, he retracts it and most sincerely begs your pardon for having done so. He says you never gave him a word of ill advice, but advised him as a kind father would his son, and that it deeply pains him to think that he appreciated the advice you have him so little. He also desires to thank your daughters for the very good advice, which she gave him upon the morn of his leaving Ada. He also says that he is gathering strength every day to resist temptations of all (sorts), has determined to make his life as commendable as possible and will try by his good conduct in the future to atone for the base conduct of the past. I have told him if he receives any letters from students or others from Ada reflecting upon you in the least to burn them up and I will see that he does so. I will permit no word of abuse to come to my office or be uttered in my presence. I will arrange about the matters at Kenton, of which I spoke to you privately, at once. In conclusion I send to you and your whole family my very best wishes.

Yours sincerely,
This year, 1894, we had a great society struggle, combat or fight. We had a number of controversies at different times, but had four bitter struggles. In 1876 the fight was as to which society should have Friday night for pay entertainment. As the Franklins had lost their copy of the contract to the Philos claim the night but did so unjustly and afterwards acknowledged it. The second contest was when a Miss Henderson signed two cards, a Philo card and a Franklin card. As she had signed the Philo card first we decided that she would have to be a member of that society altho she had promised some parties to be Franklin, but we went by the card. I still have the Philo card signed by her.

The school year 1893-4 witnessed the thief. For a number of years it had been the custom to organize the senior class early in the school year in order that the members of the class could and should get to know each other and form friendships and attachments to bind them closer to the school. There were occasional receptions for the classes at the home of the President of the University. In such a large school as we had, and the different colleges, and the custom that students could begin a course any term of the year, many seniors did not learn to know all the members of the class till the organization of the class. In fact some students never came in contact with some of the instructors in the University.

On the morning of October 6, 1893, Friday morning, at chapel I announced that the next morning, at seven o'clock all the seniors should meet for class organization. I read the list of seniors as published in the catalog as was my custom. I called the meeting early for I was to measure wood which had been cut on my farm as was to be there at nine. In fact I had not been out of the office a day for weeks and longed to get to the woods away from office work. Quite a number of seniors met at the appointed hour. I shall here insert the copy of the minutes of the meeting as handed to me by the secretary.

MINUTES OF FIRST MEETING.
Room No. 12, Oct. 7, 1893.

Meeting called to order by Prof. Lehr. After an address by the professor on the different affairs of the senior class and their duties, D.I. Lambert moved, seconded by Mr. Thomas, that E.S. Keller act as temporary secretary. Carried. A few remarks by Prof. Lehr.

Moved by C.M. Drury, seconded by R.G. Jones, that we go into a temporary organization. After remarks by Mssrs. Rose, Jones, Smith and Rossiter, questions were put before the house and lost.

Moved by J.A. Smith, seconded by L.J. Travis that we go into a permanent organization. After remarks by Mssrs. Jones, Mackail, Drury, Rose and Watts, question was put before the house and carried.

Mr. Mackall nominated D.L. Lambert as candidate for president, no other nomination being made vote by ballot was taken resulting as follows, D.I. Lambert thirty-two. J.E. Smith one, Capt. Pugh, one, J.A. Smith, three. D.I. Lambert elected by ballot.

It was my custom to leave the class after its organization. I always requested a copy of the minutes and a list of the members present. The secretary, on this occasion, failed to give me a list of the members present altho the minutes show that a list was taken. The Franklins and Adelphians generally worked together against the Philos. The past several years the Franklins and Adelphians held the office of class president. On this occasion there were more Philos at the meeting than Franklins and Adelphians together. When the motion to go into temporary organization was lost the Franklins and Adelphians claimed the meeting was called at too early an hour and that the Philos had been urged to come that they might elect the class president. Some intimated that the president of the school had urged the Philos to be on hand promptly, but that was not the case. He simply announced the meeting at chapel the previous morning then urged all the members to be present promptly and further said nothing but later I learned that the Philos talked the matter over and concluded to be there in force if possible to elect the president. Those Franklins who were there saw that they were in the minority and attempted the plan of a temporary organization but failed. The Franklins claimed the proceedings were unfair for the meeting was at too early an hour and that the Philos had been urged to come and capture the meeting. There was much talking.
Mr. Lambert, the president, did not call a meeting of the class till Jan. 20. I shall give the minutes as handed to me by the secretary, Mr. E.S. Keller. He neglected to record that when president Lambert called on the President of the school to answer Mr. Watt's question that the answer was that according to the minutes just approved, it was a permanent organization while the class continued. I then left the room and went to my home as the meeting was called Saturday afternoon in room No. 6.

MINUTES OF MEETING IN ROOM NO. 6.

Meeting called to order. Motion made and carried to dispense with called of role. Reading of minutes. Minutes approved as read. Motion made to adjourn to Chapel hall. Remarks by Prof. Lehr ... the object of the meeting. Question asked by Mr. Watt whether this was a permanent organization. Question was referred to Prof. Lehr for decision by Mr. Lambert who was in chair.

D.I. Lambert,
E.S. Keller.

I had been at home but a short time when several students requested me to come at once to Chapel hall. The class had adjourned to Chapel hall and when I arrived it almost appeared that bedlam existed there; but by the raising of a hand quiet was at once restored. I was informed that the class had reorganized as a permanent organization and had elected a new president of the class. The hall was crowded with Franklins, Philomatheans and Adelphians. My decision was that the first organization was regular and proper. The Franklins and Adelphians dissented. Much excitement existed. The Franklins and Adelphians adjourned to Franklin hall. The same secretary had been elected, Mr. E.S. Keller. I shall here insert his second set of minutes.

The Senior class met in room No. 6 and for want of room we adjourned to Chapel hall. After remarks by President Lehr the class was called to order by J.B. Gregg, and W.W. Overmyer was elected chairman. And after incidental
remarks Prof. Lehr dissolved the class in Chapel hall, after which the class adjourned to meet immediately in Franklin hall.

The class was called to order by temporary chairman, and remarks were given by Klingler, Watts, Wert, Shannon and Jones.

Moved by E.B. Rossiter, seconded by J.B. Gregg that a committee of three be appointed of which R.G. Jones be made chairman to draft constitution and by-laws. Motion was carried. Moved and seconded that Messrs. Wood and Wert be other members on the committee. Motion was carried. Moved and seconded that we adjourn to meet in two minutes. Carried.

Chairman called meeting to order after which the committee on constitution reported. After which the constitution was adopted without amendment.

Moved by J.B. Gregg and seconded by E.B. Rossiter that Wm. Klingler be permanent chairman of the Senior class of 1894. Motion was carried.

Moved by J.E. Wert, and seconded by Mr. Shannon that W.G. Wood be permanent vice president. Carried.

Moved by C.M. Drury, and seconded by O.J. Dodge that E.S. Keller be permanent secretary. Carried.

Moved by O.J. Dodge, seconded by William Klingler that F.E. Myers be permanent treasurer. Carried.

Moved and seconded that a committee of three be appointed to escort the chairman elect to chair. Motion carried.

Chair appointed by J.B. Gregg, M.L. Snyder and C.M. Drury.


Moved by O.J. Dodge and seconded by E.B. Rossiter that a committee of three be appointed to report the procedures of this meeting to the president of the O.N.U. Motion carried. Chairman appointed E.S. Keller, J.E. Gregg and O.J. Dodge. The names of the different persons present were given to secretary. Remarks by J.E. Wert, J.B. Gregg and D.G. Hall. The meeting adjourned.
There are two mistakes in this copy of the minutes. I had made my remarks while Mr. Lambert was chairman of the meeting as can be seen by reading the second set of minutes prepared by Mr. Keller. He gave me two sets of minutes of the meeting or meetings of Jan. 30th. The second mistake was this, the omission of the statement that I made a second appearance at the meeting, first in room 6, second in Chapel hall when matters were in a critical state, otherwise as far as I know they are a correct statement of the second edition of the meeting.

Later a committee brought me a copy of the Constitution and By Laws of the second organization.

CONSTITUTION AND BY LAWS.

We the seniors of the O.N.U. of 1894 in order to make the members of the class a unit and better prepare ourselves for the exercise of commencement do establish and adopt this constitution.

CONSTITUTION.

Article I.

Sec. I. All seniors of the O.N.U. shall by virtue of their possession be members of the class.

Article II.

Sec. I. The officers of the class shall consist of a president, vice president, secretary and treasurer who shall ... the majority vote of members present and shall serve until after commencement exercises.

Article III.

Sec. I. The president shall preside, preserve order, determine all points in relation thereto, and vote in case of tie.

Sec. II. The vice president shall preside in the absence of the president.

Sec. III. The secretary shall keep an accurate journal of the proceedings of each meeting and shall carry on all necessary correspondence.

Sec. IV. The treasurer shall keep all money and valuables belonging to the class and dispose of the same in the manner directed by the class.
Article IV.

Sec. I. This constitution and by-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of members present provided a written notice shall have been given at least one week in advance and given at a meeting called by the president.

BY LAWS.

Article I.

Sec. I. This class shall assemble upon the call of the president, or in his absence the vice president or the faculty.

Sec. II. Twelve members shall constitute quorum.

Sec. III. No signing of constitution or by-laws shall be necessary to constitute membership.

Sec. IV. Robert's Rules of Order shall be used as reference in all parliamentary disputes.
Both organizations had meetings at various times. The members of the faculty, as far as I know, did not attend any of the meetings. We thought we would have the regular commencement exercises and pay no attention to Class day and let the societies arrange as they wish, have separate class day exercises, unite or have no class day exercises.

On May 14th the trustees were handed a statement by a number of seniors, all Philos with a few exceptions, two or three Adelphians had signed the papers I now remember the numbers. I showed it to a number of Franklin seniors and on May 17th the Franklins handed us a carefully prepared ... of propositions. I shall insert them in the order of the dates.

PHILO PAPER.

We the senior class of 1894 agree to submit for decision, the disagreement now existing in the class as to its organization, to the trustees of the Ohio Normal University, and we further agree that we will abide by their decision and join the class as the difficulty had not existed.


FRANKLIN PROPOSITIONS.

In order to correct some misunderstanding, or misrepresentation in regard to the position we have taken in the attempt to abject the difficulty in the organization of the senior class, we respectfully submit the following:

1. We recognize that the Faculty of the O.N.U. has the power to make a final
decision concerning matters pertaining to the management and control of the school.

2. We maintain that the present difficulty in the organization of the senior class is no exception, but that they still have the power.

3. We always have been in favor of sending a true statement of the facts to a parliamentarian and to abide by his decision. We are still willing to do so.

4. Since we have reason to believe that this will not be accepted by all concerned, we are in favor of the faculty deciding from separate statements made by the respective contestants.

5. (a) Those who support the opposing organization have admitted that if it is decided from the facts as we believe them to have occurred, that the organization for which we contend would stand. The worth President of the school in his statement of the facts, expressed them as we believe they occurred.

(b) If the facts they maintain be true, it can no more than sustain their organization.

(c) Granting that both parties are equally honest in their convictions and equally worthy of belief, a decision in favor of either based on the separate statements, would not be just.

6. Altho your president remembers the circumstances as they occurred, yet, if separate statements are made upon which to base your decision, we do not ask that it be given four our organization. Such a decision would stigmatize as unworthy of belief those who maintained the opposite facts. While we would not ask it for ourselves under such circumstances, we recognize that you, the Faculty of O.N.U. have the power to decide in favor of the opposing contestants. Such a decision we should regard as final. Since it would reflect upon our honest and truthfulness, we should also regard ourselves at liberty to not enter the class, if we so desire.

7. We are willing that due credit be given to both parties. As both then must be dropped, we will receive as a just compromise a decision disregarding both parties. To this case we should expect President Lehr to preside whenever the class is called. Unanimously adopted May 17, ‘94.

Franklin Seniors.

The Faculty until then had said but little about commencement exercises. It was my intention to not have any class day exercises, but simply short commencement exercises, possibly only an address to the class by some
noted person and the presentation of diploma. But after receiving the propositions from the seniors of the two old societies we had a meeting of the Trustees and Faculty as we were usually called and after reading the minutes of the different meeting and taking everything into consideration I was instructed to report that we believed the first organization valid and that the president then elected should be considered the president of the class and I so reported at chapel after our meeting.

On May 31st, or on June 1st, I received a communication from a number of Franklin seniors which I shall insert in these reminiscences. It has on it the names of some of my best friends. Outside of my near relatives I think I have no warmer or truer friend than M.L. Snyder, editor of the University Herald. A son could not treat a father more kindly or with more respect than he does and had the writer. And his kindness is appreciated more that pen can find words to express.

**FRANKLIN SENIORS’ STATEMENT.**

Ada, O., May 31, 1894.

Pres. Lehr: We have been contending for principles and not for any individual, to act as president of the class. Circumstances might make it honorable to cease maintaining a just position; but no circumstances can ever make it an honor to accept as correct, a post ... that can not be sustained, for one that can.

In as much as your decision in reference to the senior class rendered at chapel Thursday morning was given without any parliamentary basis, in as much as your decision denies all claims for which we have been contending and totally ignores our organization; therefore, we refuse to accept that decision as settling the principles for which we have been contending and refuse to meet in con-joint session on the terms proposed.


Some might think that enmity would result from such warm contests but such was not the case. Some party or parties proposed to submit all the proceedings to Hon. T. Reed or to some noted parliamentarian for his decision on the subject in dispute as to which was the true organization. After several joint meetings of committees there was a failure of agreement as to what statements should be sent and that scheme was laid aside. The seniors
in general learned that the faculty and especially the President cared little whether there would be class day exercises or not but many of the members of the class wanted a class day.
The Class President Scrap of 1894. A Three-Ring Circus.

August 9, 1907, V. XXX, No. 12

CHAPTER 148.
The Class President Scrap of 1894. A Three-Ring Circus.

On June 4th two papers were presented to us, one by members from the three societies and one from the Franklin members, both of which shall be inserted and also a final one from the Philomathean seniors.

SENIORS DESIRE A COMMENCEMENT.

Ada, Ohio, June 4, 1894.

Gentlemen of the Faculty and fellow Seniors: We the undersigned seniors of the class of 1894 believe that it would be conducive to the best interest of the O.N.U. to have commencement exercises this year as has been the custom heretofore.

Therefore we would accept the following as a fair conciliation between the faction now disagreeing, namely:

1st. Whenever the class assembles Prof. Lehr shall be the presiding officer.

2nd. In case that at any meeting Prof. Lehr could not be present some other person, whom Prof. Lehr may select, shall preside.

3rd. At the first meeting of the class there shall be two secretaries appointed by the presiding officer, each of whom shall keep a record of the proceedings from time to time.

4th. The faculty shall divide the class day orations among the three societies in proper routine as in preceding years, and it shall be left to each society to select the persons to give the orations assigned to that society.

MEETING OF FRANKLIN SENIORS.

Wm. Klingler called the meeting to order. A few remarks were made stating the purpose of the meeting. Moved by W.W. Overmeyer, seconded by O.J. Dodge, that we as a society are in favor of a commencement of some kind. Moved by W.W. Overmyer, seconded by O.J. Dodge, that we make the motion unanimous. Motion put and carried.

O.J. Dodge read resolutions as a company minutes. Moved by W.W. Overmeyer,
seconded by M.L. Snyder, that the resolutions be adopted. Remarks. Moved by W.W. Overmeyer, seconded by L. Nichols, that O.J. Dodge be a committee of one to inform the Philos that we are in favor of commencement. Motion put and carried. Remarks were then made by all the members present.

Moved by M.L. Snyder, seconded by R.G. Jones, that the motion relative to the adoption of resolutions be laid on the table. Motion put and carried. O.J. Dodge then reported and report was accepted. Chairman appointed M.L. Snyder, O.J. Dodge, O.O. Vogenitz to draw up a program in which we would be willing to participate.

Report of committee--We, the committee appointed by the chairman submit the following program for commencement:

One half day shall be spent in athletic exercises.

One day for the elocutionary and musical departments.

One day for regular class day exercises.

One half day for a class address and presentation of diplomas.

Moved and seconded that the motion respecting the adoption of this report be laid on the table. Motion put and carried.

Moved and second we adjourn. Carried. Wm. Klingler, President, E.S. Keller, Secretary.

MINUTES OF ANOTHER MEETING.

Chapel Hall, June 9, 1894.

Senior class of 1894 called to order at 9:30 a.m. by the president, D.I. Lambert.

In the absence of the secretary, C.E. Woolford was chosen secretary pro. tem. It was then moved by Chas. Gerhardt and seconded by P.W. Maxwell that we arrange a program for class day.

It was further moved by F.M. Gregg and seconded by G.T. McAuley to amend said motion to read, that we select conditionally for those orations which do not properly belong to the Philos for this year. Said condition to be providing the Franklin and Adelphian seniors choose to fill these places which properly belong to them.

Both amendment and main motion were carried. On motion, F.M. Gregg, Lodge Riddle and H.C. Pugh were selected as a committee to ask the Franklins to fill
their part of the program. Committee reported that the Franklins refused. Report accepted.

On motion Miss Yeo, Miss McDowell and Miss McKinnis were appointed as a committee on class rings.

The class then selected the following persons: German Oration, Chas. Gerhardt; Greek Oration, W.E. Davis; Salutation, B.C. Mackall; Philosophical Oration, F.M. Gregg; Latin, H.C. Pugh; Class Poem, Florence Crouch; Mathematical Oration, C.E. Woolford; Music of Class Song, F.P. Seymour; Words of Class Song, Elsie McDowell; Ethical Oration, J.T. Rose; Invocation, J.A. Smith; Pharmaceutical Oration, Harry Hutch; Valedictory, L.J. Travis.

L.J. Travis, Jennie Little, and W.E. Davis were selected as committee on program and to report to Prof. Lehr. Adjourned to meet Monday evening at 7:30. C.E. Woodford, secretary.

The two organizations could not agree and held separate class day exercises in their respective halls.

On January 20, I was not present when the trouble began, but I was told by some parties who were there that by superior parliamentary tactics and by superior numbers the Franklins and Adelphians accomplished their organization. On such occasions generally all parties think that the society or organization to which they belong is in the right. At first all the members of the faculty thought the Philos held the true position, later one member appeared neutral; all thought it best to not force matters as it was simply a case of class organization. All parties concerned were excellent students and noble young men and women and we concluded to have our regular commencement exercises as usual only that there were three class day exercises at the same hour on the day set for those exercises.

The President of the school believed that the Philos were in the right, but he also remembers that they, in the fall of 1876 took advantage of the Franklins and in a more unjust case that in a class organization. The unpleasantness was apparently all forgotten on the evening of commencement day.
Some time during the spring of 1894 I received a number of letters from D.I. Durham, T.M. Cook and other parties to come to Scottsboro, Ala., and take charge of their Seminary. Mr. Durham and Mr. Cook had been O.N.U. students, both were then practicing law and Mr. Durkin was county superintendent of schools of Jackson County. They urged strongly and said they would pay all expenses and more if the trip would be of damage to my business while absent. I concluded to go, and while South would visit Nashville and other places where I had served as a soldier, and let them pay expenses. I went down sometime in May or June. Had a delightful trip and was royally entertained while in Scottsboro. The school has been in the control of the Baptists but they failed to make it a success. The citizens had donated liberally but on the condition that if the church failed to make the school a success the property should revert to the donors of certain sums of money.

There were two fairly good college buildings and a beautiful campus of six and a half acres, a ladies dormitory with a campus of an acre or more. They had a fairly good library and some fine apparatus mostly manufactured in Europe. The furniture was fairly good. The two Ada students residing in town had been my warm friends and they overrated, very greatly, my ability as a college president. The citizens had been told marvelous tales and the people believed I could draw students from every mountain cabin. They offered, if I would come and contract to remain five years, to give me a deed for all the school property, erect for me as good a residence as I owned in Ada, on a two acre lot and give me $10,000 in cash. I showed them the letters I had from Senator Brice and several Democratic members of congress and a letter from President Cleveland. I however told the committee appointed at a public reception that I was too old and feeble to build up another school but that I could send them some strong men and women who could do the work as well as I could. They finally consented to give those a trial whom I would recommend, but they were not willing to make such a liberal offer.
The class of 1894 was an unusually strong one, I might say between the lines almost two strong for the president and faculty to manage in every respect. After talking to several members of the class about the project a number concluded to undertake the work. I shall let Prof. F.M. Gregg at present an instructor in the Nebraska State Normal school at Peru, Neb., tell the story.

PROF. F.M. GREGG'S LETTER.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, Ohio.

Dear Prof. Lehr: I hardly expected to receive a reply from you, knowing how considerable must be your correspondence, but I certainly appreciate your letter better since it is written in your own familiar chirography. I presume this letter will reach you before you have returned from your easter trip but I prefer to answer it while the matter it calls for is fresh in my mind.

As to that Alabama school you may recall that it was in the spring, perhaps February, of '94, that you went to examine the Scottsboro school property on the invitation of D.I. Durham who graduated at Ada in 1890. The school down there had been in the hands of the Baptists but had collapsed on their hands, and the trustees were urging you to undertake its management. I learned that while you were there on your trip the people were very anxious to make a good impression on you and that at some sort of reception they were giving you they sent around part of the crowd a second time, so as to impress you the more with the magnitude of the demand for you. I have a suspicion, however, that if they did such a thing your keen memory for faces and names would have defeated that little plan.

When you returned to Ada, you at once proceeded to interest some members of the class of '94, of the school's progress down there. J.T. Rose was supervisor of this organization and in the end, Mr. Rose, Mr. Dodge, Mr. Durham and I constituted an organizing force of the new enterprise. Mr. Rose made one trip early in the summer and the rest of us went in August. We took with us from Ada, Miss Pat Cockerill for primary and kindergarten work, Miss Vida McKinness for elocution, Miss Vera McDowell for work in art and Miss Anna Herbert for music, and Mr. Shoup for the commercial department. We also engaged to work with us Prof. and Miss McIver who had been in the school under the old organization.

The conditions under which we worked were that if we maintained a school with an attendance of 300 for ten years or of 500 for five years the property
valued at $26,000 would revert to us at the end of the year. We found the enterprise not paying us for the reason that we had organized on a little too large a scale and by further reason that excluding colored pupils and poor whites and those in the south who preferred to patronize military academies and female schools, we found we had too small a population upon which to draw to support a school of the kind we were conducting and so we gave up the contract. The third year the trustees of the institution employed Prof. Dodge and myself with Miss Herbert, Miss Cockerill and Miss Moody to conduct the school. Miss Moody is now Mrs. Dodge. At the end of the years we felt satisfied with our southern experiences and thus our enterprise came to an end. We gave those people a good school as they will readily testify. They still compare all the schools with the ones conducted by the Yankees from '94 to '97. We acquired as the profits of our undertaking the warm friendship of the community and three years of rich experience.

The whereabouts of the members of the original group I think you know and I need not consume your time further. If there is any information that you desire that I can give, I shall be more than glad to communicate with you again. It might interest you to know that E.B. Rossiter of the class of '94 has reentered school work and is now principal at Cody, Wyoming.

With continued personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

F.M. Gregg.
Commencement of 1894 and Personal Mention of Some.

August 23, 1907, V. XXX, No. 14:1-2

CHAPTER 150.
Commencement of 1894 and Personal Mention of Some.

It was the aim of those in charge of the school to get the best talent possible on all occasions. For the coming commencement we first tried to get Gov. McKinley to address the class.

THE GOVERNOR'S LETTER.

Columbus, March 12, 1894.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, Ohio.

My Dear Sir: I am in receipt of your cordial invitation to deliver an address to your graduating class on July 19th. I have very pleasant recollection of Ada and of the hospitality of yourself and the kindness of the faculty and students of your university, and I assure you it would give me pleasure to again visit your institution, but I am so pressed with duties and engagements that I cannot see my way clear to accept your invitation.

Very truly yours,

Wm. McKinley.

We then tried thru Mr. Foraker's influence to procure Hon. T.B. Reed. Shall give the correspondence. We were working on the principle, "Ask and ye shall receive."

MR. FORAKER'S LETTER.

April 27, 1894.

Dr. H.S. Lehr, Ada, Ohio.

Dear Sir: I herewith enclose a copy of a letter this day received from Mr. Reed. It explains itself. I very much regret his inability to accept your invitation.

Very truly yours,
J.B. Foraker.


Dear Governor: I wish I could oblige your friend because he is your friend but it would not be possible. If the House is in session I would rather not leave; if not, I shall sadly need the vacation. Please decline for me in the kindest way you can think of, for Dr. Lehr seems a broad and influential man.

We did have an interesting time with the Democracy, but then they are always interesting.

Yours truly,

T.B. Reed.

Washington, D.C., May 2, 1894.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Dear Sir: I received Gen. Foraker's letter and at once wrote to him that I would have to decline your kind invitation to address the graduating class of your University July 19th which I have no doubt he has communicated to you.

With regret that I cannot accept your invitation, as a personal favor I would be glad to do you, I am

Very sincerely yours,

T.B. Reed.

We finally secured Hon. Wm. Lawrence to address the class. He had been Judge, member of Congress, Comptroller of the Currency during Haye's administration and a member of the Republican National Executive committee. He gave us a good address.

The total number of graduates was 298. The class was unusually strong but I cannot name all, do not know where many of them are or what they are doing and must necessarily omit naming them. Ray S. Bates is practicing law in Columbus, Rachel Core, the Class Salutatorian, is married. O.J. Dodge teaches at Ripley, O. He is County Examiner. F.M. Gregg teaches in the Nebraska State Normal school, at Peru. I had him in mind as a teacher in the
O.N.U. had I remained longer as president of the University. Charles Gerhardt practices law in Circleville, O. He is a prosecuting attorney.

W.P. Heacock resides in Columbus. I think he is practicing law.

W.B. Hartzog is a Baptist preacher and is also on the Lecture Platform. He is a success in both fields. Heard from him a year ago or less but fail to find his letter but think he lives at Bellaire, O.

The last time I saw E.S. Keller he was preaching at North Baltimore. That was two years ago.

Wm. Klingler, one of the class presidents, lives at Lima, O., and is prosecuting attorney of Allen County.

B.C. Mackall, the blind member of the class, died a few months after commencement. He employed persons to read to him. He was very talented and ambitious. He did better work that many do who have the use of both eyes.

D.I. Lambert, one of the class presidents, is a Presbyterian preacher.

Wm. F. McKee is a Presbyterian preacher. He lives in Monogahela, Pa.

J.A. Smith is a Presbyterian preacher.

The last time I heard from W.W. Overmyer he was teaching in a western state. H.C. Pugh practices law in Zanesville, O. He was city solicitor a number of years ago.

S.B. Rossiter wrote me on Thanksgiving day and spoke of the wonderful Sun Rise prayer meeting in 1893. He is now teaching at Cody, Wyoming.

J.T. Rose, one of the number who went to Scotsboro, Ala., is now in Atlanta, Ga. He is in charge of the business of the American Bridge Co. for the seven cotton states. He had been remarkably successful financially. The writer, three years ago, visited two weeks in his pleasant home. In his letters, he speaks of the writer in the most kindly terms. He holds him in esteem next to his parents and family.

M.L. Snyder, one of the editors of the University Herald, the best college
paper in the country, was a member of the class of '94. The editors of the Herald were my Friends during the years '03, '04 and '05 when it meant loss of school printing to name the founder of the University kindly, but they did. I can never fully express my gratitude for their kindness. Mr. Snyder is one of Ada's substantial citizens and a christian gentleman. Thank God, under the Presidency of Dr. Smith the founder of the school is welcome at chapel and is treated by the President most kindly.

J.E. Snook is a Presbyterian preacher and for a number of years has been a missionary in the Phillippine islands.

P.H. Welshimer preaches for the Disciples of Christ at Canton, O. He had remarkable success in bringing converts to Christ. E.L. Bloom is in the real estate business in Seattle, Wash. He was one of my warm friends.

The last time I heard from Frank B. Collins he was at Webster, N.Y.

Mary Crouch, a fine student, is now Mrs. Judge Mathias.

E.E. Edge is practicing law in Toledo, O. Have spoken of him before.

G.J. Gumb is teaching at Port Clinton and is one of the county examiners.

B.H. Games, an honorable and upright gentleman, is superintendent of schools somewhere in southern Ohio.

R.J. Keifer is superintendent of schools at Upper Sandusky and is one of the leading educators in northwestern Ohio.

Agnes Laughlin is now Mrs. J.S. Hamilton. Mr. Hamilton is a Presbyterian Evangelist and resides in Cleveland.

D.K. Mulcahy teaches at Port Clinton and is one of the county examiners.

W.L. Martindale practices law in Dayton. F.E. Myers is a civil engineer and resides at Canton.

N.F. McDaniels is in the Census Bureau, Washington. Would like to insert his last letter but space forbids. He speaks of Bryan's introduction to the class of 1895.
The last I heard from Loren Nichols he was in Penn Yan, N.Y. He was one of my favorite students.

The last letter I received from M. Mae Neptune, about two years ago, she was teaching at Wayne, Neb.

L.O. Newcomer is a Disciple preacher.

Ethel Park, of whom I have spoken before is now Mrs. Prof. Gregg.

Lodge Riddle practices law at New Lisbon, O.

I met A.E. Schmidt a year ago but forgot his address. He is teaching.

C.M. Shappell lives in Lima, O.

Mary Thomas lives at Lily Chapel, O.

O.O. Vogenitz lives at Ada. He was superintendent of schools at Ada three years.

Minnie Winn is now Mrs. E.L. Byrns. Mr. Byrns is superintendent of schools at Malinta, O.

B.F. Welty practices law in Lima. He is city solicitor.

J.E. Wert practices law in Toledo.

Annie Bankered is now Mrs. McCauley.

D.C. Cooper is superintendent of schools in a town in Stark County, O.

Florence N. Crouch resides in Van Wert, O.


I.M. Cochran is professor of Eloctution in Angola Tri-State College, Angola, Ind.

E.J. Correll is division engineer, B. & O. R.R. and lives at Chillicothe, Ohio.

Lyman Conner is an Ada druggist, W.N. Christopher I have not heard from and do not know his address.

F.M. Klusman is practicing medicine and has been remarkably successful.

D.C. Mohler is Professor of Pharmacy in the O.N.U.

Walther Newburn, Jr. is a physician and has a lucrative position in the office of Commissioner of Immigration, Ellis Island, N.Y.

Cora V. McKinnis completed two courses, the course in Elocution and the course in Stenography. She was selected to teach Elocution at Scottsboro, Ala. She married J.T. Rose.

Elsie McDowell was selected to go to Scottsboro, Ala., to teach painting. B.C. Mackall, Mrs. Rose and Miss McDowell have died.

Monday evening, July 16, the Philomatheans and Adelphians had a literary contest and on the evening of the 19, there was a Junior Oratorical Contest. The classes had become so large that only those delivered orations commencement days who volunteered, there was no time for all to speak. Commencement passed of pleasantly and successfully and Philos and Franklins smoked the pipe of peace. Another year had passed into history.
Beginning the Year 1895. The Bryan Incident.

August 30, 1907, V. XXX, No. 15

CHAPTER 151.
Beginning the year 1895. The Bryan Incident.

Catalog No. 24 showed an enrollment of 2744, ninety students less than the enrollment of the previous year. The panic which began in '93 still continued and all business enterprises were greatly crippled and attendance at institutions of learning fell off greatly. We lost less than most of schools. School terms and rates of tuition, board and rent remained as the previous year.

The time of Lieut. Peshine had expired and Capt. James N. Morgan was appointed Commandant of the Battalion.

Mrs. Mollie Hickernell, who had not been teaching the last four years was reemployed to teach Latin and Algebra. She had recited to the writer in Latin and Algebra and he knew her thorough preparation and power as a teacher.

This year we also employed Prof. J.B. Gregg to teach Physics, Chemistry and Geology. He has proved to be one of the most efficient and popular teachers ever employed by the University. He is an original thinker. The writer has often thought if his powers as a teacher were known by the richly endowed universities, the O.N.U. would hardly be able to retain his services. He is a power in the recitation room and very popular among the students.

Miss Erie Pickerill, a leading and prominent student for a number of years, was employed as a teacher. She proved to be very successful.

We also employed J.R. Ledman to take some of the classes taught for a number of years by Prof. Workman. The latter resigned to enter the legal profession. He was a teachers by nature, a hard student, a hard worker as a teacher and a true gentleman. I have spoken of him before.

Mrs. Anna Rogan Root was employed to assist Prof. Smith in teaching Voice Culture. Frank B. Collins was elected Curator of the Chemical Laboratory.

Scores of incidents in discipline, arrangement of classes, seeing teachers about class grade failures, heartaches and headaches and cheeks wet with
tears to be comforted because some teacher had administered discipline and sometimes uselessly cruel by one strong teacher, could be recorded but time and space forbid.

The spring of 1895 the teachers, students and many of our citizens held an enthusiastic meeting in Chapel hall to boom the writer as a candidate for Governor of Ohio. Prof. Darst was chairman. A committee came to my home and compelled me to come to the meeting. If every town in Ohio had been as enthusiastic in favor of my candidacy I would have been nominated by acclamation. I took the matter under careful consideration and concluded that I was better fitted for the position I then held than I was to enter politics. I did not have the money to spare to make a campaign; I knew that I was not a public speaker and refused to announce myself as a candidate. I received many letters from former students, Republicans and Democrats, promising their support, but nothing could induce me to have my name placed before the convention as a candidate for the office and honor.

The prosperity of the University was always uppermost in my mind. I was wondering whom to engage to address the graduating class of ’95. While I had the subject under consideration and had already written to Senator Brice to ask Senator Daniels of Virginia and had written to Whitelaw Reid, editor of the Tribune, I chanced to have my attention called by Prof. Fess to a speech made in the House by "Congressman Bryan of Nebraska." I s... for two speeches made by him and at once concluded that he was one of the coming men of our country. I saw that he had a message for the people, that he was sincere, that he believed what he preached and that he was an orator. I felt sure that he would be the next Democratic candidate for president for such talents and power as were shown by those speeches could not go unnoticed. I felt sure that he was the cream that would rise to the top. During all my years as a teacher I had my special friends with whom I would discuss questions and whose advice I would seek. I called Prof. Willis into my office one evening at the close of recitations to discuss with him Bryan as one of the coming men of the nation. I already had the opinion of Prof. Fess that in all probability he would be the next Democratic candidate for president.

I concluded that to secure Mr. Bryan would be the best possible advertisement for the school. I at once wrote to my friend, Senator Brice, to see Mr. Bryan and tell him of our school and ask him whether he would address the class in July, giving the date. He replied that he would come for $100. We agreed to pay him his price. I introduced him as the next Democratic candidate for president. That introduction and later his nomination
were noticed in hundreds of papers and thus advertised the school.

I have frequently been asked whether I believed all that Mr. Bryan advocated in those speeches in the House of Representatives and what he advocated while a candidate for president. My answer has not been in all, but in much that he said. It must be acknowledged that much of the legislation by congress the last forty years has been favorable to those who have money, who are rich. During our Civil war the "5-20" and the "7-30" bonds were sold at a discount and paid for in greenbacks and in national bank currency. The interest was payable in gold but the principal was payable in currency. That included greenbacks. At the close of the war when we at once began to pay off the national debt the Democrats favored issuing greenbacks not bearing interest and pay the bonds as they came due. The Republican party said they ought to be paid in silver and gold. The soldiers during the war were paid in paper currency often worth but little over fifty cents on the dollar. The bonds were bought with paper but ought to be paid in specie was the Republican policy and favorable to the rich. Later on the rich said the bonds ought to be redeemed to gold and even that silver certificates ought to be redeemed in gold when the silver bought for coinage was paid for in paper currency. The Grant, Hays, Garfield, Arthur and Harrison administrations paid off over a billion of indebtedness. During the first Cleveland term the policy was still Republican for the Senate was Republican and there could be no change in the tariff legislation. During his second administration, the Senate and House were both Democratic, the tariff was reduced and to replace the revenue thus lost an income tax bill was passed but declared unconstitutional by our four to five Supreme Court. President Cleveland did not call an extra session of congress to pass measures to raise the necessary revenue to supply the deficiency caused by the decision of the Supreme Court, but when Morgan Schill and other rich bankers collected greenbacks he gladly sold bonds and bought gold to redeem the greenbacks, when he could have redeemed them in silver of which there was a vast amount in the treasury. The bankers who bought the bonds, straight thirty year four percent bonds, cleared $18,000,000 in a few days.

During the war we sold 5:20 and 7:30 bonds. McKinley in 1898 sold 10 20 three percent bonds, but in time of peace and plenty Cleveland sold thirty year forty percent bonds. Is it any wonder that the Democrats repudiated Cleveland. The rich have stood by him and his Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Carlisle, the president and his secretary live in peace and plenty and the people pay the interest on the bonds.
Today I cannot agree with Mr. Bryan on the Philippine Island question. I think the United States should retain them as part of our domain. Neither can I agree with the Republican Senate that wickedly oppressed those islands with unjust and oppressive tariff duties. Of the two I think Mr. Bryan the more just and humane. In my estimation Mr. Bryan is one of the great men, not only of our nation but of the world. As stated above I could not fully endorse all he advocated, but in general, I think he was correct. When he was nominated, it was published in scores of papers that the previous year on a commencement occasion, the President of the school where he gave the class address, introduced Mr. Bryan as the next President when, in fact, he was introduced as the next Democratic candidate. But it greatly and cheaply advertised the O.N.U. Mr. Bryan gave a fine address as he always does.
Beginning the Year 1895. The Bryan Incident. II

September 6, 1907, V. XXX, No. 16

CHAPTER 152.

Beginning the year 1895. The Bryan Incident.

I shall insert but few more letters from prominent men and only such that those in control of the University in the long future may know something of the plans and work of the founders of the school. It should be remembered that they could not go and beg as church school managers can. In fact when a gas well or oil well was to be drilled, the O.N.U. managers were bled and they were expected to help build the churches, to contribute to starting the Tri-County Fair and to contribute to every local enterprise. We had to struggle or sink.

I shall here insert two letters from Senator Brice and an autograph letter from Hon. C.A. Boutelle, of Main. I tried to get him thru the help of Gov. McKinley. I helped my political friends first and then asked help from them.

BRICE LETTER.

Washington, Jan. 6, 1895.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My Dear Sir: I have your favor of the 29th of December, in regard to Mr. M.D. Merrick, candidate for Assistant District Attorney. This position will be filled by the new District Attorney, who has not yet been appointed. I do not know that I will have any influence in the matter, as there are some complications about it. If I have any, your recommendation would be more potential with me than any other man that I know. You can so say to Mr. Merrick. He and you must keep the matter before me by frequent communications during the next three or four weeks.

I certainly would be glad to have your views, in full, on the political situation. I beg you, to believe that I am a very strong personal friend of both yourself and the Ohio Normal University,

and have omitted to no opportunity to commend it everywhere in the strongest terms.
Truly yours,

Calvin S. Brice.

C.A. BOUTELLE LETTER.

Bangor, Me., Mar. 26, 1895.

H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My Dear Sir: I beg to assure you of my very high appreciation of the compliment bestowed by your cordial invitation on behalf of the graduating class of the university to address them in July and I am duly impressed by the very cordial endorsement of your request by your distinguished Governor, and my honored personal friend Hon. Wm. McKinley, but the engagements I have already made for the summer will not permit of my accepting your kind summons, so I must send my regrets. With all good wishes I am

Yours sincerely,

C.A. Boutelle.

A SOCIETY NOTICE.

Ada, O., April 18, 1895.

Ohio Normal University.

H.S. Lehr: We the undersign members of the Franklin, Philo and Adelphian Literary Society of the above said institution, do hereby petition you to call conjoint meeting of the three above named societies on twenty-fifth day of April, in Chapel hall for the purpose of amending the Conjoint Article regulating opening of the hall doors of the said societies on the nights of their regular literary meetings.


As a reminder of commencement week exercises twelve years ago, shall insert the "calendar for the week."

Friday, July 12, 7 p.m. Senior Reception at the home of the President.
Sunday, July 14, 8 p.m., Baccalaureate Sermon, Rev. C.E. Kircher, Alexandria, Ind. Monday, July 15, 9 a.m. Class Day Exercises, 8 p.m. Elocutionary and Musical Commencement. Tuesday, July 16, Quadrennial Reunion--of the Philomathean Literary Society. Wednesday, July 17, 9:30 a.m. Field Day Exercises. 1:30 p.m. Continuation of Field Day Exercises. 8 p.m. Franklin and Philomathean Contest.

The reader will observe that the senior Reception was held Friday evening. We gave Saturday to the Juniors. Saturday evening was given the Senior and Faculty roast. We convinced the Juniors that one day and recently but one evening was sufficient time to waste in that way. And how they enjoyed to borrow the hat and coat of the president of the school and then imitated his cough and eccentricities; but thanks to the boys and girls of those days, for they treated prexy gently and often spoke so kindly that it brought the tear of gratitude. I distinctly remember that in one of their posters they spoke about the size of the head and that he had a heart as big as an ox.

Another point I wish to speak about and it is this. We always endeavored to bind the Alumni to alma mater. One plan was to invite some strong Alumni to preach the Baccalaureate sermon. And we would alternate among the societies and different religious denominations. Rev. Kircher was a Philo and a Presbyterian, then the next year it would be a Franklin or an Adelphian and also of a different denomination. We observed the same policy politically and religiously in regard to the men delivering the class address. We never gave the class the privilege of making the selection. We paid the bills and managed those matters as we thought best.

I remember nearly all the members of the class but can give the address of but few as I do not keep a file of my letters as I did when President of the University.

J.W. Burris was the only member who completed the Philosophical course. He was leader of the University band two years or more. The practices law in Canton, O. Cora Armstrong teaches in the Canton, O., city schools. Anna Bankard is now Mrs. Anna McCauley. Mr. McCauley was a member of the class of 1865. They reside in Oregon or Washington. E.N. Barr, Mary Gilmore, F.L. Kloppenstein, Grace L. Nash, Otho Fields, W.R. Sampson are dead, and I have been told that C.P. Meighen, a member of the law class is dead. P.H. Beck resides at Markle, Ind. C.M. Drury teaches in the Van Wert City high school. He is also a county examiner. Jno. T. Fairchild is a Civil and Mechanical engineer. I can not recall his address. We still correspond but
have lost his last letter. Mrs. Fairchild was a member of the same class. [Address, Cambridge, O. ED]

J.S. Hamilton is an Evangelist of great power. His home is in Cleveland, O.

