

## ANNALS OF GENESEE COLLEGE\*

### 1851

Monday, June 9, 4 P. M. First gathering of faculty and students; present, President Tefft and Professors Houghton, Alverson, Whitlock and Douglass, and thirty-seven undergraduates, divided among two Juniors, eight Sophomores and twenty-seven Freshmen.

June 12. The Rev. Benjamin F. Tefft, D.D., LL.D., was inaugurated President of Genesee College.

July 10. Thirty-eight students matriculated, of whom twenty-seven were classical and eleven scientific, seven being Sophomores and thirty-one Freshmen.

Nov. 5. The faculty was increased by the accession of Professors Hoyt and Towler.

### 1852

Jan. 9. The faculty adopted plan of marking recitations and conduct of students on a scale ranging from 0 to 5.

June 29. College Missionary Society was organized.

July 1. The first annual commencement exercises were held. Rollin Carroll Welch received the degree of A.B., and William Kreutzer and F. A. McFail the degree of B.S.

Oct. 14. The faculty refused the "Geneseum" literary society permission to hold public exercises.

Oct. 21. Faculty was increased by the accession of Professors Crow and Wells, Prof. Douglass having resigned.

### 1853

Feb. 22. Washington's birthday was celebrated by the students in college chapel.

Mar. 23. Prof. Snow became a member of the faculty.

June 7. The "Geneseum" was granted permission to hold public exercises in college chapel.

June 23. The faculty resolved to dispense with printed commencement scheme.

June 30. The exercises of the second Commencement were held, at which G. K. Johnson and Mary E. Nash received the degree of A.B., and

---

\* Edited by the Rev. C. W. Winchester, class of 1867. (Revisions of the notes on fraternities have been made from the last edition of *Baird's Manual of American College Fraternities*, issued 1898.)

W. T. George that of B.S. The first honorary degree was conferred, namely D.D., on the Rev. Israel Chamberlayne of the Genesee Conference.

Oct. 18. The ladies of the college, at their own request, were excused from reading essays at college prayers.

Dec. President Tefft resigned.

### 1854

May 16. The faculty resolved that, as a part of the annual commencement exercises, there should be a valedictory address (first honor) and a Latin salutatory (second honor), the salutatorian to have a second part on the program.

May 29. Prof. Hopkins took the place of Prof. Whitlock in chair of Natural Sciences.

June 25. The first baccalaureate sermon was delivered, President-elect Cummings being the preacher.

June 26. The faculty granted permission to organize the "Aletheon" society.

June 29. The Rev. Joseph Cummings, A.M., was inaugurated President of Genesee College. The same day the third Commencement was held, at which there were five graduates. Jabez Robert Jaques received the first honor, and Henry Decker, Jr., the second.

Aug. 28. The Freshmen were excused from declaiming after College prayers.

Sept. 25. The room and property of the defunct "Geneseum" were turned over to the "Aletheon."

Oct. 8. A new scheme of marking was adopted: Highest value of recitation, 8; for declamations and themes, 40; for public exercises in chapel, 64.

Nov. 20. The faculty granted permission to organize the "Atticæum" society.

### 1855

Jan. 8. College reading-room was established.

June 28. The fourth commencement exercises were held, at which two students graduated and two Juniors and ten Sophomores took part in the program. Thaddeus Wilson Collins took the first honor and Alden Gage Wilcox the second.

Oct. 8. The faculty recommended to the trustees the adoption of a college seal as follows: "One and a quarter inches in diameter and one quarter of an inch in thickness. Device on the center of its face, an open book of a size to suit the diameter and having a glory faintly sketched with the rays falling on the top of the open page. On the circle below the book the words, Genesee College, below the figures 1849. On the circle above the book, *Deo et Humanitati.*"

Nov. 21. The first Sophomore exhibition was held, the class of 1858 appearing with fourteen speakers, of whom one delivered an oration in Greek, and one an oration in Latin. Joel Dorman Steele spoke upon

"The Beautiful in Poetry." Music was furnished by "Scott's Cornet Band" of Rochester.

