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In Memoriam.

Within the past few weeks, three prominent men once officers of the Agricultural College have ceased their labors and gone to their long home; Mr. George Willard, a member of the State Board of Education from 1857-61 then in control of the College; Lewis Ransom Fiske, the first professor of chemistry from 1857-62 and acting president; George T. Fairchild, instructor and then professor of English Literature 1865-79, and during one year acting president.

GEORGE WILLARD.

The Hon. George Willard, editor of *The Battle Creek Journal*, was born March 20, 1824, in Bolton, Vermont, and came to Battle Creek in 1836. He died March 26, 1901, having passed his 77th birthday only the week before. He was a graduate from Kalamazoo and an excellent scholar. During his active life he was successively an Episcopal clergyman, professor of Latin in Kalamazoo College, from 1836-60 a member of the State Board of Education. For five years this board was in charge of the Agricultural College, and Mr. Willard contributed largely toward its establishment. At its fortieth anniversary in 1898, Mr. Willard showed his unflinching interest in the College by contributing a fine address, full of hope and encouragement.

In 1863, he was elected regent of the Michigan University, which office he held for two years. Always radical and progressive, Mr. Willard drew up the resolution opening the university to women, which was adopted and he was largely instrumental in securing the services of President Angell to the university. In 1866, he was elected to the legislature, serving as chairman of the Committee on Education in the house, and in the following year was appointed to the same position in the constitutional convention, of which he was a member. In the State republican convention of 1868, he was chairman of the committee on resolutions. In 1872, he was appointed a member of the Centennial Board of Finance, and in the same year was a delegate at large to the national republican convention at Philadelphia, in which he was a member of the committee on rules. In the fall of that year, Mr. Willard was nominated by his party for representative in the forty-third congress, and was elected by the remarkable majority of 7,547. He was a member of the committees on civil service, and on coinage, weights and measures, and re-elected in 1874. He was made a member of the United States Monetary Commission in 1877, and made a thorough study of the silver question, attending all meetings of the committee both in Washington and New York.

While in congress Mr. Willard labored zealously for the adjustment of sectional difficulties, and advocated a speedy settlement of the Southern question on the basis of justice and charity. He at once took high rank as a speaker. Some of his friends compared Mr. Willard to Benjamin Harrison in like-

ness of the face and form and the large intellectual power. In person, he was of medium height, erect, robust figure, with a finely developed head, blue eyes, and clear-cut intellectual features. His manner was dignified, and as a conversationalist he was charmingly entertaining and instructive. In all that tended to the development and progress of Battle Creek, Mr. Willard took a deep interest, and contributed largely by voice and pen, as well as in other ways, to its prosperity. He was a man of strictest integrity, with "the courage of his convictions," a gentleman in the truest sense of the word; Mr. Willard was deserving of the high regard and esteem in which he was held by all whom he honored with his friendship.

Dr. Kedzie attended the memorial services and spoke upon "Political Leadership," and in reference to Mr. Willard said:

"We first became acquainted in the political campaign of 1856. He was a lover of liberty and believed in it with all his heart. He denounced slavery and the efforts made by some to stop him, met with no success. In 1876, as an intimate personal acquaintance, he recognized the lofty purposes of Mr. Willard. No matter where he was, he was ever the advocate of education. He was a quick scholar and a patient philosopher. 'Who ever heard sun shine?' 'Who ever heard gravitation with all its might?' 'Were it not for this silent force, worlds would rush into each other and crash. The world is richer that Mr. Willard lived and it is poorer that he died.'"

LEWIS RANSOM FISKE

graduated at the University of Michigan in the class of '50, and in 1879 the same institution honored him with the degree of LL.D. Albion college conferred upon him the degree of D.D. in 1873. He was born in Pennfield, N. Y., December 24, 1825, and with his parents removed to Coldwater, Michigan in 1835.

He was teacher at Albion and the State Normal School at Ypsilanti. In 1863 he was appointed pastor of an M. E. church at Jackson, in 1866 at Detroit, in 1869 at Ann Arbor where he was also presiding elder, and in Detroit again in 1877. In 1877 he was elected president of Albion College, a position which he held continuously till 1898. From 1875 to 1877 he was editor of the *Michigan Christian Advocate*.

Dr. Fiske was six times elected delegate to the Quadrennial General Conference of the M. E. Church; in 1891 he was a member of the Ecumenical Conference; for sixteen years a trustee of the Board of Education which supervised all the educational work of the church. In the year 1890, he was president of the State Teacher's Association. He was either president or an active member of numerous other associations. Besides frequent articles for journals, he published *Echoes from a College Platform*, *Among the Professions* and *Man Building*. His death occurred at the home of

his son, Herbert, at Denver, Colorado, February 14, 1901.