Finley W. Kirkpatrick is a Presbyterian minister. His address is Bicknell, Ind.

J.E. Nelson, one of my warm personal friends, is a traveling salesman with a good salary. His home is in Ada.

W.E. Roger teaches in Tennessee. He married pretty Cora Flinn, a member of the class of '95.

N.W. Sager preaches for a congregation in the state of Oregon. Have lost his last letter and forgotten his address. [Dallas. ED.]

Chas. H. Watt practices law in Champaign, Ill.

P.R. Brubaker practices medicine in Columbus, O.

George F. Bauer still writes to me. He visited Ada about a month ago when returning from Columbia University, New York. The grades he received seven years ago were accepted and in one year he got his parchments from the A.M. and the B. Peddegres. He teaches in the state of Washington. I do not remember the town.

The Culp brothers were still at Appelo, Pa. the last time they wrote to me.

Lyman Conner is the owner of a drugstore in Ada.

J.T.P. Calkins is superintendent of the city schools of Catskill, New York. He and I still correspond. He is one of my good friends and is a true friend of the O.N.U.

A.H. Elliott, one of the sweet singers at chapel, wrote to me some time ago but I have forgotten his address. He generally sat on a front seat at chapel. I can hear his voice and see his saxon hair as tho it were yesterday. He and V.H. Mouls were roommates. Mouls practices law in Canton, O.

Charles Gerhart practices law in Zanesville, O. He is Prosecuting Attorney.
Ola E. Felas, now Mrs. M.L. Snyder, was one of my favorite students. She deserved to be a favorite. She went thru a siege of typhoid fever while a student. I then learned to admire Mr. Synder for the manly care and interest he manifested in her welfare. Sometimes I assisted her mother in nursing her, I might almost say, back to life. She was a very sick girl.

G.H. Quail lives in Lima. He is Common Pleas Judge.

My friend L.A. Greer is now a Shoe Merchant in Ada. He says that occasionally I called him on the carpet for a private lecture course. We now laugh over some of those lectures. His store is one of my calling places.

Alta George, at one time one of my office secretaries, is now Mrs. Longnecker and resides at Berkley, Cal.

Wm. Klingler practices law in Lima, O. He is prosecuting Attorney.

G.C. Hanson practices law in Cleveland and S.L. Lemmon, the Judge during his college days, is now a "real estate" man and a Sunday school superintendent in Seattle, Wash.

J.A. Maurer is teaching in a town in eastern Ohio.

C.S. Means is now Dr. Means of Columbus, O. He is president of the School Board of Columbus and I am told mixes up in politics. Strange that an Ada student should ever think of mixing in politics.

John L. Sheldon, the tallest student that entered the University while I was President came from Connecticut. The last time he wrote to me he was teaching in the State University of Minnesota.

P.I. Tussing, many years a popular teacher in the University, is now Dr. Tussing and practices in Lima, Ohio.
J. Blanch Weaver teaches in the city schools of Canton.

L. Yant practices law in Greenville, Ohio.

H.C. Knowles teaches in the Cleveland city school.

F.E. Myers, a Civil and Mechanical Engineer, resides in Canton.


Alletha Mae Friedly is now Mrs. Switzer. She resides in Canton.

Donna Souder is now Mrs. Goodbread and resides in Nevada, O. While the writer was engaged in school work at Winona Lake, Ind., he engaged Mrs. Goodbread then Miss Souder as teacher of piano. She is a fine instructor.

Elizabeth E. Patterson, the contralto singer, has her permanent home in Ada, but has been singing in some of the large New York city churches the last six years. The last three years she has been singing in "Emannuel Tabernacle" a Jewish Synagogue. She is one among the best vocalists that has received her training in the O.N.U. College of Music. What wonderful opportunities the young people of Ada have had to prepare for the various callings in life.

T.E. Hoxey, a phrmic, is practicing medicine in Spangle, Washington and A.S. Mateer, also a phrmic, is in the real estate business in Texas.

To the list of the dead of the class of '95, given above, must be added S.D. Yates of Ada, eight in all as far as the writer knows out of a total class of 277.

Commencement week was a great success and this was true especially on Thursday. Many came from Kenton, Lima and other towns to hear Mr. Bryan. The exercises in the afternoon were held on the campus, east of what is now called the administration building. We had a platform and seats arranged to
accommodate the speaker and a large part of the audience. God had granted us another prosperous year with successful closing exercises.
A Discussion of Expenses and Conditions in 1895-6.

September 20, 1907, V. XXX, No. 18

CHAPTER 154.
A Discussion of Expenses and Conditions in 1895-6.

In Catalog No. 25 we had an enrollment of 2865, a gain over the previous year of 121, which showed a healthy growth.

We had completed at the close of the previous year, our fourth building, generally called Pharmacy Hall, and sometimes the Adelphian Hall. In the lower story we accommodated our School of Pharmacy. The second story was given to the Adelphian Literary Society and in the Attic we had a recitation room. The additional accommodations boomed the school and we at once felt the new impulse.

Several teachers resigned and we employed the following persons to supply the vacancies: P.S. Morgan, Clara E.L. Myers, Otho FIELDS, P.I. Tussing, G.S. Johnson and Mrs. Jennie Owens. Mrs. Owens was not employed to fill a vacancy, but as an addition to the Faculty of music. L.A. Higley was elected Curator of the Chemical Laboratory. I have heretofore spoken in these reminiscences of all the above named teachers except Professor Johnson. He was employed to assist in teaching Bookkeeping and proved to be a very successful instructor. He is at present at the head of the Commercial Department of the O.N.U.

There was no charge in the price of board, room-rent, or tuition. Have not given the schedule for some time and presumably some of the Trustees of the O.N.U. who never were students here know nothing of the prices paid by the students during the nineties. For their benefit I shall insert pages 8 and 9 of catalog 26, for 1895-7. The rate of tuition for law was published on page 39. It was as follows: Ten weeks paid in advance, $10; forty weeks paid in advance, $38; one year of forty-nine weeks, $45; less than ten weeks, per week, $1.25.

In the College of Pharmacy the expenses were, in advance, tuition per term of ten weeks $16; tuition per course, forty weeks, $60; tuition and board and room-rent, ten weeks, $36; tuition, board and room-rent, forty weeks, $140; tuition for Normal term, nine weeks, $14.
The tuition in the Literary Department for each of the four ten-week terms was $8, and for the Normal Term of nine weeks, $7. When tuition was paid in advance for two terms a reduction of $1, was made; for three terms, $3; and when the tuition was paid in advance for a year a reduction of 15 per cent was made. The number of studies a student might take at once time was not limited.

In the Musical Department the expenses for a term of ten weeks were, tuition, Piano, Organ, Violin, Flute, Cornet, Guitar, or any other instrument, two lessons per week, $12; one lesson per week, $6; Voice Culture, two lessons per week, $12; use of piano one hour a day for the term, $2.50; use of organ one hour a day for the term, $1; for a longer time the charges were at the same rate both piano and organ.

In the Fine Art Department the tuition was $10 per term for each of the following studies: Crayon, Water Colors, Oil Painting and Landscape, Oil Painting and Portrait, India Ink, Poonah Painting.

Architecture, ten weeks, $10.

Stenography, fifty lessons, one hour each, $8.

Telegraphy, complete course, $25.

Penmanship, Ornamental, two hours per day, per month, private lessons, $5. Full course, in Plain and Ornamental, $25. Each term there were four classes in Penmanship to which all literary Commercial, Engineering and Pharmaceutical students were admitted free of charge. Any others wishing to enter those classes were required to pay $2 per term.

The class in Vocal Music, called Rudimental, was free to all Literary, Commercial, Engineering, and Pharmaceutical students. All others were charged $3 per term.

All Literary, Commercial and Engineering students were admitted to the Drawing class free of charge. All others were charged $3 per term.

Special Elocution, $10 per term.

Reading Circle $1 per term. Literary, Commercial, Pharmaceutical and Engineering students were admitted free to the Reading Circle.
Quoting further from the catalog: All tuition must be ... in advance. Anyone entering for less than a term will be charged $1 per week. Any student leaving on excuse of pretended sickness will have tuition refunded, being charged $1 per week while in attendance. Free-tional weeks will be counted as full weeks. Incorrigible students who are expelled or suspended will not have any money refunded. Receipts are not transferable.

Our year plan--Any person, by paying $118, in advance, can attend the entire school year of forty-nine consecutive weeks and have furnished tuition, good board, and a neatly furnished room, well cared for. For $100 paid in advance the same will be furnished any four consecutive terms of the school year, forty weeks.

The Normal Term contains nine weeks.

Anyone taking the term or year plan can have his board and tuition refunded by paying full rates for the time in attendance, but room-rent is not refunded until the room is re-rented.

Twenty-eight dollars paid in advance will pay board, room-rent and tuition for a term of ten weeks. The Normal Term of nine weeks will cost $26. The room will be furnished and cared for. Two persons occupy one room.

We paid the citizens $5 a term for rent and $1.60 a week for board. That left us but $7 a term for tuition and but $35 for the year. When students paid on the year plan we realized but $28 tuition for the entire year.

The reader may ask why we made this sacrifice in tuition. It was to compete with Lebanon, Valparaiso, Angola and other private schools, not church schools. Lebanon and Valparaiso advertised board at $1.25 and rent at 35 cents a week. We did not own rooms and boarding halls and could not offer such low rates of rent and board. When students at those schools preferred not to board and room at the college halls the managers got $10 a term tuition and could afford to apply part of their tuition to boarding their students.

President Holbrook, at Lebanon found an Academy building when he began his school there, located in an old and prosperous town and community. Brown found a good college building at Valparaiso. I have been told that the Methodists and Presbyterians had each a college building at Valparaiso and that both schools died for want of students. Prof. Brown told me that when he
had been at Valparaiso two years he was discouraged and thought of quitting
the effort, but that the citizens supplied the means to erect and furnish his first
boarding hall. I think he said they gave him $12,000. I was in favor of building
a boarding and rooming hall on the lot I owned north of the University campus,
but some of my associates were not favorable to the plan. One of my partners
was in favor of charging $10 tuition a term of ten weeks. I opposed the raise
for fear too many students would take the "term plan" which would leave us
but $7 tuition a term. $1.60 a week for board in 1896 meant greater profit than
$2 a week at current prices in 1907.

As it was, some of the boarding houses quit taking "year" and "term plan"
boarders. When I resigned in 1902 only eleven boarding houses took "term
plan" boarders. Many students took the "year" and "term plan" which reduced
our income materially. I am inclined to think that was wrong, that we might
have charged a dollar a week for tuition without material decrease of
attendance for we charged no laboratory fees for physiology, botany or
zoology and but $1.25 a term in physics and $1.50 in chemistry. We did not
charge any fees for the use of instruments in surveying and engineering. We
also rented textbooks at a low rate of rental. But we always managed to pay
all of our bills promptly and had a little left for our own use as our books show.
Senator Garfield's Attempt to Chloroform the O.N.U.

September 27, 1907, V. XXX, No. 19

CHAPTER 155.
Senator Garfield's Attempt to Chloroform the O.N.U.

It may be of interest to our readers to relate the struggle we had with those in charge of the management of the Ohio State University in 1893 and in 1894 and our opposition to the project of establishing state normal schools by legislative enactments during the sessions of 1896, '98 and 1900 with some other intervening history of the school.

During the session of the Legislature of 1893 President Caufield of the O.S.U. had State Senator Garfield to present a bill prohibiting all institutions of learning to grant or confer any degrees whatever unless they had an income of $15,000 either from the state or from a permanent endowment fund. The enactment of such a law would not only have prohibited the normals at Ada, Lebanon and the Northeasters at Canfield, but nearly all the colleges and universities in the state from conferring degrees. At that date Wooster University, the Ohio Wesleyan, Heidelberg, Otterbein, Mt. Union, Hiram and a number of other colleges would have fallen under the ban.

We kept posted on all legislation affecting educational institutions. The trustees of the O.N.U. instructed the President of the University to correspond with the presidents of the different schools affected by the proposed law and to ask their assistance in opposing it.

The President of the O.N.U. went to Columbus to see what could be done. He invited all members of both houses who have ever been students of the O.N.U. to an evening dinner at the Neil house. He also invited a Senator who had married a former O.N.U. student and an ardent friend of the schools. He also invited a member of the House who had sent two daughters to the normal and were friends of the school and its president.

Those opposed to the bill met the senate committee that had charge of the proposed law. Professor Beal, of Scio College was a member of the House and worked hard against the measure. The President of the Normal School at Lebanon was present, but did not address the committee. He had served as President only about six months and apparently was a stranger in Ohio.
Professor Beal had great influence and did good service. The President of the O.N.U. believed and still believes that he made the best talk of his life on that occasion. He said but little about the O.N.U. but spoke as he thought, with much feeling for his alma mater, Mt. Union College and for Hiram College, the only college owned by the Christian Church in Ohio. He spoke for Otterbein, Heidelberg, Wooster and all the church colleges affected by the unreasonable and wicked bill.

A trustee of the Ohio State University asked the speaker the amount of tuition collected each year by the Ada Normal and all appeared astonished at the answer. He overheard some one remark, "when quits the Ada School it will die" or words to that effect. That man was a false prophet. The person named has not been connected with the school the last five years and it still lives and prospers. It now has more buildings and apparatus, and the campus has been greatly beautified. The prophet did not know the foundation on which the O.N.U. was built, its organization, its management.

The trustees of many of the Church schools are preachers and influenced by their occupation and education, believe that it is and should be the mission of church schools to prepare persons for the ministry and for missionaries. They believe that it would be entirely out of place to teach Engineering and some have said to the writer that it would be sinful to teach pharmacy or law in a school organized and endowed by a church. The founder of the O.N.U. is and always has been a dualist. He believes in the existence of mind and matter, of the ideal and the real the spiritual and the secular, the eternal and the temporal. The spiritual should be cultivated but so also should the temporal. The preacher and teacher must have bread and butter.

The old school taught Latin and Greek and Greek and Latin ... six years, some mathematics, theology, evidences of christianity, analogy has paid little attention to chemistry or physics; and many, many schools still follow the same line of work. The founder of the O.N.U. believed in studying nature and using its forces, that young men should learn to build bridges, lay out the best routes for railroads, learn to drain marshes, irrigate deserts, build roads and learn to construct massive buildings in large cities.

As his former students well remember, he encouraged his students to acquire a liberal education, thru mental training, nor did he discourage the studying of Latin, Greek, Literature or any of the branches taught in any of the colleges but he believed and still believes that if a young man wants to take studies to prepare himself for a certain line of work that he should have an opportunity to
do so. When the law required that a pharmacist or lawyer must pass an examination before practicing his profession, he felt assured that schools of Pharmacy and law would become a necessity. The same is true of medicine. But Ada is too small a town to support a Medical College.

Sixty years ago the weaver, the shoemaker, the blacksmith, the carpenter and all other tradesmen had their apprentices. The doctor, lawyer and druggists had their students who built their fires, swept their room and were used to wash the bottles and to pick up what knowledge of the profession they could. Those days are gone forever. The trustees of schools should profit by the teaching of the Nazarene that we should "Render unto Caesar the things which be Caesar's and unto God the things which are God's."

What wonderful developments the last century has wrought. Forty-one years ago there was organized a literary society in Ada, then called Johnstown. It held its sessions in a small frame building. On the teachers desk a small coal oil lamp was burning, but for more light, tin candle holders were hung against the walls and the room was lighted by tallow candles.

The founder of the O.N.U. believed in training teachers for their profession, in his estimation the most important of all professions. He also believed in training young men for the ministry, and for serving the state. He encouraged public speaking, the writing of essays and orations, that his students after graduating could enter any of the useful fields of serving their fellow men. He believed in culture and refinement and encouraged the social features of the school. The schools in Ohio have sent out more preachers, none have sent out more teachers, lawyers, pharmacists, engineers, stenographers, bookkeepers, and not one has sent out more fine musicians. And in 1898, what school sent more captains, lieutenants and sergeants than the O.N.U. from its Military College.

The day of the apprentice is gone. Lawyers must sweep their rooms, druggists must wash their bottles and doctors make their fires and hitch their horses themselves. The day of the apprentice is gone. Schools of Technology must prepare and educate the workmen of the future.
Senator Garfield's Attempt to Chloroform the O.N.U. II

October 4, 1907, V. XXX, No. 20

CHAPTER 156.
Senator Garfield's Attempt to Chloroform the O.N.U.

I have digressed at too great length. The committee to which was referred the "Garfield College Bill" reported adversely and President Caufield was defeated. Mr. Smith the representative from Delaware County did valiant work against the bill and so did Senator Wilhelm of Stark County. Every old O.N.U. student stood faithfully by the school. Some weeks after the defeat of the bill several college presidents wrote that they could meet me at Columbus to work against the measure.

At the next session of the Legislature Senator Garfield presented a bill similar to the former bill. Its effect would have been the same. Prof. Beal, of Scio, was again a member of Legislature. Prof. Darst went to Columbus and made a strong plea for the committee against the bill and Ex-President Taylor, of Wooster University, spoke against the measure as did several other parties. The President of Heidleberg University came to Columbus but did not address the committee. The measure again failed.

During the session of the Legislature the winter of 1896 there was a strong effort made by many of the teachers of Ohio to have four or five state normal schools established. Dr. Emerson E. White a leading educator of Ohio was one of the leaders in the cause of state normal schools. The O.N.U. people got the credit of defeating the measure. I received many congratulations. Shall insert part of a letter from J.T. Rose then teaching in a normal school at Scottsboro, Ala.

MR. ROSE'S LETTER.


My Dear Prof. Lehr: I have always ...tion of the Napoleon of Normal schools, but now I am prouder of you than ever. To meet such men almost on their ground and defeat them is remarkable. But I am again led to wonder, who will fight the battles of our alma mater when its founder and promoter is gone. May the Lord spare you that you may enjoy the unrivaled success, which has crowned your efforts. Professor, why do you work so hard all the time: Why don't you now turn a part of your work over to someone who can do that running around town as well as you can? You would be surprised to hear your old students wonder why
you do not save your self more and thus prolong your days. I am glad to hear of the success of J.B. Gregg. He's a heavy-weight.

Yours sincerely,

J.T. Rose.

We had contests in 1898 and 1900 of which I may speak later on. In the fall of 1895 the Trustees of the O.N.U. and the Directors of the Ada Union School District agreed to refer to arbitrators, a disagreement in regard to the proper heating of the large brick building now called the Administration building. By a contract entered into between the above named parties in 1879, the directors of the union school district were to erect a suitable building for Normal school purposes, to cost a certain amount, to have proper heating apparatus and the necessary seats and other furniture that might be needed and the Trustees of the O.N.U. were to admit the graduates of the Ada High school, free of tuition, into certain departments of the University. This contract was to continue thirty years. The school directors put stoves in the building which did not prove satisfactory. We wanted and needed furnace heating; but as the directors refused to furnish the furnaces the trustees of the school did so at their own cost. They then demanded some kind of a settlement and that part of the contract referring to the heating of the building was referred to arbitration but the part referring to furnishing the needed furniture the directors refused to leave to arbitration and as the trustees furnished book-cases and the cases for the apparatus and specimens in the museum there is really due the old trustees of the O.N.U. the sum of $230.

Shall here insert the report of the arbitrators ... heating case referred to them...

REPORT ... ARBITRATORS.

The under... arbitrators to which was referred so much of the differences aris(ing) under a certain contract between (the) board of education of Ada (Union) School District, Ada, Ohio and ... owners of the Ohio Normal University, formerly the Northwestern Ohio Normal School as relates to the furnishing of proper heating apparatus for the school building mentioned in said contract.

Having heard the facts as presented to us by said parties we find that said Board of Education shall pay to the said owners of said Normal University of the costs of the four furnaces places in said school house by said owners of said Normal University to with the sum of $660.00 as follows: $220.00 in the month of January 1896, $220.00 in the month of June 1896 and $220.00 in the month of January 1897 without interest on either of said payments.
We disallow the claim of the said owners of said Normal University for interest upon the costs of said furnaces. We further disallow all claims for repairs thereto. We further disallow all claims of $230.00 paid the Philomatheans and Franklin Literary Societies in the cost of said furnaces.

We further find that the Board of Education is not liable by the terms of said contract to said owners for any repairs which may hereafter be necessary to either of said furnaces, and said Board is not liable upon said contract for the payment for any further sum of money for the heating of said building during the unexpired term of its occupancy by said owners, and that the payment of this award of $660.00 shall be in full of all demands under said contract for any apparatus or appliance for the heating of said building during said term.

Arbitrators, John N. Smich, Henry A. Clark, Wm. Lantz.

Kenton, Ohio, Oct. 18th, 1895.

I hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the award made in the above case and of the whole record thereof.

Henry A. Clark.

Shall insert a few letters from some of Ohio's most prominent men on various subjects.

LETTER FROM J.S. FORAKER.

Cincinnati, Dec. 30, 1896.

Dr. H.S. Lehr, Ada, Ohio.

My Dear Sir: I am pleased to re-recommend Mr. because of his merit, but it added to my gratification, when he was recognized, to think that you would be pleased to hear of his promotion. The truth is, Doctor, that I have a sort of tender “feelin” for you and cannot help it and do not want to help it. Wishing you a happy New Year, and much prosperity, I remain.

Very truly yours,

J.B. Foraker.

LETTER FROM SENATOR BRICE.
New York, Nov. 14, 1895.

H.S. Lehr, Ada Ohio.

My Dear Mr. Lehr: I have your letter of the 11th inst., and am very glad to hear from you. I do not think that you or I differ very much as to the feeling of the party in Ohio or elsewhere, altho I was not at liberty to say much about the matter previous to election. I did however on Saturday before the election write my friends in New York that the result on the following Tuesday in Ohio would be as about what it was in 1863. The result shown in New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Kentucky and some other states shown that the feeling in Ohio was not due to any local causes.
I note your business suggestion, and will recommend the same to Mr. Fulton of the Cincinnati Southern, altho I have no business connection with nor am I a Director of that road; you may or may not hear from him.

In the meantime, believe me as anxious to do anything that I may be able to do to show my regard for you and interest in the work which you are doing.

Very truly yours,

Calvin S. Brice.
Letters from Prominent Men, Bishop Moore.

October 11, 1907, V. XXX, No. 21

CHAPTER 157.
Letters from Prominent Men, Bishop Moore.

The military boys wanted me to procure some prominent man to deliver an address the evening after the contest. I first wrote to Ex-Gov. McKinley and later to Gov. Bushnell. Shall give the reply of each.

MCKINLEY'S LETTER.

Canton, O., March 4, 1896.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, Ohio.

My Dear Professor: You have a very persuasive way of conveying your invitations, and I am duly appreciative of the kindly sentiment toward me of yourself and your students; but you will please excuse me from accepting your invitation to deliver an address during the month of May. I am a very busy man, and feel compelled to decline to make any engagements for this spring and summer.

Yours very truly,

Wm. McKinley.

GOV. BUSHNELL'S LETTER.

Columbus, April 29, 1896.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, Ohio.

Dear Sir: Governor Bushnell's desires me to acknowledge the receipt of your kind invitation to be present at the Ohio Normal University of the annual Military Day of the University May 7th. The Governor regrets that it will be impossible for him to attend on account of official business and engagement that he has already made. He wishes me to offer his heartiest wishes for an entirely successful occasion, and to again thank you for your courtesy.

Very respectfully,

J.L. Rodgers, Private Secretary.
A committee of Philomatheans asked me to write to Senator John Sherman and invite him to deliver an address to the society the night of their reunion. I wrote to the Senator and in reply got an autograph letter.

SHERMAN'S LETTER.

Washington, June 7, 1896.

My Dear Sir: Yours of the 4th inst., is received. I have always had a strong desire to attend the reunion at Ada, but it so happens that it comes at a time when it is almost impossible for me to be present. It is yet uncertain when we will adjourn, but certainly not before the first or second week in July, and then I will be so tired that I will not probably be able to be with you at the time stated. I know the usefulness of your university and would be glad to encourage you in any way.

Very sincerely yours,

John Sherman.

The time for the preparation of the 23rd Annual commencement 1896 had arrived. Some of our Methodist friends advised me to secure Rev. D.W. Moore, D.D., of Cincinnati, to make the class address. He then was the editor of the Western Christian Advocate, one of the prominent church papers of the state. I knew the large membership of the church and my Methodist friends told me that he was eloquent and that he would give us a fine "write-up" in the Advocate. When I wrote to him and asked his terms, he replied that he would come for $100. Some of my associates thought it exorbitant and opposed engaging him but I favored getting him, arguing that a good "write up" would bring us at least three students and might bring five or more and they would enter later, like other O.N.U. students return and bring recruits with them and thus we would soon get back our $100.

The Board granted permission. Mr. Moore came but he was rather a disappointment. He did not draw people from a distance and his address was very ordinary. We had scores of old Ada students would have done equally well without fee. But I said to my associates, "Wait till you see what he says in the Advocate." He gave us a local notice of just three and a half lines and only a notice, nothing complimentary. No other papers said anything about our commencement exercises. It was what the boys fishing with a dipnet called a "Water-haul."
Dr. Moore is now a Bishop. What contract between Moore and Bryan as an advertising scheme!

In the history of 1894-5 I state that George F. Bauer had entered Columbia University and in one year did postgraduate work to earn the A.M. degree and also the degree B. Pd. It was J.H. Bauer, of 1896. He stopped here on his way to New York and on his way back to Oregon home. He still writes to me but I fail to find his last letter.

Ruth Bates, now Mrs. Peterson, was one of the popular Franklin girls and an expert solicitor. She was popular with the Philos altho a Franklin. She still writes occasionally to the Founder of the school and speaks of the excellence of the O.N.U. The writer names her among his true friends.

A.U. Bordner practices law in Canton.

F.J. Beck resides at Huntington, Ind.

M.R. Charles is a missionary in China.

B.L. Finkel teaches in Drury College, Mo. He is one of the finest mathematicians in the U.S. and is a warm friend of the O.N.U., as every alumnus should be.

E.N. Fair is superintendent of a school in Ohio, but I cannot recall his address.

F.L. Glies lives in Oto, Ia. He has quit teaching.

J.C. Guither is superintendent of the Galion City Schools.

Cora Henry is married and lives in East Liverpool. She was a popular teacher in the East Liverpool schools a number of years.

L.A. Higley teaches chemistry in Zion City College, Zion City, Ill.

S. Elizabeth Henry is married.

Harry Hubbard is now Dr. Hubbard. His address is 2333 Chapline St., Wheeling W. Va. He is a warm friend of the O.N.U. and has not forgotten the President of the school when he was a student. He has been very successful in his profession.
J.D. Keller is in the employ of Uncle Sam and is "making good," the boys say. Altho an ardent Franklin he married Winnie McDermott an Adolphian. He said she was so "Winning." His address is Bonesteel, S.D.

Anna McElhany resides in Bellefontaine.

The Millar brothers, C.H. and T.F. still reside at Millersport, O.

W.J. Patterson practices law in Cleveland. He is still interested in the success of alma mater.

Etta Pickerill is now Mr. Etta Nelson and at present resides in Denver.

Do not know the address of A.W. Tuchantz. He and Keller and Giles could tell a funny story about a commencement program and a Faculty meeting.

M.E. Thrailkill practices law in Columbus.

W.H. Auck is in business in Bucyrus.

V.L. Bell and L.H. Bell teach in Logan County, O.

D.C. Cooper lives near Canton.

C.L. Graber practices medicine in Cleveland.

P.A. Kershaw is in the United States mail service and resides at Herring, O.

H.C. Knowles teaches in the Cleveland schools.

J.C. Lemmon lives on a farm at Rochester Mills, Pa.

D.A. Liggett teaches at Belle Center, O.

Jacob Line practices law at Mt. Blanchard, O.

Mollie Drake is now Mrs. Luft and at present resides at Ada.

Silas Lucius Americus is practicing law in Shelby, O.
Frank Montgomery is in the United States mail service and lives at Van Wert, O.

M.L. Maier died some years ago.

A.A. Masilles resides in or near Dayton, O.

Neva Patterson lives in Lima.

The last I heard from Edgar C. Phipps he was at West Chester, Pa.

Florence Ranklin is now Dr. Rankin.

Anna Short practices law in Cleveland.

A.H. Verson teaches in Wellson, O., schools, I think he is the superintendent.

Edson R. Williams holds a county office in Delaware, O.

Thos. Lowe preaches for a congregation at Union City, Ind. He now is the Rev. Doctor Lowe, a D.D.

H.O. Bently practices law in Lima.

J.V. Cunningham is in Pittsburg.

Tom O. Crossan, in New Lexington.

Frank Short in Celina, O.

C.P. Taylor lives in Toledo.

V.J. Weltz, in Bowling Green, O.

Lena B. and Scott S. Wilcox, in Center, Wash.

Justin A. Moore, in Cleveland.

Gail Smith, in Little Rock, Ark.

Tom D. Buckley is Chief Clerk in the office of the Secretary of State,
Columbus, O.

S.L. Lemmon is practicing law in Seattle, Wash. He is also extensively engaged in real estate business. Last May he was sent by his church as a Lay Delegate to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church. The Assembly met in Columbus, O. The old boys will remember him as "Judge Lemmon."
Comment on Members of Class. Close of the Year.

October 18, 1907, V. XXX, No. 22

CHAPTER 158.
Comment on Members of Class. Close of the Year.

Bertha Darst I am told teaches music in Chicago.

Ruea Maus is now Mrs. Dr. Adams. Her address is Herring, O.

Dora Frits is now Mrs. Correll. Her address is Cincinnati.

Cora Motter is now Mrs. Dr. McElroy and lives in Ada.

Mrs. H.W. Owens resides in Chicago.

Charles L. Neth is Director of School of Music in Sandy Valley Seminary located at Paintsville, Ky.

Mrs. S.B. Wagner of whom I have spoken kindly in a former number still resides in Ada and devotes much of her time to church work. Her services are greatly appreciated.

Nellie Pifer is now Mrs. Charles Wilson and resides in Ada.

The last time I heard from Susie Wentz she was teaching music at St. Lawrence, Pa.

Commencement week was crowded with exercises as usual. Rev. Austin Hunter, a Franklin and a member of the Christian Church, preached the Baccalaureate sermon. Another successful year had passed into the history of the University.
Entering the Year 1897. Efforts Toward a State Institution. I

October 25, 1907, V. XXX, No. 23:1-2

CHAPTER 159. Entering the Year 1897 Efforts Toward a State Institution.

Catalog No. 26 for the school year 1895-6 and announcements for 1896-7 showed an enrollment of 3073 different students, a gain of 206 over the enrollment of the previous year. The teachers remained the same as the previous year and there were no changes in the terms, expenses or in the various courses of study.

It was ever my desire to make the O.N.U. a permanent institution of learning. I lay awake hour after hour and night after night to conjure up some plan to accomplish my heart's desire. I was well aware that as private owners we could not expect endowment donations or state aid. It is true that we had chartered the school as a "University not for profit" but we still managed as tho we owned it and yet we did not own (a)ny part of the school as individuals. When Asa S. Bushnell was elected Governor of Ohio he knew that many of my friends had asked and entreated me to be a candidate before the state convention, he had also learned that I had refused to allow my name to be presented to the convention. He treated me most cordially on all occasions and appointed Mr. J.L. Hampton, my nephew by marriage, to be his Executive Clerk. I asked Mr. Hampton to approach the Governor on the subject of appointing a Board of Trustees for the O.N.U. and report to me. We spoke to no other parties about the project. I feared if it would become known, that some schools in Ohio might object. I also knew that it was giving the power to manage the University into other hands if the Trustees appointed wished to use their authority, but I had more faith in humanity then than I have today altho I am not yet a pessimist. I believed and still believe that as long as the school flourished and we did our own work well and treated all justly and honorably that we could and would have remained in control of the school at our regular salaries for a number of years and possibly the salary of the president would have been increased as the president generally gets a larger salary than the teachers, but I always divided equally with my associates altho I put in many more hours of service.

I had several interviews with the Governor, gave him a true statement of our income, our status and why we wanted Trustees appointed by the Governor. I
also promised that there should be no request of the state for money to pay salaries or other expenses but that after several years we would try and get an appropriation for buildings which we greatly needed. I told him we wanted to enlarge in our Engineering facilities and also to start a department of Manual Training and that we could not well do so as a private school.

I remember the names of some of those whom we selected to act as Trustees. S.B. Wagner, S.H. Bigger, C.W. Runser, Wm. Guyton, Judge M. Melhorn, A.B. Johnson, Senator Calvin S. Brice, Hon. Charles Foster and Senator J.B. Foraker. Mr. Foraker refused to serve, stating that he did not have the time to spare. The Governor selected some members. I shall here insert one of his letters.

Columbus, June 30, 1897.

President H.S. Lehr.

My Dear Professor: Your esteemed favor of the 28th is received; also list of names of Trustees for your institution. I will fill the blanks left and make the appointments within a short time.

As I have within the past day or two appointed Hon. Thomas B. Black, of Kenton, a Trustee of the Central Insane Hospital, I will substitute Judge Melhorn's name for his on the list if agreeable to you; and for one of the short term men I think I will appoint Mr. John Rutrauff, an old friend of mine from Findlay, and endeavor for the other two places to find suitable men at Cleveland and Cincinnati. If you have in mind any persons in those cities whom you would like to have appointed I should be glad if you let me have their names. I will withhold making the appointments until I hear from you.

Now allow me to thank you for your very cordial and kindly expressions in regard to myself. I assure you I appreciate your good words more than I can express, and assuring you of my best wishes for yourself personally and for the success of the noble institution over which you preside. I remain, with most cordial regards,

Very truly your friend,

Asa S. Bushnell.

We had kept all proceedings to ourselves but some newspaper man saw some of the commissions filled out but not yet signed and the scheme came out in the Cincinnati Enquirer and some other papers. When the citizens of Ada learned of the scheme they became greatly excited. I tried to quiet them and have no meeting called but all in vain. They were sure of its completion. I refused to go to the meeting but was forced to go and unthoughtedly said
more than I should have said. I shall here give the report of the Citizens meeting as found in the Record, July 1897.

O.N.U. BECOMES A STATE INSTITUTION.

For sometime it has been known to some that a movement was on foot to start the opening wedge for making the Ohio Normal University a state institution. When the movement developed Prof. Lehr agreed to make a public statement of the facts.

Small slips requesting the business men to meet on the square at 7:30 were circulated and at that hour the O.N.U. band marched down to escort the business men's brigade to the college campus. Lieut. N.R. Park had been delegated as commander of the forces and with a big burgee of colors (orange and black) flying in the breeze at the head of the procession it marched to the front of the north building where a large crowd had already assembled.

The meeting was called to order by Alex Comrie from the east steps from which the addresses were made. The first speaker was President Lehr who said the future of the school had been the anxious concern of himself and collaborate for years. They had considered making it a church school but the churches already have more schools that they can well support. The tendency of the times is toward concentration in all lines of business--a doubling up rather than expanding and it has come to that in building institutions. If the state would establish a State Normal School the various cities would offer bonuses with which Ada could not compete. Two years ago an effort was made to pass in the legislature a bill that would have greatly injured ....

This institution was first a joint stock company but it was discovered that as such we had no rights to grant diplomas or confer degrees. Eleven or twelve years ago we incorporated, but not for profit, the property being listed in the archives of the state. We were then empowered to confer the same degrees as other institutions of learning.

Somebody found a status empowering the Governor to appoint trustees of educational institutions. We asked Governor Bushnell to do this for us. He has appointed fifteen, five to serve one year, five to serve two years and five for three. He has named friends of this institution and of education, men who are honorable and upright.
We have given our property to the public and the State of Ohio and it has taken this school under its fostering care. These trustees will have the general management of the institution and can make up step down and out by failing to employ us. We believe the state will take care of the school with an appropriation for a new building which we need very badly. Last year they voted $2000,000 to the State University and $20,000 to each of the three preparatory schools. We believe the state will help these thousands of young people who come here for an education. It behooves you as students to stand by the school and we believe in time a diploma from here will be equivalent to a life state certificate.

These remarks were greeted with applause. Prof. Darst was next called for. He said he could add nothing new to what had been said, but the influence of this school on the hundreds and thousands of young men and women was one we could not afford to lose. With its economical advantages it made it possible for many to obtain an education and in a Republic education is the cornerstone and the success of this institution is of great interest to the people of Ohio.

Prof. Fess was demanded and responded by saying this was an occasion where more could be felt than expressed. We can't comprehend what this means to those who hold diplomas from this institution. I have feared for many years that when President Lehr steps down and out there would be none to take up his work and this might not be a permanent institution. We don't want it to lose its prestige. We honor the diplomas it has issued. In talking with wealthy men interested in education I find it difficult to interest them in a private school but I believe we will get a Y.M.C.A. and gymnasium building for the wonderful work this school is doing for young people, for the great objection is now done away with.

Money spent by the state here will go into buildings and equipment, for the tuition will more than pay salaries, then don't you believe the State of Ohio will do this for us? We can't comprehend it all tonight.

"Willis, Willis," was the cry and that gentleman congratulated the people on the magnificent meeting. It shows an interest in the great cause of education. It is a great thing to be an American citizen. It was a great thing for this soldier boy to reach down and lift up to higher plane the great army of young people who have been his students. He added to Prof. Fess's glowing tribute to the grand old man who hath wrought these things.
Prof. Axline was pushed to the steps and called attention to how the neglect of education had brought the downfall of some of the countries about the Mediterranean sea. He reviewed Prof. Lehr's career and said we as citizens ought to appreciate this movement.

Prof. W.F. Hufford said he was proud of the advancement of this institution and would go home and dusting the dust off his diploma, would look upon it with greater admiration. This school had sent out some of the best representative men of Ohio. The school was the soul of Ada.

In the response to the calls for "Honest John," Ralph Parlette, of the University Herald, was dragged from the ranks and jocosely said this must be a sign to quit as he had the reputation of being a great audience disperser. He was glad of this day's work and proposed three cheers for the O.N.U. which were given with him.

Before adjourning the chair named Ralph Parlette, Agnew Welsh and Prof. S.D. Fess as a committee on resolution (to) have power to express to Governor Bushnell the sense of this meeting. Prof. Owens led the audience in singing "My Country, 'Tis of Thee" after which the great audience was dismissed.

This morning's papers contain the list of trustee's appointed which are the following: Senator J.B. Foraker, Cincinnati; Ex-Senator Brice, Lima; Hon. Jas. R. Hoyt, Cleveland; Col. L.M. Strong, Judge A.B. Johnson, Judge C.M. Melhorn, Kenton; Hon. H.E. Valentine, Bucyrus; S.B. Wagner, Ada; Hon. O.T. Corson, R.C. Irvin, Columbus; Hon. W.T.S. O'Hara, Toledo; John Ruthauf, Findlay; Esquire C.W. Runser, Ada; S.H. Bigger, Ada and Wm. Guyton, Ada. These gentlemen will be requested by President Lehr to meet at Ada on July 20th.
Entering the Year 1897. Efforts Toward a State Institution. II

November 1, 1907, V. XXX, No. 24

CHAPTER 160.
Entering the Year 1897. Efforts Toward a State Institution.

Just after the Governor had appointed the Trustees and before the commissions were signed preparatory to sending them out, the Governor was called to Northwestern Ohio to attend a meeting of striking coal miners and when he got back his office was filled by the trustees of a number of other Ohio Colleges objecting to making the O.N.U. a state school.

Shall here insert a letter from Mr. Hampton, the Governor's Executive Clerk.

MR. HAMPTON'S LETTER.

Columbus, July 9, 1897.

My Dear Uncle: The article from the Ada Record on your meeting has been sent here from various parties, and the newspapers are here asking if the statements made by you in that article are true. The other institutions are all up in arms and flooding the office with letters of protest against this "state aid." While your speech might have been alright at the time, its reproductions in the paper has caused trouble and I think it is a safe guess that the Governor will not sign the commission at all. The whole trouble comes from trying to force the issue in time for that meeting. Such matters can not be forced and now this one is utterly ruined.

Very truly,

J.L. Hampton.

After receiving Mr. Hampton's letter I at once started for Columbus to see Governor Bushnell. He treated me very kindly but said that under the existing condition it would be impolitic to send out the commissions, especially so since a prominent citizen of Ada was very much opposed to the measure and had written to various other institutions of the state ap... at the plans and purposes of the school at Ada. I asked the Governor to give me his name. He refused to do so and said it was better for me and all concerned not to know
who wrote the letter and sent out the clippings of the Record. I wondered and wondered what citizen of Ada could be guilty of the act. I was dull, exceedingly dull for I should have known at once the guilty party.

In the summer of 1904 while at dinner and in conversation with an ex-trustee of an Ohio College discussing the prosperity of the O.N.U. he referred to my plan of making it a state school and laughing heartily said, "Do you know who spoiled your well planned scheme?" I replied saying that Governor Bushnell refused to give me the name. He then gave me the name of the informant. I was not greatly surprised for he had his reason. It would benefit no one to give his name for he is not a citizen of Ada at this writing.

Had there been no coal miners' riot or had there been no meeting of the citizens of Ada and no Ada citizen to object to the scheme of making the O.N.U. a state school, the O.N.U. would now be a state university with a large campus, fine buildings and a State Normal school as an adjunct. But the "Best laid plans etc., etc."

Few occurrences in my life's history so hurt me as the miscarriage of that well planned and deep laid scheme of making the O.N.U. one of the great schools of the United States, for I believed that the management of the University would have been so progressive and aggressive that it would have attracted the attention of educators, statesmen and great financiers all over the country. Great measures and plans were stored in the recesses of the brain of its president.

This was the year of the Founder's Day Reunion. I took no part in the management whatever. Every one present said it was a great success. I am under the impression that Professor Fess and the editors of the Herald had much to do with the inception of the project of honoring the Founder.