Two graduates.

### 1856

Mar. 19. The first Junior exhibition was held, at which the class of 1857 appeared with ten speakers, of whom one delivered an oration in Greek, one in Latin and one in German.

Apr. 28. Prof. Boswell became a member of the faculty in the chair of Ancient Languages and Literature, Prof. Hoyt remaining as adjunct professor.

July 11. The first prize declamation contest was held, participated in by six Sophomores and six Freshmen.

July 17. The fifth Commencement took place, at which four persons received the degree of A.B., and three the degree of B.S. The first honor was assigned to George Harvey Locey, and the second to George Warren Trenk Buck.

Nov. 26. The second Sophomore exhibition was held, at which ten members of the class of 1859 appeared, of whom two debated the question: "Is Skepticism on the Decrease?" Charles Henry Fowler spoke upon "National Morality."

Oct. 27. Hebrew was made an optional study to be substituted for either of the Modern Languages.

Dec. 29. The faculty recommended to the trustees the establishment of elective courses of study.

### 1857

Mar. 11. The second Junior exhibition was held, at which the class of 1858 appeared with eight speakers. There was an oration in Greek, also one in German.

June 19. The second prize contest was held, participated in by six Sophomores and six Freshmen. Charles Henry Fowler declaimed Phillip's *Washington*.

June 25. The sixth annual Commencement was held. The title page of scheme was printed in Latin. Fifteen graduated, all in the regular classical course. Harman Stacy Hogoboom delivered the valedictory, and John Avery Broadhead the Greek salutatory. In this instance the honors were equal.

Nov. 18. The third Sophomore exhibition was held, at which twenty-four members of the class of 1860 appeared, of whom two discussed the question: "Is the Scheme of the Compensated Emancipation Society Right and Expedient?"

The MYSTICAL SEVEN, a secret fraternity, was organized in Genesee College. The Genesee chapter was known as the "Scroll and Pen." The members were known as "Mystics."\* (See Annals of Syracuse University, 1871, November.)

\*The Mystical Seven was organized at Wesleyan University in 1837. Nine chapters were established. The badge was a seven-pointed star, each point displaying a Hebrew

The Adelpian society for ladies was founded by Misses Warner, Aldrich, Pitts, Holland and Barr. The society met in one of the recitation-rooms. The badge was a gold shield bearing the word "Adelpian" diagonally across the face.

### 1858

Jan. Dr. Cummings resigned the presidency of the institution.

Mar. 18. The Rev. John Morrison Reed, D.D., was inaugurated third President of Genesee College.

Apr. 5. Prof. Bragdon became a member of the faculty in place of Prof. Boswell, resigned.

June 18. The third prize declamation contest was held, between six Sophomores and six Freshmen, each class electing its representatives by ballot, as at former contests.

June 24. The seventh Commencement took place. Six candidates received the degree of A.B. Benton Clarke Rude took the first honor, and Otis Lloyd Gibson the second.

Nov. 17. The class of 1861 gave the fourth Sophomore exhibition at which there were twenty-four speakers, of whom two debated the question: "Should Capital Punishment be Abolished?"

### 1859

Mar. 2. The third Junior exhibition was held, at which the class of 1860 appeared with thirteen speakers, including a Latin orator, a Greek orator and a poet.

June 17. The fourth prize declamation contest was held by the Sophomore and Freshmen classes.

June 23. The eighth Commencement was held. Eight diplomas were conferred. Charles Henry Fowler was valedictorian, and Harrison Chamberlain salutatorian.

Oct. 17. Prof. Hopkins resigned the chair of Chemistry and Natural History.

### 1860

Apr. 29. After several years of ineffectual petitioning on the part of successive classes, the faculty decided to give the Seniors a vacation of one month, terminating anniversary week.

June 21. The exercises of the ninth Commencement were held. Seventeen candidates received the degree of A.B., and five that of B.S. The second honor was given to John Fletcher Slee; the first was not assigned.