The Albion Daily News says this of him: "Dr. Fiske was the most beloved man in Albion. No other man could be mourned as he is mourned. He possessed the qualities of mind and heart that call for the highest reverence. His life was as clear and pure as sunlight. No one was ever heard to say aught against his character or his motives." Numerous other statements of a like nature could be quoted. Here is one sentence from the *Michigan Alumnus*: "The educational work of Michigan will long bear the impress of his thought and influence manifested in countless ways."

GEORGE THOMSON FAIRCHILD, LL. D.,

Vice-president of Berea College, Kentucky, died at a hospital in Columbus, Ohio, on Saturday, March 16, 1901. He was the tenth child in the family and much younger than all the rest. Previous to his graduation at Oberlin College, Ohio, two brothers and two sisters had graduated at the same college. George also graduated in the Theological School at Oberlin. On the 25th of November, 1863, he married a classmate and graduate, Charlotte Halstead.

The first great work of his life was performed at M. A. C., where he remained continuously for nearly fifteen years, most of the time as Professor of English Literature. Here his five children were born except the eldest daughter. He was faithful and successful as a teacher in an eminent degree; a good neighbor, a wise counsellor.

His talent and success were widely recognized, and in 1879 when Kansas needed a president for its new Agricultural College, he was called to that important post. He saw a body of less than three hundred students increase to above eight hundred, and planned the laying out of instruction, the assembling of resources, and the organizing of forces, which made a true peoples' college.

The greatest proof of his devotion to that work, to which eighteen years were given, was the manner of his leaving it. A political revolution swept over the state, and those who were newly come into power determined to capture the position at the Agricultural College. There was no right or precedent by which they could do this, but they had the power, and set out to find excuses. Dr. Fairchild was subjected to the indignity of misrepresentation and slander. He went out of his high office without a stain upon his character, and without an answering word of reproach. And when free from responsibility for the College he still sought in all ways to promote its interest, and to enable those who had wronged both him and the state to manage it with largest success. No student left at his suggestion; no friend withdrew his support by his permission. And he cherished no resentment.

The time soon came when the revolution was reversed. The people who with such dishonorable means had driven him out, were

themselves forced to resign. Then came the question of Dr. Fairchild's return. Letters came from all parts of the state. But he said, "No, whoever goes there will need the support of all parties. A new man can do more for the College than I can." And thus he placed the interests of the institution above his own interests or feelings.

While George was president at Kansas Agricultural College, his brother Henry was president of Berea, and his brother James at Oberlin.

Dr. George Fairchild was not only conspicuous for his influence in the progress of education in Kansas, but in several other states. For some years he was a member of the counsel of the National Teacher's Association.

While at Kansas, he made *The Industrialist* a model of its kind among college papers. Its pages abounded in pithy sayings and sound advice for students everywhere. He was the author of "Rural Wealth and Welfare" published by Mac-Millan.

Fortunate is the college which can at any period of its existence enumerate among its board of control or laborers in its faculty such men as these three, Willard, Fiske, Fairchild.

W. J. B.

The Haymakers.

This cantata, given on Friday evening last by the Chorus Class under the direction of Mrs. Marshall, instructor in music, showed earnest and discriminating work by the students and their instructor. The attendance was good. The cantata presented the events of two days in the hayfield of the olden time. The costuming and the staging were quite ingenious and attractive. We sincerely hope that the success of the first effort in the face of many apparent disadvantages may encourage future endeavors and conduce to steady progress in matters musical among us. Below we give the list of performers:

SOLOISTS.

The Farmer, Mr. Geo. Humphrey; Mary, Miss Gladys Hadley; Anna, Miss Mundell; Dairy Maid, Miss Bach; Snipkins (from the city), Mr. F. D. Stevens; William, Mr. A. H. Hayes; John, Mr. B. T. Hesse.

SEMI-CHORUS.

Soprano, Miss Bach, Miss Wright, Miss Downey.

Alto, Miss Morrison, Miss Smith, Miss Mundell.

Tenor, Mr. Stevens, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Merrick, Mr. Sevey.

Bass, Mr. B. T. Hesse, Mr. B. Wenham.

H. E.

Y. M. C. A.

The union meeting of the Y. M. and Y. W. C. A. was led by Prof. Smith. He chose for a subject, "Be strong, not only physically, but spiritually and mentally as well."

The subject for next Thursday evening's meeting of the Y. M. C. A., is Foundations, Mathew 7:24-27; leader F. H. Sanford. A. F.

Old Students.

The address of C. H. Spencer, '88-'90, has been changed from Zanesville, O., to Room 100, Hamilton Building, Akron, Ohio, as a consequence of the removal of the office of engineer of construction of the B. & O. R. R. to the latter place.