There was a committee appointed to take charge of the general management. I remember some of the committee, Prof. Maglott, Prof. Willis, Prof. Fess, Miss Clara Myers and S.B. Wagner. The societies also appointed committees to arrange for grand reunions of the old members. There were various subcommittees appointed. As I now remember Mrs. Darst and Mrs. Maglott were members of the committee on banquet. I think Prof. Fess was chairman on the committee to procure a large tent. Everything undertaken was carried out successfully. There were enough tickets sold for the banquet to pay all expenses. Governor Bushnell, Commissioner of Schooks, O.T. Corson and other State Officials and Clerk in various state departments and many old
students came in a special train from Columbus. I shall give a number of clippings from the University Herald of July 23, 1897.

I am sorry that the editors of the Herald do not have the cut which Mr. Ralph Parlette prepared for Founder's Day issue. Nothing ever touched my heart so deeply and peculiarly as that picture. How it called to my mind the feeling of the day I set foot in then Johnstown to begin life's work. Would it be success or failure was the subject uppermost in the mind of the would be founder. What wonderful predictions and promises he made to the Board of Education and the citizens. And oh, how short have those predictions fallen!

CLIPPINGS FROM THE HERALD.

The great epoch marking occasion in the history of the O.N.U. has at length arrived. For years it has been the ambition of the loyal friends of the university to formulate a program so surpassing in its character, so enticing in its nature as to call back a large portion of the great student body that has gone out from her to quicken and strengthen the educational spirit in our great America. To achieve a triumph like this was a task of no small moment. A year of earnest thought and labor on the part of many was necessary for its successful consummation. But the auspicious occasion is here. A large number of the university's most brilliant products have come back, and amid the happy greetings and renewal of friendships, the old characteristics, so natural to each, manifest themselves, and the warm, social expression everywhere apparent, makes everybody happy.

Pres. Lehr is in the zenith of his glory. He bears the burden of this magnificent honor with the grace of a titled potentate. He is everywhere present. Now the center of attraction on the street, where a group of the old students have surrounded him to hear incidents of the olden days, now before a magnificent audience calling forth unbounded applause; everywhere, the spirit that stirs the thousands of loving hearts to vie in spontaneous enthusiasm. Is he happy? Why should he not be? Few men have been so truly honored. Greater ostentation may have been displayed on the part of others, but never was such genuine, heartfelt adulation bestowed so profusely upon a living man as upon President Lehr, on this occasion. Every window reflected his portrait, decorated in the college colors; every group on the campus acknowledged his superior qualities as an organizer and educator, and every eloquent address of the occasion had for its peroration the triumph of his myriadminded genius. Thousands have grasped his hand in warm congratulations over what has been achieved, and wished for him continued life and vigor for the realization
of still greater possibilities in the future.

Oh, for the power to picture worthily the scenes of this week. What volumes might be said; how little can be said. Who can describe the meeting of college friends after being separated for years? Who can picture the joys of lovers who meet again at the old alma mater? What pen can delineate the feeling of the old literary war horses as they enter once more the arena of their former glory? We feel the sentiment of the immortal Halleck:

Such scenes like these are pilgrim shrines,
Shrines to no code or creed confined,
The Delphian Vales, the Palestines--
The Meccas of the mind.
In the great body of matter that such an occasion presents it is difficult to go into any great detail, not withstanding the fact that detail is essential to interest. If, therefore, we fail to report much of interest that has occurred it is because of the necessity to generalize, owing to the lack of space.

The Field Day exercises are reported elsewhere. They were highly creditable and the committee deserves much praise for their successful management.

The baccalaureate sermon by Rev. John Montgomery, of Newark, O., an alumnus of the school, was preached in the Disciple Church. It was a master effort. We give it in full to our readers, who will gain higher conceptions of life by its perusal. The great seating capacity of the church was taxed to its utmost, and many listened from the outside, while many more returned to their homes. The decorations were few but appropriate. President Lehr's portrait adorned with the college colors held a central figure above the stage. The anthem, conducted by Professor Owens, was his own composition and was rendered with artistic effect.

THE SENIOR RECEPTION.

The heart of each senior was made light and joyous when early in the week he received a neat and beautiful invitation to attend the Annual Senior Reception at the home of President Lehr, Friday evening, July 16, 1897, from 8 to 10.

This event may be considered the climax of the social events in the college life of a student, and the year's reception certainly could not have been surpassed by any similar gathering anywhere. At the appointed hour the class began to gather at the spacious and beautiful residence of President Lehr, where they were welcomed by the members of the faculty and their wives. A warm grasp of the hand, a pleasant smile and cheery work of greeting to each one made him feel welcome and at home. Formality was laid aside for the time and each one engaged heartily in the pleasures of the evening.
Conversation flowed freely and sweet music rendered by Miss Darst and others added very greatly to the pleasures of the evening. Miss Britto Griffin presided at the frappe bowl with her usual grace as she had done on many other occasions of festivity. Miss Clara Myers directed the steps of the seniors to the dining room which was most tastefully arranged and decorated. The Misses Pickerill and Wilson each other of our fair ladies served each one with ice cream, cake, coffee and other delicacies.

The ready conversation of Misses Sadie and Hattie Lehr, who are such queens at entertaining, enlivened the occasion and President Lehr's anecdotes of his school and college life were extremely interesting. Truly when we consider the hardships and disadvantages which he had to encounter, we cannot help but appreciate more and more the great opportunities which he had made possible for us to enjoy.

Truly the class of '97 has reason to appreciate the pleasant occasion and to believe this to have been the best, surpassing all former senior receptions.

Late in the evening the members of the class said good-night to their beloved host and departed for their rooms feeling better for having been there and feeling down deep in their hearts that President Lehr is indeed the true and sincere friend to every young man and woman who aspires to more noble things. May God spare his life through many more years of usefulness is the hearty wish of each member of the class of '97.

PROF. MAGLOTT'S DESCRIPTION.

Prof. Maglott chairman of the committee of arrangements has kindly consented to write an account of the labors of the committee. In my opinion no committee ever accomplished its work more successfully.

The advent of a day that should do honor to President H.S. Lehr, the Founder of the Ohio Normal University, had been considered by many of its alumni and friends for several years. We believed that his many friends would all deem it a great privilege and pleasure to express to him in some possible way the love and esteem which we had for him as a man and in appreciation of the great work he had done in the course of education. We wanted to do this while he was yet with us. All were anxious that the celebration of this event should call together as many of the former students and friends of our beloved president as possible.
Early in 1897 a committee consisting of five teachers of the university and representatives from each of the Literary societies was appointed to arrange plans and program for an honor day to president Lehr. The committee designated this day as Founder's day and that it should be observed commencement week of the current year on July 20 and 21.

The committee consisted of F.B. Willis, S.D. Fess, Otho Frields, Clara Myers, Frederick Maglott, Eric Parkhill, Mrs. Alice Butler, Misses Freshour, and Patterson and Messrs. Bordner, Strieby, Newcomer, Rausch, Snyder and Friend.

Frederick Maglott was chosen president, Otho Frields corresponding secretary and Miss Clara Myers recording secretary and S.B. Wagner treasurer.

Correspondence was opened with all friends of President Lehr and especially with the alumni and former student. The answer to this correspondence gave great encouragement to our undertaking and indicated a large attendance on Founder's day.

We soon saw that there was no room in the town large enough to accommodate our prospective visitors. Prof. Fess was appointed a committee of one to secure a large tent capable of seating 500 at the banqueting tables.

Prof. H.W. Owens was to give the Creation, Elijah under this tent and a portion of the receipts of same to come to the committee to help pay the expenses of tent, etc. The oratorio called together an immense crowd and a handsome sum was realized.

The expenses of the Founders day facing the committee was something over $500. The profits from the oratorio, banquet, etc., met the expenses and left a small surplus of about $17.

A portion of the time set apart as Founder's day was allowed to each of the three literary societies for private reunions. The climax of the occasion was the Founder's day reunion of all students and friends on Wednesday afternoon.

Hon. J.W. Halfhill was made chairman by previous arrangement, and then the love feast began. The committee took special pains that men of prominence of
this institution should be invited to participate in the honor day. Dr. Bashford of the Ohio Wesleyan, Dr. Thwing, of Western Reserve, and Dr. H.B. Brown of Valparaiso could not be present but sent their regrets and words of appreciation. Excellent addresses were given by President Mitchel, of Wilberforce University, by Dr. Duison of Hiram College, by Dr. Scoville, President of Wooster College, by O.S. Carson, State Commission of Schools, by Governor Bushnell and by many others. President Lehr delivered a splendid interesting response in which he outlined his life's work in the educational field.

The banquet in the evening under the large tent was the grand consummation of the great occasion. Five hundred banqueters sat at the table and regaled themselves with the good things to satisfy the appetite. The symposium will never be forgotten by those who were fortunate to be present. Rev. J. Wesley Hill was toast master, did his part in a masterly way. Brilliant and instructive addresses were made by the toast masters, Bishop Fowler, Governor Bushnell, President Mitchell, Food Commissioner Blackburn, Prof. Fess and others.

Thus closed the day given in honor of our much esteemed and beloved president. It was the greatest social event in the history of the school.
(As Reported by the Herald.)

It was 1:30 Wednesday afternoon, the great day of the Founder's Day feast, when Hon. J.W. Halfhill, the chairman, stepped to the stage and with a few appropriate remarks began the exercises. First was the chorus, "I Will Exalt Thee," by the choir, led by Prof. Owens. This is one of the professor's own compositions and is certainly a credit to him. After prayer by Rev. Z.B. Campbell, D.D., the chairman introduced O.T. Corson, State Commissioner of Schools. He said, "I am here because I am a warm personal friend of President Lehr's, a good enough reason to go anywhere. Judging men by power to do work, I consider him by far the youngest man here; by the great amount of work he has done in his life, he is as old as Methuselah." Pres. Lehr did not go at his work in life head foremost, but heart foremost. It pays to put heart into work, I am here because I am interested in any great work for education. I congratulate you on this great audience which contains a governor who believed more in education in every line than does Gov. Bushnell. Let us work for education and stamp out the heresy that it will make life easy. Garfield worked harder when president than when driving the canal boat. We need men who are able to found great educational institutions. Education is to prepare men for the active duties of life. Seldom do I hear a boy or girl from Ada growling about his position. The education gained here enables you to make the best of things, and instead of giving egotism it gives self confidence. Mr. Corson said in conclusion that he extended the greetings of the greatest educational institution in America, the common school system, to the O.N.U.'s founder.

Prof. Willis then read the following letters of regret from Ohio Wesleyan:

Clifton Springs, N.Y., July 10, 1897.

Prof. Fess, O.N.U., Ada.

Dear Professor: I have recently learned that the faculty, students and friends of
the Ohio Normal University are to hold some exercises in honor of President H.S. Lehr. I desire to participate in this celebration, for I feel that in honoring President Lehr we honor alike the teacher's profession and christian manliness. With his thirty-one years of continuous service at Ada, and the 30,000 pupils who have passed under his watchful care there; with his forty-three years' experience as a teacher, and the additional thousands who have been moulded by his influence, few men in the state or nation have done more for education, or have made large contributions to the young people of our land than has President Lehr. May long life and continued prosperity attend him, and may the institution which he has heroically planted and which he has so nobly developed, continue its beneficent work throughout the generations.

Sincerely Yours,

J.W. Bashford.

Among other letters of regret were the following from Mt. Union:

Alliance, O., July 17, 1897.

President Lehr.

My Dear Sir: Mt. Union College sends greetings to Ada University. In a sense, Ada is the child of Mt. Union; the daughter has outgrown the mother. Hearty congratulations to President Lehr who has achieved remarkable results. May his life and health long be spared, and may his labors yet be crowned with greater success.

Yours Sincerely,

T.P. Marsh.

Valparaiso, Ind., July 21, 1897.

Founder's Day Committee.

Gentleman: Until this morning I expected to be present and join in the festivities of Founder's Day. At the lst moment important business detained me. Congratulations to Prof. Lehr, one of the greatest educators of the age. My best wish is that his life may be preserved many years to push forward the work of the great educational institution, of which his is the honored president.

H.B. Brown.
After the superb male chorus, "The Crusaders," President Mitchell, of Wilberforce University, spoke in part as follows:

"In the midst of tariff discussion, of diplomatic manoeuvering to decide supremacy in Cuba and Hawaii, of the great strike in the mining region of Ohio, in the midst of the calendared routine of the world's life, it is a relief to turn aside from them all and contemplate the joy of a great institution as it reviews the hour and the cause of its origin. History tells of numerous feats, and celebrations. The instincts of the race will satisfy themselves in paying homage to the door and the deed when these rise above the common level of human endeavor. They will render tribute to Caesar when a Caesar acts. The world has not yet ceased to wonder at the transcendent magnificence of the jubilee of the Queen of Great Britain. Lake Front Park, Chicago, is the scene on the morrow of a celebration in honor of the Black Eagle of Illinois. But far great importance, if less pretentious, in this assemblage gathered where the headwaters of the Magma and Miami drain their fountains, I have come here to rejoice with the heirs for a grand conception and a grander execution. It is genius that plans a work like this and higher genius which realizes its ideal, it is destiny heaven directed that sustains the faith of genius as it moves upward thru obstruction and embarrassment, to the goal of such illustrious achievement. We are here to congratulate the Founder on what under God he has wrought, upon the lustre he has added to the annals of a great state by twenty-six years of intelligent and devoted purpose. We congratulate the Ohio Normal that she is doing more and doubtican better work than all the other normal schools in the state combined; also her 30,000 alumni and her more than 3,000 students who drink annually at her fountain of knowledge, upon the consecrated talent that imparts to these young men the truths of letters and of life. We saw a sample of your products at the World's Columbian Exposition when we raised our booth by your side."

After a beautiful selection by the Griffin Orchestra, Dr. Pierson, of Hiram College, an old student of the O.N.U. spoke briefly.

He said there were two men he loved above all others, President Lehr and Dr. Hinsdale, of Ann Arbor, who had given him inspiration. He referred to the excellence of the graduates or colleges who fill the humble places of life. Education creates character. A nation that if educated so that it can feel the pulsations in the infinite is his ideal. The success of this school is due to the Founder. President Lehr has been an inspiration to his students. While a student here of course he had been benefitted by the learning, but far more by
the inspiration infused into his life by Prof. Lehr. The object of education is an institution like this is to preserve stability against the toils and vicissitudes of life. "I do not agree with Harry Thurston peck, of Columbia College, who asserts that some people should not be educated. May God hasten the time when every man and woman may be educated. I bring today the congratulations and greetings of old Hiram College."
(As Reported by the Herald.)

Dr. S.F. Scovel, of Wooster University was introduced and said:

"This occasion is a colossal compilation to President Lehr, who was neither born great nor did he have greatness thrust upon him; but, far better, he achieved greatness. Napoleon said a great man is he who is able to do great things. We have in President Lehr that American pluck to make him succeed whether others wish it or not."

He announced that the University of Wooster at its last commencement conferred upon President Lehr the degree of Ph.D., which was not to be made public till this time. When this announcement was made the audience simply went wild for a few minutes. Three cheers for Doctor Lehr were given and thousands of handkerchiefs were waving in the air.

The speaker resuming said that as Ohio had gone in her educational policy so had the Union gone. A glowing tribute was paid to the advancement of the five states of the northwest territory. Some distinguished college president in Ohio (and he here referred to the president of the State University) has said: "There are too many small colleges in the State. We should chloroform them and let them sleep their lives away." The varied population of Ohio demands a diffused system of educational policy, and anyone who raises his hand against this policy either does not know or is an enemy of public education. Its history in the past dare not be disregarded, and from Germany's great system we can draw the same analogy. It is not to be doubted that great aggregations of students in one place often make it the hotbed of evil, and hence it is better to avoid such aggregation.

The Alumni address was then delivered by Miss Clara E.L. Myers. This address was very interesting and is especially worthy of mention. It will appear in another issue of the Herald. President Lehr’s magnificent address, which
followed and which was very much abbreviated to give more time to Governor Bushnell, will appear next week. The Governor was next introduced in a very complementary manner by Chairman Halfhill.

He captured the audience by his amusing anecdote of the unsophisticated old lady who attend the Episcopal Church in a large city. "She became very loud in her exhortations and when asked by the usher if she was sick replied that she was only getting religion. "My dear madam," replied the usher, "this is not the place to get religion." So, said he, this is not he place to make a speech. However, he was proud to be here with the founder, the representatives of the leading colleges of the State and a bishop of one of the greatest protestant denominations. He was proud of Ohio, her agriculture, her great manufactories, but of nothing more than her great educational institutions. I am not ashamed that there are so many of them and would be sorry indeed if there were less. I had a good excuse for not coming but as I had promised President Lehr one year ago to attend commencement this year I was determined to let nothing prevent and I would gladly have come much further.

"The site here where we are now standing is one worthy of this grand institution, and it was a most fortunate circumstance that your noble President had it put into his heart to select his beautiful and healthful location for the planting in minds of the young seeds of knowledge. He has reason to be proud of the abundant harvests that have been gathered here by the young men and women of the land, especially by our own State, such harvests as fill the granaries of the mind and furnish food for thought when they go out into the world and enter various walks of life. The founding of such an institution as this is a great blessing, and the man who takes up such a work and carries it successfully thru, is a benefactor of mankind. Among all the occupations to which men and women devote time and energy there is none more noble nor productive of greater good than education, and one who devotes himself to that calling is entitled to have his name inscribed high upon the scroll of those who by living have made the world better--and those who make this their life work are those whose hearts are filled with love for their fellow men--a love like that of one brother for another.

"Do you know how the site of the ancient city of Jerusalem was chosen? There were two brothers who had adjoining farms; the one brother had a large family, the other had no family. The brother with a large family said: 'There is my brother with no family, he must be lonely and I will try and cheer him up, and I will take some of the sheaves from my field in the night-time and set them over on his farm and say nothing about it.' The other brother said: 'My
brother has a large family and it is very difficult for him to support them, and I will help him along and I will take some of the sheaves from my farm in the night-time and set them over on his farm and say nothing about it.'

"So the work of transference went on night after night, but every morning things seemed to be just as they were, for tho sheaves had been subtracted from each farm, sheaves had also been added, and the brothers were perplexed and could not understand. But one night the brothers happened to meet while making this generous transference and the spot where they met was so sacred that it was chosen as the site of the City of Jerusalem. If that tradition should prove unfounded it will nevertheless stand as a beautiful allegory, setting forth the idea that wherever a kindly and generous and loving act--such a one as the founding, building up and supporting of such a noble institution as this--is performed, that is the spot for some temple of commemoration, and we rejoice here today that over twenty-six years ago President Lehr, in his desire to promote the welfare and education of his fellowmen and help his brother, selected this site for the erection of a temple of learning. We congratulate the president, faculty, board of trustees, alumni, and under-graduates and the people of the whole state on the grand success that has followed the founding of this great university, and we wish for its continued prosperity, and that there may be added to its roll of undergraduates and alumni a mighty host, and that the Ohio Normal University, Ada, will ever appear high in the list of names of the great educational institutions of our land--its banner always in the front rank of the advancing columns of education. To its faithful, earnest and zealous President, whom it is our privilege and pleasure to honor today, our heartiest congratulations and good wishes are tendered, and our prayer is that he may be spared to his family and to this institution for many years to come, and that his future may be as happy as his past has been useful!"

The benediction by Bishop Fowler closed the exercises.
Mr. President and Friends:

I cannot refrain from recalling today the answer of Solon the Wise to Croesus, King of Lydia, when that wealthy monarch had shown him his treasures and the splendor of his reign and asked Solon whether he ever beheld a happier man. I will quote a part of that celebrated answer. "the vicissitudes of life suffer us not to be elated by any present good fortune or to admire that felicity which is liable to change. Futurity cries for every man many various and uncertain events in its bosom. He therefore whom heaven blesses with success to the last, is, in our estimation, the happy man." Let me change the last phrase and say the successful man.

I thank you, my friends, for the kindness you have shown me on this occasion, and the recognition you have shown this school; I thank the Governor and other state officials for their presence and interest, and especially let me thank the projectors of this event and those who have had the responsibility and the management of it and who have brought it to a successful close. I must not forget to acknowledge the assistance rendered me in the founding and conducting of this school by the citizens of Ada, my fellow teachers, our present and absent students, and above all, God's watchful care and blessing.

Since it has pleased my friends to celebrate the founding of this school, it may not be amiss to speak a few words of my early views of reforms needed in education and of the duties of educators.

At the age of twelve I started to school with the elementary spelling book. I had neither slate nor paper. There was no blackboard in the school room. The method of instruction was pure individualism. With the exception of the spelling class that recited evenings and mornings, each pupil said his letters, spelled, red and ciphered by himself. There were as many spelling and
reading classes as pupils. The tyro recited, or in the language of the day said his letters, twice a day, and the remainder of the time was occupied in sitting on a shackless bench, and often with feet dangling in the air. To the learner the letters of the alphabet, great and small, looked much alike and were as abstract and meaningless as the man in the moon. The method of teaching reading was the most difficult that could be devised, yet millions, by this method learned to read. At sixteen I began teaching. I had been in school about one year. My store of knowledge was extremely limited. I had read a small book called Village Stories, Life of Daniel Boone, Robinson Crusoe, the History of the United States, the Testament, and McGuffey's second, third and fourth readers. I had worked thru Ray's arithmetic several times, had studied geography, grammar, and a little algebra. The lack of culture and the ignorance of the great masses of the common people forty-five years ago can hardly be conceived by the present generation. Progress in knowledge, culture, refinement, has been immeasurably greater than the progress in material lines. I was greatly impressed with the responsibility imposed upon a teacher. Pestalozzi, Froebel, and other reformers had convinced some of the civilized nations that the masses must be educated, that the life of a nation depended upon the education of its common people, and much had been done for their elevation. Yet in the middle of the 19th century there was much room left for reformation. About this time individualism in education was merged into classification. Individualism had its advantages. The bit was not put upon the hard worker. The daily pabulum was not dealt out in rations. Spartan like, each pupil was expected to depend largely upon himself for his mental nourishment. But the days of individualism were numbered. Reading classes were formed, blackboards were introduced. I persuaded my directors to procure a blackboard. It cost three dollars, of which I paid two dollars, altho earning but fifty-six cents a day. The organization of school into classes was a great innovation and met with much opposition.

A personal defect called my attention to another important reformation in the education of the masses. I was a Pennsylvania Dutchman. The pronunciation of English words was somewhat of an impediment to my success in teaching. Ardently I studied the sounds of the letters and diacritical marks, and soon learned that many of the words in every day use were mispronounced. I conceived the idea of reforming the alphabet and supposed it would be an easy matter to convince the world that it ought to be done. I advocated this reform at teachers associations, while at college, on the stage in my literary society and on every other possible occasion. I could see but little use for aphthongs. I believed, and still believe, that we should have an alphabet with as many different characters as there are elementary sounds recognized in
our language. The time wasted by children in learning to spell, the time wasted by us all in looking up the orthography and correct pronunciation of words, when computed in dollars and cents amounts to many million dollars every year to the English speaking people. Let us make an estimate of the money saved in the United States if no silent letters were used, and if we had a separate character for each letter. The time occupied in learning to spell, and looking up the orthography of words in our correspondence and business affairs, occupies fully two years of an ordinary lifetime. Reckon a man's time worth $350 a year. This is a very low estimate of the average worth of a man to his country and to the world. A generation is supposed to live thirty-three years, and supposing that thirty millions of the seventy millions now living in the United States, should reach that age, the loss of our country in one generation will be $105,000,000,000, over $3000,000,000 every year. This estimate does not include the waste in paper, ink, and the time occupied in writing long words and in setting type. To this should be added the loss to the individual in culture and general education. Economy is time and money will eventually compel the English speaking people to use such an alphabet. Then orthography and pronunciation will be uniform among all classes of English speaking people in every clime.

Another reform which appeared to me to be greatly needed was the use of a decimal system of notation its momentary values. How readily children learn the table of Federal money. How easily is taught and learned its reductions, ascending and descending. What a convenience it would be, what a saving of time to the people of the world if there were uniformity in the notation, throughout the civilized world, of the denominations of currency, and especially if the denominations were based on a decima scale. No system could be devised that is any better than the system of Federal money adopted by the United States Government. Forty years ago the youth of America who studied arithmetic had to learn how many shillings made a dollar in the different state currencies and the reduction of values from one state currency to that of another. These differences arose from the depreciation of the continental currency in the different colonies. In some states five, in others six, in other eight, and in others ten shillings made a dollar, and this absurdity was carried down from ... to my day, when I was a pupil and a teacher in the country schools. Authors continued to publish and teachers continued to teach those tables. I well remember being reprimanded by a school director when he learned that I advised the pupils to pay no attention to those tables. Forty years ago we used the six pence and shilling, the quarter, half dollar and five franc piece for our silver currency. Dimes and American coined dollars were rare. Compound numbers ought to be relegated to the age of the forgotten,
but children are still compelled to learn different values of weights and measures and doubtless there are teachers today who are not aware that a pound of wool is heavier than a pound of gold, or a pound of iron is heavier than a pound of silver, and that a vendor of milk who uses a wine quart sells more quarts yet less milk that he who uses a beer quart. Why burden the learned with this useless toil? I have written to Senator Foraker and have requested him to use his power and influence to have a law enacted by the general government that after 1900 there shall be used but one unit of weight for gold, wool and quinine, and one unit of measure for wheat, milk and wine, and that the denominations be on a decimal scale. I have also requested the Senator to use his influence to have an international congress appointed for the purpose of adopting a decimal system of money for the civilized nations of the world. I advocate this for the convenience and good of millions yet unborn.
There were other reforms that occupied my attention. I could not see why in academies, colleges, and universities, the sexes could not be educated together; and a young lady attending a seminary was not allowed to read her own letters first. In the days of yore, forty years ago the matron of the seminary had to read all the letters that were from a gentleman friend, and no lady student could have an interview with a gentleman unless it was in the presence of the matron of the institution. The sexes were together in the public schools, at church, camp meetings, and at the county fairs. It is true the husband and wife, brother and sister, father and daughter, and the mother and son, would not occupy the same pew, or even sit on the same side of the church, nor could they sit together at singing school, although they might at the country spelling school. Judging by the influence exerted by my mother and sisters, I was convinced that the co-education of the sexes was the normal method, and that it would eventually be the popular method. Had I the time I would speak at greater length on the advantages of the co-education of the sexes. Again, it was custom forty years ago in all academies, seminaries, colleges and universities to have school thirty-six weeks a year and the remainder of the year was spent in vacation. Classes were organized at the beginning of the school year and a student could not enter to advantage at any other time. Those who had to earn their own money were at a great disadvantage. This method of organizing debarred many poor young men and women from attending academies, seminaries and colleges. I experienced this disadvantage myself. I remember that when a freshman I was compelled to read Latin with the Senior class. The student had to accommodate himself to the school. The school never thought of accommodating itself to the necessities of the students.

It was my ambition to assist in the construction of a new alphabet, to improve pronunciation of the common people, to use my influence in adopting one weight, one measure, for our country, and one circulating medium for the
world, and also to organize a school where both sexes and all classes might receive an education; where one could enter school at any time, select his own course of studies, remain at school as long as he desired, and re-enter when convenient, and where little time would be wasted in studying that which is unessential, to prepare a student to be a useful citizen and to prepare for comfortable living, and above all to organize a school that would recognize God in all its teachings.

My failures have been many and great. I have learned that large bodies move slowly and that reformations are accomplished when the world is ready for them. The English alphabet remains the same as it was forty-five years ago. The spelling of but few words has been abbreviated. The weights and measures in general remain the same in the United States, and no uniformity in the notation of the currencies of the world has been established.

In the spring of 1866 I offered my services to a number of communities and tried to persuade them that if I were assisted financially I would be able to establish a school for the education of the masses; a school where both sexes might have the same advantages; where true merit would be recognized more than money; where students might enter at any time and find classes suited to their state of advancement; but I found few persons who were inclined to pay any attention to my proposals. Four gentlemen of this village and vicinity listened carefully to my plans and were instrumental in my locating in this village. Three of them are dead. They were S.M. Johnson, Wm. League, Abraham Ream and Joseph Ream. I supposed from my experience in teaching before the war, that students would flock to my school in larger numbers than they did, and that it would be an easy matter to get some church to endow the school. I tried a number of churches and at one time nearly succeeded in persuading the Methodist Episcopal church; but I have learned there are enough church schools in Ohio, and although the school has been self-sustaining in the past, yet in order to reach the ideal, we will have to seek an endowment. The Ohio Normal University is the embodiment of an idea. Ideas are realities. Divine ideas were the archetypes by which God fashioned the universe, gave it form, adaption and end and force to accomplish that end. The human mind, following the leading of providence, produced means, agencies and institutions for the promotion of human weal. In every country and every age there are some general currents, some tendencies which control its civilization. It is not in the power of any of us to reverse these currents, but we may so direct them that we may contribute to the general advancement of the age and the welfare of the people. Pestalozzi, Froebel, Martin Luther and many others have directed the general
advancement of the age. In fact, we might say that they set in motion the currents which they directed. It is important that the founders of institutions of learning and those in control of them form a clear conception of the tendencies and currents of the age, for the lives of those receiving their education at any institution will be greatly influenced by the harmony of the principles of the school where educated, with the general spirit of the age in which they live. There is one tendency to which I will briefly refer, it is that of concentration. This (is) observable in government, religion, population and education. In governments, we see in all parts of the world a tendency to unite the several parts of a country, or several tribes of a race or people into one compact nation. E Pluribus Unum now means many in one. Our own country, the German Empire and the English nation have been consolidated, or are consolidating. We see this tendency in religion. Churches are uniting. In all business affairs the same tendencies prevail. The corporation is the great institution of modern times. Department stores, trusts, and corporate bodies manage and control nearly the entire business of the country, and it has been hinted that they control legislatures, and even the United States Senate. The same trend is even in the movement of our population. It tends to the cities. The rural districts and small towns are yearly growing less densely populated and the cities grow at an enormous rate. No one is yet able to foretell the final result. The same tendency is seen in the growth of our colleges and universities. A century ago, and even fifty years ago, was the age of the academy. Every community had its academy. Ohio owes her prominence in the councils, camp and courts of our nation to her numerous academies, seminaries and small colleges. It is needless to call the roll of Ohio's great men; it is too long; every schoolboy knows it by heart. Shall Ohio give up the schools or the people and concentrate all her resources in one central school, or shall she foster schools in the different parts of the state that the common people may have access to them? Not only many a flower is born to blush unseen, but many a Lincoln, Grant, and Garfield might be developed if the opportunities were afforded. The means of acquiring a liberal education should, as nearly as possible, be afforded every individual. since any male citizen of suitable age may become a legislator or office holder, since every citizen has an appreciable influence upon the political life of his neighborhood, it is evident that every citizen of the United States ought to have some intelligent comprehension, not only of the essential features of our government, national, state, local or municipal, but also of the fundamental principles of political ethics, political economy, and political science. The characteristic idea of modern civilization is the development of the individual as the end for which the state exists. The great empires of the past wherein the individual was of value only as he ministered to the strength of the state,
have given way to the modern nations, where individual freedom is pushed so far that the state seems only an instrument for the good of the individual. From being the supreme end of the individual, the state has become the means for his advancement into freedom; and with this very exaltation of the value of the mere individual man. But the union of state and individual which was in ancient time merely mechanical, has now become a living process, in which constant interaction gives rise to all the intellectual life of modern civilization.

Fifty years ago our country was inhabited by groups of communities that had few relations either of commerce or sympathy; today our seventy millions of people are a single organism whose muscles are railways and steam navigation, its nerves, telegraphs and telephones, uniting us so closely that every pulsation in the remotest part is felt by all. Even thirty years ago the millionaires were few, and labor organizations were almost unknown; today a dozen multi-millionaires can hold up the government and ask it to deliver $262,000,000 on which interest is to be paid thirty years. Thirty-five years ago, in the darkest days of the republic, we could negotiate the five-twenties and the seven thirties. Today a dozen Debsen can stop the internal commerce of the entire nation, and nearly every industry can almost paralyze the body politic. "Who is to deliver us from the body of death?" The school master. In this age it is he who fits the parents from their responsible duties, he largely forms and models the preachers and law makers, and in turn fashions the new school master. How important that the best minds and purest hearts devote themselves to modeling the school teachers of this republic, and especially of Ohio the modern mother of presidents, judges and great generals and great senators. The Ohio Normal University has undertaken to assist in this task; but she finds it enormous. She cries for help. She asks her alumni and friends of education for one large commodious building to accommodate the thousands of students who flock to her portals every year; not only from her own homes, but also the hundreds who come from other states to enter her halls of leaning.

More than a hundred thousand boys are at play today on the fields of Ohio. These boys form a part of what will be the masses. Let us send them to school. Let us give them good teachers. Let us make them wise, intelligent, honest, thrifty, God-fearing, for among them are the future governors of Ohio and the future leaders of men. Which of them shall redeem the state from its vassalage of the saloon, the spoilsman, and the demagogue? But, ladies and gentlemen, I must close
"In the heart of man a cry,  
In the heart of God, supply."
I still keep in touch with Mr. Bushnell but could not prevail on him to appoint the State Trustees. Shall here insert one more of the Governor's letters.

Springfield, O., July 31, 1897.

President H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My Dear President: Allow me to thank you for your kind and cordial letter of the 26th, which was forwarded from Columbus and reached me yesterday. I am glad to hear the photograph I sent you gave you and your family pleasure. I should have advised you I was sending it, but wanted to take you by surprise. I shall consider it an honor to be placed in your "gallery of Governors" and shall always remember my pleasant visit to your home and your kind hospitality, for which I again thank you. Trusting you are all quite well and with kindest regards to your wife and daughters and best wishes for your health and happiness and success, beg to remain,

Very truly your friend,

Asa S. Bushnell.

Commencement week was a great success due almost entirely to the management of those who arranged the Founder's day exercises. Dr. John Montgomery preached the baccalaureate sermon and Bishop Fowler delivered the Class address. Dr. Montgomery is a Presbyterian, Bishop Fowler a Methodist. The graduates during the year, in the different colleges, were 315. I know the present address of only a few.

Arthur Barber is preaching in a city in the state of New York.

Mrs. Alice Butler is practicing medicine in Cleveland.

Capt. A.A. Crawford died shortly after returning from the Philippines.
Bertha Darst is teaching music in Chicago.

Capt. Walter Elliott is the Ada postmaster.

E.D. Fritch is practicing law in Akron.

H.B. Hazen practices law in Chicago.

Elizabeth Heron teaches in California.

Esther Hunter is now Mrs. Capt. Joe Newcomer and lives at Moneasen, Pa.

Wm. N. Kramer teaches in Butler, Ohio.

Thos. Lowe is now the Rev. Dr. Lowe and preaches at Union City, Ind.

Wm. McGirr practices law in Van Wert, O.

W.W. Runser practices law in Ada.

Laura Henry married George L. Bauer. I think they reside in Pennsylvania.

J.C. Arnold teaches in New York City.

W.E. Bowers lives at Maples, Ind.


Lulu Ludwick is now Mrs. McDermott and lives in Los Angeles, Calif.

Lyman G. Moore practices law in Columbus, O.

B.O. Martin is superintendent of schools in North Baltimore, O.

J.H. Secrest practices law in Lima, O.

D.J. Schurr is now the Hon. Mr. Schurr and represents Madison County in the Ohio Legislature.

W.O. Sheller practices law in Mansfield, O.
G.E. Stinebaugh is superintendent of schools at Perrysburg, O.

Homer J. Ward practices law in Baltimore Md.

Dora Williams teaches at Rising Sun, O.

Lenore Shanks is now Mrs. Runser. Her address is Ada.

Leila Kirkpatrick teaches at Turtle Creek, Pa.

Helena Schindewolf lives at Ada.

C.C. Shrread teaches Pharmacy at Angola, Ind.

H.A. Bucher was teaching in one of the far western states in 1905. Fifty-two years ago his father was my pupil in Wayne County, O.

Bettie Corbell lived in Washington, D.C. the last I heard from her.

J.S. Speelman is superintendent of schools at Granger, O.

Ray M. Murray has charge of the Engineering work at Winona Lake, Ind.

O.L. Albright and Earl Harold Noel, members of the law class, are dead.

E.M. Bell practices law in Bellefontaine, O.

A.U. Bordner and J.W. Burris practice law in Canton, O.

A.C. Cooney practices law in Los Angeles, Cal.

T.O. Crosson practices law in New Lexington, O.

A.C. Bowersox practices law in Toledo.

The following are also engaged in the practice of law: Harman R. Ewing in Youngstown, O., F.E. Duffield and H.V. Kahle, in Lima, Kent P. Johnson in Kenton, Herbert Fisher in Napoleon, J.E. Kelley in Bowling Green, O., O.E. Lytle in Akron, J.M. Patton in Cleveland, E.S. Stevens in Sandusky, G.C. Simmons in Defiance, L.J. Turley in Akron, C.H. Young in Enon Valley, Pa.,
and Errett G. Young in Upper Sandusky.

Verda Head is now Mrs. Frankenberger and resides in Mansfield, O.

Hugh Laughlin teaches music in East Liverpool, O.

William S. Jones teaches music in Lima.

Nellie Piefer is now Mrs. Wilson and resides in Ada.

Mayme Peste is married and lives in Chicago.

Bessie Tudot's home is in Van Wert, O.

Mrs. Hugh Owens resides in Chicago.

Have not heard from Sudie Sargeant for some years.

All students of 1896 and '97 will remember Miss Head, Miss Piefer, Miss Peate, Miss Sargeant, Miss Tudot, Mr. Jones, Mr. Laughlin for they were all sweet singers and furnished music for the societies, for chapel exercises, for the churches and for many special occasions. Of the sixty-six graduates in Pharmacy I know the present address of but one. W.P. Graber who practices medicine in Cleveland. The year '97, had passed into history as one of the epoch making periods in the history of the O.N.U.
Stirring Incidents in the History of 1898.

December 27, 1907, V. XXX, No. 32

CHAPTER 167.
Stirring Incidents in the History of 1898.

Catalog No. 27 showed an enrollment of 3152, again an enrollment over the previous year of 79.

The following changes were made in the teaching force. On the expiration of the time of Major Morgan, the Secretary of War sent us back 1st. Lieut. John Baxter who had been very popular when serving his first term. He was just as popular when he returned. Prof. Correll resigned and we elected Otho Frields Professor of Engineering. Miss Erie Pickerill resigned and Miss Katie Thomas was employed in her place. We added to the teaching force by employing my daughter, Sarah Lenora Lehr, to teach Elocution, English and Greek. Prof. P.S. Morgan took sick and we employed in his place C.A. Miller as a supply.

The length of terms and rates of tuition and price of board and rooms remained as in the past.

On account of the war with Spain we had great difficulty in procuring judges for the Military Contest. I went to Columbus and secured the promise of 1st Lieut. Charles C. Walmuth of the 8th Cavalry. I shall here insert his report which I still have on file.

REPORT OF THE JUDGE.

Ada, O., May 12, 1898.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My Dear Sir: I have the honor to submit the following as my conclusion after witnessing the company drills today. All the companies showed marked efficiency in all movements executed, the arms, etc., are in good condition, the general appearance soldierly with every evidence of zeal in Military exercises. Arranged in order of merit the results are:

1st, Company D, 93 percent. 2nd, Company A, 92 percent. 3rd, Company B, 91 percent. 4th, Company C, 85 percent. 5th, Company E, 84 percent.
Very respectfully,

Chas. C. Walmuth
1st. Lieut., 8th Cav.

The report caused great commotion and ill feeling. Quite a number of men in the defeated companies claimed that I influenced the Judge in making his report so that the flag might be carried by some company that had never gained the coveted prize. The feeling was bitter. I had nothing whatever to do in making out the report, nor did I say a word that might in any way influence the Judge.

As I now remember W.F. Rothenberger was captain of company A. R.W. Lockard of Company B, W.E. Ortman of company D, W.H. Van Horn of Company C and E.B. Milnor of company E.

Capt. Ortman had the measles some time in April and before he was well took charge of his company at the risk of health and life. He worked hard and incessantly as do most of the captains in every contest. As far as I know he won the flag fairly and honestly. He graduated with the class in July, entered the ministry of the Methodist Church but died in less than a year. He never fully recovered from the effects of the measles and his premature exposure. He gained the flag but lost his life.

During the spring term of 1898, Prof. Warren Darst for some reason which he never disclosed to any of his associates connected with the school, attempted to sell a fourth interest in the school; I suppose forgetting that we no longer owned the school as individuals but held it in trust as a board of trustees. Without saying anything whatever to myself, Prof. Park or Prof. Maglott, he made a deed to George Walker then residing at Adrian, Michigan, for an eighth interest in the school and an eighth interest to Loncha Stoner who at the time was teaching in Findlay College. Mr. Walker for a number of years, was superintendent of schools at Lima, but lost the place and later was superintendent of school, I think two years, at Adrian; but when he bought he had no position. We had employed Mr. Walker while superintendent of the Lima schools to teach during our vacation term of two weeks probably four or five summers. The last two terms he was not liked by the students. They claimed that he was very indifferent and that it seemed a burden to him to teach. When he bought he was sixty-five years old and his best service had been rendered.

Mr. Stoner has been an Ada student two or three terms but as he was a
member of the Church of God he entered Findlay College and after graduation was elected one of its instructors. A number of our former students wrote to me stating that he was a failure as a teacher and that the O.N.U. could not afford to let him teach. I answered that I was well acquainted with the young man and that he would not be a teacher in the O.N.U.