Sept. 17. The following scheme of winter lectures was approved by the faculty: Charles Sumner, R. S. Storrs, E. L. Youmans, E. H. Chapin, J. G. Holland, Bayard Taylor, John B. Gough.

letter. In the center was a coiled serpent bearing the date 1837, a coronet and a crescent, with seven stars. In 1890, the living chapters united with BΘII, the alumni being received in full membership. In 1871, the local chapter became the Phi Gamma chapter of ΔΚΕ. The Wesleyan chapter died in a similar manner, but has been revived as a select senior society (1882). The fraternity published the *Mystic Messenger* which is now united with the *Beta Theta Pi*.—*Baird's Manual*.

Nov. 8. Thirty-one students were suspended for combining to be absent from recitations on election day.

Nov. 15. Suspended students were reinstated on written apology. It was resolved by the faculty that hereafter all recitations be held in the forenoon, and that prayers be at twenty minutes before eight in the morning. Prof. Lattimore became a member of the faculty in place of Prof. Hopkins.

### 1861

June 12. An amended course of study was adopted.

June 27. The tenth Commencement was held. Thirteen persons were graduated; ten with the degree of A.B. The honors were given to John A. Clark and Reuben D. Munger.

### 1862

Prof. Hoyt's name disappears from the list of professors.

Mar. 20. Prof. Bragdon died.

June 23. The seventh prize declamation contest was held, the contestants all being Freshmen appointed by the faculty.

June 26. The eleventh Commencement was held, with sixteen classical and three scientific graduates. George Van Alstyne took the first honor, and Sidney O. Barnes the second. A special honor, a Greek essay, was awarded to Flora A. Ellis "for fidelity and assiduity."

Aug. 7. Prof. Steele became a member of the faculty in the place of Prof. Bragdon.

### 1863

June 19. The eighth prize declamation contest was held. For the first time ladies took part, a separate prize being offered by Prof. Steele for the best reader.

June 21. The class of 1866 held the first "Ring Rust."

June 24. The twelfth Commencement was held. Fourteen graduated, six with the degree of A.B. and eight with the degree of B.S. John Thomas Brownell and Charles Glenberrie Hudson received equal honors, the former delivering the valedictory, and the latter a Greek oration.

Aug. The UPSILON KAPPA Fraternity was founded by Herbert B. Johnson of the class of 1866, and David Hall Rice and Edward B. Fenner of the class of 1867.\*

Sept. 8. Permission to adopt "*Fortiter, Fideliter, Feliciter*" as its motto was granted to the class of 1866, "with the additional resolve that

\*The Upsilon Kappa was purely a local fraternity, although it had opportunities for extending itself into other colleges. It was secret in the strictest sense of that word. The fraternal bond was very close and strong. It gave special and rigid attention to literary work and to mutual criticism. Down to 1875, it initiated one hundred members. In 1884 it formally disbanded, and all who had not already entered Psi Upsilon were elected to membership in the Pi Chapter of that Fraternity. The badge of the Upsilon Kappa was an octagon with sides curving inward, having a border of chased gold. On its face it bore a gold cross *patee* and between the arms of the cross, four shields of black enamel. It was worn with a shield uppermost, on which was the letter Y, in gold. The lowest shield bore K, and the other two, "pi" and "phi" respectively.

we are favorable to the system of class mottoes, when adopted with our consent."

Oct. 20. The united societies were granted permission by the faculty, to have a course of lectures during the winter term.

### 1864

Jan. 21. The Philharmonic Association was organized.

Jan. 22. Nearly the entire Sophomore and Freshman classes were indefinitely suspended from college for "bolting" morning recitation on account of the tardiness of the professors.

Jan. 28. The suspended students were taken back on promise of future obedience to college laws.

June 20. The class of 1867 held "Ring Rust" exercise.

June 23. The thirteenth Commencement was held. Eight candidates received diplomas, five in the classical and three in the scientific course. Joseph Jones delivered the valedictory, and Theron Cooper the salutatory. Dr. Reed resigned the presidency of the college.