After Prof. Darst had sold a fourth interest he resigned as a teacher and trustee. He also handed in the resignation of Mrs. Darst as teacher of piano. We considered a number of strong men to take the place of Prof. Darst. Among them Supt. J.W. Zeller, Supt. John Davison, C.W. Butler, Prof. Heber Holbrook then teaching in the Pittsburg, Pa. public schools. We thought he would probably draw a number of former Lebanon students. He asked us $2300 a year. We were in no special hurry. When it was about the time I usually prepared the catalog I wrote to Mr. Walker and to Mr. Stoner and told them I supposed that they thought that they owned an interest in the O.N.U. but did not own any interest whatever in the school and that we had no positions which they could fill as teachers. They had neither seen us or written to us as to whether they would be acceptable to the Board of Trustees. They thought they could come at the opening of the school year and take possession as a man would if he bought a store or farm. Mr. Stoner came immediately on the receipt of my letter. He told me what classes he was to teach. I smiled but pitied the young man. I told him he lacked the force necessary to teach large classes, that it my opinion that the arithmetic class would rebel in two or three days and that he could not teach and that his deed was not worth the paper on which it was written. I asked him why he did not see us before buying. He gave his reasons which I shall not state. He came to see me on Saturday. On Monday he sent a Findlay attorney to Ada who got back his money. The poor fellow died shortly after the transaction and I was told of chagrin.

Mr. Walker reached Ada a few days later. He presumed on our former intimate friendship. I asked him why he did not see us or write to us. He gave the same reason assigned by Mr. Stoner. I told him he was too old to do our work and that when he had taught for us some years before but he did not render good satisfaction. I pitied the old man but we had to look out for the best interests of the school. I never learned how he and Professor Darst settled. Had the Professor transferred his good will to some one like Supt. Zeller, J.J. Burns, Heber Holbrook, Supt. Davison or a number of others whom I could name, we would not have objected in the least.

After the occurrence the Professor saw me and asked to be reinstated. I told
him I would refer the matter to the Board. He was reinstated but not unanimously. He owned his reinstatement to the President of the University. Professor Darst was a good disciplinarian and a good instructor, but like all other men had his faults. One was, and I named it to him on reinstatement, that when he took a dislike to a student he would never relent but would so treat the student that a number of different times left his classes and some left the school.
Sometime during the month of June, 1898, Prof. S.D. Fess and Rev. Boyer, pastor of the Methodist Church of Ada, called to see me in regard to selling the O.N.U. to the Central Ohio Conference of the M.E. Church. I told them I would call a meeting of the Board of Trustees and let them know what we would do. Since I have, above, given the name of Rev. S.L. Boyer, I shall in justice to myself, give a little transaction between Rev. Boyer and myself. About a month before the laying of the corner stone of the new Methodist Church I met Rev. Boyer at the postoffice. He asked me to give him $100 for the church, stating they were in great need of cash. I refused, saying that I intended to subscribe $100 at the dedication of the church. He said that if I would give him $100 at the dedication of the church he thought he could get Prof. Park and Prof. Darst to pay $100 each.

I finally gave him $50, but refused to subscribe $50 then. I took his receipt and left him. About a year after the dedication of the church, Rev. J.I. Ween, pastor of the M.E. Church at Ada, came to see me and said I still owed $50 on a subscription made to "Brother Boyer" before dedication. I replied that it was a mistake. I told him of the conversation with Rev. Boyer, but Rev. Ween did not appear to believe me and showed me the subscription card. I told him it was not signed by me. I asked the address of Mr. Boyer. He gave me his address, I wrote him and shall here insert his reply.


Pres. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My Dear Brother: Yours came to hand last night. Your statement regarding your church subscription you gave me is correct. You said you would stand good for $100 the name of payment being left to your convenience. You signed no card. You remember I asked you to sign a card, but you preferred not. I do not know what your intention was when you signed the $200 a year ago, whether to pay $50, on the $100, subscribed and $150 more, or to pay $300 in all. An interpretation ought to have been made at the time. I had several cases of that kind before I left. My plan was to have each party make clear what he wanted to do, each time when the subscription was taken. However, I hope you
can see your way clear to pay the full $300. The church will appreciate it.
I am glad to hear of the great success of the school. I meet some of your
students in this state. Please remember me kindly to your family and the faculty.
We are both well. I have resigned the presidency here and shall likely join
conference this fall.

Very sincerely,

S.L. Boyers.

What is strange about Mr. Boyer's letter is that he says that my statement is
correct, that I signed no card. Then later on in his letter he speaks as tho I had
subscribed $100 to him for the church before dedication. The fact is, that my
name on that paper was put there without my consent or knowledge, I made
or promised no subscription, but paid $50. I told him I intended to subscribe
$50 more at the dedication of the church. I showed Mr. Boyer's letter to a
Common Pleas Judge. After reading it, he said, "That man ought to be in the
." I supposed Rev. Wean would erase my name from the subscription list, but
it appears he did not. When the church was dedicated, I was President of a
school owned by the Methodist Church. The evening before the dedication, I
was invited to meet a committee of Methodists. I promised the committee that
the next day I would subscribe $200, and the next day did so, and then added
that while I continued as President of the school, would each year pay an
additional $33 1/23. After that I remained with the school two years and paid
$68. In all I paid $50 to Mr. Boyer, before dedication, $200 regular
subscription at the dedication and $68 conditional subscription, in all $368. I
was employed for two years longer and had I remained with the school till the
expiration of my term I would have paid $66 more. As it was, I thought I paid
liberally for one who was not a member of the church. I make this explanation
because I have been misrepresented to such a degree that in 1904 I thought
of bringing action against several parties for slander. Anyone wishing to see
Rev. Boyer's letter can see it by calling at my home. Is it any wonder that
there are skeptics?

The Trustees of the O.N.U. held a meeting and reported to Prof. Fess and
Rev. Boyer that they could sell the University to the Conference for $24,000. I
do not now remember who made the motion to sell or seconded the motion
but I remember it carried unanimously.

I have been asked many time why we sold the school when it was so
prosperous and realizing fairly good salaries. For a number of years we had a
net surplus over all expenses of about $12,000 a year. Some years a little
less, other years a little more. Of course that was not the case during the early years of the school. Then we had our starvation period, but we always had an excess over expenses. Though why did we sell I shall endeavor to explain. After incorporating the school as a "University not for profit" we no longer owned the school as individuals or as a company but as trustees. After incorporating we as incorporators had to act as trustees. We elected the former owners of the school as trustees. When we incorporated there were five owners: H.S. Lehr, J.G. Park and Frederick Maglott each owned a fourth interest. Rachel Girard and Warren Darst each owned an eighth. The necessary legal number of trustees was five and we had just that number. When Mrs. Girard transferred her interest to Warren Darst there were but four trustees after she resigned as a trustee. Prof. Darst kindly paid her for the part she owned before we incorporated. After she resigned we elected Mr. S.B. Wagner to fill the required number.

At any time a majority of the Board could have elected some one else as President of the University or put him on just such salary as they wished to pay. Any member of the Board could have been dropped and some one else ejected in his place and he could not have collected a cent for the interest he owned before incorporation nor could he have taught and received a salary. If any member would have died, his heirs would not have been entitled to a cent.

The school was growing rapidly. We needed more and better buildings, more apparatus, more and better facilities in every line. We had excellent teachers, rates of tuition were low, board and room rent were very cheap and yet the board was good and rooms fairly well furnished. Students could enter at any time and study what they chose to select. No other school in Ohio offered such advantages as the O.N.U. Students came by train loads. A car of trunks would have to be unloaded thru the night. What could be done? I feared death or at least a decrease in attendance from overgrowth. We could sell it at any time and pocket the money. To leave such a school, such a monument of sacrifice and hard work to such an uncertainty, would be wrong. All felt that the school should be perpetuated and yet there were none of us, perhaps all, who did not feel like erecting a $25,000 building, furnish it with furnaces, seats and the necessary apparatus at a cost of $5,00 or more and yet have no assurance that he could remain another year or in case of death that his family would realize a dollar.

The founder had other reasons or at least thought he had, why it would be far the better to sell the school to a large and rich church. But he does not deem it
advisable to name them.

Rev. Boyer, Dr. Leroy A. Belt, President Bashford and a Methodist Bishop came and examined our books and records to ascertain the financial condition of the school, its patronage, etc. They were all honest in confessing that they wanted the school that the sons and daughters of the many Methodists patronizing the school might be under Methodist influences. I shall speak more at length of the transfer in the history of the following years.
CHAPTER 169.
Some '98 Graduates with whom Dr. Lehr has kept in Touch.

Commencement season was at hand. The number of graduates during the school year 1897-98 was 324.

The Baccalaureate sermon was preached by Rev. L.G. Herbert, D.D., Doctor O.N. Hartshorn, Ex-president and Founder of Mt. Union College addressed the class.

I know the present address of but few members of the class. Of late years I have not filed my letters as I did when president of the school.

Fred Schepman is teaching in Gensee, Idaho.

A.W. Clutch is practicing law in Columbus.

Watson H. Gregg is practicing law in Quaker City.

J.W. Gilmore resides in Kenton.

Laura Leeper is teaching in some city in California.

O.L. Lippincott is practicing law in Lima.

B.F. Morris is a real estate agent in Zion City, Ill.

Harvey C. Minnich is Dean of the State Normal school at Oxford, O.

W.W. Newcomer is Professor of Elocution in Lima.

D. Carl Yoder preaches for the Methodists in West Mansfield.

I.N. Kuhn practices law in Waynesburg, Pa.

Arthur A. Laughlin and Harrison H. Laughlin are extensively engaged in the
pickle and onion business at Nappanee, Ind.

J.C. Polling is County Surveyor of Hardin County, O. His address is Kenton.

Frank N. Sweitzer lives in Chicago.

Cal L. Stuckman is in Nappanee, Ind.

M.K. Wever is in Flat Rock, N.C.

Birdie Harvey lives in Dunkirk.

A.L. Irey is superintendent of schools in Berlin Heights.

D.H. Taylor resides in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Gertrude Replogle is now Mrs. A. U. Borner and resides at Canton.

Henry Townsend is an Electrical Engineer in Cincinnati.

J.W. Adkins practices law in Lima, J.P. Crawford in Toledo, William N. Crow in Millersburg, J. Harold Heaton in Salem, E.R. Jackson in Rockford, P.A. Kahle in Lima, J.W. Kilgore in Lima, Alfred S. Leuthold in Bucyrus, H.L. Laughbaum in Toledo, W.J. Patterson in Cleveland, M.A. Ruggles in Dayton, John Schlarb in Youngstown, F.L. Stalter in Dayton, E.H. Willis in Youngstown and my good friend W.W. Runser in Ada. For a number of years after graduation he was a member of the Law Faculty in the O.N.U. and was well liked as an instructor.

W.F. Rothenberger is taking post graduate work in Chicago University and is preaching for a congregation of Disciples in the city. I have several of his letters on file but shall insert a small part of his last.

Chicago, June 8, 1906.

Dear Prof. Lehr:

It is needless to say that I was greatly delighted to receive your letter of last week. I have thought of you many times since leaving the old school in '98. I have been back at Ada four times since then, and remember with much pleasure the little visit I had with you at your home about four or five years ago, Mr. Teachout of Cleveland, Mrs. Rothenberger's father, sent me the kind letter you wrote them after our marriage, and I wondered at the time, as I had previously done, how you found time for so many personal notes.
I am glad indeed to know that your health has improved, and sincerely hope that you may enjoy many years of happiness with your host of friends scattered all over the world. I look back upon my career at Ada with much pleasure. I sometimes smile when I think of the burglar scare that occurred at you home when Mr. Pearl West was rooming in the upper story, and how nearly all of us at the Crawford house just across the way responded, and surrounded the house like a company of Militia, but did not succeed in capturing the thief. It is very easy for me to picture you even now out on your lawn with a pair of rubber boots on, long before many of the Gilbert street residents were up, or starting for the Normal with your little leather wallet and elastic step. But where in Ada could you not be seen?

Perhaps the most vivid picture in my mind is the time when the college evangelist S.M. Sanford was holding a meeting with the Y.M.C.A. boys somewhere along in the winter of ’96 I was leading the singing at a mass meeting held in the two halls. You came to me at the close of the service, and took me to the rear of Philo hall, I think I could almost pick out the exact seat now, saying you wanted to talk with me privately. You then told me that you had been thinking about me, and wanted me to go to college after I had completed my work at the University, and that you would pay my tuition for a year at Hiram if I chose to go. I had not yet decided on the University, but your personal interest meant much in helping me to enter my much loved profession. I shall always feel greatly indebted to you for that early inspiration, and shall never allow you to be crowded out of my memory.

The Sunday morning when I submitted my letter from the old Reform Church of my boyhood carries with it also the picture of yourself coming down to the front seat, grasping by hand, and bidding me "Godspeed," yet I am only one of hundreds who feel the same love toward you. All the boys here speak of "Prof. Lehr" in the same certain tones.

I have received calls from several of our largest churches, but hope to stay by graduate work until completed. It is a strenuous life, and I am sure that what I have accomplished, and still hope to do for the kingdom of God, had its beginnings in the ideals of the great school you founded and so nobly fostered.

My heart is full, and I should hugely enjoy a personal chat over old days from ’91 to ’96. Philo hall and Co. A would constitute no little portion of the subject matter of greatest interest to me, next to the christian work. But I must not continue this long letter.

With kindest regards and best wishes, I remain your devoted friend and former student.

W.F. Rothenberger.
Rev. Rothenberger has not forgotten the little proffered aid. I had forgotten the circumstance. It is the mark of a noble character to be grateful, but not all men possess that virtue.

I have many kind letters from other members of the class as I have from members of every class but space forbids their insertion.

W.D. Ward has been preaching at Evanston, Ill. the last six years and is also taking post graduate work.

The class of '98 contained some fine singers. Among the number were Anna Bussert now in New York, Lillie Arthur now married and living in Lima, Edna Roebuck also married and living in Delphos, Marie Cramer is now Mrs. Thut and resides at Storm lake, Iowa, Maggie Young is now Mrs. Neth and lives at Paintsville, Ky., Mrs. Belle B. Skidmore resides at West Mansfield.

Grace Norman who completed the course in Elocution is married and lives in Washington, D.C.

The commencement exercises closed with a contest between the old rivals, the Philomathean and Franklin Literary Societies, the last contest at the close of the school year.
CHAPTER 170.
The Sale and Transfer of the School to the M.E. Church.

The enrollment of students for the school year 1898-99 as shown by catalog No. 28 was 3209, a gain of 57 over the enrollment of the previous year.

There was but one change in our teaching force. Prof. Otho Frields died during the previous year and Ray Murray one of our own graduates, a fine mathematician, was elected in his place. He proved to be an excellent teacher.

The rates of tuition, board and room rent remained the same.

The trustees had informed Prof. Fess and Rev. Boyer that they were willing to sell the University to the Central Ohio Conference of the M.E. Church. I think it was in July, 1896. The Conference was to hold its session in September in Sidney. We were invited to come to the Conference and present our proposition. The trustees appointed the President of the school to meet the Conference.

I knew that it was an important step to take. I began teaching in 1854 and it was my ambition to continue in the profession till 1904, fifty years. I would then be sixty-six years old. Rev. Z.B. Campbell said to me, "Prof. Lehr, they will never keep you at the head of the school unless you join the church." He gave his reasons and he proved to be a good prophet. But I had faith that I would be retained if I would do good work. I was told by my Methodist friends that they would retain me at least ten years. I went to the Conference repeating to myself the famous lines of Virgil:

"Sic vos non vobis midificatis oves;  
Sic vos non vobis vellera fertis oves;  
Sic vos non robis mellifacatis apes;  
Sic vos non vobis fertis aratra boves."

The history of the above lines is this. He wrote a very complimentary dispatch in honor of the Emperor Augustus and fastened the lines to the gate of the palace in the night. The Emperor sought to find the author. Virgil was too modest to claim the authorship when finally some inferior poet claimed the
authorship and was highly rewarded. This offended Virgil and he wrote the verse or line--"Hos eg... versiculos feci, tulit alter honores," and the first four words of three lines as found in the above little poem and fastened them to the palace gate at night. The Emperor requested the imposter to complete the lines but he, of course was unable to do so. Then Virgil completed them and added a fourth line. What Rev. Campbell told me and which I shall not repeat in full caused me to think and brought to my mind what Virgil so beautifully and truly expressed in the four lines.

When I reached Sidney, Dr. Leroy Belt and Dr. H.C. Jameson met me and told me to write out my proposition to read to the Conference. The above named gentlemen were very much in favor of buying the school. Wrote out the proposition which I read before the Conference and which I shall here insert:
In the above propositions is found the statement that the trustees appointed by the Conference are to carry out the contracts then in force. A number of the teachers had been employed for a number of years, and the large building now called the Administration building was owned by the Union school district, for the use of which we were to admit to our classes, in several of our colleges or departments, free of tuition, all the graduates of the Union school of the town. The lease or contract was to continue till 1909. We also reserved the right to control the school till the close of the school year 1898-99. We thought from statements made that the purchase would be made at once during the session of the Conference. We had been told that the "Old man Counselman and old Brother Dukes and the Old man Brown who married a rich widow and who died leaving the old man a nice sum of money and onion farm" would at once furnish the money for the first payment, but in fact the transfer was not made until August 2nd, 1899, altho a part of the first payment, $3,330, was made in April 1899. We did not get quite $24,000, only about $22,000.

Some time in March, 1899, Dr. Belt and Dr. Jameson called me from my office and told me unless we would take a farm in Hancock County as part payment for the school Mr. Dukes would not furnish the money for the first payment and the sale would be off. I replied that I would see my associates. Later I wrote to Dr. Belt and informed him that I was unwilling to take the land and I thought all the trustees were unwilling to take the land and I thought all the trustees were unwilling to take a farm as part payment.

The Trustees appointed by the Conference were to have a meeting early in April. Before they had their meeting at Ada, Dr. Jameson sent me the following letter:

Delaware, O., April 4, 1899.

Dear Pres. Lehr: Yours received, I was with Mr. Dukes the evening before he sent the money and he informed me of his plans. I made Dukes the offer for the land and closed the contract with the understanding that you were to take the 80 acres while I was to take the 160. I am not able to take all the land and would not like to shoulder so heavy a burden.
The 80 acres north of the road is short and also the 160 south of the road about an acre each. I will rent the 80 acres from you, for cash, and perhaps some time be able to buy if you should desire to dispose of it. You see I am paying ten dollars per acre more for the 160 than you are for the 80. I know the price is too high for both, but it seemed to be the only way out. Mr. Dukes refuses to take less for the land and seemed disinclined to give anything to the school unless he sold the land. Dr. Belt assured me that you would take the 80. So I went the third time before the matter could be consummated. I was wondering if Mr. Dukes could not be induced to deed the 80 acres direct to you and so provide for the first payment by July 1st. Would this suit you? The reason Mr. Dukes did not make the first payment more, the $3,330 represented all the cash he had on hand. I think if one could induce him to give the deed for the land now, we would have just that much more in the end. I have not yet made a written contract with Mr. Dukes and prefer not to do so until I learn that you are perfectly willing to take the 80 acres. So please let me hear from you at once and I will see Dukes before the trustees meeting Tuesday or Thursday? Cannot be present on Wednesday. P.S. I would favor keeping Park and Darst as long as they would stay.

Yours faithfully,

H.C. Jameson.

When the trustees met four of them took dinner with the Lehr family. When Dr. Jameson found that I was unwilling to take the land he tried to influence Mrs. Lehr and my daughters in favor of the trade. Finally my associates instructed me to go and see the land. There were 77 acres enclosed in one field, a little timber on the land, but no buildings. The land is the poorest tract I have ever seen in this part of the state, simply clay knobs. The price was $55 an acre when good land around Ada, at that time, was selling at from $30 to $40 an acre. I was opposed to taking the land but my associates voted to take it as part pay. Prof. Maglott later told me what induced the other trustees to vote to take the land. Several years ago we sold it to Dr. H.C. Jameson for $25 an acre. A grandson of Mr. Dukes told us after the transaction that his grandfather did not profit by the transaction.

I have been asked frequently why in the addends I did not name the other numbers of the present Board of Trustees who were willing to pay $1000 for the control of the school two years. This is my answer. Prof. Park was unwilling to go into the company or combination. I knew his popularity and power as a teacher and believed that it would injure the school to omit his name and therefore used the language I did. Prof. Maglott and Prof. Darst
agreed and authorized me to make the statement I did. Later on we took Prof. Fess as a partner in the company to rent the University.

I was requested by Dr. Leroy Belt and Dr. H.C. Jameson to write out the propositions which I was authorized to make to the Conference to read to that honorable body. I did, but it appears that the Secretary of the Conference did not get one addendum the same in the Conference minutes as I have in my copy. If any one wishes to see what was given as a report of those transactions I will refer him to the Ada Record of May 24, 1899. He will there find the same statement as I have given above with this addition: "Page ... Minutes of Conference of 1899. Resolved. That we recommend the acceptance of this proposition and the appointment of the following brethren to affect the legal transfer of said property to the Central Ohio Conference. William Lawrence, L.A. Brit, and E.D. Whitlock. Committee, E.D. Whitlock, H.C. Jameson, C.R. Havighorst.

Had I remembered, four years ago, that the above statements were to be found in the issue of the Ada Record of May 24, 1899, it would have saved me a big attorney fee.

I have been asked frequently why I was willing to sell and yet anxious to continue in the school. I have already explained why I thought it to be to the best interests of the University to make the transfer. I shall now state why I wished to remain connected with the school. I began teaching when but sixteen years old, teaching and school work was my life occupation. I loved the work. Again I loved the O.N.U. It was the idol of my heart. And I wanted to continue in school fifty years. I ought to have known that as a Disciple of Christ I could not expect to remain the president of a Methodist school. I told the Conference that I was willing to work with and for them. I now believe that many ministers understood by those words that it was my intention to join the Methodist Church. I should have been more specific and said plainly that it would not be best for the school for me to change my church relations, that the world would interpret it that I merely changed for position and that the church must never expect me to join while I was connected with the school. But with my school work at Winona Lake I got forty-nine and one-half years in school work not counting out my time in the army. But more of this hereafter.
CHAPTER 172.
The Sale and Transfer of the School to the M.E. Church.

I kept every letter, post card and telegram I received from any of the trustees while I was connected with the school after the proposition to sell it was accepted. I also kept a copy of my letters on file. There was some trouble, I might say much trouble concerning the transfer and the contract for the rental of the school. The trustees appointed by the conference refused to rent the school for two years, they also refused to accept our proposition to receive $1000 rental for two years or $500 for one year and they refused to let us pay the rental to the Ada Methodist Church. They said that the Ada church had "to look out for itself," that they needed the money for the university. After much wrangling we agreed to give them 10% of the net proceeds of the tuition, book-rent and money received for diplomas, laboratory fees and office fees, but they refused to give us full control of the school. In the contract they reserved the right to employ the teachers and the granting of degrees.

I shall only insert the most important letters, except those that might give offense. Some members of the board spoke very plainly about other members, but those letters were intended for my eyes only and I shall so regard them. I wrote a long letter to Rev. D.H. Bailey concerning the rental and other matters. Prof. Darst related to me a conversation he had on the train with Rev. Bailey. It was that which drew out my letter shall give the Doctor's letter in answer to mine.

Perrysburg, O., Apr. 17, 1899.

My dear Prof. Lehr: Your communication of the 14th at hand. I am certain that every member of the board of trustees will be pleased if we can arrange with Prof. Park and Darst to remain. I explained to Prof. Darst on train Friday, why it was thought that the trustees should assume the management, at least in part, of the university for the effect it would have on the Church and the influence it would give in raising money. He thought there was something to it and raised no objections to the plan. I also explained to him my idea of Jameson's position, that there ought to be a margin above expenses to be used on improvements. I think no one contemplates any profits from the institution to be used for any other purpose than the improvement of the university. I am surprised and delighted at the favorable opinion the men on the board have
of the university and their profound interest in its welfare. You will find them a very capable body of men and in their hands the university I think has a bright future. We sincerely hope and pray that you may continue in the presidency for many years to come.

I feel that it is quite important that we agitate the question of a new building. It is bound to come soon and if it was known to the students and citizens that we were contemplating such a movement I believe the effect would be good. In the event that Prof. Park and Darst remain would it not be a good thing to elect Prof. Fess Chancellor?

The Methodist people have the money to meet the needs of the university. What we want to do now is to send some one after it that knows how to get it. Shall I notify the trustees who were absent, of the next meeting?

Respectfully,

D.H. Bailey.

We began in April to try to make the transfer, but the exchange of deed and mortgage was not made until August 2, 1899. This tardiness and the misunderstanding prevented me from publishing the catalog in our usual time and also in getting out advertising. In fact we did not advertise in any papers and periodicals for no one knew who would be in the management of the University. I feared a great loss of students and there was some loss, but not as much as I expected. I shall now insert most of the letters without intervening remarks. I shall give them according to their dates.

Lima, Ohio, May 17, 1899.

Pres. H.S. Lehr:
Ada, Ohio

Dear Friend: The business of yesterday afternoon at the joint meeting of the Faculty and the Board of Trustees for the conference was so multifarious, that some of my requests relative to the transfer of the property may have escaped your attention, and hence these lines.

As we have secured the point of compelling the grantees to incorporate, so that the paper representing deferred payments will be valid and a commercial quality, now let us look well to the question of the mortgages that secure the paper. One of these instruments will be a chattel mortgage and in order to have this chattel mortgage perfect, the original bill of sale transferring the personal property and equipment of the school must be redrawn, and I will prepare this in proper form with your assistance; and I especially direct your attention to preparing an itemized schedule of this personal property.

When I say itemized schedule, I mean a schedule which will disclose in some way the identity of the particular personal property; for instance, a piano should
be designated with the name of the factory or maker, etc. The rule is that property of this nature should be so specifically described, that an officer going with a writ, for the purpose of replevin for instance, would have no difficulty in ascertaining the exact property. I will prepare the real estate mortgage from the data I already have at hand, and will today confer with Mr. Hoskins to the certificate of incorporation.

With kind regards to all, I remain,

Yours very truly,
Jas. W. Halfhill.

Lima, O., May 18, 1899.

Pres. H.S. Lehr,
Ada, O.

My dear friend: Your letter of the 17th inst. is here, enclosing the deed, and I have all the other papers. Of course I will take charge of these, and deliver only upon your instruction; and moreover, as I heretofore advised you, I will prepare the mortgages securing the deferred payments. Anticipating the trouble that you would have in making a schedule of the personal property, I wrote you yesterday, and evidently you will have to generalize on some of these articles of personal property as, otherwise the schedule would be too tedious, to make. When you describe the articles in the museum, it would be out of the question to itemize in detail, but you could give the general outline and then add a clause saying: "And all other articles now situated in room number --, etc.;" and as to the library, you could say: "Containing about -- number of volumes, consisting of works on mathematics, languages, etc." Advise me of anything that you desire from time to time, and I will give all requests prompt attention. With kind regards, I remain,

Yours very truly,
Jas. W. Halfhill.
CHAPTER 173.
The Sale and Transfer of the School to the M.E. Church.

Lima, Ohio, June 12, 1899.

Pres. Henry S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My dear friend: Your favor of the 9th came duly to hand, enclosing the invoice of personal property as requested. I note what you say about the delay, but it seems to make no particular difference as I have not yet heard from Mr. S.A. Hoskins concerning my proposition to have the Governor appoint the trustees for this institution under the new articles of incorporation. You say that you have put into press a part of the catalog, and have published the names of the gentlemen as trustees who were appointed at the Sidney conference. This will not interfere with the legal status of the transfer in any way, so far as I can see. So far as the public are concerned, it makes no difference who, in fact constitute the trustees, but in dealing with property rights, the transfers of title, etc., it makes a vast deal of difference. As I had to be in Court all day Saturday, and until noon of today, it was impossible to earlier answer your letter which arrived Saturday, but I trust these few hours of delay have not been a matter of inconvenience to you.

With kind regards, I remain,
Yours truly,

Jas. W. Halfhill.

Lima, O., June 13, 1899.

Pres. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My dear friend: Today I am in receipt of a letter from Mr. S.A. Hoskins of Wapakoneta, which I enclose herewith, and also enclose a copy of my answer to the letter in question. I see no reason what ever for receding from the position that we have taken in this matter, for it is right and in accordance with law; and, moreover, the other side are not in position to compel us to change, as we have the long end of the string at the present writing. You may return to me the letter signed by Mr. Hoskins. The copy I care nothing for, as we already have that.

With kind regards, I remain,
Yours very truly,

Jas. W. Halfhill.

Wapakoneta, O., June 16, 1899.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Dear Sir: I regret that I will not be able to be in Ada on Sunday or Monday, as I would like to attend the dedicatory exercises. If a majority of the Board of Trustees are there then I would like to have them pass a resolution authorizing the execution of the notes and mortgage to secure the unpaid balance of the purchase money. Their journal should also show the election of a president and secretary after the incorporation of the school. Mr. Halfhill seems to think an appointment by the Governor necessary. I do not think so, but do not believe that an appointment would injure any one. I don't see that it would have any force or effect either way. I think these trustees are acting by virtue of Section 3726 of the Revised Statutes, and I do not think that Section 3726 applied to the present case; but Mr. Halfhill does. I am satisfied to have the Governor make these appointments provided Mr. Halfhill will have it done without any bother upon my part, and also upon the further condition that the seven incorporators are willing to accept the appointment from the Governor. I hope you will see that this meeting is had, and that these resolutions are passed, so that we can close this up at once. I sincerely thank you for favoring Miss Moore with a position in the school. I believe she will prove satisfactory. I will appreciate it if you will give a word of encouragement from time to time. Any time I can be of service let me know.

Wishing you unbounded success, I remain,

Yours truly,

S.A. Hoskins

Lima, O., June 17, 1899.

Pres. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My dear friend: In accordance with the determination of our conference yesterday, I have submitted to Mr. S.A. Hoskins, the attorney for the grantees, the several propositions then determined upon, and a copy of my letter I enclose herewith for your perusal. I also enclose the last letter received from Mr. Hoskins, which you will please read and return. With kind regards, I remain,

Very truly yours,

Jas. W. Halfhill.
Wapakoneta, O., June 20, 1890.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Dear sir: Your letter of June 19th received and contents noted. I note what you say with reference to your desire to sell this paper, etc. I cannot agree with Mr. Halfhill in the matter, as I think a mortgage given for purchase money is absolutely valid, no matter what may be the capacity of the mortgagor. I infer from conversation had from time to time with the trustees, that they would refuse to make themselves personally liable any further than the ability they incur as incorporators of an institution not for profit.

I do not think the appointment by the Governor would have any force or effect either way, but I do fear it would cause a wrangle in the conference, as it would be very difficult to get a whole conference to understand how the Governor came to appoint trustees for one of their church schools. I do not think many attorneys will agree with Mr. Halfhill and possibly the different ministers would be led to think after inquiry that we had done an unwarranted thing. The conference must be made enthusiastic on the Ada question if it is made a success, and for this reason we must conduct affairs so that it will unquestionably meet their approval.

I think we can find banks that would be willing to carry these obligations and furnish you the cash on them. Should you take them at 6% you would probably have to discount them for the cash. I wish you would let me know what discount you will make on either one or both of the deferred payments, for cash in hand. I am basing this proposition on the supposition that you would be unable to realize the face of the notes. I think I could place one of them here, but not at a 6% rate.

I fear we will incur some criticism if this matter remains unadjusted until the meeting of conference, and I think it much more business-like to close it up promptly. Let me hear from you with reference to the discount matter.

I am glad to note the success of your dedicatory service on Sunday, and hope the church may have no difficulty in freeing itself from debt.

I am informed that the school is larger this term than ever. If the old school teachers continue to devote themselves to the institution, Ada has not yet seen her best days.

I have understood from a reliable source that Prof. Park might continue to teach a limited number of his more important classes and that he would possibly consent to this for a reasonable salary and allow the arrangement heretofore made to be unchanged. If my information is correct, I think it is in the power of the four to arrange this with Prof. Park and thus secure his influence and help for the ensuing year. I am very loth to have his name dropped from the catalogue. I simply suggest this and you will know whether or not it can be worked out.

Yours truly,

S.A. Hoskins.
CHAPTER 174.
The Sale and Transfer of the School to the M.E. Church.

Lima, Ohio, June 21, 1899.

Pres. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My Dear Friend: Your letter of the 19th is here, wherein you say that yourself and Prof. Maglott conferred with Prof. Fess, and that he did not like any one of the three plans of transfer that we proposed to the parties representing the Central Ohio Conference to the M.E. Church; and that he further proposed as a new plan, that the trustees appointed by this conference sign the papers at once as individuals and become personally responsible, and hold the property in that condition as long as they see fit, or at least until the next conference meeting, and trustees are properly appointed under the new charter.

Permit me to advise that this plan proposed by Prof. Fess embodies an objection that has been discussed at former meetings, viz: That these "trustees" so-called, are nothing more or less than the individual agents of the conference; that they have no power under the Statute to act as trustees, and that their principal who appoints them as agents has no corporate power to purchase or receive property of this nature; and furthermore, yourself and possible some other of the parties at interest who act as grantors are included within the list of "trustees" appointed by this conference.

To avoid the very terms of this suggestion, it was deemed advisable that you and others interested as grantors should resign from this Board of agents appointed by the conference, and that the remaining nine should incorporate themselves; and it seems to me plain that we have proceeded on proper grounds to this point, and that the matter should be concluded only along the lines agreed upon at the time that I met with you gentlemen during last week. With kind regards, I remain,

Yours truly,

Jas. W. Halfhill.

Lima, Ohio, June 27, 1899.

Pres. H.S. Lehr, Ada, Ohio.

My Dear Friend: In accordance with the agreed procedure at the time that yourself, Dr. Waters and Mr. Hoskins met me at my office, I have secured a copy of the minutes of the conference and designated the terms of the surviving
"trustees" and have referred to the Governor a request that they be immediately appointed as trustees under section 1731 of the Revised Minutes. A copy of my letter to the Governor is enclosed herewith, and if you think necessary to say anything in addition, you can act accordingly. With kind regards, I remain,

Yours truly,

Jas. W. Halfhill.

I shall not insert the letter to the Governor for is lengthy. So far have not given any of my letters and only a few from the trustees, but shall give more as the history advances. Shall be careful not to insert any that were marked confidential with one exception.

Shall here insert one that meant much, and I have wondered often what would have been the result had I acquiesced in the request. I confess that there was a temptation, for I wanted to remain with the school till 1904, as I have said before, but knowing how the church people of other denominations felt I believed that it would be detrimental to the best interests of the school and further I would have lost my self-respect and no doubt the confidence of my friends. A letter from Dr. Belt.

Kenton, O., June 6, 1899.

Dear Bro. Lehr: You doubtless have noticed that a proposition is making the rounds of the papers "Approved by Bashford" to unify and consolidated all colleges of the state of Ohio making them subordinate and subsidiary to the O.W.U. at Delaware; 2nd that McDowell of Denver College, a graduate of Delaware and Boston, takes Rayne's place as Secretary of our Board of Education (see discipline of the M.E. Church).

Now what I have to suggest to you personally in this via, this is Lay Delegate year--next May the General Conference of the M.E. Church meets in Chicago, made up of an equal number of lay and clerical members of our church. It is the legislative body of our church; the court of appeal (ne plus ultra) expect heaven. From every pastoral charge a layman will now be elected to the lay electoral conference of each annual conference of the world. These electoral conferences will then proceed to elect an equal number of laymen with those elected by the ministers. Five ministers will next September be elected by the ministers of the Central Ohio (our conference). Also five laymen. You ought to be sent from Ada charge to Toledo next September. Then next you ought to be then and there sent to Chicago. No more effectual way to advertise your college, and last but not least to guard its interests.

Can't you see your way clear to take the steps necessary to be in Toledo and at Chicago also? To my mind it is all important. Which I could see you and talk it
over. We can put you thru I believe if you will say so. Think it over and go for it if possible. This will put you and the school on top. How goes matters? When will you be over? I am as ever yours.

L.A. Belt.

All the expenses to the General Conference paid by the general church.
This year we had a fierce class contest between the Franklin and Philomathean Literary Societies. The Adelphians nearly always sided with the Franklins. This year it happened that the Philos had more seniors than the Franks and Adelphians combined. Mrs. Tussing, a Franklin, my secretary and myself carefully prepared a list of those eligible to graduate. I called a meeting of the seniors and the vote for officers was by ballot. The Philos got the president of the class. By a vote the president was to appoint a committee of five to prepare a program for class day. He appointed three Philos, one Frank and one Adelphian. The Franks were displeased and called to see me about the matter. I saw some of the leading Philos, but they said they were fairly entitled to that number because they had more seniors than the other two societies combined. The Franks as I now remember said no more about the committee until the report on class day program was read. The committee awarded the Philos a number which according to previous programs belonged to the Franks and consequently they felt outraged and asked for a new committee. The Philos objected. The contest was referred to the Faculty then consisting of the writer of the reminiscences, Prof. Maglott, Prof. Darst and Prof. Park.

The Faculty unanimously agreed that the class organization was regular, that the Philos had a legal right to arrange the program as they did, but thought they should have been more altruistic and should have given the Franks the number they claimed. Both sides were firm. Neither would compromise. The Franklins ... the Philos too selfish and the Franks too childlike not to play in the backyard, but ... the Adelphians with few exceptions refused to participate in any class exercises. As far as class exercises were concerned I cared little, but I did think they should have united in the commencement exercises. Some of my best friends belonged to the Franklin contingent.

Several Philos asked me to refuse to grant the Franks and Adelphians degrees but I could never consent to such radical action. One Philo has never forgiven me for my leniency and the kindly feeling manifested by the Faculty to those members of the class who refused to participate in the
commencement exercises.

I have the various communications sent to the Faculty but space forbids their insertion.

This contest resulted in an amendment to the Conjoint Articles arranging the programs for Class day by rotation of the various numbers on the program.

This year the graduates number 348 in all the departments of the school.

I know the present address of but few of the class of '99. As I have stated in former numbers that since not connected actively with the school I have failed to file my letters with few exceptions.

J.R. Walton, Jr., is teaching at Alma, Mich.

S.E. Weaver is teaching in some town in Hancock county.

R.H. Dunaway is preaching to a Presbyterian congregation in Indiana.

Grace Donaldson is married but I can not remember her present name or address.

W.F. Ge phart is a Professor in the Ohio State University.

Eli Motter is preaching for a Methodist congregation in the Central Ohio Conference.

Lizzie Morris is teaching in Zion City, Ill.

J.S. McKee is in the grain business in Connellsville, Pa.

J.S. Speelman is Supt. of Schools at Seville, O.

L.E. St. John and C.M. Voord are engaged in teaching, St. John at Piqua, O.

N.W. Bowland is a popular teacher in Van Wert.

Blanche Bain is married to a Mr. Miller and lives on the Coast.

Olive A. Dobbins is living on a farm in Green county.
W.H. Guyton is practicing law in Lima, O.

J.W. Horner, the fine singer and royal good fellow, is practicing law in Newark, O.

A.M. McDermott lives in Los Angeles, Cal.

Jennie Schamp is a professional stenographer in Cleveland.

J.A. Drake is in the employ of the U.S. government in the agricultural department.

G.G. Adkins and John H. Clark, now a trustee of the O.N.U., practice law in Marion.

E.D. Fritch practices law in Akron.

C.L. Fess and C.W. Hamilton practice law in Lima.

R.C. Huey is now the Hon. R.C. Huey representative of Mahoning county.

Harlow W. Loomis is dead.

Otis Lippincott practices law in Lima.

T.B. Mateer is Prosecuting Attorney of Morrow county and practices law in Mt. Gilead.


C.E. Vandersoll practices law in Toledo.

Cora George, one of the sweet singers of '99, resides in Ada.

Maude Montgomery, now Mrs. Moe of Philadelphia, was a fine singer and Cora Kemp, now Mrs. Prof. Smull a music graduate of '99, still resides in Ada.

Mark Evans teaches music in Van Wert.

J.F. Kerr teaches music in Pennsylvania.
Laura Ries is now Mrs. Ben Conner and resides in Ada.

Agnes Weaver teaches music in Canton.

Maggie Young, now Mrs. Neth teaches music in the Sandyville Academy, Kentucky.

Florence Schindewolf, for many years teacher of piano in the O.N.U. is now Mrs. C. Moser and resides in California.

Prof. Cliffe Deming has been teaching Elocution a number of years in Ada and is still teaching.

Emma Mae Slick is now Mrs. Baranay and resides in Ada.

Mrs. J.G. Park completed the course in Fine Art and resides in Ada.

Roy A. Park now lives at Brandentown, Florida and W.W. Wolgemot resides in Cleveland.

My friend R.W. Solomon, a Philo representative of the class of ’99, is Supt. of Schools at Cuyahoga Falls. Shall insert his last letter to me.

Cuyahoga Falls, O., June 21, 1899.

Dr. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Dear Prof. Lehr: I see by the press that a noble move has been made on the part of the O.N.U. in connecting your name with the institution as President Emeritus. Really I cannot think of the O.N.U. for an instant without seeing its founder and successful builder at the helm as he was when I first registered there, therefore I think it so proper that this honorary title be given you now. I also note that a movement has been started toward building a Lehr Memorial hall, which gives me much pleasure and I know will be approved by the Alumni everywhere. This is my first year in this place and a prosperous one, notwithstanding the fact that I have been unfortunate in health since early in January having been out over three months and just getting back again about three weeks ago. My affliction was congestion of the lungs coupled with effusion and lack of skillful treatment I will probably remain here for several years at least, as I have been reemployed for that time. This is not very far from your old home so you might couple it on your visiting list when in this section. We will always be glad to have your presence with us. I know your “family” is legion’ but I wish to be remembered as a part of it and one who can never repay half of what you have
done for me. I would be glad to hear from you at your good pleasure. Mrs. S. and little girl are in good health and wish to be remembered to you. I am as ever.

Your boy,

R.W. Solomon.

March 6, 1908, V. XXX, No. 42

CHAPTER 176.

My friend, H.A. Cottom, practices law in Brownsville, Pa. Harry and the writer of these reminiscences somehow became intimate friends. Frequently he would call at my office in the evenings and we would spend an hour in pleasant conversation.

In the spring of 1904 he and my friend, H.H. Negley, and other friends invited me to visit them in their Pennsylvania homes and I had one of the most enjoyable visits or outings in my experience. I shall never forget my stay in Uniontown and the Cottom home. I have a lengthy letter from Mr. Cottom written several years ago which I shall insert for the benefit of the students of 97, 89:

COTTOM'S LIFE AT THE O.N.U.

Dr. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My dear friend: I promised you so long ago to write some reminiscences of my school life in Ada, that you must surely believe me to be either careless or very busy. The truth is that it has been due to a little of both, but more of the latter than the former. Have never had time to do the subject justice and haven't now, but have been putting it off so long that such excuses will no longer avail.

My first impressions of Ada were formed at 2:19 a.m., on a beautiful September night, 1895. When the train reached the station, (which I learned afterwards, in soliciting, was No. 112, that being the number placed on the hat check of Ada passengers thereby enabling the ever alert solicitor to distinguish an Ada passenger from one destined somewhere else) I found that military genius of that and later years, J.E. Newcomer, awaiting me. I think he presented me two documents that night before I got to bed, on one was something about a literary society, which he said was the only real thing and on the other was inscribed a big B, with the picture of a bee printed over it. This was explained to be an application for membership in the best Military company of the battalion. It developed afterwards that this was a generally conceded fact among the members of the Company, but when contest came around, the fool judges did not concur. After due consideration my signature was attached to each.
Next morning, according to custom, I was ushered into the President's office and introduced to him. He seemed glad to see me, asked about two or three of my Pennsylvania neighbors, took my "eight" and told me to come to Chapel. Of course I always went. A couple of weeks later a jolly crowd composed of Misses Schwartz, Rolles, Hunter, McDermott and others "got up" a hickory nutting party, to which they extended me an invitation. The day was Saturday. We all squeezed in that old hack or buss--be careful not to misconstrue that sentence--that has accommodated every similar party for years. The gentlemen in the crowd were Mssrs. LaChat, Patterson, Ream, Khun, Cupp, Newcomer, W.W. and J.R. and the writer. The start was made early with LaChat at the rudder. He steered northwest landing on Mt. Hickorynut about six miles distant. Orders were given to disembark, tables were set, hammocks were stretched, horses were being fed and J.E. Newcomer was up a tree, when the proceedings were suddenly interrupted by the sight of a woman approaching at a gallop with a shotgun, or a broom stick (we did not wait to see which) across her shoulder. The pilot saw the storm clouds gather, but not until he saw Newcomer come down from his weather observations in the treetop, was he convinced that the cyclone had actually arrived. Joe never made better time in a foot race that he did coming down that tree. Before the lightning struck, our boat was bound for distant shores. The lunch was served in more peaceful territory an hour later.

Patterson plucked all the golden rod that the roadside afforded and gave it to his girl. I believe this was practically the first acquaintance between Mr. Newcomer and Miss Hunter--She is now Mrs. Newcomer. No jollier crowd was ever allowed to run loose than that, and I have no doubt that every member of it cherishes happy memories of it to this day. Guess about all of them except the writer have since set sail in another ship (designated originally for two) bound for a port at the distant end of life's journey. The writer himself wouldn't mind taking the trip if he had congenial environments [He has found them since writing the above, ED.]

Upon entering school I enrolled in the classical course. My first classes were German, General History, Algebra and Rudiments of Music. Prof. Michel taught German, Prof. Maglott General History and Algebra and Prof. Owens Music. The second fall term of '95 passed without any special incident, except one that occurred in Franklin Hall, at the regular term reception for new students, but as this only concerned two people I shall not tell it. during the holidays nearly all the students went home. Those who remained formed small classes or clubs for the study of some particular subject. Our class took up Greek History under the tutorship of D.M. Cupp (I think) and in ten days we all passed Prof. Maglott's examination and got our credits for the work. The class met in the small room in the southeast corner of the basement of the main building. It was dreadfully cold. We could hardly hear each other recite, Kellar made so much noise firing. The class was composed of Mssrs. Johnson, Kellar, Newcomer, the writer and about five others, including, I believe, Kellar's roommate, Tschantz, but of this I am not certain. We made our grades alright, but I am afraid not many of us remember
much about it today, unless reference to the text-book has been made since.

During the succeeding, or winter term, 1896, I was elected secretary of the Franklin Literary Society, for the Spring term. During this period, we had as presidents those three famous Franklins, T.D. Binckley, R.H. Longwell and M.L. Cockerell. On the last society night of that term the ladies gave a special leap year program. This came just a day or two after Military Contest, and it was especially timely, as the boys were nearly all connected with the Military maneuvers. I have the original program as artistically lettered by my cousin and friend, W.W. Newcomer, framed. It adorns the walls of my library. With the thought that it may be interesting to many of the students of those days, I will give it here in full.

Music.........................................Franklin Orchestra
Invocation.....................................Jennie Seltz
Anthem...........................................Ladies Choir

CHARACTER SKETCHES OF AMERICAN WOMEN.

Mary Livermore............................Cora Bolton Harriet Beecher
Stowe............................Esther Hunter
Soprano Song............................Luella Anderson
Piano Duet............................Misses Dickinson and Black
Francis Willard..........................Lottie C. Schwartz
Clara Barton..............................Ruth E. Bates
Alto song..............................Mrs. Owens
Soprano song.............................Mae Blaney

DEBATE.

Resolved, That the world is advancing in Morality.

Affirmative.............................Mrs. Alice Butler
Negative..................................Rachel Ingersoll
Soprano and Alto Duet..................Montgomery Sisters
Music......................................Franklin Ladies Choir
Soprano Song............................Miss Watts
Reading...................................Barbara Watts
Reading..............................Margaret Paston
Pantomime..............................Swanee River

Tableau
This program was a hummer. The Franklin girls never did things by haves. The entire list of offices was filled by ladies for the night. Mrs. Maglott presided, Lottie Schwartz acted as secretary and Mrs. Hickernell as critic.

We had a warm Contest that year. Company A with Captain Higley in command, won the flag. Company B, of which C.B. McClelland was Capt., O.L. Albright First Lieutenant, J.K. Newcomer Second Lieutenant, and in which the writer was enlisted as a private among the first set of fours, tied Company E for fifth honors according to the judges' report, and that's what went.

The lady friends of the Company did not think the less of us because we had lost the Contest. The reception given by them, in the Library, as it was then, was one of the best given at Ada.

The year of '95-96 was a great year for Pennsylvania students. At one time there were twenty-five in attendance from this (Fayette) county alone. Among them were W.W. and J.E. Newcomer, D.O. and H.G. Cunningham, James Sheppard, Amy Laughlin, Mary Stephens, Lottie Schwartz, O.C. Herwick, R.C. Hough, W.W. and J.D. Lace, Lawrence Elliott, Walter Byers, Chas. Schwartz and a Mr. Whitsett.

(To be continued.)

I left school at the close of the Spring term '96, and did not return until April 6th, '97, just in time to be persuaded to shoulder a musked and got thru Contes. There was more honor in store this year. When the judges got thru figuring and the result was announced, Company "B," with Captain Walter Elliott, at the helm, marched proudly off the field carrying Old Glory. Elliott was the best Captain I ever knew. He was producer that night than when he was appointed Postmaster. The ladies' reception to the company was held that year at the Povenmire House, and it was a great one. There were no incidents during that term or the succeeding term that impressed themselves upon my mind. Except that on one warm Saturday forenoon I went botanizing with Prof. Park's Botany Class and besides getting some rare flowers, killed sixteen snakes in two hours. We were accompanied on that day by O.P. Mediger, who was perhaps one of the greatest botanists ever in the O.N.U. He knew every plant known to the climate and locality. He had then analyzed more than five hundred specimens and I believe he could give the scientific name of every one of them. He is now a High School principal in New Jersey. His home is in Jacobs Creek, Penn.

I boarded and roomed that year at Yinglings, on south Main street opposite Head's. Betty Corbell, Louise Schoepfel, Miss Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Jones, Robert Gamble, C.H. Stahl, B.G. Hay, Clyde Young, Milton Haines, O.P. Medager, and a Mr. Robinson, also roomed or boarded there. I left school about July and did not return until Normal term 1898. That term is remembered by the games of croquet that were played on the south end of the Campus. Every evening and Saturday witnessed a merry party congregated there, trying to put the balls thru the arches. This reminiscence will be recalled by J.O. Sherrick, Miss Birdie Harvey, who is now Mrs. J.O. Sherrick, D.L. Scott, Edna Chester, D.B. Thomas, Mary Mix and others.

The juniors, as was the custom then and perhaps is today, decorated the
Society Halls as a courtesy to the seniors, for commencement. The writer was chairman of this committee on the part of the Franklins, and hereby extends his profound sympathy to all others who have and who may at any other future time be placed in a similar position. Carrying an oleander so large that required a tub of earth to support it, tub and all from some remote part of town, up three flights of stairs, on a hot July day, is no fun. The senior however voted the decorations fine and I do not now regret the work. A day or two before the seniors had their blow-off, the juniors held theirs. Of course it was the real thing. Part of it was performed in the dark, for of course some senior maintained the time-honored custom of cutting the light wire. I do not know the chemical composition of the perfume they sprinkled so liberally thruout the opera house while the lights were being turned on again, but it had a very familiar odor. The performance or commencement was put on by an all star cast, including Helser, McKee, mateer, Scott, Worman, Printy and others, whose names I cannot recall. McKee was the star of the evening as Prof. Park. He used two fans and got off his "double distilled nonsense" in true Park manner. During the same commencement week the great annual oratorical prize contest was held in the Christian Church. The winners were F.N. Glick, W.W. Runser and A.A. Mayailles. They were all Franklins. Their society was proud of them and had a right to be. During the fall term nothing unusual transpired. The Franks with T.B. Mateer as chairman won the soliciting contest by 88 to 48. I believe a Mr. Stephens of Georgia, was the Philo chairman. That was a warm contest notwithstanding the score. The second fall term was also very warm with a close score indeed, vis.: Franks 132, Philo 124. J.A. Drake was Philo soliciting chairman, with the writer directing the Franks. During the week a couple of boys came in unannounced, and located on Gilbert street. Both sides were after them unceasingly. Two cards could not be considered of little importance. They had been solicited to a finish. Both sides had made a desparate fight for them. T.B. Mateer, D.O. Cunningham and one or two others were delighted to make the final effort. They argued long and well, but the boys were on the fence and could not decide which way to drop. Finally it was agreed that a dollar should be flipped and the matter determined in that way. Mateer stated the proposition as follows: "Heads, the Franklins win, tails the Philos lose." This was assented to by all as being eminently fair to both sides and the dollar was lost. It showed tails, which meant under the covenant as stated, that the Philos lost. The boys signed up Franklin cards and perhaps to this day do not know the "sure thing" game Mateer played on them. During that contest the Philos were ably assisted by the indomitable W.W. Poultney, of Washington, D.C. Poultney was on the ground two or three weeks prior to the close of the first fall term. He made almost daily trips to Lima, or some station east, in order that he might cinch
the new students that always straggle in a week or two before the beginning of the term. On one particular evening he came from Lima on the 9:00 o'clock, having Michigan student in tow. Immediately upon the stopping of the train both guardian and ward alighted, both satisfied apparently with the world. Just then that gentlemanly railroad official, known to all the solicitors of that day, tall black moustache and vacant sky piece, swung back on the usual likeup of solicitors with both arms, striking Poultney with one of them. This so angered the latter that he left his protege in the care of his roommate, Mr. Hull, and proceeded to take a fall out with the said official. While they were thus engaged, it dawned upon me that I should do a little missionary work, so I quietly informed the new student that that was a bad crowd to be in, and that he had better come with me. Hull protested but the student assented. We stated out toward Main street, Hull holding one arm and I the other. Things were getting pretty warm when Hull rushed back for Poultney. During the moment's interval I informed the stranger that it would be wise for him not to have anything to do with Poultney, as he was one of those awfully wicked and dangerous people, known as Literary Society Solicitors. The fellow took it all in. Poultney came dashing up, and took the arm into custody Hull had just dropped. No other new students had alighted from that train. After Poultney had handed Mr. G a few choice compliments, the Franks and Philos all caught on to what was doing. About a hundred of them followed behind us as we escorted the young Michigander up the street. We both raked our brains for some interesting theme to divert the students attention form the other. When we got to the Povenmire House, Poultney, who roomed must east, on Johnson street, wanted the novice to go with him. He hesitated. Poultney informed him that he had his grip, and that he had better go with him and told him something about getting him a place to board and room, introducing him to Dr. Lehr, and having him meet all the pretty girls, etc., etc., but the fellow reached for his grip and informed the great solicitor that he would go with me, and see him some other time in the future. As he walked off with me the Franks raised a mightly cheer. I got his card the next morning before breakfast. This was on the Saturday evening before the opening of the term. We were beaten badly up to that time. This incident so enthused the Franks that they turned out en masse on Monday morning, and by Friday the defeat had been turned into victory.

Mr. Poultney, whom I had never met, came to me the next evening after the incident just related, and congratulated me as being the only person who had ever taken a student from him in the twenty-two terms he had been a solicitor at Ada. I appreciated his frankness and honesty, and admire him to this day for it. I believe that was the turning point in the battle. The solicitors in that
contest were persons whose names are still familiar to Adaites.

The Philos had Drake, Hannah, Stephens, Miss Reeber, Vandersall, Solomon, et al. The Franks had Misses Young, Black, Schwint, Harvey, Donaldson, Schamp, Painter and Messrs. Schwenk, Mateer, McHenry, Hutchinson, Hardesty and others.

About two weeks after this soliciting contest came Hallowe'en. A few days prior thereto, the Franklin's received via Uncle Sam, a square of brown wrapping paper, folded to one-fourth its size, and fastened by a toothpick, upon which was written an invitation to a Hallowe'en party, somewhere, without saying where. They put it up to us to get our Jack-o-Lanterns and find out. The 31st came on Monday that year. On the night previous, after most of the Franklins had been to church, (and it is said on good authority that one of them who answer present when they call out Negley, led the Christian Endeavor, at the Presbyterian Church that evening) the crowd assembled and marched in a southerly direction.

In due time it came to a cornfield full of ripe pumpkins just waiting to be pulled. They didn't have to wait long. Every fellow tried to get the biggest one and most of them succeeded. What pumpkins were left looked lonesome. The only defence we will have if the particular farmer who owned that estate reads this, and has us arrested, will be the statute of limitations.

The yellow bulbs were then quietly taken to our rooms and the next day carved into all sorts of hideous designs and candles placed in them. When 9 o'clock came, the problem was to find the girls as no one had the least idea of their whereabouts. One reconnoitering party went to the north one to the south, one to the east and one to the west. In about an hour one scouting party discovered two young ladies leaving a certain house the back way, and keeping trail of them thru devious alleys and by-ways, they were finally seen to enter the Yoder house on South Johnson street, which was then occupied by Prof. W.W. Newcomer that good and loyal Franklin. The writer is proud to claim his as a cousin. Upon close inspection, it was found that we had them treed at last. By means of a code of signals the other parties were communicated with at once and in a few minutes the whole gang, lanterns and all swept down upon Billy and his guests. It would surplusage to say that we had one of the greatest times of our lives. There may be Hallowe'en pranks that were not practiced on that night but they are few.

About half past 11:00 a screen was placed over the doorway between the two rooms, the boys on one side and the girls on the other. Each girl in turn stuck the point of her trilby under the screen, while each boy in turn placed a chalk mark thereon, twin to the mark he placed on the toe of his own shoe. When all were chalked the screen was removed and the hieroglyphics compared. The matches were easily formed. The boys had such a grand and glorious time that they thought it was all over but the escorting of
their fame of chance sweethearts home. But it was not to be thusly. The girls all seemed to live in the north end of town that night, and almost before the stupid pumpkin pluckers realized it, were ushered into the Palace cafe, where one of the swellest banquets ever served in Ada was spread before them. The boys were literally dumbfounded. They dreamed of such a thing. The toasts which followed were gems. Maud Freshour started out with "Our trousered friends" and what she did to them was fully ample. Miss Donaldson followed suit as did Miss Young, Miss Painter and others. The ladies had their speeches prepared beforehand and they were great. About 2:00 a.m. the last course was completed and the procession formed marching south on Main street, every jack with a lantern in his hand. There was just forty in the crowd. Such a sight was very unusual and odd. When we got as far south as the Disciple Church a number of Pharmics and other made an attack upon the crowd for the purpose of taking the lanterns. They repulsed them, but made another and more determined effort, just in front of the Young house. One tall fellow made a grab for Negley's C.E. pumpkin. He missed it but hit Negley's lady, Miss Cosgray. She said, "Hit him," and the Pittsburg boy certainly did that thing, for in a twinkling her assailant was flat on the street. His personal appearance made it necessary for him to remain indoors for some two weeks. No one else ventured to disturb our progress after that. You may perhaps, Doctor, remember that you were about to expel the young man a day or two later, but Negley went to you and made a personal plea that you do not do it. He only had about three weeks to complete his course, and was allowed to finish it.

The winter term, L.S. Schwenck was soliciting chairman for Franks; H.O. Hannah holding the same position for the Philos. The result was, Franks 115, Philos, 111. Nuff Ced. That made the third straight victory for that year and insured the Franks the majority of victories even if the Philos should win the remaining terms. This victory was celebrated by an elaborate reception at the Christian Church. Toasts were responded to by Schwenck, Negley, Mateer, Thomas, Marvin, the writer and others. The temperature that night was below zero, as it was most every other night for two weeks before and after. A heavy snow was on the ground. Sleighing was elegant, if enough blankets could be found with which to keep warm. On one of these nights two sled loads went to Dunkirk and spent the evening with Miss Birdie Harvey, where an oyster supper was enjoyed. There may have been some dancing, too, but as you will likely read this first, I will not take the responsibility of saying that there was. M.T. Stuckman, that delicate little sapling from Indiana, furnished all the food. Others in the party were Misses Neff, Anderson Young, Patterson, Painter, Donaldson, Miller, Schamp and Weaver, and Mssrs. Cleary, Schwenck, Rodaiquez, Neff and Negley.

A few nights later practically the same crowd drove to Arlington, some twenty-three miles northeast of Ada. That was the longest sleigh ride I ever took. We spent the evening, from 11:00 to 2:00 at the pleasant home of Miss Young's sister, Mrs. McAteer, whose husband was then proprietor of a drug store in that town. We got back in town next morning just in time for breakfast. One of the crowd who was in Prof. Michel's German class, made a slighting remark about Germany at the beginning of the recitation that day. To those who had the privilege of taking German under that very
able but eccentric gentlemen, no explanations are necessary. The bell rang before the remark had been finally disposed of.

One of the funny things which occurred on the trip was that Schwan held Rodaiguez's (Cuba's) hand the whole way home--23 miles--thinking it was his girl's. Schawn says this is not true, but Cuba says it is. The latter's hands were almost as dainty as a girl's and the mistake might easily have been made. Mr. Schwan will forgive me now I know, otherwise I would not confess that the pleasure should have been his during those twenty-three miles, was mine. For any further particulars as to interesting incidents during said trip, write or wire at his expense, to H.H. Negley, Attorney at Law, 413 Grant St., Pittsburg, Pa. It was while all this fun was going on that a number of us were studying Horace. Did we make "70"? Not all of us.

(To be continued.)
CHAPTER 179.
(Continued from last week.)


The Spring term soliciting contest was not so spirited, the Franks with O'Leary at
the wheel, winning to the tune of 90 to 50. Kitchin was the Philo chairman,
buts 'twas thru no fault of his that he lost. During this and the preceding term,
the Franks had two rattling good oratorical contests. In the first Parrott won
first prize, subject, Lincoln; and Cunningham second prize, with Garfield, as
his subject. In the second contest Bowker won with Opportunity as his theme
with Thomas second. Thomas's oration was on the New South. I believe there
was also a similar contest during the first Fall term of that year. Motter, on
Living Up-stairs, won the first prize and J.W. Horner, the second.

It was during this Spring term that the senior class organized, and incidentally,
Dr. Lehr's troubles began. Both societies had red-hot "Primaries" as we would
say in politics. The Philos aspirants were Solomon and Fritch. Fritch got the
nomination. The Franklins who were willing to serve their country were
Schwenck and Boyd. They each received the nomination, but at different
caucuses, but neither would submit to the other. Finally both withdrew, and
Grace Donaldson was nominated. When the election came, the Philos were
found to be in majority over both the Franks and Adelphians, who had pooled
their interests, and Fritch was declared elected. Things went along smoothly
for a while. The Class Day committee was appointed. It was composed of two
Franks, two Philos and one Adelphian. The Frank members were Schwenck
and Miss Donaldson. After a while it was imagined by Pres. Fritch that the
Adelphian member would vote with the Franks. He forthwith appointed two
additional Philos, and sent them to the meeting of the committee. This caused
an awful row. Secession was threatened but not carried out. It seemed that it
had been customary for the society in control to have the valedictory and the
other of the large societies, the legal oration. This packed committee gave
both to the Philos. Another howl. The Franks and Adelphians were to have the
salutatory and military orations, both considered as inferior numbers. Things
moved along without open rebellion until after Contest. A certain popular Philo
captain, who was expected to lead his company to victory, didn't win. When
the smoke had cleared away he decided he would like to retrieve his lost
laurel, by giving that military oration on Class day. The packed committee said
that he might have it, and forthwith took away from the Franks that doubtful
honor, which they themselves had given that society and gave nothing in
return. That was the extra straw. The Franks and Adelphians withdrew from
the class, took their little dishes and played by themselves. An organization
was immediately formed with C.A. Moore, as president; Grace Donaldson,
secretary; Clara Darst, vice president, and Francis Lehman treasurer.

The various committees were appointed, and the battle was on. Each side
struggled with might and main to out-do the other. The Philos had the
advantage of being the "regular" class, and were so recognized by the
president and school authorities. The Franklin-Adelphian combination was a
sort of rump organization and incurred the disfavor of the management. The
Spring term closed and the Normal term opened with the soliciting contest a
tie, 187 to 187. The official announcement was Philo, 187, Franks, 186, and
one card lost. As nearly all the cards were good, the presumption was that the
lost card was good thus making it a tie. Negley was the Franklin chairman,
and Downs the Philo chairman. At the close of the Spring term, Dr. Lehr gave
me my diploma in the Classical course. I remained until the close of the
soliciting week, then bade farewell to Ada.

I will never forget the night I left. Some of the boys and girls had arranged a
little spread at one of the restaurants, and after that a reception at the depot. I
do not mention this because it was unusual, for it was not in those days, but
because there and then was exhibited that spirit of fraternal love so common
among Ada students and not elsewhere. Among the number who assembled
at the depot, to bid me God-speed was a half dozen or more of the never-say-
die Philo workers, students whom I had fought day after day and term after
term, in our soliciting and other society fights during that year. They thought
none the less of me because of the rivalry that existed between us and ours,
and I thought more of them. Permit me to say right here that all I have
recorded in this article, relating to society matters, must be regarded as being
from a Franklin, and not from an impartial standpoint. No offence, or slight to
any person or society is intended. The incidents here given are as seen thru
Franklin eyes, by a Franklin and due allowance must needs be made. As to
the class fight, I understood thru the Herald and various other sources that it
was kept up continuously, sometimes at white heat until commencement,
when each faction gave a separate class day program, to large and attentive
audiences.

**
As this concluded my experience at the O.N.U., my letter is at an end. Thanking you for the invitation to contribute my little mite to your highly interesting account of the organization and history of the great school, of which we are all proud, and with which we would like to see you still connected, I am, with best wishes to yourself, and to all the boys and girls who may read this article, who were connected with the incidents chronicled here.

Yours very truly,

Harry A. Cottam.
CHAPTER 180.
More Information Relative to the Transfer of the School.

Catalogue No. 29 showed an enrollment of 3227 different students for the year a gain of only 18 students over the previous year.

This catalog showed a complete change in the Board of Trustees. I shall give the new Board and its officers, the Board of Management and the Public occasions.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.


Officers of Board of Trustees--Lewis Dukes, President, LeRoy A. Belt, D.D., Vice President; S.D. Fess, A.M., Secretary; S.A. Hoskins, A.M., Legal Advisor.

Committee on Finance and Buildings--H.S. Lehr, LeRoy A. Bent, Lewis Dukes.


Executive Committee--H.S. Lehr, W.W. Lance, William A. Belt, W.G. Waters.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.
H.S. Lehr, A.M. Ph.D., Frederick Maglott, A.M., Warren Darst, A.M., S.D. Fess, A.M.

Officers of Board of Management--H.S. Lehr, President; S.D. Fess, Recording Secretary; H.S. Lehr, Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary.

PUBLIC OCCASIONS.

Meeting of Committee on Instruction, April 4, 1990.


Baccalaureate Sermon, Lord's Day, July 15.

Meeting of Committee on Finance and Buildings, Monday, July 16, 9:30 a.m.

Meeting of Executive Committee, Monday, July 16, 1:30 p.m.

Senior Reception and Reception of Trustees at the home of the President of the University, Monday evening, July 16.

All meetings for the Board of Trustees at the call of the President.

Alumni Meeting in Chapel hall, Wednesday, July 18, 10:00 a.m.

Field Day Sports, Wednesday, July 18.

Commencement exercises of the Departments of Music and Elocution, Wednesday, July 18, p.m.

Commencement exercises of the Literary and Law Departments, Thursday, July 19.

Oratorical Contest between the Adelphian and Franklin Literary Societies on the evening of July 19.

To my great sorrow, Prof. J.G. Park's name was not to be found in the catalog. He had been associated with me as a student and teacher from the spring of 1868 till the summer of 1899, thirty-one years. Our relations were
always most intimate and pleasant.

Prof. Fess now took the place of Prof. Park and W.W. Runser took the place of Prof. Fess in the Law College. Harrison J. Price, 2nd Lieut. 24th U.S. Infantry took the place of Capt. John Baxter and Blanche Moore was added as a teacher in the Faculty of Music.

The rates of tuition, board and room-rent remained the same as in previous years.

I shall give a number of letters in connection with the management of the school without comment excepting to say that Prof. Fess canceled his numerous institute engagements and became a partner in the management of the school.

The First Fall term of 1899 began August 13th and only on August 2nd the transfer was completed. No one knew before that date for a certainty, who were to be members of the Board of Management. The fine and peculiar organization of the school alone saved it from ruin.

Kenton, O., July 21, 1899.

Dear Bro. Lehr: Note yours, just received. He, Fess, did send me his resignation. Simply said he must fill lecture dates and institute work. Just now received a letter from him from Washington, C.H., stating he had called the trustee meeting for August 2nd. Said he would be in Sidney, Ohio, then. If he resigns we can get Boyers of West Virginia, as he don't like it there and wants to come back to our Conference. He has taught longer than he has preached. From what Fess wrote me I did not understand that he meant to resign, and it is wholly a surprise to me. But keep cool, we can put a man in his place if he can't stay. Will be over the 2nd. Dr. W.A. Belt's wife is expected to die any hour. He is in trouble, therefore you better write Fess to be there the 2nd. Sidney will hit him.

Ever yours,

L.A. Belt.

TELEGRAM.


H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Resignation sent Belt last Sunday, this is final.
I shall here next insert a copy of a letter which Mr. J.W. Halfhill, our attorney, sent to each trustee. I take these letters by date.

Lima, Ohio, July 25, 1899.

My Dear Sir: Doubtless you are already advised that on August 2nd, at ten o’clock, a.m., the necessary parties to the transfer of college property at Ada will meet at the place for the purpose of concluding the entire affair. Since our meeting on May 16th, counsel for Grantors and Grantee have been diligent in shaping the legal situation to the end that there is now in existence a corporation capable of receiving little in trust for the Central Ohio Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and also capable of making any necessary contracts and executing notes and mortgages for the deferred payments. After the incorporation was effected, the Governor appointed the nine incorporators as a board of trustees, the respective commissions being now in my possession, but this he did with the express request that each trustee, at the ensuing session of the Conference, tender his resignation, and permit that body to select an entire board of trustees under the new charter. The necessary proceedings at this meeting of August 2nd will be great importance, and as corporations must speak by their journal, we trust that the minutes of this meeting may show that every incorporator is personally present and that he personally accepts the office of trustees. If some overpowering obstacle stands in your way and prevents your attendance, please do not fail to send a written message to Pres. H.S. Lehr indicating your acceptance of the position of trustee, so that this written acceptance may be entered in full upon the minutes of the meeting of August 2nd. Assuring you of my kind regards, I remain


Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, Ohio,

My dear sir: I am sorry that it will be impossible for me to be at the trustee meeting tomorrow. By that time I think my poor wife will be dead and out of her sufferings. I wish to say, that I am willing, and wish to be understood as in favor of anything, that will culminate in the finish of the transfer of the Ada school. It strikes me that mountains have been made out of mole hills. Prof. Fess has come far short of what was expected of him and all to his own loss I know time will tell. His place should not be filled hurriedly and must be filled by a Methodist, so I think the board should breathe a little. Hope you will all have a good time.

Very respectfully,
L.A. Belt.

Ada, Ohio, August 4, 1899.

Dear Dr. Belt: Your letter received. I agree with you in this: that Professor Fess has made a serious mistake. I am in favor of filling the place with a Methodist if we can get one who will fill the place but since the trustees expect us to pay all bills and to pay a percent, the Board of Management must look out for a good and suitable man. If a man is a moral man a good teacher, I do not care to what church he belongs, in fact, some of our best teachers do not belong to any church whatever. Fess taught here some time before he belonged to the church. We can not wait long. School begins next Tuesday and we must have somebody to care for the classes. When students come here it appears to me it does not matter to them to what church the teachers belong so they give them what they want, but since it is a Methodist school, I am willing to give a Methodist the preference every time. Fraternally,

H.S. Lehr.
More Information Relative to the Transfer of the School. II

April 17, 1908, V. XXX, No. 48

CHAPTER 181.

More Information Relative to the Transfer of the School.

Lima, O., 1899.

Pres. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My dear Friend: At the conclusion of the meeting yesterday at Ada, you requested that I forthwith submit my bill for professional services rendered and accordingly the same is enclosed herewith.

As you are aware, there have been a multitude of details relating to the transfer of this college property, and the time yesterday was altogether too short to conclude the matter as I would have been pleased to see it done. For instance, the journal of proceedings in a matter as important as this should have been made up and duly attested by the signatures of the President and Secretary before the adjournment. I have tried to impress upon the Secretary the importance of having a correct and complete record of these proceedings, and it is of the highest importance that you give notice to this matter and examine the record after it is made up and compare it with the temporary minutes in the custody of the Secretary. These pages of the Journal must speak in the future and fix the status of all parties when it comes to construing contract rights, liabilities, etc.

There is a matter of especial importance that I desire you to give some further attention to, vis. the "intermediate contract." The Journal after reciting the execution of this contract by both parties, provides that it shall be deposited with the Ada Savings Bank as custodian, and further recites that both parties, being present, agreed that such bank should be the custodian of this contract. Please see the bank officials and notify them that, in no event, must they permit this instrument to leave their custody, that either party are entitled to examine it at any time and make copies of a part or the whole of the same, but that the instrument itself must remain with the bank as custodian.

It is possible that neither party to this contract fully realize the far-reaching extent of some of its provisions; for instance, the bonds given to the United
States Government for the arms and equipment of the Military Department fix a liability upon you and your former associates in the sum of many thousands of dollars, and moreover, these instruments recited specifically the number and value of the various arms and equipment. It seems that the grantees did not demand a specific invoice, and hence you and your former associates are relieved from the loss by breakage, etc., that undoubtedly has been an incident to the long use of these arms and various equipment. This intermediate contract alone will protect you and your former associates against any settlement that you may be called upon to make in the future with the United States Government under the contract liability existing by virtue of three several bonds.

You will recall that yesterday we could not secure sufficient revenue stamps for the several instruments, and if I remember correctly, there was no arrangement made whereby the grantees would furnish stamps for the chattel mortgage. This instrument of chattel mortgage must bear stamps of equivalent amount to the instrument of real estate mortgage, for altho the consideration is the same, yet the property described is different, and we cannot treat it the same as the instruments of deed wherein the consideration was the same and also the property conveyed was identical, vis.: the real estate. Hence, please see that sufficient stamps are placed upon this instrument of chattel mortgage; and for the purpose of added security, I would have this instrument recorded at the county seat and have the recorder make a certified copy of the same, which copy can be delivered to any banker who purchases all or a part of the notes, and then I would further file the original instrument with the township clerk of the township where the property is situated.

The real estate mortgage treats of the insurance and provides that not less than $12,000 insurance shall be placed upon the buildings: that these policies of insurance shall be indorsed to the grantees named in the mortgage, and be made payable as the interest of such grantees may appear. The title of this property having now changed, the existing policies should be canceled and such return premiums as are payable will belong to you four gentlemen as insurers. The application for the new insurance should be signed by somebody representing the new board of trustees, and at the meeting of yesterday either the president or secretary should have been instructed to make this application for new insurance; but this was a matter that was overlooked in the hurry of the various gentlemen representing the board of trustees to get away from the meeting.

I did note that there was any provision made for adjourning to a day definite or
to securing another meeting of this board of trustees in its official capacity, but certainly the situation there demands this. Yourself and Professors Darst and Maglott are placed in a most embarrassing situation by the resignation of Prof. Fess, and in my opinion you should demand a new contract with this board of trustees. The former contract, so-called, is not a contract enforceable in law, and it is idle for the board of trustees to talk about bringing a suit in damages against Prof. Fess by reason of his resignation; and it is absurd for them to say to you as they did yesterday that you three gentlemen could have any redress against Prof. Fess by reason of his resignation.

If you three gentlemen go ahead and assume the responsibility of conducting this institution for the ensuing school year, you will undoubtedly be personally liable to such teachers as you have personally hired; and on the other hand, you are not protected by any contract with the corporation, and the proceedings heretofore had and referred to as a contract would not govern or bind either party. At the end of the school year, should you attempt to recover for your services, such recovery would be on a quantum meruit only. I was fully impressed with the propriety of the position that you gentlemen took yesterday, and think it ought to be carried out to the further extent of fixing anew the rights of the parties. If you induce the board of trustees to act, have them make you a written proposition tendering you the management of this institution upon the terms formerly named and agreed upon, and then you sign a written acceptance of this proposition and have the entire matter appear upon the journal.

If you desire any further legal opinion or consultation upon the points embraced in this letter, be free to call upon me and consider that the bill for such services is incorporated in the bill for professional services submitted herewith, for I am confident that in effecting the transfer we have concluded everything in a satisfactory way; and the notes and securities representing the deferred payments have good commercial value at the bank in your place or at any bank in this city; and when you gentlemen enter upon your new relations with the purchasers, I hope to see you start off in such a way that no complications can arise and embarrass you; and you may be assured that I sincerely hope that the same success that has crowned your efforts in the past may attend you in the future. With kind regards, I remain,

Yours truly,

Jas. W. Halfhill.

Pres. H.S. Lehr, Ada, Ohio.

Dear Friend: On Saturday we received your letter containing check for which we thank you. I was sorry to see you looking so tired and worried as last week and hope the situation regarding teachers has cleared up. With kind regards,

Yours truly,

Jas. W. Halfhill.

Wapakoneta, O., August 9, 1899.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Dear Sir: I am informed that matters have been satisfactorily adjusted with Prof. Fess, but I have no information as to the method or whether or not he is to do his work. I would be pleased to know in a general way, without asking you to write particulars.
I have written Prof. Axline as to the Law Department. Dr. Waters suggests that yourself and the executive committee make a satisfactory contract with Runser and Axline concerning this department. I think they should be given a five year contract to give them an opportunity to build up the department. I also approve the ideas as to tuition matter, and hope it can be made to work that way. With best wishes for success, I remain,
Yours truly,
S.A. Hoskins.
The trustees met Dec. 5, 1899. I do not have the minutes, but recall some of the transactions but shall omit them. Rev. Donnen got $100 out of the 10% rental. Dr. Albright was financial agent from Sept. 1898 to the conference meeting at Toledo, Sept. 1899. He failed to raise enough money to pay his salary. Dr. L.A. Belt suggested to me to employ Albright in the place of Prof. Park. He said that at one time Albright had been president of some academy or seminary. I asked for the name of the school. The Doctor replied: "It is dead now." I smiled and said I could believe it. Albright certainly could easily kill a school. I further stated that I would not let him teach in the O.N.U. while I had a say, if he would teach for nothing.

I want to say that I never worked harder in my life to make any project or undertaking a success than I did the three years I was connected with the school while it was owned and largely controlled by the conference. I was constantly trammeled by some one who volunteered advice, no matter how little the adviser knew about conducting a school without state aid or endowment.

December 26, 1899, the trustees met to "formulate" rules and by-laws for the governing of the trustees of the Ohio Normal University and published the same in a little book or booklet. At that meeting held in the rear of Franklin Hall, Dr. W.A. Belt said, "This now is a Methodist school and we must have a Methodist president if we want to raise money. The school also need reorganization. We expect to make it grow as it never did before." I shall always remember the occasion and the little speech. I replied, "You can have my resignation any time." I knew that it was customary for church schools to have presidents of the denomination owning the schools. There were other remarks made by him not especially agreeable, but I worked indefatigably and the school kept on growing up to April, 1900. I shall insert a letter here showing the recognition of the O.N.U. and especially its College of Law by the University of Pennsylvania.
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

Hon. H.S. Lehr, President Ohio Normal University, Ada, Ohio.

Dear Sir: The trustees of the University of Pennsylvania desire the honor of your company at the ceremonies connected with the opening of the new building of the Department of Law of the University, on the twenty-first and twenty-second of February. The Trustees desire me to ask if you will not, as President of the Ohio Normal University, do us the honor of appointing a member of the Faculty of your Law Department to represent your Law School.

The building will be formally opened on the afternoon of Wednesday, February twenty-first. There will be two meetings at the Academy of Music; one on the evening of the twenty-first and one on the morning of the twenty-second. At these meetings addresses will be delivered by the Hon. John Marshall Harlan, Senior Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States; Sir Charles Arthur Rose, LL.D., representing Oxford University; the Hon. G.B. Ginch, representing Cambridge University; His Excellency, the Chinese Minister, and Mr. James Bar Ames, Dean of the Law School of Harvard University. Receptions will be given by the Society of the Alumni of the Department of Law of the University, by the University Club, and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

On the evening of Washington's birthday a dinner will be given to the Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States by the members of the Law Association of Philadelphia, the Bar Association of Pennsylvania, and the Lawyers Club of Philadelphia. An invitation to this dinner by special request of the Associations mentioned, I hereby extend to you and to such representative of your Law Faculty as may be appointed by you.

It is the desire of the University that you and the representative of your Law Faculty be its guest at the Hotel Walton during your stay in Philadelphia; that is from Wednesday, February, twenty-first, to Friday, the twenty-third.

It is our expectation to have in Philadelphia during the days mentioned, a large representation from Universities and Colleges, the Federal and State Courts and Bar Associations. I sincerely hope that you will be able to be present.

The favor of an early answer and if possible an early appointment of a representative of your Law Faculty is requested.

Very Sincerely yours,

Chas. C. Harrison.
Saturday, January 13, 1900.
CHAPTER 183.
Defeat of the Normal School Bill, Letters, Etc.

LETTER FROM SENATOR DICK.

House of Representatives, Washington, Jan. 27, 1900.

Professor H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Dear Sir: I have your esteemed favor of the 22nd, inst., and will take pleasure in calling the attention of Mr. Lybrand to the Post Office situation in Ada, and urge him to take immediate action in the matter. I have been informed of the situation there.

I note further what you say in regard to the several candidates for Congress, and your reference to charges made against each as being disloyal to the administration. I assure you that I give no credence to such reports, and discourage it wherever I can. You know that it is impossible for us here to control local matters of that kind. I do not require any endorsement from any one of your Republicans. I have full faith in you and your school, having been conversant with your course for many years.

I note what you say about Prof. Fess, and while of course, I cannot take any part in the nomination in your district, I will take pleasure when an opportunity presents itself on your representation to testify to Prof. Fess's worth and loyalty to the administration.

Very truly yours,

Chas. Dick.

We had a strenuous fight the winter of 1890 against State Normal Schools. Prof. Willis was a member of the Legislature and did wonders in defeating the bill. Hon. O.T. Corson, editor of the Educational Monthly assisted us greatly, and so did Prof. Albright, principal of the Columbus High School. All members of both Houses who had ever been Ada students were loyal to alma mater.

It was our third fight against State Normal Schools and before that we had two with the Ohio State University while Mr. Canfield was president of the University.

I shall here insert a letter from Mr. James Bastable.
Kenton, O., Feb. 9th, 1900.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Dear Professor: I want to congratulate you on the property owners of Ada on the defeat of the Normal School bill. The people who have investments in Ada who slept all unconscious of how much they had at stake, while you were at work untiringly for the defeat of the bill, owe you a debt of gratitude and I am now acknowledging the debt but never expect to be able to pay it. That your years of usefulness may be prolonged far beyond the three score and ten period is my earnest prayer. Yours sincerely,

Jas. Bastable.

Kenton, Ohio, Feb. 23, 1900.

Dear Prof Lehr: Yours just received. Do as you like to conserve the best interests of the school. I have not appointed any of the committees yet anyhow, you know. Wish you would look over the committees and be ready to suggest, with reasons, who ought to be put on the several committees. 
Hope the Dowey loonacy is over at Ada. Ever yours.

L.A. Belt.

With all my school work and other difficulties I still took a little time to talk and think "politics."

LETTER FROM SENATOR FORAKER.

Washington, D.C., March 27, 1900.

Dr. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My dear Sir: I thank you for giving me the information your letter of the 22nd inst. contains. So far as Porto Rico is concerned, the proposed legislation should, in my opinion, be enacted with the modifications proposed by the Senate. If you will kindly look at an article from me published in Frank Leslie's Weekly for March 24th, you will get my idea of the whole matter. I know there are other difficulties of the kind you mention, but I hope that during the campaign we may be able to straighten out everything, for I am sure no great mistake has been made and that it would be nothing short of a calamitous disaster for the Republican Party to suffer defeat next November. More of all this when I have time to write you at more length. Just how I am overwhelmed with the Porto Rican business, and have no time for anything else. With sincerest good wishes for you in all things, and at all times, I remain
I kept a copy of all my letters to the trustees and shall insert a few of them.