Aug. 18. George Van Alstyne was made tutor in Mathematics, Greek and Natural Philosophy to relieve Acting President Alverson.

Sept. 12. Prof. Alverson died. Prof. W. W. Clarke temporarily took the chair of Mathematics.

Dec. Prof. Wells resigned.

### 1865

Jan. 11. Prof. French became a member of the Faculty in the chair of Mathematics.

Mar. 16. Prof. Draper assumed the chair of Modern Languages and Rev. J. W. Lindsay, D.D., the presidency.

June 17. A new course of study was adopted to take effect with the new year.

June 19. The class of 1868 had their "Ring Rust."

June 20. The students of all classes gave an outdoor public entertainment called "Contest for the belt, *alias* celebration of the American Eagle."

June 21. The class of 1867 burned calculus at the hour of midnight, with appropriate services.

June 22. The fourteenth Commencement was held. The title page of the scheme was printed in English. Fifteen diplomas were given, ten of which were for the degree of A.B. Clark P. Hard and Thomas B. Stowell received the honors.

Oct. The first number of the "Geneseean" issued by the class of 1867.

Nov. 15. Prof. Draper resigned.

Dec. 9. Prof. Coddington took the chair of Modern Languages and Belles-Lettres.

The *Della Chi* secret fraternity was organized but disappeared during the year.

**1866**

Jan. 23. The ladies began to read their essays, at college prayers, from the rostrum.

June 25. The "Ring Rust" exercises of the class of 1869 were suppressed by the faculty.

June 28. The fifteenth Commencement was held at which nineteen were graduated, fifteen with the degree of A.B. Joseph Whiting and George Kelsey Powell received the honors.

Sept. 19. The requirements for admission to college were increased.

**1867**

May. The second number of the "Geneseean" issued by the secret societies.

July 11. The sixteenth Commencement was held; ten were graduated, of whom nine received the degree of A.B. Charles Wesley Winchester delivered the valedictory, and Edward Gibbs Bickford the salutatory. Prof. Lattimore resigned his professorship, and Prof. L. D. Williams was temporarily put in his place.

**1868**

June 26. The Decker prizes, for the two best essays by members of the Senior class, were established.

July 9. The seventeenth Commencement was held. Eleven candidates were graduated, of whom ten were in the classical course. Minor Hamlin Paddock and John Roxbury Gordon took the honors.

Oct. Prof. W. H. Phillips was elected to the chair of Agricultural and General Chemistry.

Oct. 27. Faculty resolved that hereafter all examinations whether entrance, special or term shall be in writing, and that the student examined must satisfactorily answer 75 per cent. of the questions presented. President Lindsay resigned, and Prof. Steele was made acting president.

**1869**

Apr. Ladies were made eligible to membership in the Aletheon and Atticæum, on recommendation of the faculty.

June 8. The faculty resolved that hereafter there should be four honors on commencement day, viz.: valedictory, salutatory, philosophical oration and classical oration.

June 11. A fifth honor, disquisition, was created for the present year.

July 7. First class-day exercises, held by the class of 1869.

July 8. The eighteenth Commencement was held, at which eight candidates received the degree of A.B., and five that of B.S. The first honor was taken by George H. Barton; Sara E. Fisher and Oscar Allen Houghton had equal honors.

**1870**

Mar. 22. Prof. Phillips having resigned, Prof. Rush Emery took his place.

July 14. The nineteenth and last Commencement was held, at which the degree of A.B. was conferred on eight persons, and B.S. on five. The first and second honors were taken respectively by John S. Morgan and William H. Reese.

**1871**

Apr. 4. The fifteenth and last Junior exhibition was held, at which nine members of the class of 1872 appeared.

July 7. The sixteenth and last prize declamation contest was held by the class of 1874.

The college formally disbanded graduating one person without having commencement exercises. Most of the class of 1871 waited over to receive their degrees with the class of 1872 from Syracuse University.