LETTER TO DR. WHITLOCK.

Ada, O., May 2, 1900.

Dear Doctor Whitlock: If I remember correctly you are chairman of the committee on instruction. Am I right? There was a resolution passed that there should be a department of music, and some one was to be appointed principal of that department. Who is to make that appointment? The trustees as a whole, the committee on instruction, or the board of management? I want to commence preparing that part of the catalogue. We have already done much work in preparing names for the catalogue. We have to go over all those names next term, to select those who are to be seniors, juniors, etc. We are now looking over the work of those who want to go out with the present class. I find it quite a task as many want to go out with this class that are hardly qualified. We have only had one instructor in the Oratorical department. Do you intend to displace that instructor, or will you retain her? Shall I prepare that part of the catalogue pertaining to those two departments? I have been so in the habit of preparing the catalogue and managing affairs according to my own discretion, that I have to ask for information when there is a change. I want to be subservient to your mandates. I have not yet heard from Jameson whether he will accept or not. I have written him twice. Is the principal of the music department to appoint sub-teachers or will the committee on instruction select them, or will the board of management select them? It appears to me that those matters were not determined at the meeting of the trustees. Prof. Fess informs me that the minutes do not state how these appointments are to be made, or by whom.

Very respectfully,

H.S. Lehr.

Ada, O., May 4, 1900.

My dear Dr. Belt: At the first meeting of the board of trustees, there was a resolution passed to establish a department of music and a department of oratory in connection with the university. Who is to ... or appoint the principal of those departments? And after he or she is appointed, is the principal of the department to select sub-teachers, or the board of management or the committee on instruction appointed by the trustees? I have written to Dr. Whitlock, but I
understand that he has gone to Chicago, and I may not get an answer for some time. We want to prepare that part of the catalogue for the press. Let me hear from you.

Fraternally,

H.S. Lehr.

BELT'S ANSWER.

See Fess's record of department of committee on instruction passed at board at last meeting. You read the report, and the secretary took it as it passed.

You men who run the school are to run this as near as possible to fill the action of trustees. I wrote you this once before. See records and go by them is all I can say.

Yours ever,

L.A. Belt.
Dr. Belt's answer to my questions were so indefinite that I thought I would wait until I could hear from Dr. Whitlock, but the next mail brought another letter from Dr. Belt stating that Dr. Jameson would take the chair of President of the school after the next conference, altho I had been employed at a meeting of the Board of Trustees April 24, to act as President of the University another year. I wrote to a number of the trustees, to Mr. Hoskins, Dr. Lance, Dr. Waters, Dr. Whitlock and to others. My letters were all alike and shall insert but one.

Kenton, O., May 5, 1900.

Dear Lehr: Have been sick ever since last at Ada. Have kept going and expect to go again to Ada.

As to those departments you speak of Fess has the action of board and near as you can you are to carry but the provisions as to music and oratory. I have no man or persons in my mind and I know of no one who has.

H.C. Jameson was here the other day to see me. He expects to accept the presidency after he closed this year in Delaware vis. Sept. 1900. His plan is to teach 3 classes per day and in Spring devote more time than at other terms to raising money and putting up the Administration Hall.

To get Dukes he will have to man it himself largely. So get the boy harnessed. You two will have to see eye to eye until he gets the hang of things.

I told his quarterly conference the 19th and then will come the chore of filling Wm. St. pulpit. His Delaware experience and observation will do Ada good. I consider the coming of Jameson to the school as providential as I do the coming of the school to the M.E. Church. What do you say?

Ever yours,
L.A. Belt.

Ada, O., May 10, 1900.

Dear Friend Hoskins: At the meeting of the Board of Trustees, April 20 and 24, I understand that it was unanimously decided that I should remain at the
head of the school another year as its president and that five of us, myself, Maglott, Darst, Fess, and Dr. Jameson were to act as Board of Managers. I immediately wrote Jameson to come over and we would organize, get out our advertising, catalogue, etc. He did not answer. I wrote him three letters but received no answer. Finally he telegraphed that he would come May 8th. When he came he said he was undecided about the matter and for that reason did not answer me, but he told me he would not act as a member of the board of five unless he could at once assume the presidency and that he supposed I would not want to be advertised as a teacher under him.

On May 5th I got a letter from Dr. Belt, stating that Jameson was to take charge of the school in September. I presume he meant August, from some other things mentioned in the letter, at the commencement of the next school year.

When Jameson left he told Prof. Fess that he would let us know soon what he would do. He was not yet decided. I saw in several papers that he had refused to accept the Presidency of the school. We have been unable to organize as a Board of five, and as there is no one here to assume the financial responsibility for next year, as apparently no one knows what is to be done, we have missed some of the best advertising of the year. Now is the time to advertise in the commencement programs of high schools. We must lose all this. Our other advertising is not out for the fall and no arrangement made to publish the catalogue, and paper has doubled in cost during the last eight days.

Dr. Belt informs me that Dukes will not do anything financially unless Jameson is president. I will not stand in the way of the success of the school. I will willingly step down and out and let Jameson take my place. I know that money must be raised to put up another building. It is a necessity, a dire necessity. I believe Jameson is as good a man as you can elect to succeed me. He is a good talker, a good financier, and I am told sticks strictly to business. Remember that promptness in the discharge of duty is essential to success. In my estimation the school has lost at least a hundred students in next year’s attendance by these varying reports in the papers and the uncertainly of its management and the loss of good advertising.

I am willing to quit. In fact many of my best and warmest friends say, "Quit while school is at high tide." I am willing to serve you in the best capacity I can. Consult the best interests of the school and act accordingly and I will say, "Amen," but do something. The school and the town and the church cannot afford such uncertainty.

Fraternally,
H.S. Lehr.
CHAPTER 185.
The Quest for a President. Difficulties Encountered.

May 12, 1908.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, Ohio.

My dear Friend: I was very much surprised at the contents of your letter. I do not understand the contents of your letter. I do not understand the situation, and do not know what Belt means. I am certain the trustees had no such understanding, and the absolute expectation was that you should remain at the head of the school for one year, if not for two, and that Jameson should use this period for preparation. I do not think any other arrangement was intended or would be satisfactory. I sincerely hope that you are wrong, and that Jameson will use this intermediate time in preparing for his later duties, and that the whole matter may be satisfactory.

I go to Chicago in the morning, and will there talk with Drs. Waters, Whitlock, and Lance about the situation, and write you from there. It is greatly against the interest of the school to have this uncertainty hanging over things, and it ought not to be so. Will write to you from Chicago.

Glad to know Miss Moore has given satisfaction in her work.

Yours truly,

S.A. Hoskins.

Chicago, May 14, 1900.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, Ohio.

Dear Sir: Your letter of recent date addressed to one of our board, Mr. Hoskins has been referred by him to me. We have noted the contents and think you must certainly be mistaken about the matter. At the last meeting of the board of trustees it was fully decided that you should be president of the University for the coming year, and Dr. Jameson was elected president to take effect at such time as might hereafter be determined by the board of trustees. This election of Dr. Jameson was also conditioned, that after the close of his
present conference year he should come to Ada and associate himself actively with the management of the school as one of the five members of the faculty, with a view of preparing himself for the duties of the presidency, to be hereafter assumed at such time as the board should determine. This was undoubtedly the action of the trustees, and the records of that day's proceedings will so show; and we cannot believe that any member of the board had any other understanding, and we surely think the action of that day taken must be the action that will finally stand. With this understanding we would advise you to proceed in your preparation for the necessary school year, as it seems to us any other course might greatly injure the University.

Yours truly,

S.A. Hoskins,
W.G. Waters,
E.D. Whitlock,
Wm. W. Lance.

Kenton, Ohio, May 11, 1900.

Dear Bro. Lehr:

Permit me to say a few words to you as a friend. Don't let what other may say or do affect you in your feelings or attitude toward the school. The school is yours and will ever stand to your credit. Now when Jameson comes remember his coming means a new departure, new buildings, etc. Dukes will stand by him, but you, Lehr, must stand by him on the school side and you will ever be wanted just where you are and may your hand never slack its hold until you have trained Jameson's hand to grip the same. All this I say to you now because I know the double dealing of some men under you. They may go but you stay, until the chariot that came for Elisha comes for you. The church in Ada was built out of self-protection by the Methodists. The school came to us as a consequence. Jameson coming to the school will bring money. He can't drop the school without dropping Dukes. He can't drop Dukes and make the school prosper. So, let us all stand firm.

Yours ever,

L.A. Belt.
Ada, O., May 15, 1900.

My dear Dr. Belt:

Your three letters received. I am just commencing to comprehend the situation. I understood at the meetings of the board of April 20 and 24 that I was to remain at the head of the school another year. Jameson was to come here, do some teaching and some financial work, and get into the way of conducting the school. But I now learn from your letters and from what Bro. Jameson says that you and he think it is best for him to become president at the beginning of the next school year. I am confident that Jameson is a safe man to take my place and I believe that he can make a success of the work. If he should fail in raising money to put up another building, and would not like the work here, he could go back to the ministry again. I will not stand in the way of the success of the school. If it is best for him to take charge Aug. 14, the beginning of the school year, I will willingly and gladly step out. My most intimate and warmest friends day, "Lehr, step out while the school is at high tide." I am aware that unless we get new buildings the school must soon wane. This uncertainty has already cost the school at least a hundred students. I have lost some of the best advertising the last two weeks that we have; I do not know what to say about the next year and nobody wants to assume the responsibility, financially. Jameson was here but he would not say whether he would be a member of the board of five or what he would do. You say in your minutes that there shall be five in the board of managers. We cannot organize until we have five according to the minutes, hence nothing is done. I want it distinctly understood that I will not stand in the way of the success of the school. If Dukes will not give any money unless Jameson is at the head of the school then "so mote it be." If you hesitate long, and Jameson refuses to act it will be hard for you to get anyone to act who will be a guarantee of success. You can get many men to take the place and if they fail they have lost little or not reputation, hence they have not much at stake. Stop this uncertainly and save the school.

Fraternally,

H.S. Lehr.

Delaware, Ohio, May 15, 1900.

Dear Brother Lehr:

I talked with Dr. Belt last evening concerning Ada. He said you people were authorized to proceed with the catalogue for next year and that he did not
think it necessary to call an extra meeting of the trustees.

Yours,

H.C. Jameson.
Ada, O., May 16, 1900.

Dear Dr. Jameson: Your letter received. You say that Dr. Belt says that we are authorized to go on with the catalog. One of the first things to be said in the catalog is to announce who is president. Shall I announce your name as the president next year? When you were here you were undecided. Again, if you will see the print on the first page of the catalog, at the bottom of the page, you will see that we announced last year the Board of Management. The trustees passed a resolution that there should be five on that board of Management, yourself, myself, Profs. Maglott, Darst and Fess. Will you be one of that number? If not, it appears to me the trustees must meet and elect another. Then that board must meet and elect its president, its secretary, and its treasurer, and then systematically authorize the expenditure of money. Possibly you did not expect to have a Board of Management and that there will be a new departure as Dr. Belt said in a letter to me. I want to know just what to say at the first of the catalog before putting it in press. What changes shall there be in the catalog from what it is now? Please be explicit on these points that I may know just what to do. I want to serve you men to the best of my ability. We four who are here feel inclined that way. Have you any suggestions to offer? Please answer at once.

Fraternally,

H.S. Lehr.

Ada, O., May 16, 1900.

My dear Dr. Belt: I just received a letter from Brother Jameson telling me that you said we should go on with the catalog. One of the first things he said in the catalog is to announce who is to be president next year. Again, according to you minutes, there is to be a board of management of five. Dr. Jameson has not yet informed us four at Ada whether he would act as a member of that board or not. You say in your last letter to me, that we should follow the minutes. Your minutes say the board shall consist of five members. If he does
not act, shall we wait till there be held another meeting of the board to elect the fifth member or shall we go on and organize and let you select a member later? If the board organizes it must elect a president of the board, a secretary and treasurer, and this president to act by regular business methods and meet its contracts. By the authority of your letter and that of Dr. Jameson, I will make a contract for the publication of the catalogs, but will not put any part of it in print until I hear from you. You say in your last letter, "When Dr. Jameson comes, it will mean a new departure." Does that mean a change in any part of the catalog? Will you change the course of study in accordance with the plan of Dr. McDowell? I want to be at your service.

Fraternally,

H.S. Lehr.

Delaware, Ohio, May 16, 1900.

Dear Brother Lehr: Your letter reached me this morning. I am persuaded that the best interests of the school will be conserved by your remaining at the head for another year. I therefore say proceed, and may God bless you in the great and important work.

Yours faithfully,

H.C. Jameson.

Chicago, May 16, 1900.

Dear Lehr: Dear Brother, Your letter was forwarded to me from Lima, but Mr. Hoskins showed Dr. Whitlock, Lance and myself, one to him, of similar import and we united in an answer to you which you have no doubt received. We are all perplexed to know what Dr. Belt and Rev. Jameson can mean. There is nothing more certain that the action of board of trustees was unequivocal and definite on two things, viz.: your election as president of the school for the next year, and second, the call of Jameson to the presidency to take effect at some date in the future to be determined by the trustees, and this on condition that Mr. Jameson should signify his acceptance by June 6 and in September come to Ada and take his place as one of the five and study the methods, etc., of the school and thus get ready to assume the duties of the presidency by the time you might wish to retire from it. And further, the trustees authorized you and the other three, to go on with all necessary arrangement for the coming year. Prof. Fess has the record of our action.
Look it over and you will see that it accords with what I have said. There is no possible doubt in my mind about the board standing by its own action. So go ahead an make all authorized arrangements and give yourself no concern about the matter. Dr. Belt's word is the word of the board, only when the board in session has spoken it first. Personally I am getting very tired of Belt's assumption--not to say arrogance. You must not think for a moment that the trustees are insincere with you. We want you where you are and have so said. It is not necessary for me to say that it is very desirable not to have this matter agitated so as to get out among the students. Let it be kept as quiet as possible until our meeting June 6 and I think the action of the board will settle it to the entire satisfaction of yourself and colleagues.

Yours truly,

W.G. Waters.

Wapakoneta, Ohio, May 19, 1900.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My dear Sir: Your letter addressed to me at Wapakoneta was received upon my return today. You have doubtless received letters signed by myself and three other trustees mailed from Chicago a few days ago. That letter will explain itself. We do not understand what these people mean, and I fear that some very unwise things have been done. I full supposed that Jameson was to go and prepare himself at least one year before assuming duties. I do not feel that the success of this institution is dependent upon any particular individual. I fully appreciate what Mr. Dukes has done for the school, but I cannot think he is a man who would insist upon anything except what was absolutely right. I received a letter from Prof. Fess notifying me of the meeting to be held June 6. I will try and be there.

I was called home from Chicago on Wednesday by the death of my wife's father, ex-senator Hamilton, of Richwood. I will likely return to Chicago tomorrow afternoon for a short time.

It is impossible for me to say anything beyond this. I regret very much the seeming complex situation; but my own judgement is that we should stand by the action taken at the last meeting of the trustees. I am not ready to consent that you may retire from this institution, because I think we need you and should retain you. I sincerely trust that we may go ahead on the plan laid out by the last trustee meeting, and that Jameson may consent to it.
Yours truly,

S.A. Hoskins.
Altho Dr. Jameson and several other trustees said, "go on with the catalog," and a number had written that I had been elected President at their last meeting for another year. It was true yet several of my associates in the management of the school said they thought it best to call another meeting of the trustees before writing the catalog, but gave no specific reasons. Another meeting was called for June 6 which continued two days.

It was late in the season, but I stopped advertising altho I knew it was very detrimental to the school to do so, but I could not tell what would be done. I knew what I could have done had I not written that I would resign if asked to do so, for I had been fairly elected, unanimously, president for another school year commencing, August 14, 1900 at a meeting of the trustees held April 24.

At the meeting of June 6 the board of management met the board of trustees. Dr. Jameson said that we were making too much money, more than we were worth, that they could get a car load of graduates from eastern universities who would teach and manage a school as well as any members of the board of management for $700 a year. I said, "Get them." He proposed that there be added to the then existing board, G.R. Dukes, making five members, that the board of management still pay 10 percent of the net proceeds and then pay Mr. Dukes $1000 and the trustees the balance of the fifth share. There was much talking done. Mr. James Bastable, one of my friends, and a trustee said, "You men should quarrel less and agree among yourselves." I replied that there had been no quarrels among the members of the board to my knowledge. He replied that information had reached him, I asked each one of my associates in the presence of the trustees and was surprised and at the indefiniteness of the answers. I then recalled to mind the letter written by Dr. Belt, May 11, 1900, in which he said, "All this I say to you just now because I know the double dealing of some men under you. They may go but you stay."

After I learned the situation, I left the room, room No. 6, and went to my office and began work. What took place after I left I know not, only this. Dr. Bailey came to my office smiling and said, "You have been reelected for another
school year and you retain $200 extra on salary before dividing the net proceeds among the members of the board of management. The four old members of the board signed the contract altho Prof. Darst signed reluctantly. Dr. Jameson signed the name of Mr. Dukes. Shall here insert the contract:

**CONTRACT.**

The Article of Agreement made and entered into this the 7th day of June, 1900, by and between the board of trustees of the Ohio Normal University, acting in their official capacity as party of the first part and H.S. Lehr, Frederick Maglott, Warren Darst, S.D. Fess and R.G. Dukes acting as parties of the second part.

Witnesseth, That the said parties of the first part has this day employed the said parties of the second part as a board of management to manage and control the Ohio Normal University located at Ada, Ohio, for the ensuing school year beginning August 14, 1900, and ending Aug. 14, 1900.

The said parties of the second part hereby covenant and agree with the said party of the first part that they will assume the control and management of said University and for said period and will pay all the expenses of conducting said institution, including the payment of teachers, advertising and all other necessary expenses of property conducting said institution as the name was conducted the year next preceding.

The said parties of the second part further agree that they will make all necessary repairs of both the personal and real property belonging to said university and turn the said property back to the said board of trustees at the end of said period in as good condition as they received it; reasonable wear and use excepted. The same parties of the second part further agree after paying all of said expenses above provided for, to turn over to the treasurer of said board of trustees ten (10) per cent of the net proceeds of all tuition funds or other receipts obtained of said board of management, received during said period.

The said party of the first part hereby agrees that said board of management shall after the payment of said expenses and said ten (10) per cent above mentioned, shall retain the residue of all proceeds so coming into their hands as compensation in full for their services in management and conducting of said university.

The said parties of the second part, each covenaniting and agreeing for himself individually hereby agree to give their time and attention exclusively to the management of said institution and in the discharge of the duties of their said employment.
The original contract was signed by H.S. Lehr, Frederick Maglott, S.D. Fess, Warren Darst, R.G. Dukes, per Jameson. L.A. Belt, Pres. of Board, D.H. Bailey, Secy.

The morning after the signing of the contract Mr. Bastable called at my office and warned me to be careful what I said to some of my friends or supposed friends. He told me what was said and by whom. I went to Kenton and had an hour's talk with Judge Melhorn and also had a long talk with Dr. L.A. Belt. These three trustees thought less of those who had talked. Judge Melhorn said Dr. Belt said, "It is easily seen what they want." One of my friends advised the trustees to not let the correspondence remain in my hands after letters had been answered. More might be said, but let this suffice. I treated the parties as tho nothing unusual had occurred.

Shall insert a paragraph from a long letter written June 6 by Dr. Bailey.

It seems to me, Professor, that it would be a stroke of wisdom if the board would elect you to the presidency for three years. This would I think quiet matters and unless there is something in the way of which I know nothing now I shall advocate that policy at the next meeting.

Very respectfully,

D.H. Bailey.
Toledo, Ohio, June 15, 1900.

Dear Brother Lehr: Your letter of the 14th at hand. I know of no meeting of the committee on degrees and honors next week. Brother Lance is the chairman of that committee. The board adjourned to July 17, Tuesday of Commencement week. The faculty were asked to arrange on their program for the week for an address on Tuesday evening by Brother Jameson at the M.E. Church. They were also asked to elect Prof. Dukes secretary of the faculty next year, (not) to conduct the correspondence, but to be able to make reports from time to the board of trustees. I see in the catalog the announcement of a reception to trustees Monday evening the 16th of July. Shall I include that in my notice to the trustees of the Annual Meeting the 17th. Unless it is absolutely necessary I hope the committee on degrees and honors will not be called to meet before Commencement week. There will likely be several petitions for honorary degrees. I think there will be no difficulty in getting a favorable consideration.

Very respectfully,

D.H. Bailey.

P.S. I will write the other members of the committee concerning the matter.

Toledo, O., June 16, 1900.

Dear brother Lehr:

Find enclosed copy of contract. Prof Fess also wrote for copy. Please let him take copy from this. The action of the board was to ask the faculty to elect R.G. Dukes secretary of their board and that he be the custodian of all correspondence and keep minutes of their meetings and stand ready to report to trustees on call. The board did not desire him to be treasurer nor corresponding secretary, only the custodian of the correspondence. I do not doubt that Bashford would like Ada for a feeder for Delaware. I do not think any such action ought to be considered. If we can take care of the financial end of the project, I would as soon have Fess for president as Jameson. I think the only way to get the new buildings is to get Jameson under the load in some way.
If it is necessary Jameson will accept the presidency; it may be necessary. It is
unfortunate that there is division in the board of trustees, but with only two or
three men unfavorable and that not very pronounced, I think for the sake of the
school he will get the new buildings. Then let Fess take it or some other good
man, if Jameson wants out.

Very respectfully,

D.H. Bailey.

Kenton, Ohio, June 13, 1900.

Dear Brother Lehr:

Just home from trustee meeting of O.W. University. Did not see Jameson. He
was at Toledo Church dedication. I sent him your letter to answer relative to
Dukes being secretary. He will answer in absence of the minutes as he was the
originator of the motion. Recording secretary of the detailed doings of the faculty,
getting thereby the hang of the correspondence as far as possible, is what I
remember of it.

I herewith send you the report of President Bashford to the trustees. You will see
that the O.W.U. now wants the O.N.U. We had quite a time over this item of his
report and it ended in the appointment of D.S. Gray, president of the board,
Bashford, president of the O.W.U., Wm. Warnock, King, of Columbus, Day, of
Cleveland, a committee on the union of the two schools. Bashford pretends to
speak for the conference. A little previous, you see, because no man can do that.
They will be there at my call next July at the time of our
trustee meeting.

Keep this all under your hat strictly. Get out the boys with their guns, make the
greatest show possible. Hand them around on a most favorable showing. This is
what ought to have been done first, but better late than never. Say nothing to
anyone, but get ready. Allow me to suggest to you as a friend that you do as you
first intended to do, viz., join the M.E. church in good faith and come into this
system of Ohio Methodist education, with the school no matter what others say
or do. You will never regret it. This is all our original idea and you will remember
and it will be the best for both school, guarding well the status of the O.N.U.
There is much in this, more than I can write. Come over and we will talk it up.
Meanwhile, think it all over to yourself.

Ever yours,

L.A. Belt.

I never promised to join the M.E. Church, but said I would work with and for
them. I confess my language was not sufficiently specific. I should have added
but will not take membership in the church. I could have joined the church
without any special conscientious scruples, but I thought it would not be for
the best interests of the school to do so. If it was a mistake that I did not unite
with the church it was my fault alone, but I could never consent to do so, for I
would have lost my self respect.

I was not in favor of uniting the Ohio Normal University and the Ohio
Wesleyan University under one management. The difference between the two
schools, was, and is, too pronounced for such a union. They are entirely
different in their plan of organization.

Sometime during the month of June, Prof. Willis was nominated for
Representative and expected to be absent the greater part of the time during
the Fall months to make his canvass. We had to employ some one to take his
place as a supply while he was absent. I called a meeting of the committee on
selecting teachers, to select some one for the supply.

The committee met with the exception of Dr. W.A. Belt. I recommended W.F.
Hufford. Some one offered exception which I shall omit. There was no
election. I waited till it became necessary to have some one to take the place,
and then went to see Dr. Belt and talked over the situation with him and again
recommended Mr. Hufford. Dr. Belt recommended Mr. Hufford. Dr. Belt
recommended Rev. Ascham. I said this is only a supply. The Reverend would
hardly agree to leave the ministry for such an uncertainty and added that Mr.
Hufford was not engaged at the time. I further stated that he had been my
student many years and had taken most of his course in my classes. The
Doctor then said to use my own judgement. When I returned from Kenton I
saw Prof. Hufford and employed him. He is now one of the popular instructors
in the University.
CHAPTER 189.
Final Adjustment of the New Board of Administration.

Kenton, O., June 14, 1900.

Pres. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My dear Sir: Your letter received. Am just home from Cincinnati. Will say I will
rest on your judgment concerning teachers. Can not meet committee unless they
meet here because I cannot leave home any more this month, as I will be gone
three months after the first of July in Europe.
Wishing you and the school success, I am

Respectfully,

W.A. Belt.

P.S. Do not fail to retain Willis, come what will.

Delaware, Ohio, June 23, 1900.

Dear Pres. Lehr: I have secured Prof. R.S. Stevenson to make the address on
Tuesday evening of commencement week. I am not able to give you the subject
of the lecture.

Yours,

H.C. Jameson.

The trustees arranged that Dr. Jameson should lecture on Tuesday evening,
commencement week. About this time Prof. Darst came to me and said one of
his eyes was seriously diseased so that it would be impossible for him to
teach, and handed in his resignation.

There had been so much uncertainty about almost everything that the catalog
was not yet in press. I telegraphed the trustees. Shall give copy of telegram.

To Rev. Leroy A. Belt, Kenton, O. "Shall I publish Darst's name in catalog?
His contract is with trustees. H.S. Lehr."
Wapakoneta, O., June 27, 1900.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My dear Sir: Your telegram just received. In reply will say that my own judgement is that you should publish Prof. Darst in the regular way. While it may be impossible for him to accept the position for next year, yet you are not in position to publish any one in his stead, and as the catalog must come out at once, I see no reason why his name should not be used. If his condition is such that he cannot fulfill his contract, no criticism can be made of the fact that his name is published.
This is my individual judgement and is only to be taken for what it may be worth, and is not to be understood as expressing the views of the board, as I know nothing about what the others may think.

Yours truly,

S.A. Hoskins.

Toledo, O., June 28, 1900.

Dear Prof. Lehr: I had received a communication from Prof. Darst in regard to his trouble with his eyes. I am indeed sorry he can not remain next year.
I hope you will recommend the best man available to the board of trustees. I wrote Dr. Whitlock who is chairman of the committee on instructors, but we want you to help us get the right man.
I find by looking over the minutes that the board desires that you, in your annual report, arrange it with your recommendations, in sections that can be referred to the respective committees.
I hope it may not be necessary to call the board of trustees before July 17th.

Very respectfully,

D.H. Bailey.

Toledo, O., June 31, 1900.

President Lehr

Dear Sir and Brother: Yours of late date is received. I regret very much to learn of Prof. Darst's affliction and of his consequent inability to continue with his work. I question whether the board could be gotten together before the 16th of July as previously called for. If a man can be presented at that time will it not be in time for an election. Please express my sympathy to Prof. Darst. Yours very

Respectfully,
The trustees met July 17th to elect someone to the place of Prof. Darst who had asked to be relieved from his contract. I recommended Supt. J.W. Zeller, of Findlay; Clara Myers, now teaching in Western Reserve at a good salary; and suggested several other persons but they elected Supt. Powell, then of Marion, O. He came to see me and said he would accept if made president of the school. That request was refused.

Later the trustees elected Supt. Whitworth, of Bellefontaine, who is still teaching in the University and at present fills the chair of Latin. Shall insert a paragraph from a long letter written by Hon. S.A. Hoskins, July 18th.

Wapakoneta, O., July 18, 1900.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My dear Friend: I was sincerely gratified with the harmony displayed yesterday and hope that it is an index as to the future. I notice that you said that you would sever your connection at the end of this year. I have heard a number of the trustees expressing themselves as hoping that you might continue further. Two of them told me that they were ready to vote to continue you three years longer. I really think the board would nearly all view it in this light. I only wish you were young enough and strong enough for the duties for the next ten years. I do not mean it as flattery when I say I think your place cannot be filled.

The school year 1899-00 was the actual cow year. I have heard scores of students tell how they helped to put cows and calves into chapel hall. I smile and let them talk, but I know the cow stories thoroly. Sometime during the year 1893 or perhaps it was '94, the pharmic complained that the janitor neglected their room and he complained saying that they were careless and filthy. I would talk to the boys and then to the janitor. Finally one night the boys put a cow in the pharmic recitation room; but in the Spring of '90 they put a cow in Chapel hall. That is the only time a cow has been put into chapel hall and a calf never unless some thoughtless boy might be called a calf.

At reunions I hear many stories that are new and exceedingly strange. At the Congressional Convention at Findlay in '94 a group of O.N.U. boys were relating their pranks, when one of them told how Prexy got even with the boys on a Hallowe'en night. He related how they went to his carriage house, got out
his surrey and pulled it back of the union school building and as they were leaving. Prexy got up from between the sets and asked them to pull him back. It had never occurred but I smiled and all enjoyed the story. On another occasion a mother told me it was her son who assisted in letting me drop down some distance when I got in the basket the girls used when lifting their fellow to their windows. He told his mother the boys were not allowed to call on the girls. I smiled and asked how her son liked the school. She said her son liked the school and the president and would be back next term but he never returned to school.

Many college stories are like many soldier's tales and snake and fish stories.
CHAPTER 190.
President Lehr Submits His First Annual Report to the Board of Trustees.

The time to prepare for commencement was at hand. Engaged my friend E.E. Helms to preach the baccalaureate sermon. I knew his ability and he came up to my expectations.

I wrote to Senator Hanna and requested him to deliver the class address. Shall here insert his reply.

SENATOR HANNA'S LETTER.

Philadelphia, Pa., June 18, 1900.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My dear Sir: I am just in receipt of your very kind letter of the 13th instant inviting me to deliver the address to your graduating class July 19. I certainly appreciate the compliment paid me in this selection, and wish to tank you and your trustees for the same. It will be impossible, however, for me to accept the invitation, or to attend the exercises.

Truly yours,

M.A. Hanna.

I then wrote to Gov. Nash and asked him to address the class. He consented.

THE GOVERNOR'S LETTER.

Columbus, July 2, 1900.

Mr. H.S. Lehr, President Ohio Normal University, Ada, Ohio.

My dear Sir: I am in receipt of your favor of June 27th, asking me to be present and address the graduating class of your University on the 19th of July. It gives me great pleasure to accept your invitation, and I will be with you. You must not,
however, expect a long address from me, as my time is so occupied that I do not have time to make preparations.

Very truly yours,

Geo. K. Nash.

July 17th I made my report for the school year to the Board of Trustees. In that report I should have added as a cause of the failing in enrollment of students, beginning in April, the telegrams sent to the great city dailies that Pres. Lehr had resigned and that Dr. Jameson has accepted the presidency of the school and other telegrams. The telegrams came from Kenton and Findlay.

The reader will also observe that I touched heavily on the paragraph in quotations in which is found the intimation to make the O.N.U. preparatory to the Ohio Wesleyan University.

First Annual Report
of the President of the Ohio Normal University
to the trustees for 1899-00, July 16, 1900.

Trustees Ohio Normal University. Gentlemen: On the 2nd day of August the Central Ohio Conference came into possession and complete legal control of the above named institution of learning.

The regular school year began August 8, 1899 and will close August 10, 1900. As school is in session all year with the exception of holiday week, we divide the solar year into various periods which we designate as years to meet the peculiar characteristics of our school.

The military year begins at the opening of the regular school year. The date of opening the present year was August 8. The year closes about the middle of May; the catalog year begins July 1 and closes July 1 the succeeding year. All students registered between those dates are counted for the catalog year. The commencement year closes about the last week in July, and the regular school year always begins the second Tuesday of August and closes the Friday preceding the second Tuesday of August.

The regular school year is divided into six terms; the First Fall, Second Fall, Winter and Spring terms of ten weeks each, the Normal or Summer term of
nine weeks, and the Vacation term of two weeks, and every fifth year of three weeks.

The current school year consists of fifty-two weeks and the vacation of one week. The first, second, third and fourth terms of the current year each showed an increase over the corresponding terms of the previous year's enrollment.

Some departments enroll their own students and report the total number enrolled at the close of the school year--The Fine Art, Telegraphic, Special Penmanship and Special Elocution Department enroll at the school office.

Of those enrolling at the office the increase in enrollment the First Fall term of the current year over the preceding year was 60; the increase of the Second Fall term over the enrollment of the previous year was 100; the increase of the enrollment of the Winter term of 1900 over that of '99 was 73; the increase the Spring term over that of the preceding year was 50; the loss in the enrollment of the Normal or Summer term was 61. We cannot give the comparison between the Vacation terms as that term of the current year opens July 23. The enrollment in 1899 was 92. The increase in enrollment ceased about the last of April. Various causes may be assigned. The condition of the wheat and hay crops, the over crowded classes and want of rooms and other facilities, and last but not least, the rumor that there would be many changes made in the management of the school. Instability affects prosperity in any establishment or business. The enrollment of the catalog year of '99 was 3227, the enrollment of the current year is 3349, a gain of 122.

INSTRUCTION.

All our teachers have rendered excellent service, but have been overworked. None have taught less than six hours a day, and many seven and some eight hours a day. As we are compelled from the nature of the organization of our school to sustain classes every term in nearly all the branches taught, the advanced classes in mathematics, electricity, Latin, Greek, French, and German are small, occasionally consisting of but five or six members. The other classes are large, but we divide and subdivide so much as possible with our present facilities. We do not have the number of rooms needed. We teach in cloak rooms, garret and cellar.

At the close of the school year of 1900 the term of every teacher expires with the exception of Prof. B.S. Young. There is no definite arrangement with the
Law Faculty as to time of contract, at least not to my knowledge.

The Committee on Instruction of the Trustees ought to meet early in April, 1901, to arrange for the future organization of the school.

COLLEGE HONORS.

Students can enter the university at any time and on completion of the prescribed courses are granted diplomas and appropriate degrees. In appendix A will be found the names of the seniors of the various courses and degrees designated. In appendix B are the names of those desiring the honorary degree of D.D.

(Report concluded next week.)
CHAPTER 191.
President Lehr Submits His First Annual Report to the Board of Trustees.
(Concluded from last week.)

GROUND AND BUILDINGS.

The campus is too small for drill and other athletic exercises. Drilling has almost entirely killed the grass. We could easily organize a sixth company of infantry if we had the room to drill and store the arms.

There should be a new stone walk built from the southeast corner of the campus. I agreed to donate $100 to the project.

The ball ground and target range are both on the private land of the President of the University.

The buildings are entirely inadequate to accommodate our students. All the music teachers, the teacher of Elocution, the teacher of Telegraphy and the teacher of Fine Arts furnish their own rooms, and are constantly crowded and hampered for rooms for the other departments. If more room is not furnished the school will suffer and retrograde from overgrowth.

LABORATORIES, LIBRARY AND MUSEUM.

All the rooms used for Laboratories, Library purposes and Museum are much too small for the purposes for which they are designed.

FINANCE.

The net proceeds from all sources for the five terms of the current year have been $12,343.30. The amount paid the church is $1234.33, and the amount accruing to the Board of Management is $11,108.97, of $2,777.24 to each individual member. I know nothing about the condition of the finances of the Board of Trustees.
EXECUTIVE BUSINESS.

I have spent many years studying the history of various institutions of learning and have observed their rise, growth, and in too many cases their decay and even death.

Schools have two sources of strength and growth: wealth and clientage.

The history of nearly all private schools is that they are short lived and the history of academies and seminaries used as feeders of large colleges is either that the attendance is small or that they die young. If it be denied that "This great school should continue to do excellent preparatory and normal work, that it should continue to give excellent training for business careers, for teaching, for pharmacy, and for the law, they desire that the Normal University cease to attempt to complete the college course and to give college degrees and turn those students who wish a degree to Delaware for the last two years of their college work." If the Trustees and Conference decide on such a course it will be well to employ some one soon to write the epitaph of the Ohio Normal University. The School of Law and largely the School of Pharmacy are recruited from those students who complete some of the literary courses of the University. It must not be supposed that some one educated at Valparaiso, Angola, or at Ada will not have the sagacity, power and other qualifications to seize the opportunity and establish a prosperous school near the educational center and thrive on the ruins of such a course. In less than two years the attendance, not including the union school pupils whom you will be compelled to educate by the contract, will not exceed fifty pupils in the literary department of the school. For proof, I refer you to Green Spring Academy, a feeder of Wooster University and later of Adelbert College, of Cleveland, Fostoria Academy, a feeder of Otterbein University, etc.

The Trustees ought to employ the teachers themselves directly or farm out the University to a Board of Management for not less than five years under a strict contract. The plan now pursued of yearly contracts and uncertainties will create jealousies, bickerings and generally will prove injurious to the school. In a Board of Management, the president of a school may have his power and usefulness curtailed. In my judgement you should select a strong president, a good financier, a man possessed of many good qualities who will have the interests of the school at heart and who is careful and discreet in all things; and then let him, by and with the advice of the Trustees, employ and pay the teachers.
Gentlemen: At the close of the next school year I will retire from my labors as President of the University. If God spares my life till then, I will have been connected with the Ada schools over thirty-five years.

I will give you my best efforts the coming year and I expect your prayers, sympathy and support in my labors.

H.S. Lehr
They said that Governor Mash gave a fine address to the graduates but I was unable to be present. By nature ... strong physically, if anyone will think of the tremendous amount of work in a school where the annual enrollment is 3349 different students, and departments in many lines of educational work; and when it is remembered that the board of management only came in control six days before the opening of the school year, and the letters telling the president that another would take his place the next year, the fearful riot, the vast correspondence with students and trustees and in addition teaching two hours a day and what told more than all else "in perils among false brethren," it is strange that there should have been a collapse physically and mentally.

There were 353 graduates. There would have been more but a number refused to take diplomas saying, "If the school is to become a feeder for Delaware we want no degree from the O.N.U." Only nine law boys took diplomas and degrees when fifty-one completed the course. The enrollment of the Law College was 144 that year. The enrollment in the College of Pharmacy was 207, in the Commercial College 327, in Stenography 174, etc. I am confident that had it not been for the telegrams from Kenton to Findlay and the report that the O.N.U. should become a feeder for the Ohio Wesleyan, our annual enrollment would have been 3500 for the year 1899-00.

That history of this year is already too long which necessitates omitting to speak of many of those who graduated. Many were warm friends who always treated me most kindly. One member of the class is now a member of Congress, Hon. Ralph C. Cole. He has sent me some fine letters, two of which I have returned to him when asking favors.

I shall insert but one letter of the many I have on file. It was written by a Pharmic, my friend Will Asbury.

MR. ASBURY'S LETTER.

Coalmont, Ind., March 7, 1907.
Dr. H.S. Lehr, Ada, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Lehr: Tonight there comes to me an impulse to write to you and I am intending to carry it into action to tell you how often your great work and the old O.N.U. influence come to cheer me on the rough path of life. Many are the times when riding at the lonely hour of midnight, weary, oppressed with the responsibilities of my profession and wondering if it is not time to surrender this for a life of more ease of mind and body, there comes to me the vision of a man worn by care and overwork; weary, but the radiance of a purpose shining forth clear as the noon day sun lighting up the countenance with brilliancy known only to those whose life is guided by a noble purpose; a man always going, but never thru with his work; always planning for the betterment of those whose guidance had been intrusted to his direction and whose constant motto seemed to be, work, work, work--and then I am strong again to plan and work and wait. Those inestimable lessons which I learned at the old school will be my passports to anything of worth which I may attain, and the example held up there will be the goad towards which my efforts will lie. Your life will be an inspiration to me as long as my mind keeps its balance. It seems to me that you can scarcely know how great your influence has been for good upon the great number of students with whom you have come in contact and the silent untold thankfulness of that vast body for your life and your work. As you may recall I was as loyal a Franklin as there could be and as hard a worker for their welfare and in that work I learned many lessons which are extremely helpful to me now. That scramble to excel in the membership, in excellency of programs, in all that tended to uplift that life of strenuous effort which was a part of the school and which was manifest in everything connected with the school; these things are those which make Ada students prominent everywhere and in every line of work. May your life be lengthened beyond the ordinary to inspire and urge forward those who know you best and who remember you yet with the same variation and may heaven grant to ... who follow you a portion of you zeal and earnestness to accomplish a great and lasting good in the world. Wishing to you health in your declining years and a clear conception of the great good you have done for as, your former students, and if possible to be permitted to hear from you sometime, I beg to remain, as ever,

Your sincere friend,

W.D. Asbury, M.D.

The reader can judge by the enrollment and the report to the trustees whether or not the school year 1899-00 was a success or not.
Supt. Davison Elected to Professor of English. Roush Wants a Ph.B.

September 11, 1908, V. XXXI, No. 16

CHAPTER 193.
Supt. Davison Elected to Professor of English.
Roush Wants a Ph. B.

As stated in a previous number, catalog No. 30 showed an enrollment of 3849 different students for the school year 1899-00, a gain of 122 over the previous year, notwithstanding the transition period, the tardiness of the transfer and the detrimental press notices.

It has already been noticed that Prof. Darst had resigned and that Supt. Arthur Powell, of Marion, O., had been elected to fill his place on the board of management. But Mr. Powell would not accept unless he could be president of the school. This request was not granted by the board. Supt. Henry Whitworth, of Bellefontaine, O., was elected in his place. Prof Whitworth is still teaching in the University and has proved to be an excellent instructor.

About a week before the commencement of the school year Mr. Dukes, who had been elected as a member of the board of management, resigned. I was sorry, because Mr. Dukes is a thorough scholar and is cultured and refined. In my estimation he gave great promise of succeeding in the profession of teaching. I notified the Board of Trustees, but they could not meet before the beginning of the new year. Some one had to take the place of Mr. Dukes. The members of the board of management met for consultation. Myself and Prof. Fess recommended Supt. John Davison, of Elida, for the place. On Friday preceding the opening of the new term on Tuesday, Prof. Fess and myself went to Lima and called on Dr. Whitlock and Dr. Waters, who both resided in Lima at the time and who were on the Board of Trustees and recommending Mr. Davison for the place to which Mr. Dukes had been elected. Mr. Dukes was to receive a thousand dollars for his salary and all above that amount of the one fifth of the net proceeds was to be paid to the trustees. Prof. Davison asked $1200 and Rev. Whitlock said they would see about the change of salary and after much "talk" and long delay, he received $1200. We made no mistake in our selection. We assigned him the classes formerly taught by Prof. Darst and added the large class in grammar. He filled well the chair of English and was very popular among the students.
The names of Profs. Whitworth and Davison do not appear in the catalog as it was in press when they were employed. As it was, the catalog was not ready for distribution until Friday when the new year was to begin on the next Tuesday. The delay was caused by the uncertainty of who was to assume the financial responsibility and the management of the school.

The only other change in the teaching force was the resignation of my daughter, Sarah Lenora Lehr. Her place was supplied by the election of Irene Lesh.

At the meeting of the trustees, July 17, to examine the standing of the candidates for degrees with the work required at Delaware. It so happened that about the last of June Mr. D.I. Roush of Lima came to see me and requested that we graduate him from our Philosophical course and grant him the degree of Ph. B. He had with him his diploma from the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware. I told him he should get a copy of his grades. He had them sent to me and I refused his request and told him that we would not even grant him the degree A.B.

When some of our trustees haggled about the length of our Classical course I showed them the grades of Mr. Rousch and the statement that he had completed the Classical course at the O.W.U., signed by J.H. Grove. They subsided and completely wilted. Shall publish the correspondence and a copy of the grades. I still have the paper in my possession.

LETTER OF MR. ROUSH.

[We are instructed to publish this letter as written, without editing. ED]

Lima, Ohio, July 2, 1900.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Dear Sir: I ordered my grades sent directly to you, from Prof. Grove of Delaware, the roll keeper of O.W.U. They will probably reach you today or tomorrow. Please notice at once whether you can graduate me in your Ph. B course. You will understand that you must make certain substitutions, e.g., my Biology which runs a whole year for your chemistry. Also you will find in looking up old records that I have quite a number of grades in the O.N.U. in 1893, 94, 95, and 96.
These will be an abundance to graduate me but if you notify me at once I will enter school at once and pass out by examinations in a few which you will dictate. Such as Political Economy which I am now reading at home, International Law, Astronomy, etc. Besides I have a couple orations that has caused me much labor. If possible I should like to enter your annual contest, if not, I would gladly render one at the commencement exercises. It ought to be a credit to O.N.U. to get to graduate Delaware's graduates before they go east to post graduate work, which I do this fall. Let me hear at once. Yours truly.

D.I. Roush.

Statement of Prof. J.H. Grove. It will be observed that Mr. Roush had no Chemistry, no Physics, Political Economy, Astronomy and but little Latin.

OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY.

This certifies that D.I. Roush is a member of Collegiate department, Graduate class, Classical course; and that he is credited on the books with the following studies, graded on the scale of 100:


I wrote to Mr. Roush informing him that we could not accept his work for the degree Ph. B. His reply was:
Lima, O., July 7, 1900.
Prof. Lehr.

Dear Sir: Your letter received. I am come to the conclusion it would not pay me to graduate at O.N.U. even if I could. Please send me my grades that Prof. Grove sent you.

D.I. Roush.
Shall now give the new contract and correspondence between myself and trustees without many comments:

AGREEMENT.

The Article of Agreement, made and entered into this the 8th day of August, 1900, by and between the board of trustees of the Ohio Normal University, acting in their official capacity as party of the first part, and H.S. Lehr, Frederick Maglott, S.D. Fess, Henry Whitworth and John Davison, acting as parties of the second part.

Witnesseth, that the said party of the first part has this day employed the said parties of the second part as a board of management to manage and control the Ohio Normal University, at Ada, Ohio, for the ensuing school year, beginning August 14, 1900, and ending August 14, 1901.

The said parties of the second part, hereby covenant and agree with the said party of the first part that they will assume control and management of said University for said period, and will pay all the expenses of conducting said institution, including the payment of teachers, advertising and all the necessary expenses of properly conducting said institution as the same was conducted the year next preceding.

The said parties of the second part further agree that they will make all necessary repairs of both the personal and real property belonging to said University and turn the said property back to said board of trustees at the end of said period in as good condition as they received it, reasonable wear and tear excepted.

The said parties of the second part further agree, after paying all of said expenses above provided for, to turn over to the treasurer of said board of trustees ten percent, 10%, of the net proceeds of all tuition funds or receipts obtained of said board of management, received during said period.
The said party of the first part hereby agrees that said board of management shall, after the payment of said expenses and said ten per cent, 10%, above mentioned, retain the residue of all said proceeds so coming into their hands as compensation in full for their services in management and conducting of said University.

The said parties of the second part, each covenanting and agreeing for himself individually, hereby agree to give their time and attention exclusively to the management of said institution and in the discharge of the duties of their said employment.

H.S. Lehr, Frederick Maglott, S.D. Fess, Henry Whitworth, John Davison.

Ohio Normal University, Leroy A. Belt, president; D.H. Bailey, secretary.

Kenton, Ohio, August 20, 1900.
H.S. Lehr, Ada, Ohio,

Dear Prof.: Replying to yours of the 18th with remittance would say I think the school is doing nicely. In regard to Mr. Dukes' successor, I presume the same arrangements we made with Dukes was made with Mr. Davison. In this case I presume it would be proper for you to pay Mr. Davison $1000 for this school year and the balance would come to our treasury. Temporarily it ought to be expended immediately in the old buildings and grounds.

Yours, etc.

Jas. Bastable, Treas. O.N.U.

Toledo, Ohio, Sept. 12, 1900.

Dear Prof. Lehr:

Dr. Belt forwarded me the new contract which he had signed as Pres. of the board of trustees. He said he had not received the old contract which was sent around with the new for comparison and which was finally to have been sent to me. He directed me to write you to inquire if you knew where it is. He thinks it should be filed with the papers of the board. Jameson was endorsed by the unanimous vote of the conference for president of the University and we have assurances that he will accept the position. Hope you will have a very prosperous year.
Respectfully,

D.H. Bailey.

Toledo, Ohio, Aug. 23, 1900.

Dear Prof. Lehr:

Dr. Whitlock informs me that Prof. Davison was employed on the same terms as Dukes, $1000 per year. His thought is that you should pay him at that rate, and turn the balance of the one-fifth over to Bastable. The committee on Instruction will recommend to the board that Davison's salary be made $1200 and I think the board will agree to that, but until the board meets I think you had better ... with him on the $1000 basis. I will write Davison and explain the matter and I think he will be satisfied with such settlement. The committee on Instruction was not authorized to arrange a new contract differing from the old, and I think they have wisely deferred the increase in Davison's salary till the meeting of the trustees.

Very respectfully,

D.H. Bailey.
A walk was needed from the southeast corner of the campus to the old brick building to save the grass. I had often spoken to my associates, the old board of trustees, and recommended that such a walk be constructed but no action was taken. I agreed to give $100 as a donation for such a walk. Bastable and Hoskins agreed but Dr. L.A. Belt said that a new building would soon be built in the southeast corner of the campus and after that was erected the walk could be put down.

Trustees Hoskins and Bastable favored the walk as seen by the following letter:

Wapakoneta, Ohio, Sept. 13, '00.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My dear Friend: I was not in Fostoria last week. It seems, however, that everything went alright so far as the University is concerned. No action has been taken with reference to sidewalk, but I think should be at once. I will write Bastable and ask him to give the matter attention and authorize construction. I sincerely hope the money is in sight for new buildings. I will be satisfied with any action Mr. Bastable takes in the matter, as the walks should be made at once. In fact, if agreeable to Mr. Bastable, I am satisfied for you to go ahead and have it constructed.

Yours truly,

S.A. Hoskins.

Kenton, Ohio, Sept. 14, 1900.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, Ohio.

My dear Professor: I had a letter from Mr. Hoskins this morning; he is willing to have you put down the walk and pay for it and we will pay the difference above the amount of your donation of $100 and you can attend to it as convenient.
Yours,

Jas. Bastable.

Toledo, Ohio, Sept. 15, 1900.

Dear Prof. Lehr:

I send you on this mail one of the copies of the new contract. I will retain the other copy. I received the copy of the old contract with your letter of explanation. You should have had a copy of this contract and I do not understand why you have not. Of course you were, "as much entitled to it as are we."

By agreement of the board of trustees and the board of management, Prof. Darst was to be released from his contract when the new one was made. By this action I think the old contract is now null and void. I think Prof. Darst made a mistake in canceling our copy of the old contract before the new one was signed by the board of trustees. But nothing will come of this now. Find copy of contract enclosed.

Very respectfully,

D.H. Bailey.

Prof. Michel, who taught German, French, Greek, Latin or any branch in higher mathematics, resigned and went to Bluffton to teach in the new college there.

I notified the committee on instruction. Dr. L.A. Belt wrote to me that the board of management had power to employ a teacher and we did. There were a number of applicants. The one most highly recommended and who appeared the best qualified was Prof. Groth of Dayton, O. Prof. W.H. Meck, Principal of the Dayton High School recommended Prof. Groth.

Kenton, O., Oct. 10, 1900.

Dear Bro. H.S. Lehr:

My son, the Doctor, just showed your letter. You men who run the school have full power to employ who you want in the interim of annual meetings. Would not, therefore, call the committee on instruction as it has not full power. You have.

As to the building you wrote me concerning I can say nothing positive. You saw the action of the conference as to Jameson. Hope he will now conclude.
If he does, Dukes will have money, so much needed. Wife of J.B. Pumphrey is buried Friday, so I can't be over. Hope to come soon.

Ever yours,

L.A. Belt.

Delaware, O., Oct. 18, 1900.

Dear Pres. Lehr:

Your letter received. I cannot possibly go to Ada tomorrow as I lecture in Springfield tonight and will not get home before noon tomorrow. I commend to you Miss Rubbetta Biggs who seeks a position in the O.N.U. I think she is well qualified as a teacher. Miss Rohdenfels of this county expects to go to Ada next Monday. I gave her a catalog and assured her that you would help her in every way possible.

Yours,

H.C. Jameson.
The President Appeals to the Trustees. Wants to Tell a New Story.

October 2, 1908, V. XXXI, No. 19

No. 196.
The President Appeals to the Trustees. Wants to Tell a New Story.

November 14th I wrote a letter to each member of the board of trustees giving the condition of the school, its needs, etc., etc. Only five answered the letter which read as follows:

Ada, O., Nov. 14, 1900.

Dear Dr. Belt: Pardon this intrusion on your valuable time and I know you will pardon me if you take into consideration that I cannot but be interested in the welfare of the work in which I have been engaged over thirty-four years. The success of the school with which I am connected has been my day and night dreams.

Three years ago, when we contracted at Sidney, to sell you the school, it was in excellent condition; but we then had a fight on our hands with the president of Ohio State University, we also were aware that our buildings and facilities were inadequate to the demands and the requirements of the age. When they were erected, we furnished the same facilities that were usually furnished by all schools of a similar character and in many respects better, but now our buildings are too small and we lack modern facilities to keep with the demands of the age. We ought to add at least two department to our university, if not more, but we do not have the room as I reported to you, at our last meeting. I stated in that report that the over crowded condition of the school would injure it. It could not be otherwise than to injure it.

When it was announced that the M.E. Church had contracted to buy the school and that there would by new and commodious building buildings erected, to give an impetus to the school, our enrollment increased and our village grew rapidly. This state of things continued after the sale was consummated and our town is still growing and cause of the growth is due to the fact that people believe that the church will erect a fine, new school building, but our students are becoming somewhat discontented at the want of facilities, reciting in garret and cellar, and we do not have enough garret and cellar room to accommodate our students. Altho the school is not as full as last year, we are still over crowded. If it were positively known that a new building would be erected next year, or at least in two years hence, it would give another impetus to the school and would swell the enrollment.
Our enrollment began to diminish about the middle of last April. Various causes can be assigned: the overcrowding of the school, want of proper facilities to accommodate the students, the numerous reports circulated thru the papers that the policy of the school was to be changed, the partial failure of the wheat crop, change of teachers, and a new college started at Bluffton, only twelve miles distant from Ada, and several other causes might be assigned. I see that there is quite a falling off in attendance of members of the Presbyterian and the Christian Church. There are at present three members of the Presbyterian Church teaching and two members of the Christian Church. The rest are all either members of no church whatever. That would naturally have a little influence, but that had to be expected. Taking all these causes into consideration, the only wonder is that we have not lost more in attendance than we actually have.

I have never worked harder since I have been connected with the school than I did thru August, September and October, but I have not been able to overcome all these causes. Our enrollment is very nearly as large as two years ago, but not as large as a year ago.

I shall try my very best and make every effort possible to bring up the enrollment the remaining terms of the year to what it was last year. It would help us greatly, if it would be published in a circular, that a new building was an established fact, a certainty. May I publish such a statement? I do not want to publish it unless it will certainly be done. My good brother, please do not think that I am over anxious, but believe me, that I feel interested in the growth and welfare of the school. I want a new story to tell.

Fraternally,

H.S. Lehr.

Fostoria, Ohio, Nov. 19, 1900.

Pres. H.S. Lehr, LL. D.
Ada, Ohio.

My Dear Brother: Your letter came only to hand. No one appreciates more than I the grand work you have done for Ada University; and you have succeeded in tiding over the crucial period of transition to definite denominational ownership. And I have no doubt, but, just as soon as the school is paid for, which I think will soon be done, new buildings and improvements on old buildings will begin at once.

The fact that the denominational affiliations of the faculty as well as students should largely trend toward the Methodist Church, is not to be wondered at. It would be strange if it were otherwise. As to the Bluffton school, Ada will hardly feel it; and I do not fear it near so much as possible jealousies in other directions.
Ada with her low rates and convenient department classes adapted to all, is bound to hold on her winning way.

Very truly yours,

Wm. W. Lance.

Bowling Green, O., Nov. 27, 1900.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Dear Professor: I have delayed answering your letter of the 16th inst. for the reason that I hoped to learn if possible something more definite to write you concerning the matter you mention. It was unnecessary to suggest to me the deep interest you have in the welfare of the O.N.U. I am sure there is no member of the board of trustees more thoroughly impressed with that fact than myself, because no member, unless it be Bastable, whose residence at Ada has been longer than mine, can better recall the efforts you have put forth in the thirty-four years which have witnessed the birth and growth of the school. How natural that your heart in these later years should burn with the desire and hope that this splendid monument of your energy may not diminish but increase in lustre. I do hope that some arrangement can be made by which better facilities can be provided for the student's instruction at Ada. We not only need a new building for additional room but the situation demands improvement in the appearance of the present buildings and campus. There is certainly much needed in the way of repair. Personally I am unable to give you any information on the subject of a definite character, but sincerely hope events will so shape themselves as that the board will be able to give you the authority you ask for in your letter.

Yours truly,
Charles Melhorn.

Toledo, O., Dec. 3, 1900.

My dear Prof. Lehr:

Your letter received some time ago. I have given much thought to the matter of a new building and I am convinced what we need is to get the right man in the field to raising the money and the problem would soon be settled. We have not used good judgement in selecting our agents, in fact I hardly see how we could have done worse. I think at the next meeting of the board the question will receive careful consideration and I hope the right man will be chosen to raise the funds, and if so the new building is assured.
Very respectfully,

D.H. Bailey.

Wapakoneta, O., December 26, 1900.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.
My dear Friend:

Your kind letter received.
I dislike to be making excuses for want of time, but it does seem impossible for me to go to Ada in the next few days. I fully concur with you, and would be entirely willing to have you superintend the whole matter, if the same would be agreeable to Mr. Bastable. I am certain you would do nothing except what we would approve. I have written Mr. Bastable by the mail, and if necessary will make a sacrifice to go to Ada. But his thoro acquaintance would seem to make a visit from me unnecessary. If you are willing to do the work, or he has any objection to my absence I will go at his call.
I only regret the fact that the means is not immediately forthcoming to greatly improve the whole institution, and I have faith that this will be accomplished within a reasonable time.

Yours truly,
S.A. Hoskins.
More Correspondence. Trustees Hold an Important Meeting.

Delaware, Ohio, March 18, 1901.

Dear Brother Lehr: Your letter received some time ago. Dr. Belt thought you and Prof. Willis would be the people to see Mr. C.
I am so glad to hear of the prosperity of the school and of your good health.
When once we get the new building, I feel sure we shall enjoy yet greater prosperity. Our work here is very pleasant. Yours faithfully.

H.C. Jameson.

Sidney, Ohio, Nov. 19, 1900.

Dr. H.S. Lehr.

Dear Brother: Your letter rec’d and carefully noted. I believe all you say about the needs of the school and also your untiring devotion to its interests. But I do not see just how I can relieve the situation. I think I can see, however, how the whole board of trustees might do it, if they would get together and stay together, long enough to mature something. But running in and out on the next train will never give the institution the supervision it needs. Like you, I think a new and commodious building is the sine qua non.
Would it not be well for you to suggest to Belt and others the propriety--indeed desirability--of the board getting together before the holidays to consider the matter of a new building? I think it would result in something, if we were to come together and seriously consider the facts you narrate in your letter to me.
I presume I ought not to say it, but being one of the members, the reflection is quite as much upon myself as others, but I have never been connected with a board that has done absolutely so near nothing in the the way of deliberating and planning, as we have for Ada. If you, and others who have been with you for years, had not been retained to manage and direct, and the management had passed wholly into hands of the trustees, the Lord only knows what would now be its condition especially with the attention that we have given it.
There are too many interests at stake to allow this slip-shod way of doing to continue much longer. But personally, I feel more or less handicapped. My views are in the minority and for the most part have been from the start.
But I am ready to do anything in my power to further the welfare of the school, whether it is just the thing I think ought to be done or not. But nothing will likely be done in the direction of securing a new building until the board shall get
together and consider the necessities of the case and how to meet them. I have been wanting to go over for quite awhile but have not had time. Hope to do so before very long whether board meets or not.

Yours truly,

W.G. Waters.

Ada, Ohio, March 23, 1902.

Dr. L.A. Belt, Kenton, O.

Dear Friend and Bro.: The Policy $4000, expires on the college building (the older brick) Apr. 2. Prof. Lehr tells me it out of his sphere to arrange for the writing of a renewal policy and refers to you. Will you grant us the privilege to write up in a first class Co., The German of Pittsburg, Pa., as low or lower than expiring policy. Please answer at once.

Very truly,

Wilson & Longworth.

Kenton, Ohio, March 26, 1901.

Dear H.S. Lehr:

Please attend to this policy matter as if it was your own and oblige,

Yours,

L.A. Belt.

I told Wean that I'd call a trustee meeting whenever you wanted it or thought it necessary. I was not in a hurry until the Jameson matter settled itself, as it has. If the interests of the school demand it we will come together soon as Bastable returns. You can let me know and oblige,

Yours,

L.A. Belt.

At a meeting of trustees April 16, Dr. H.C. Jameson was elected president for three years at a salary of $3000 a year. Much other business was transacted as I learned thru some of the members of the board. May 7th the board had another meeting for the election of members of the faculty, teachers, etc. I
was elected vice-president at a salary of $1200 a year. I shall give the report of the meeting as given to me by the secretary of the board.

The morning after the meeting my friend, Mr. Bastable, came to my office and gave me a report of the meeting and advised me to keep quiet. I learned from him that an enemy had made statements that were false, entirely false. Later in the day Judge Melhorn came to see me. He said the meeting was personal and hot. He told me that Professor Darst's eye was well and that he was an applicant for a position as teacher.

REPORT OF MEETING.

Toledo, O., May 8, 1901.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ph.D., Ada, O.

Dear Sir: At the meeting of the board of trustees May 7, 1901, at Ada you were elected vice president of the Ohio Normal University at a salary of $1200 per year. Your exact relation to the school or your work, was not defined. It was thought best to leave that till after consultation with you and the new president or till you and he had conferred together.

The following were elected members of the faculty:

Prof. H.S. Lehr, vice president, $1200.
Prof. Darst, 3 hours day, $1000.
Prof. Maglott, $1200.
Prof. Fess, $1200.
Prof. Willis, $1200.
Prof. Davison, $1200.
Prof. Whitworth, $1200.
Prof. Tussing, $1200.
Prof. Gregg, $1200.

The heads of departments to have a vote in the faculty: Prof. Axline, Law; Prof. Young, Pharmacy; Prof. Owen, Music; Mrs. McCoppin, Oratory; Prof. Wright, Commercial; Prof. Murray, Engineering. The under teachers were not elected except Prof. Hufford, who was selected by Jameson and his faculty. I mean by this, there was general consent expressed to this proposition, without formal motion, and I have so recorded it in the minutes.
I think you knew that you were authorized by our former meeting to proceed with the catalog and advertising as on former years, who the catalog will be necessarily delayed awaiting the action of Jameson. I hope he will come to a definite decision soon.

Very respectfully,

D.H. Bailey.
More Correspondence. Trustees Hold an Important Meeting. II

October 16, 1908, V. XXXI, No. 21

No. 198.
More Correspondence. Trustees Hold an Important Meeting.

There was much dissatisfaction among the members of the faculty at the action of the trustees. Six members drove over to Kenton to see the Kenton contingent of the board. Dr. L.A. Belt said that there was a mistake in the report, that Prof. Darst was not to have $1000 for three hours a day, and he would see that there would be a correction of the report. I do not know just how the trustees managed the matter but Prof. Darst did not remain as a member of the faculty.

I supposed that Dr. Jameson would come and see about the advertising, but he neither came nor wrote. I then wrote to Dr. Bile, the secretary of the board, and told him that it was high time to see to the advertising and other matters. Shall give his answer.

Toledo, Ohio, May 21, 1901.

Dear Prof. Lehr:

I have delayed answering your letter till I could hear from Drs. Belt and Jameson. Neither have written me. They seem not to desire to put too much in writing in regard to the catalog, the minutes of Apr. 16, which were approved, read, "On motion of Judge Melhorn, Prof. Lehr was authorized to proceed with the advertising as in former years, also to proceed with the catalog."
At the same meeting the salary of Prof. Davison was fixed at $1200 for the present year. He wrote me for an order for the extra $200, but I do not understand that an order is necessary.
In regard to the departments and the general plan of the work for the next year, I think Jameson is the man to deal with that and I am surprised that he is not looking after it. Much of this I know was left in his hands. He was placed at the head of the committee on instruction, and got everything he asked for in election of teachers, etc., and I think he is the man to interpret the action of the board to the members of the faculty.
May I say again that on Apr. 16 Jameson was elected president of the university, accepted the position, the fact was recorded and the minutes approved by a unanimous vote of the board. Up to the present there is no notice of his resignation. I hope that by this time he is over there and down to business.
I found that there was dissatisfaction on the part of some of the trustees with the manner in which the Department of Elocution was conducted. Dr. Belt sent a Mr. Neal to see me and endorsed him for the position of Professor of Elocution and Oratory. When he came I took him to see the principal of that department. After the interview I told Mr. Neal that I was not to be president next year and my duties had not yet been described, neither had I accepted the proffered position, and had no power whatever to make a contract. He left Ada in great disgust. Later Mrs. McCoppin was retained in charge of the department.

Kenton, O., May 27, 1901.

Dear H.S. Lehr:

Within find Dennis' application. I know nothing of him pro or con. But Mr. Neal will be over to see you personally. I like his looks and action; think you will. He has good recommendations, written and oral. Is well related—son-in-law of Gardener of the Ohio conference, a resident of Delaware at present. I will approve whatever you do. The trustees have asked us to improve the department, you know. I know it to be a somewhat delicate matter because of present incumbent but you will find Neal far more competent. I'll share the responsibility with you. Will be over after the dedication of Marion 2nd. church next Saturday and Sunday.

Yours always,
L.A. Belt.

I wrote to Dr. Jameson repeatedly and asked him whether I should proceed with the advertising and the catalog, that at a meeting of the trustees, April 16, I was authorized to go on with the advertising as usual but since he was elected president and had accepted as I learned from different trustees, I felt as tho I should wait until I had an interview with him. The Doctor came to see me on a Friday afternoon, May 27. I told him I had done nothing on the catalog excepting arranging the names of the students in the various classes alphabetically.

He told me he had not accepted the presidency of the school definitely and said he would not and told me why. I shall not give the reasons or causes for they were given in confidence.
He requested that I accompany him to Kenton to see the trustees who resided in that city. They were Dr. L.A. Belt, Dr. William Belt, Judge Melhorn, and Hon. James Bastable. Judge Melhorn was not at home and only three trustees were at the meeting. The interview was lengthy. The three members held a private meeting and when they came back into the room where I had remained Dr. Jameson spoke frankly and I believe he meant all he said. He said, "If you will unite with the Methodist Church next Sunday, the trustees will meet and elect you president for ten years at a salary of $3000 a year." I replied that much as I loved the school and wanted to remain with the school and assist in contributing to its welfare and prosperity I could not do so. The Doctor said they were compelled by the situation to have a member of the church for the president of a church school. I recognized the justness of the request; but I could not make myself believe that it was the proper step to take. I may have made a mistake and yet it may all have been for the best interests of the school that matters have adjusted themselves as they have. When I refused to take the desired or proposed step, the trusted retired again for a private conference. When they returned Dr. Jameson asked whether I would be willing to remain with the school if Dr. Belt would be elected president and I should be elected vice president, corresponding secretary and treasurer of the school funds as I have been and that Dr. Belt would be out in the field to raise money for the school and that I should be in full control as I had before. He further stated that my salary should be $1800 a year.

It was rather humiliating to be vice president when I had been president and had received a much larger salary, but I consented.

The next Monday there was a meeting of the trustees. Eight were present and two more came to town but the board had adjourned before the two got here as they did not reach here till in the afternoon. The eight constituted a quorum and elected Dr. Belt president and the writer vice president and treasurer of the school funds and corresponding secretary for three years and agreed that I should be in control of the management of the school untrammeled. My salary was to be $1800. I accepted and went to work with him to achieve success.
Ada, O., June 6, 1901.
Dear Doctor Belt:

I was so crowded with work yesterday and we had so many things to talk over that I forgot to ask you about the board of trustees. I will send you a catalog and mark the time at which the final term of each trustee terminates. If I am mistaken please let me know, also give me the name of the trustee you appointed in the place of Donnon, also state whether you have changed any of the committees and if so the names.

I have stated to the new faculty and teachers employed, that their school year will begin August 13, but somebody must be here to begin July 27. I can get persons to teach the vacation term as I have on former occasions. I presume you want me to take charge of those two weeks in addition to the regular school year. I will do so, altho that will be a hard time for me. We will have to send out about 5000 catalogs those weeks and answer many letters. I had intended to ask you some question about letters, but I will use discretion and will do the best I can. The last time the trustees met there was nothing stated when the school year or the time of service should begin so I will arrange that for myself and with the teachers and you can suit yourself.

Mr. Tanneyhill published Ada day at Lakeside for July 26. I want you to take charge of that as I am overworked. I will appoint the trustees of the old faculty to assist you. Please answer this letter immediately and if you want to see me later call me to the phone.

Fraternally,

H.S. Lehr.

P.S.--I have written to Miss Breese. We employed Miss Souder, a niece of Judge Melhorn. She is fine.

L.

Dear Lehr: 1st. class term expires, 1901; Jas. Bastable, W.W. Lance, Dr. W.A. Belt, W.G. Waters, L.M. Albright.


Jameson, Smith and myself were put on committee on instruction; Waters taken off and put on committee on degrees. Dr. W.A. Belt added to grounds and buildings.

I don't know what you mean as to the two weeks term to be supplied July and August. Suppose you mean that the two weeks are not provided for by the contract with present management, nor the management to follow. Can't you let the management to follow begin with the ending of the preceding one? The dates of beginning and ending ought to concur. If they don't make them do so some way, I leave it with you and faculty. I'm not going to pretend to run things until after conference. Only get the hang of them. After that I'll know or try to, meanwhile you decide. As to Lakeside you say "I and trustees of old faculty," who are they? I have to be at Lakeside and will attend to it while there if I know who, what and when. Who speaks at commencement time? Can't the proposed meeting with citizens and all concerned be then? The biggest text is the deeding of the building. That is what I want to talk about and I'll have something to say by that time, D.V. Do as you are a mind to until I am footloose in Sept. May the good Lord help us!

Ever yours,

L.A. Belt.

I asked the board of trustees whether the school should make an exhibit at Buffalo. The majority of the members were opposed to the plan and I said no more about it.

Toledo, Ohio, June 13, 1901.

Dear Prof. Lehr:

Your letter received. Prof. Darst, in a letter just received, declines to become a member of the faculty next year. I have not yet received any definite reply to my notification of their election from Profs. Maglott, Fess and Tussing. Your election was for three years. The new administration begins July 26. Nothing found in the minutes in regard to the date for beginning the school year. I think it was understood to be Aug. 13. There was so much confusion in regard to the heads of those five departments, that I have not yet given them official notice of their election. I have written both Jameson and later Belt
concerning the matter, but get no reply. There was no action taken at the time of this election concerning their salary or contract. If this is to be arranged with the faculty, I do not know that I should notify them.

Very respectfully,
D.H. Bailey.
Kenton, O., 15, 1901.

Dear Dr. Lehr: I write to you to inquire. I must know all about the workings of the O.N.U. or you know I might appear to a disadvantage as president. On page 55 of catalog of the O.N.U. I find that under the head of, Advantages, "students are admitted to all classes in the literary department of the university (except Botany) without extra charge." But I don't find that this is provided for in the contract with the parties controlling the department of Pharmacy. How about this? Will you and your faculty explain? Contract and catalog ought to read alike.

Ever yours,

L.A. Belt.

Toledo, Ohio, June 20, 1901.

Dear Prof. Lehr: Your letter received. I very heartily favor conferring degrees on Rev. Grabel. I think we made a mistake by not giving him the degree last year. The committee on honors this year are: Waters, Breakbill, Lance and Bailey. By this rule, Sec. 3, Rules Governing Trustees, it would seem that a meeting of the trustees will be necessary before commencement week. If such a meeting is held it should be at the call of the president of the board as no action of the board was taken on the matter.

Very respectfully,

D.H. Bailey.

Dear Lehr: I wrote you that I'd be there D.V. to preach July 21st in the evening. Miller is hot because I hired Schoonover in his stead! Ascham wants to know what he is to teach and what he is to have, etc. I only proposed him provided the absence of Fess and Willis called for another man. Concerning all this you, not I, are to judge. He can preach and has a place and it is not a place he is after. He is a fine literary character for Ada, and can be used Sundays is all I'm driving at.

Yours,

L.A. Belt.
Toledo, O., July 2, 1901.

Dear Prof. Lehr: I hope it may not be necessary to call a meeting of the trustees. If the conferring of degrees is the only matter demanding the attention of the board, I think we can safely leave that to you. I hope you will confer the degree D.D. on Gabriel. I am certain this is the proper thing to do and will be in the interest of the school.

I should like one of the new catalogs, if you please. I do not see that I could attend a meeting of the board commencement week. The 14 English and 5 German Methodist Churches of the city will be in a camp meeting at that time, and I have been selected to superintend the affair.

Very respectfully,

D.H. Bailey.

In preparing the catalog the previous year I was authorized to announce a meeting of the committee on degrees for July 23 at 10 a.m., but the committee did not meet. Not a member of the board of trustees was present that day nor any day during commencement excepting Sunday, July 21. Dr. Leroy A. Belt preached the baccalaureate sermon and could not help but be present on that occasion.

The graduates for the year numbered 373. The class enrolled a number of excellent students. I can say without flattery, it was an unusually strong class and many of my warmest friends were members of that class and many whom I remember that I shall name no member personally for I do not wish to discriminate. My friend, Dr. J. Wesley Hill, Jr., then of Harrisburg, Pa., now of New York City, gave the class address. It was eloquent and full of thought, one of the finest ever delivered to a class while I was president of the school.

The commencement exercises were pronounced a success by all who attended the exercises. The last commencement exercises while I presided as president.


The set proceeds above all expenses were $11,789.20; the 10 per cent fund for the trustees, $1,178.92; the share of each of the five members of the board of management was $1122.05, but I was ordered to pay Prof. Davison $1000, leaving the balance of $1122.05 to be paid to the trustees, but finally they paid
Prof. Davison $1200, which still gave them an income of $2100.97.

It was easily seen that the object in adding a fifth member to the board of management ... pay that fifth member a salary of $1000 or even $1200 would add materially to the revenue of the trustees.

The enrollment of students was 3298, loss of 51, for the enrollment the previous year was 3349. The loss in the net income was $554.10

The wonder is that the loss in enrollment was not 500 or more when one considers the uncertainty in the management and the unreliable press notices from Kenton
Another Year Opens and Difficulties Increase.

November 6, 1908, V. XXXI, No. 24

No. 201.
Another New Year Opens and Difficulties Increase.

Catalog No. 31 showed an enrollment of 3298 students for the school year 1900-01. I again began working on salary. Had been working for myself and partners since August 1871. I still felt that the school was mine. My contract, oral not written, was that I was to conduct the school as I always had in the past. I was given a free hand and was not to be trammeled.

It is true that at the meeting of the trustees in April they elected a faculty consisting of six teachers and the heads of the various departments that was when Dr. Jameson was elected president. There was nothing said of that when they met and elected Dr. Belt president and elected me to conduct the school as I thought best. I was elected for three years and I determined to bring the school up to the highest state of usefulness and excellence. Shortly after my election Dr. Belt came to see me and stated that he could not move to Ada until after the meeting of the Conference, but that he would appoint as his cabinet the same members that had been elected at the trustee meeting April 16th.

He made other remarks that led me to think possibly he intended to conduct matters himself, but I went on with the work of the school as usual. Shortly after the commencement exercises he wrote me the following letter bearing no date but I know the time from my file and the language.

DR. BELT'S LETTER.

Dear Dr. Lehr: Within find Warnock's letter from head of ordnance department. I have a duplicate sent me from and by Foraker. If Hill don't stir it up again I think it rests. As to meat, etc., I can't tell. Scarcity of corn puts beef up unless they are buying by the head then they are not up. What about the ... degrees went to the W.C. Advocate by Hill? The trustees have passed upon none of them yet and it is the great point of difference raised by other colleges. Have been out on trips for O.N.U. for two weeks past.

Ever yours, L.A.B.
At the commencement of the Spanish-American War our commandant, Lieut. Price, was ordered to his regiment and the senior officers in the battalion were put in command of the Military Department all did exceedingly well, but we were making every effort to get a commandant from the regular army.

Prof. Willis, who was a member of the state legislature, had been in communication with both the Ohio Senators and so had the writer. We knew that Dr. J.W. Hill, Jr., was on intimate terms with Senator Hanna and we asked him to see the Senator. The Doctor also addressed the graduating class of 1901 about a week before I received the above letter.

Dr. Hill asked the faculty to bestow on certain gentlemen honorary degrees. We told the Doctor that the trustees reserved that privilege to themselves but we were exceedingly anxious to keep the good will of the Doctor and as not a trustee was present commencement day, I called a meeting of those members of the faculty present and the vote was unanimous that I should confer the degrees. This explain two points in the letter. That remark as to meat, etc., was like this: The price of meat and flour had advanced. A number of those keeping boarders had a meeting and said they would have to raise the price of board. I never dictated what they should charge but told the ladies what we could afford to pay on the term and year plan. We divided with those who took term and year plan students. I advocated charging $30 a term for term plan students instead of $28 and giving the boarding houses 17 instead of $16 and retaining $8 tuition instead of $7, but the entire faculty opposed the advance and so did Dr. Belt. In fact some parties claimed that I advocated the advance out of treachery to the school. The school now charges $31 and keeps $10 for tuition.

Again referring to degrees, I want to say that the old faculty or trustees conferred very few honorary degrees. As I now remember we conferred the degree D.D. on but four or five ministers of the gospel and the degree L.L.D. on but two persons, Prof. Axline and Prof. Fess, teachers in our College of Law and we never conferred the degree Ph. D.
Foraker Congratulations and a Society Clash.

November 13, 1908, V. XXXI, No. 25

Foraker Congratulations and a Society Clash.

Many circumstances occurred that must be omitted. If all were written they would fill a volume. Shall give a number of letters, for they are real history.

Kenton, Ohio, Oct. 4, 1901.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, Ohio,

Dear Prof.: Yours of yesterday received enclosing check of John Parlette, Conference treasurer, for $298. I notice by the Ada Record that you had a good time during conference. I was there for a couple of hours on Tuesday but was very busy and came away as soon as I was thru with my business, therefore did not see many people. Everything is going all right with me and hope you will have a new building soon. I wish I could sell that residence property to Mrs. Gage's on Union St. to Prof. Davison or some one else, if you hear of anyone inquiring for property steer them this way and receive the regular commission.

Yours, etc.

Jas. Bastable.

Ada, O., Oct. 9, 1901.

Dear Col. Fitzgerald: After looking over my mail I found I had to go to Columbus this morning. It will not be necessary for you to wait for my return. There will not be any change in the management of affairs in any respect till the new president takes charge, at least I will not assume any responsibility. If the other members of the Advisory Board will do so, it will be done, that is if a majority of the Board will instruct me to carry anything into execution, I will do so. The members are Prof. Maglott, Prof. Fess, Prof. Willis, Prof. Davison, Prof. Whitworth, Prof. Gregg and Prof. Tusseing.

Very truly,

H.S. Lehr.

Col. Fitzgerald when in charge of the battalion had a number of blank commissions printed to sell to the officers of the Military Department. On
account of several criticisms on the part of Dr. Belt I determined to be careful. I laid out advertising schemes before the board and so far as I knew the relations between myself and the board were generally pleasant.

Cincinnati, O., November 14, 1901.

Dr. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My dear Doctor: Many many thanks for your kind note of congratulations. Ada covered herself all over with glory at this recent election. She had a splendid candidate in Prof. Willis. It was easy I know to rally to his support, and yet it was done so handsomely that I thank you more than I can undertake to express.

Very truly yours, etc.,

J.B. Foraker.

To the Vice President and Faculty of the Ohio Normal University:

We, the Executive Committees of the Adelphian and Philomathean Literary Societies present the following for your immediate consideration:

Whereas, the Conjoint Articles--Art. 4 and 6--of the Franklin, Adelphian and Philomathean Literary Societies provide for one pay entertainment for each society during the school year, and forbid the holding of more than one, and

Whereas, the committee appointed by each of the three Societies for the said pay entertainments have upon the motion of the O.N.U. Lecture Committee, by their own consent, joined said Lecture Committee and by this act forfeited their right to hold any pay entertainment during the present school year, and

Whereas, the Franklin Society is violating the aforesaid con-joint articles and agreement by offering a pay entertainment to be held in Philo-Franklin halls, Thanksgiving evening, Nov. 28, 1901:

Therefore, we, the Executive Committees of the Adelphian and Philomathean Literary Societies, respectfully request your honorable body to enforce the aforesaid Conjoint Articles and agreement which are now being violated by the Franklin Literary Society in holding this pay entertainment.

Philo Ex. Com: A.A. Morr,
Jesse F. Mack,
W.H. Bryan.
The above petition or whatever one wishes to call it caused some trouble and much discussion. Mr. Tracy, who is now quite a celebrated artist prepared several cartoons ridiculing some of the contestants. As I now remember the Franklins held their entertainment in Franklin Hall.
Ada, O., December 24, 1901.

Dear Doctor Belt: According to our arrangement by telephone yesterday, I called a meeting of the faculty.

As I understand the motion of May 27, the day I was elected Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer of the O.N.U., the faculty was to consist of myself, Maglott, Fess, Davison, Whitworth, Willis, Gregg, and Tussing. I called those gentlemen together yesterday evening to employ a successor to Miss Thomas. Late in the afternoon Rev. Hill telephoned me that you had telephoned to him you would indorse Miss Ruetta Biggs as the successor to Miss Thomas. I told him to put the name in writing. He accompanied Miss Biggs to the meeting of the faculty last evening and put that statement in writing that you endorsed Miss Biggs. The other two applicants were Miss Mary Merritt, who is a relative of Prof. Maglott and Prof. Schoonoover by marriage, and a Mr. Burlingame. Miss Merritt was a student in school here about two years and then went to Delaware and graduated from that school. She is a fine girl and very pleasant. Mr. Burlingame completed our Philosophical course last commencement. After reading what Doctor Hill said that you indorsed Miss Biggs, I suggested that we let the matter rest at that. There was a motion made that there should be a written ballot taken by the faculty. The motion passed unanimously. The votes stood seven for Mr. Burlingame and one for Miss Biggs. There was no electioneering done whatever. It is true that Mr. Burlingame had been writing to some members of the faculty and possibly had seen some before the meeting but in the meeting there was no electioneering done whatever. I have no doubt Miss Biggs is a fine scholar and a good christian lady but in my judgment she lacks the personality that a teacher needs in our school, and further she is unacquainted with our methods. If it were left to me personally I would not employ her. I think I said this to you when she applied for the place of Prof. Michel and I know I wrote it in a letter to Dr. Jameson. I confess I would have preferred a lady teacher in place of Miss Thomas but taking everything into consideration I believe it is best to employ Mr. Burlingame but if you think it best for the school that Miss Biggs, who is a Methodist, should be employed, I will consent and will have nothing further to say. Mr. Burlingame is not a member of any church but he is a gentleman and a good scholar. We will leave the matter now entirely with you. As you will say, so it will be.

Fraternally,
The above letter was called forth by an explosive telephonic communication. Dr. Belt gave me to understand that he and not Lehr was president of the school. He appeared to be angry and said he wanted it understood that he would run the Institution.

DR. HILL’S NOTE.

Ada, O., Dec. 23, 1901.

To the faculty of the O.N.U.

Gentlemen: By phone communication with President L.A. Belt this afternoon he asked me to say to you that he endorsed the application of Miss Ruetta Biggs as teacher in the place of Miss Thomas, resigned.

J.W. Hill, Sr.

Several days after the meeting of the faculty Dr. Belt came to Ada and was really angry. I tried to restrain my feelings and did, but feared that he and I could never work together three years. After he met Mr. Burlingame he finally submitted and consented to stand by the decision of the faculty. Later he appeared to be his friend.

Shall relate another circumstance. A committee of three of my lady friends called to see me about the selection of Mr. Burlingame. The interview went something like this, "Dr. Lehr, we have called to see you about employing teachers. We have heard that this man Burlingame whom you have hired to teach is an infidel and some say he is an atheist. Why they say he does not believe that there was a garden of Eden or an Adam and Eve. Now we want you in the school. Everybody wants you, but we want teachers that believe the Bible. You must remember that this now is a church school."

I thanked the ladies for their kind advice and after quite a lengthy interview they left me to my reflections and meditations.
The trustees had never examined my books. It is true that the two previous years since the church owned the school the members of the board of management examined and audited them carefully, but not any of the trustees. Now there was no board of management and I was on salary. I requested that the books be examined and audited at the end of each term. I wrote to the members of the financial committee and shall give the reply of two of the committee.

Kenton, O., January 3, 1902.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My dear Professor: Yours requesting me to come to Ada to audit your books, received. I am very sorry but it will be impossible for me to do so as I leave for Texas on Monday. I have notified Dr. Belt that I could not serve and presume he will make other arrangements, said he was going to Ada tomorrow.

Yours, etc.,

Jas. Bastable.

Delaware, Ohio, January 4, 1992.

Dear Doctor Lehr: I wrote to President Belt this morning asking him to take my place on committee with Bastable and others in the examination of the accounts of the school. Trusting that this will be in order and satisfactory to all concerned.

Yours faithfully,

H.C. Jameson.

Dr. Belt and Mason Cunningham came to my office and began the job but found it to be a lengthy one and soon quit. The books never were audited but I still have all my receipts.
Ada, O., January 8, 1902.

Dear Doctor Belt: Next Tuesday evening is the time for the teachers' meeting. We have had that night for a teachers' meeting the last twenty years or more. On that evening the faculty always in the past had a meeting after the adjournment to settle advertising, etc. On that evening we want to determine on the extra expense of conducting the summer school next summer. It will take some extra money to conduct that term. It is a very important meeting, the most important of the term and it is very essential that you will be here.

Fraternally,

H.S. Lehr.

Ada, O., January 16, 1902.

Dear Doctor Belt: We had our teacher's meeting. The faculty thought it best to wait till you would be here before advertising any further the summer school. We want to lay before you the situation financially, etc. I infer from what you said when you were here that you as trustee considered the teachers employed from August 13, 1901, to August 12, 1902 and that I am to pay at the close of each calendar month and not as I have been paying at close of school month as we call it. The old owners considered six hours as a school day, hence paid those extra who taught seven hours a day. We never discussed this. You were not here at the beginning of the school year and I followed our custom. All these things ought to be settled.

Today we are thirty-three short on enrollment of what we had a year ago today. When can you be here?

Fraternally,

H.S. Lehr.

Fremont, O., Feb. 1, 1902.

Dear Prof. Lehr: I was requested by the board at the last meeting to notify you of its action in the following particulars, which I do by sending copy of minutes: "On motion of Dr. Waters, Mrs. Tussing, the secretary, was requested to make a report to the board at its annual meeting in July, of all financial transactions of the school year."
Also, "That we say to Dr. Belt and thru him to the faculty that all bills, before paid must be passed upon by the faculty."
On motion of Dr. Smith, the secretary of the institution was directed to have the name of the President, Dr. Belt, printed on all stationery, letter heads, envelopes,
etc. used in correspondence and that any stationery now on hand not having his name thereon shall be destroyed. Also that Dr. Belt be required to sign all diplomas given by the university.

Very respectfully,

D.H. Bailey.

Immediately on the reception of the above letter I wrote to Dr. Bailey, the secretary of the board of trustees. I asked the following questions: To what offices was I elected at the trustee meeting, May 27, 1902, and for how long and at what salary? These question I asked because I had no written contract or written notice from the secretary or president of the board. On Friday, May 24, as stated before in these reminiscences, Dr. Johnson came to Ada and told me he would not accept the office of president of the school and asked me to accompany him to Kenton. I did so. It is not necessary to repeat all that was said at that meeting, only to repeat that it was there agreed that I should be elected vice president, secretary and treasurer of the university for a period of three years at a salary of $1800 a year and that I should conduct school as I had always done in the past untrammeled by any interference from the president or the trustees further than they had during the previous two years and that Dr. Belt should devote his time to secure money to erect the necessary buildings.
Those trustees present said the meeting would be called the following Monday, May 27. The meeting was called, eight members of the board were present and as Secry. Bailey was not present, Dr. Wm. Belt was made secretary pro tem. Dr. Bailey and Dr. Waters did not reach Ada until the meeting had been adjourned. Dr. Jameson telephoned for me to come to the meeting at the M.E. Church.

I met the board. The secretary read to me what the board had done in my case. I asked some questions. I was told that the agreement of the 24th should stand. I accepted. I asked for a written contract, was told that the members wanted to leave on the next train and that all would be right. I was not fully pleased with that method of doing business but as most of the members were preachers thought all ought to be well and right. The next question was am I to understand that Mrs. Tussing is to do the corresponding, prepare the advertising or am I to do all that as had been the custom. I also told Dr. Bailey in reply to his letter that Prof. S.D. Fess had been elected secretary of the faculty, filling the office of Prof. J.G. park under the old management of the school. I also told him that Mrs. Tussing had been chosen by the faculty to assist me in the office work as had been the custom for many years. I further told him that the business of the school was extensive and that men who had to teach six hours a day and often seven and sometimes eight hours a day did not feel like coming together frequently to pass on bills that come to the office almost daily.

I further said that I had been informed that I was to be the corresponding secretary of the school, that Dr. Belt was not to attend to that and as yet had not even moved to Ada, that I had on my letterheads, H.S. Lehr, A.M., Ph. D., Secretary, and that in the catalog it was stated that all correspondence should be directed to the secretary, H.S. Lehr. I also said to Dr. Bailey that I had asked Dr. Belt in August to come to Ada and sign the diplomas as president and that Prof. Fess would sign them as secretary. Dr. Belt told me he could not take charge of his work till after conference and that I should sign the diplomas as president till he would see me later. I signed them by his order as
I was grieved at the language of the letter for the action of the trustees was a violation of our contract altho only oral. I thought of resigning at once but Prof. Fess and Prof Davison begged me not to do so but wait further developments. I called a meeting of the faculty to read to them Dr. Bailey's letter. I invited Dr. Belt to the meeting. He acted rudely.

The faculty passed a resolution that I should pay all bills as I had done in the past and should continue to answer the correspondence. I shall now give Dr. Bailey's answer to my letter and questions:

Fremont, O., Feb. 10, 1902.

Dear Prof. Lehr: Your letter at hand. The minutes of the trustee meetings were left in the custody of the bank there on the corner, when you are at liberty to refer to them. I was not present when the final election took place, but I think the minutes will show that Dr. L.A. Belt was elected president of the university and Dr. H.S. Lehr was elected vice president, secretary and treasurer. I do not think it belongs to my office to interpret the actions of the board but it occurs to me that by this election Dr. Belt is president of the faculty and you are secretary of the faculty.

The board has no knowledge of the election of Fess as secretary of the faculty, I think and the matter was never discussed in my presence. In the matter of the report of the secretary--your bookkeeper I think--a summary of the financial matters only was wanted, such as receipts from tuition, etc., and salary of bookkeeper, librarian, teachers, etc., with incidental expenses. So far the board has no knowledge of any of these matters. Hope you are having a prosperous term, and that everything will move along pleasantly.

Very respectfully,

D.H. Bailey.

Feb. 15th Dr. Belt wrote me a letter about the State Normal School bill and sent a copy of a letter he wanted me to have typewritten and sent to every president in the conference. He have us a list of the names of the preachers. I sent Dr. Belt's letter to Hon. F.B. Willis then a member of the State Legislature. I also sent a copy of the letter, which I shall here insert, to the preachers whose names he gave me.

Later he phoned me that it would not be necessary for me to go to Columbus,
that he and Willis would be able to handle the legislature, that I should remain. The letter to the preachers was as follows:

Ada, O., Feb. 15, 1902.

Dear Brother: The faculty of the O.N.U. hereby ask you to join in an effort to defeat the passage of the Normal School bill. It has once before been defeated, and our Prof. F.B. Willis lead then, and must now it its defeat. To aid him will you please ask you congregation or congregations to express themselves adverse to this measure becoming a law. If you obtain action in favor of its defeat, please sign this circular and send it to Prof. F.B. Willis, Columbus, O., member of the House.

This is to certify that the congregation at on day of , year 1902, did vote adverse to the measure known as House Bill No. 369.

Signed

Prof. Willis again asked that a substitute be employed while he was at Columbus assisting in making laws for Ohio. I again recommended Prof. Hufford who had been out of the school a year. He has remained as a teacher in the University ever since.
The Manager and the New President Clash on Discipline

December 18, 1908, V. XXXI, No. 30

No. 206.
The Manager and the New President Clash on Discipline.

All thru January, February and in fact until I quit the school July 31, Dr. Belt and I had disagreements. There was much trouble about the student who recited to Prof. Newcomer. There were those who thought they should not be allowed to recite on the society stages, others thought they should. There were students in the University who thought they should not be allowed to recite on the society stages, others thought they should. There were students in the University who took lessons of Prof. Newcomer. By the regulations established when the societies were first organized, any person paying tuition to the faculty of the school was eligible to regular membership in either society. I claimed that while they were students in the University they could not be denied membership in any one of the societies and therefore not the use of the stages. Dr. Belt said they could not use the stages in the society halls. The societies refused to obey the order. The Doctor said at Chapel one morning that the school was too democratic. The disagreements between us widened.

About this time Dr. Wells sent for me to come to his residence. He said they had two bad girls rooming in their front rooms. He told me of the conversation he and Mrs. Wells, and Mrs. Wells and Mrs. Alvord had overheard, etc. I went home and phoned for Prof. Davison. After quietly listening and careful investigation we concluded that they ought to be expelled. We also expelled two of the boys who were students that were overheard in the rooms. Of course we could not expel any of the citizens, married and single, who frequented the rooms and who were not students. They had occasional callers from Lima. One of the boys expelled went home. I made the gregarious blunder and committed the heinous offense of expelling them quietly and without bothering the faculty with a called meeting or of consulting Dr. Belt, the president; but I was simple enough to believe that when I was employed with the express agreement that I should conduct the school as I had always done, that I could do so at least in such cases of discipline. But I learned differently. One of the young men, a Mr. Feather, went to a member of the faculty and I think to Dr. Belt and complained of the unjust treatment; of his innocence, and said that the girls were true and refined ladies, etc.
Dr. Belt called at the school office and told me he did not believe in expelling students. He named a certain person who had been expelled from Delaware and said the disgrace never left him, etc., etc.

I replied by saying that probably it was the young man's fault that he was expelled and not the fault of those in charge of the University. He spoke very unkindly and called a meeting of the faculty or his cabinet as he called the faculty. We met that evening in Chapel hall. The Doctor presided. Prof. Fess was the secretary of the cabinet. I do not have access to the minutes and have not the date of the meeting. The first item discussed was the Newcomer student affair. I would relate the Doctor's remarks that night but it would be unwise and improper to relate all.

After the Newcomer discussion the Feather expulsion case came up for consideration. Prof. Davison came to my rescue and told what he knew about the case. Dr. Belt said that "There must be a change in the government of the school, that this arbitrary method of expulsion must be stopped, there can be no more of it." The Doctor then appointed a committee to take charge of the government of the school. He appointed Prof. Tussing, Prof. Maglott, and Prof. Whitworth on the committee. Prof. Maglott and Prof. Whitworth refused to act. He then appointed Prof. Hufford and himself on the committee, for several other members of the faculty said they wished to be excused. Mr. Feather was present at the meeting. The report soon spread over town and as we then had four saloons in Ada, the report was greatly relished in the saloons and among certain classes that there would be no more expulsions. I stopped paying any attention to the government of the school.

About a week after the meeting Dr. Belt sent me the following letter thru the mail.

BELT'S LETTER.

Dear Lehr: Hufford, Tussing and I have examined into the matter referred to us. Those ladies and Mr. Feather are all together in association and we conclude that they all better be notified that they are dismissed.

L.A. Belt.

The day after sending me the letter the Doctor called at the office and ordered me to notify them to leave town. I told him it was the duty of the governing committee or the president of the school to carry out the order of the
committee on government. He replied that he expected me to carry out the order as secretary of the school. I notified the parties. Prof. Fess said, "Prof. Lehr, I would never consent to notify them after such pusillanimous treatment." I shall never forget the expression on the face of the professor on that occasion.

Not long after this meeting the doctor called another meeting of the faculty. On this occasion we met in the room No. 6. The Doctor gave some decisions entirely different from some of his former decisions. I kept still as I was now deposed, but Prof. Davison and Prof. Fess spoke right out in "meetin'" and hewed to the line. The Doctor arose with great dignity and plainly told both the Professors that they were no teachers, nothing but blow-guns, that they made a great amount of noise before their classes, but that there was little sense in what they said. I never saw Prof. Fess so angry. The muscles of his face twitched. Prof. Davison also keenly felt the insult. I wondered how any many could rate two among the best teachers then known in the state so much below par, but I kept still. The next morning Prof. Fess said he would not remain in school to the close of the year, that he would resign and soon after he did resign.
A Chapter of Military Affairs. Preparations for Contest.

December 25, 1908, V. XXXI, No. 31

No. 207.
A Chapter of Military Affairs. Preparations for Contest.

The Military Contest for the flag was to occur May 16. It had been our custom to send to the U.S. ordinance department every year, to have replaced lost guns or parts, or for parts that were broken. Fletcher S. Scott was then in charge of the battalion. And let me here say that he was an efficient officer and left the department in excellent condition. I asked him for a report of the needed parts. I shall here insert his report.

Ada, Ohio, April 11, 1902.

To the President of the Ohio Normal University.

Sir: I have the honor to report the following needed repairs for the rifles of O.N.U. Cadets:
Belts complete, 15; belt plates, 1; breech block complete with parts, 9; breech screws, 1; bayonets, 3; bayonet scabbards, 10; bayonet screws, 3; cartridge boxes, 3; cam latches, 7; cam latch shafts, 3; cam springs, 7; cam latch shafts, 3; cam springs, 7; extractors, 6; ejector springs, 14; front sights, 1; firing pins, 14; hammers, 15; hinge pins, 4; lock plates complete, 7; ramrods, 14; sight leaves complete with screws, 35; sight leaf screws rear and front, 24; sight leaf slides, 6; stock, 5; tumblers, 12; tumbler screws, 26; upper bands complete, 12, wind gauge screws with heads, 1.
Hoping this will receive your prompt attention. I remain,

Your obedient servant,

Fletcher Scott.

When the report was handed in Dr. Belt was not in town. It was urgent that the spare parts and blank cartridges be on hand before the Annual Contest. I consulted a number of members of the faculty and they said, "Call a meeting of the faculty, we will help bear the responsibility." I called the meeting and by unanimous vote I was entrusted to send the ordnance department for the spare parts. I shall now insert what followed:

Ada, O., April 21, 1902.
Members of the Faculty, O.N.U.  
Ada, O.

Gentlemen: On the evening of April 11, 1902, at a regular called meeting of the O.N.U. faculty I was instructed to send to the ordnance department for the purchase of lost arms, lost parts, etc. On Saturday morning, April 12, I wrote and sent by statement presented at our meeting by Col. Scott. On Tuesday morning, April 15, I met Doctor Belt as he was just ready to leave Ada. He said he had a letter from Judge Warnock which led him to believe we would get the new arms before Contest. He ordered me to countermand the order sent to Washington. I went to my office and wrote a letter to Dr. Belt stating it was best not to recall the order for before sending the material they would send the bill for payment. The bill came Saturday. We have no blank cartridges for the artillery or infantry. They have not even been ordered yet as I only got the statement April 16. Judging by other years if we send the draft today we can not get the lost parts and blanks before about May 12. We may get the new guns soon, but in my opinion we will not get them before our troops return from Cuba. The spare parts must be paid for when the old arms are returned. We have waited too long already. We may be without a contest. It is one of our best advertisements. Doctor Belt is not in town. Shall I send the draft or not. Sign this paper, yes or no. I will sign yes. If a majority of the faculty sign yes I will send. I leave it to your judgment,

Yours truly,

H.S. Lehr

The vote that the supplies be sent by express, and the following all voted yet, but Prof. Tussing whose vote was optional.

Frederick Maglott.  
S.D. Fess.  
W.F. Hufford.  
H. Whitworth.  
J.B. Gregg.  
John Davison.  
P.I. Tussing.  
R.H. Schoonover.

I obeyed the vote of the faculty and sent the pay for the rifle parts and ordered blank cartridges for Contest. We got what we ordered only two days before Contest.
Preparing the Program of O.N.U.'s Greatest Summer School.

January 1, 1909, V. XXXI, No. 32:1-2

No. 208.
Preparing the Program of O.N.U.'s Greatest Summer School.

Summer schools were opened in a number of schools. Prof. Nelson Sauvain, an alumnus of the O.N.U. and Prof. Dickason had organized a summer school at Wooster, in a manner connected with the University. They are both practical schoolmen and hustlers, as we say, and on account of the unsettled conditions of affairs at Ada and want of timely advertising, Wooster and other schools were making inroads into our territory. These schools were using many of our methods or I might say, "They were plowing with our heifer." In January, if the reader remembers, I wrote to President Belt and told him that we wanted to meet and arrange for a special summer term and for getting out the proper and necessary advertisements. The Doctor for some reason or other did not make his appearance. The faculty by a unanimous vote authorized me to go ahead and employ such teachers as I thought necessary and to advertise as I thought best. We discussed the availability of those named. Prof. Fess suggested Dr. Winship, of Boston, editor of the New England Journal of Education. In fact we had spoken to Dr. Winship at the last National Teacher's Association at Detroit, for some of us had determined the previous year that we would have a big summer term. We believed that if the term as a success, Winship would give us a write-up in the New England Journal of Education worth all he would cost us, and he did.

At the meeting of the faculty, Prof. Fess recommended his friend, Henry Houck, Deputy State Superintendent of Instruction of Pennsylvania. We wanted both of the Pennsylvania officials because we wanted Dr. Schaffer to honor our diplomas and give our graduates certificates to teach without examination. We had our reasons for employing Dr. Thompson, Dr. Thwing, Dr. Corson, the state examiners, and some of our own graduates who were and still are prominent educators. We needed Anna Logan to give instruction in primary teaching.

We had as we thought a good reason for employing every one we named in our circular which I shall here insert. Shall let the reader judge of its merits as an advertising medium.

We sent out 14,000 of the circulars.
Teaching is now a profession. Not many years ago it was not recognized as a profession. Teachers were itinerants. They rarely retained a position more than three or four years. This is still true in country schools.

There is no profession that demands such constant progress on the part of those engaged in the profession, as that of teaching. The teacher deals with immortal mind. He should make no mistakes. The true teachers should not only seek knowledge, but also the skill of imparting knowledge. He should educate his pupils in the true sense of that term. He should realize that to fulfil his mission he must be educated. The great majority of our teachers realize this fact, and the members of no profession make more efforts, more sacrifices to keep up with the progress of the world and to discharge their duties faithfully that do the teachers of all classes of schools. On meager salaries, the spend their vacations in going to teachers’ conventions, institutes, summer schools normal schools and joining reading circles of their counties and states. They spare neither effort, time nor money to fit themselves for their profession. They seek opportunities to learn.

The last thirty years The Ohio Normal University has endeavored to offer superior advantages, at nominal cost, to those intending to teach, to fit themselves for this important profession; and to those already engaged in the profession to prepare themselves more thoroughly for their work. More than two thousand persons have annually taken advantage of these opportunities.

A NEW DEPARTURE.

Hundreds of teachers in village schools and in city schools where no training schools are established, seldom have the privilege of taking the desired and needed reviews and to come in contact with the great educators of our nation. To accommodate those teachers and many others who intend to enter the profession of teaching, we will open a Special Summer Term of five weeks beginning June 30th. Our regular Summer Term of ten weeks begins May 27th. That term will have at least one hundred and twenty-five recitations five days a week in the common branches, the Sciences, Literature, Mathematics, Languages, etc. There will be classes in Penmanship, Freehand Drawing, Vocal Music, Teachers’ Training Classes, etc. We will have classes to accommodate all grades in every line of work.

Our regular recitation periods continue sixty minutes. The summer months we begin recitations at 6 o’clock, a.m., and continue until 11:30 a.m.; recitations in the afternoon begin at 1:10 and continue until 5 o’clock.

June 30th the recitation periods of the regular classes from 8:30 to 11:30, will
continue forty-five minutes. This will give an extra period for a lecture or drill by some eminent educator. All the students and teachers will be admitted to these lectures and exercises without paying extra tuition. The afternoon recitations will continue forty-five minutes, giving another extra period for a lecture or drill by some eminent educator. We will also have lectures four evenings each week. In addition to these lectures and drills to which all students have access, there will be drills at different hours thru the day in Primary teaching, Nature teaching, and different subjects pertaining to educational work.

For the benefit of those who intend to enter the profession on teaching as superintendent of schools, we have engaged experienced and popular superintendents of city schools to give instructions in Organization of Schools and Classification of Pupils, in School Management, in Examinations, Tests, Reviews, and Promotions. In the relation of Superintendent to pupil, Teacher, Board of Education and Parent. There will be lectures delivered on Literature and how to teach Literature to High Schools, to teach Reading, Geography, History, Grammar, etc.

INSTRUCTORS.

In addition to our regular corps of Instructors, we have engaged the services of Dr. W.O. Thompson, President of the State University, Dr. Chas. F. Thwing, President of Western Reserve University, Dr. A.E. Winship, of Boston, Editor of the New England Journal of Education; Dr. M.C. Schaeffer, Superintendent of Public Instruction of Pennsylvania; Dr. O.T. Corson, Editor of the Ohio Educational Monthly, and Ex-Commissioner of Schools of Ohio; Hon. Lewis D. Bonebrake, Commissioner of Schools of Ohio; Supt. M.E. Hard, Member of State Board of Examiners, Supt. J.P. Sharkey, Ex-Member of State Board of Examiners; Supt. C.C. Miller, Member of State Board of Examiners; Supt. J.D. Simkins, Ex-Member of State Board of Examiners; Supt. J.W. Zeller, Findlay, O.; Supt. H.B. Williams, Sandusky, O., Supt. I.C. Guither, Galion, O.

Miss Anna E. Logan, of Cincinnati, will give instruction in Primary teaching and in Kindergarten work, and Miss Clara E. Myers, Teacher of Literature in Cornell University, will give instruction in Literature and how to teach it in public schools. There will be lectures delivered by a number of regular professors of the University.

Prof. S.D. Fess is known thruout the central states of the Union as one of the most popular and efficient instructors at Teachers' Institutes. He has been instructor in institutes in Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Kentucky, Indiana, and Illinois. Last year he was called to nineteen counties in Ohio and Pennsylvania. Prof. Maglott, Prof. Willis, Prof. Young, Prof. Gregg, Prof.
Tussing, Prof. Whitworth, Prof. Davison, Prof. Hufford, Prof. Schoonover, Prof. Eva Maglott, Prof. Mary Hickernell, Prof. Groth, Prof. Burlingame, Prof. Murray, Prof. Axline, Prof. Runser, Prof. Deming, Prof. Owens, Prof. Wright, and other teachers in the University will deliver lecture on various subjects pertaining to education, in addition to regular class work.

These lectures will be on History, Economics, Civics, the Sciences, Literature, Mathematics, the Languages, etc. Nearly all the above mentioned professors have been teachers in the University from fifteen to twenty-five years, and a number of them are authors of text-books. Mrs. Maglott devised our mathematical display for the Columbian Exposition in 1893. The University was awarded a medal and diploma for excellence of work in mathematics. Mrs. Maglott was awarded a special diploma as originator and designer of our work in mathematics.

Students who wish to take studies in Law, Pharmacy, Stenography, Instrumental Music, Voice Culture, Special Elocution, or Painting can be accommodated, but tuition in those departments is extra.

Students who enter May 27th for the term of ten weeks will be charged $8.00 tuition. For less than a term of ten weeks the tuition is one dollar a week. Tuition for the Special Summer term of five weeks is $5.00. Students entering for less than five weeks will be charged $1.25 a week. All the regular students of the University are admitted free to all lectures and drills of the Special Summer term. All students who enter the Special Summer term are not only admitted to the lectures and drills of that term, but they will be admitted free of tuition to all the regular Literary, Commercial and Engineering classes of the University. There is no extra charge for Vocal Music, Freehand Drawing, or Penmanship.

Rooms rent at from 50 cents to 75 cents a week. The average price of table board is $1.85 a week. Students all room and board in private families.

The first fall term of ten weeks begins August 12th.

For further information address

H.S. Lehr, Secretary, Ada, O.
A Battle of the Giants in the O.N.U. Office. Dr. Lehr's Resignation

January 15, 1909, V. XXXI, No. 34

No. 209.
Dr. Lehr's Resignation.

The advertisement in the University Herald was said by many to have been to the point. I shall leave it to the judgment of the editors whether it ought to be inserted in these reminiscences.

[The advertisement referred to was a twelve-inch double column space with possibly two-thirds of the space occupied by the wonderful array of talent as enumerated in the circular published last week. It was the many names of the eminent men and women that attracted attention so widely. The terms, conditions, etc., and promises of a distinct advance in Normal School work filled the remainder of the space. It was a fine advertisement and was gotten up with much thought and care. ED]

I was conceited enough to believe that I was doing good work, when on the morning of May 2, Dr. Belt entered the school office before my secretary, Mrs. Tussing, had arrived. The Doctor was greatly excited and I thought angry from his manner and tone of voice. His speech was something like this, "I see you are sending out quite a circular of the Summer School."

I tried to explain to him what we meant by a Summer School term. He then said, "By what authority have you employed these professors or whatever you call them." I said, "By the advice and consent of the faculty, your cabinet." He then said, "How much do you pay each of these persons named in your circular and how do you expect to pay all of them. If you fall short you will pay the bills out of your own pocket. You are a fool to incur such expenses. I could have secured preachers to give all the addresses needed, for their travelling expenses." I became somewhat excited and said, "Dr. Belt, I was employed to conduct the school as I thought best which I have done and you have no right to come here and talk in this manner." He replied, "You lie, you have no such power and I shall see who runs the school here after." At this time my secretary, Mrs. Tussing, entered the office. She heard part of the conversation. We continued talking a few minutes, both excited and angry. The Doctor left the office. Mrs. Tussing, with tears in her eyes said, "Dr. Lehr, you certainly will not take such treatment. If I were you I would resign." I said I
intended to send in my resignation to take place at the end of the present school year. I shall remain till then to see that the extra teachers that we have employed will receive their pay.

It pained me exceedingly to resign from the school I loved so well and for which I had worked so hard and suffered so much. I wanted to remain till 1904 and round out a half century in the schoolroom. But the worry, disappointment and hard work were undermining my health and ruining my mental vigor and it appeared to me that my honor and manhood forbade that I should permit anyone to call me a fool and a liar when I was doing what I believed to be best for the school and doing that best by the authority of my contract and with and by the advice and authority of the faculty, the trustees had elected and which he frequently called his cabinet. I saw that it meant death to me to remain connected with the school under the circumstances and further he had requested me to discharge Mrs. Tussing and employ his nephew, Mr. Simmons. I refused to do so. She had been employed by the consent of the faculty. He told me he would put his nephew, Mr. Simmons, in the office the next year. I was convinced that he desired my resignation, and I sent it to the board of trustees.

MY RESIGNATION.

Ada, O., May 2, 1902.

Rev. D.H. Bailey, Fremont, O.

Dear Brother: You will please inform the trustees of the Ohio Normal University at their next meeting, that I hereby tender by resignation as Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Ohio Normal University, at the close of the present school year, August 1, 1902.

I was elected to these offices on May 27th, 1901, and according to a letter which I received from you last May, I was elected a member of the faculty of the Ohio Normal University, May 7th, 1901. I also tender my resignation as a member of the faculty of the University, to take place at the same time.

There are five or six reasons why I tender my resignation, which I will not state at present, but may at some future time.

Fraternally,
H.S. Lehr.
The President is Urged to Stand Pat. War in the Military Department.

January 29, 1909, V. XXXI, No. 36

The President is urged to Stand Pat.
War in the Military Department.

Wapakoneta, O., May 6, 1902.

Dr. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

Dear Friend: Mr. T.T. Howe, of Uniopolis, this county, has gone to Ada to attend school. Both he and his father, John W. Howe, are good friends of mine and I write you at his father's request. The young man is inclined to drink a little and I would like you to have you give him a little special attention. You know what I mean, encourage him by kind words as you know so well how to do. A little attention from you will help him and I think keep him out of the saloons. I trust this is not asking too much. His father is very anxious for the boy's future. I am glad to know of the prosperity that has come to the school and I have no doubt but what it will see better days in the future than in the past, but that past has indeed been a glorious one, a great good to the world has been done. I do not flatter, but I think your lot an extremely happy one. You have the supreme satisfaction of knowing that you have done great good and made a distinct impression in the history of our country. When I see what you have built up by your indomitable courage and ceaseless activity, I feel that few men, if any of your time, have done equal work. Some names have been heralded to the world more than yours, but when all things are weighed in the balance of the master of the Universe, your lifework will not be found wanting, and untold thousands will rise up in that day and call you blessed.

That you may live long to guide the great Institution is my earnest wish.

Yours,

S.A. Hoskins.

Kenton, Ohio, May 11, 1902.

My Dear Professor: Had a long talk today with our old staunch friend, Judge Melhorn. He said to me that you are threatening to resign your connection with the University at the close of the current year, and we agree this you should not do.

No doubt you meet with many unpleasant things since the transfer, but you should remember that it is your monument. You have spent your life in formulating, installing and administering it, and altho the fee simple title has
passed, the higher and more to be desired—the historical title—should never pass. Your home is and has long been in Ada. Many of your loyal friends are there. To others of us whose most pleasant memories and associations were made during our sojourn there, and in thinking of Ada, you always appear as the central figure. Yes, the "old guard" standing guard upon every hillside and pain of our country, would be pained to see you sever all connections with our beloved Alma Mater. You should be there, identified with it as long as you live. You can't afford now, in the late afternoon of your life, to turn your back upon it. I pray you in behalf of thousands of your Alumni, to stand by the old ship and don't be prodigal to its sacred precincts and interests. You are entitled to the seat of honor about its festal boards and must have it unless you refuse it, and that voluntarily. With highest personal regards, I remain,

Yours very cordially,

Geo. W. Rutledge.

Fremont, O., May 13, 1902.

Dear Professor Lehr: Your letter of recent date at hand. I am indeed sorry to receive your resignation as Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and member of the faculty of the O.N.U. The school will seem very strange without your presence and management. I shall notify the Board of Trustees of your action. With best wishes to all, I am.

Very respectfully,

D.H. Bailey.

There was much bitter feeling among the boys in the military department. It grew out of who should be the Colonel commanding the battalion during the school year, 1902-3. According to our custom the Major during the school year, 1901-2, would be the Colonel during the Normal term. R.W. Porteus of Co. A, had been Major and was entitled to command the battalion the coming Normal term. He was a fine soldier, well drilled, and no more loyal student ever entered the University campus, nor one who was more honorable and upright.

According to custom, the senior captain would be entitled to command the battalion the coming school year, 1902-3.

W.W. Watson, Capt. of Co. A, was the senior captain. One morning shortly before the annual Flag Contest, Dr. Belt came to the school office and told me to announce at Chapel that morning that P.P. Stewart of Co. B should be
Colonel and command the battalion the next year. Mr. Watson and Mr. Stewart were both good officers and in every way competent for the position.

I told Dr. Belt that I thought he was making a mistake. I then had two secretaries assisting me in making arrangements for the Summer School and working on the catalog. The secretaries, Mrs. Tussing and Mrs. Gregg, were both present, Dr. Belt insisted. I said I would send for Major Porteus and Capt. Stewart and consult with them and their opinion as to who should be Colonel. Major Porteus said that according to custom Capt. Watson was entitled to the place. Capt. Stewart very honorably said the same, but Dr. Belt insisted. I remained out of Chapel, thus compelling Dr. Belt to lead. When I came in after prayer, he asked me to call the faculty to room No. 4 to decide who should be Colonel commanding the next year while he would talk to the students. When the faculty learned the situation, as I now remember the vote was unanimous that it should be Capt. Watson, but Dr. Belt announced that Capt. Stewart should be Colonel. The feeling in Co. A was bitter. All the companies excepting B resented the injustice, but the A boys threatened vengeance.

The time for Contest was here. As usual I had managed to have the U.S. government inspector here the day before Contest. I was sick and unable to be present at the Contest. The boys of Co. A feared that some parties might influence the judges against Co. A. There was much feeling and threatening. In the afternoon of Contest day a number of Co. A boys came to my home to talk matters over. It happened that my friend, Hon. S.A. Hoskins, a trustee of the school, came to see me while the boys were there. They threatened physical violence and all manner of revenge. I told them that they must never think of physical violence, it was not only wrong in itself, but would react against them and their company, that they could have their say at the Junior Roast, something like that would be more in accord with the ordinary college spirit. They still muttered but fortunately Co. A won the flag. I am confident their victory avoided serious trouble. Dr. Belt accused Col. Scott of opening the sealed envelope containing the report of the judges. I did not get to see the envelope. The Doctor declared that the Co. A boys knew the result of the contest early in the evening. Most likely it was well that they did.
Dr. Belt's Good Qualities Acknowledged. President Offers.

February 5, 1909, V. XXXI, No. 37

No. 211.
Dr. Belt's Good Qualities Acknowledged. Presidency Offers.

The Summer term was a great success. It gave the school an impetus that helped at least two years. The enrollment was larger than it had been for a number of years but the enrollment for the year was only 3086, a loss of 212 compared with the previous year and a loss of 263 compared with our largest enrollment.

Notwithstanding the loss in enrollment I managed to pay Dr. Belt his salary of $3000, altho he neither taught nor did he do any office work but criticize. After paying all expenses I had a surplus of $514.29 to pay Mr. Bastable, the treasurer of the board of trustees.

I wish to say this, that after all our disagreements the last year I was connected with the school, I can say most willingly that Dr. Belt was a strong man in many respects, that he had his good qualities of heart and mind and he left his impress on the school. The school must give him credit for two greatly needed buildings and for the Athletic field. He may be criticized for the way he managed to get them, but he got them, and now most gladly and willingly are they used. No doubt I said things that should not have been said, for I claim not perfection.

After I had severed my connection with the school I learned some facts which pained my greatly. Mr. D.C. Meck, now principal of a ward school in Cleveland, told me that some teachers who pretended to be my friends, in order to ingratiate themselves into the good graces of Dr. Belt, made statements to him which he, Mr. Meck, learned later were not correct. Mr. Meck while in Ada called to see me a number of times. I could not understand some questions he asked me. Later he told me he asked them to find out for himself whether I had made certain statements. He learned that I had not and that I was surprised at his questions. The fact was that certain teachers would come to me and say, "Dr. Belt said so and so about you." Then, no doubt I would say things I should not have said. Then they would carry what I said and enlarged to Dr. Belt. Doubtless the Doctor's language at times was enlarged. This widened the breach between us.
Prof. Owens and citizens of Ada later on told me the same story. All was unfortunate. Could the Doctor and I have worked together or in our separate spheres as was the contract, I believe most firmly that there would be at least 1500 students on the streets of Ada today and that Brown Auditorium which seats about 800 in the room and 400 in the galleries or 1200 in all could not nearly seat the students at Chapel. "But what cannot be cured must be endured."

[In as much as the public knows that Brown Auditorium seating capacity is now taxed to its utmost to accommodate the students it is but justice to Dr. Lehr, who is now in California and unable to read proof of this article, for us to explain that this matter of his history was written when conditions in attendance at the university were different. No one rejoices more than he that the progress of the school is so great at present. ED.]

The Romans discovered to their sorrow that it was unwise to appoint two generals to contend against Hannibal, and when the French Directory feared the popularity of Napoleon during his Italian campaigns, proposed to send Kellerman to share the command of the army with him, he sent word that if they would send Kellerman he would resign, stating that one poor general was better in command of an army than two good generals.

Before the close of the year I had offers of positions in four other institutions of learning.

The trustees of Lebanon offered to give me a deed for half of their property. I shall insert one letter in regard to the college at Lima.

Lima, O., June 10, 1902.

Prof. H.S. Lehr, Ada, O.

My dear Friend: On behalf of the board of trustees of Lima College, I acknowledge the receipt of your formal declination of the presidency which was unanimously tendered you at the meeting of the board of trustees held on May 22nd. Of course we had your informal refusal, and I had submitted that not only to the board of trustees but to the meeting of the association held on this inst. at 9:30 a.m. I need not inform you that I feel keenly the disappointment of your non-acceptance, which feeling of disappointment is shared by the board of trustees and the people generally. On the other hand, your reasons are
simple, and I intend to keep in mind and close to heart the various conversations had with you recently on this subject. Sincerely hope that your health may be restored, and that sometime in the future we can renew the offer and you may be able to accept the presidency of Lima College.
Assuring you of continued high regard, I beg leave to subscribe myself, as ever,

Yours very truly,

Jas. W. Halfhill.
Ada, Ohio, July 10, 1902.

Trustees Ohio Normal University.

Gentlemen: About August 24, 1899, you entered into a contract with H.S. Lehr, J.G. Park, Frederick Maglott and Warren Darst, the old Board of Trustees of the Ohio Normal University. In the contract you agreed to assume our contracts and obligations. The notes on which we were security for the Literary Societies have been said. The contract with the Board of Education of the Ada Union Schools you have assumed; but the bonds given the government of the United States, for arms, accoutrements, etc., have not yet been returned to us. In that case you have not yet complied with the contract. We have several bonds on file with the government, which were given at different times as we needed more arms, accoutrements, etc., to accommodate our students.

On the 7th of May, 1901, Hon. S.A. Hoskins requested H.S. Lehr to write to the Secretary of War and have him send a new bond to be signed by the present Board of Trustees. The letter was written on the 10th day of May. The Secretary of War replied to that letter that the arms, accoutrements, etc., would have to be returned before the bonds would be sent back. Copies of that letter were sent to Hon. S.A. Hoskins, Rev. D.H. Bailey and to Dr. L.A. Belt. Dr. Belt in a letter stated that he would write to Senator Foraker and others in regard to the matter, but the bonds have not yet been returned. The names on the first bond are H.S. Lehr, J.G. Park, Frederick Maglott, Warren Darst, Peter Ahlefeld, James Bastable and N.R. Park.

The later bonds were signed only by H.S. Lehr, J.G. Park, Frederick Maglott and Warren Darst.

Some of the members of the old board are changing their places of residence. We respectfully request that you return those bonds in the near future. Eight weeks from the time you receive this notice, ought to be ample time in which to return them.

Very respectfully,
H.S. Lehr.
J.G. Park.
Frederick Maglott.
Warren Darst.
Closing Remarks. Commencement and Delivery of Keys.

February 26, 1909, V. XXXI, No. 40

No. 213.
Closing Remarks, Commencement and Delivery of Keys.

The last two years I was connected with the school each of the five terms of the year had ten weeks, making the school year contain 50 weeks.

On Wednesday of the ninth week of the Summer or Normal term, 1902, I took sick and had to take to my bed. I did not get back to work any more that term. On commencement day I was taken to the M.E. Church where the exercises were held. I was received most kindly.

Dr. Nathan C. Schaeffer, Superintendent of Public Instruction of Pennsylvania delivered the class address. The address was able and eloquent, just such as he always delivers. The trustees kindly paid me for the seven days I was absent from duty. I was told that Dr. Belt favored this action for which I thanked him.

Before I resigned I had engaged the services of some prominent educators for the Summer term of 1903. At the National Teachers' Association at Detroit, the summer of 1901, I asked President Harper of Chicago University, to favor us with an address in 1902. He said his time was all occupied for that season but promised me to reserve a day for us in 1903, requesting that I should remind him in good time of the promise. In April 1902 I arranged with Dr. Brumbaugh for a week in 1903. I had also arranges with W.H. Meck, State Examiner, to favor us with a week’s worth and had invited Supt. W.H. Williams, of Sandusky, to be with us a week the Summer term of 1903. It was my intention to recall Dr. Winship. This was as far as I had arranged for the summer’s work of 1903. When I resigned I canceled all arrangements for 1903 but informed Dr. Belt of all my arrangements.

The class of 1902 consisted of 315, a loss of 58 compared with the class of (1901). Quite a number who were entitled to diplomas and degrees refused to accept them. I shall not give their reasons.

I was not able to read the proof of the last few pages of the catalog nor of the Commencement program and it happened that one page of the program was
On July 31, 1902, I delivered the keys to Prof. Hufford who was in the office when I came to carry home the receipts for the expenses of the term. Thus after laboring incessantly for 36 years and 4 months in building up a school after my own ideals to accommodate the masses, I closed my labors, but not as pleasantly as could have been desired.

I was told that over 1000 students had signed a petition and handed it to the trustees asking them not to accept my resignation. I gave Dr. Belt and the faculty all the information I possibly could as to my methods of advertising, conducting the school, etc., etc. In writing these reminiscences I have tried to avoid giving offense and also endeavored to give credit to whom credit was due and have not included in the correspondence of the closing years of my service letters in which certain parties used language about certain trustees of the school which would give serious offense. In letters which I have lately found, I find that my fight with President Canfield of the State University, was in 1898 and '96 instead of 1893-4, and the state Normal School fights in 1898 and 1900. I had to be careful in my statements for nearly all of the actors are still living. I have omitted many occurrences for the story is already too long. I had money stolen various times and on three occasions almost miraculously escaped being robbed and twice probably being murdered. At some future time I may give an account of the occurrences.