Prof. U. P. Hedrick has received a letter from C. P. Close, '95, M. S. '97, Horticulturist in the Utah Agricultural College, reporting that he is "well and prospering." He reports the same of Prof. E. J. Mac Ewan, formerly Professor of English here.

B. H. Takvorian, our former Armenian student, writes announcing his safe arrival in Buffalo. He expects to begin work May 1 as guide at the Pan American. Meanwhile he expects to work in the greenhouses on the exposition grounds. He thinks it will be the end of May before the exposition will be fully ready.

The following appeared in the Lansing *State Republican* during the past week. "Miss Lillian E. Powers of this city and Mr. John F. Coats of Kalamazoo were married Friday afternoon at 4 o'clock at St. Mary's parsonage, Chicago, by Rev. Fr. E. A. Murphy. Mr. and Mrs. Coats will make their future home in Kalamazoo."

A letter from Robt. L. Reynolds, '95m, contains items of interest to older campus residents as well as to Robert's College friends. "I am going to leave the S. P. Co., and take a position as superintendent of construction work with an electrical house in San Francisco. I am sorry to give up railroad work, but the new position and prospects are so much better that I feel I cannot afford to stay. My new address will be care of John M. Klein Electrical Works, 421-423 Montgomery St., San Francisco, Cal. Everyone at home is well. Jessie graduates from boarding school this spring, and Duncan from the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery."

We are under obligations to a friend and fellow-student of Dr. Bettinger, '87-'89, for calling our attention to the following extract from the *Free Press* of April 20. It contains the most that probably will ever be known of the tragic fate of a man whom all students of his time will readily and kindly recall. The few members of the faculty who survive from his time remember him as a young man of promise, and sincerely regret his untimely end. "Tacoma, Wash., April 19.—(Special.)—The steamer City of Seattle brings the Skagway Daily News of April 13, containing a special dispatch from Dawson that says: The remains of the long missing Dr. Joseph Bettinger, of Detroit, have been discovered a few miles up the White river trail, where he doubtless died of exposure, having mistaken the trail. Melting snow exposed the remains. Wolves had eaten the body so it could not be recognized except by personal letters and papers found on clothing. A gold watch and other personal property were found. Dr. Joseph Bettinger was a Detroit, graduated at Detroit Medical College and was county coroner for some time. A few years ago he and his wife went to Alaska and while on his way on foot back to Skagway last December he met his death. His father is

Conrad Bettinger, deputy collector of internal revenue for Detroit, who lives at 270 Catherine street. The young man who lost his life in the Klondike had been a member of Detroit lodge of Elks."

A welcome letter from D. J. Crosby, '93, formerly editor of THE RECORD, now of the Department of Agriculture at Washington contains the items of interest given below. With his usual modesty and reticence "Dick" says nothing about himself and his work.

"Arbor Day was observed in Washington by planting trees on the Department of Agriculture grounds, commemorating the services to the department of the late Secretary, Jerry M. Rusk and his assistant, the late Edwin Willits, who was president of the M. A. C. from 1885 to 1889. Addresses were made by Secretary Wilson and G. B. Sudworth, assistant chief of the Division of Forestry. Among those attending the exercises were about a dozen M. A. C. graduates, several of whom were students under Dr. Willits.

R. L. Clute, '96, who has been employed in Washington, D. C., for the past few weeks, was called home to Ionia last week by the sudden death of his father.

L. C. Brooks, '92m, has resigned his position as draftsman for the Superintending Constructor of the U. S. navy at Newport News, Va., and accepted a position with a firm engaged in the manufacture of the long-arm system of water-tight doors in Cleveland, Ohio. On their way north Mr. and Mrs. Brooks spent a day with M. A. C. friends in Washington.

J. E. W. Tracy, '96, has accepted a position under his brother, W. W. Tracy, '93, in the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. Address, 216-12th St. S. W.

L. S. Munson, '97, has been promoted to the position of assistant in the Division of Chemistry, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. The promotion carries with it a considerable advance in salary. Mr. Munson is secretary of the Chemical Society of Washington and one of the associate referees of the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists of the United States. His work in this latter position is the analysis of fats and oils, fruit preparations, coloring matters, and canned vegetables."

Horticultural Department.

Palmer and Bradford have been very successful so far with their grafting greenhouse plants.

Mr. Eustace is trying some experiments of germination under air pressure; results will be announced later.

Baker, Towar and McCue are studying some of the different orders of trees about the campus, under Prof. Wheeler.

T. G. Phillips has for his thesis, "the propagation of shrubs." Mr. Phillips expects to show what per cent. of the cuttings made will grow; what shrubs can be propagated by cuttings and what by layers, and if both, which is the best; the best time of the year to make cuttings; what soil is best suitable for starting, etc.

Question for Debating Club, May 2, "Resolved that the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty did not protect American interests."

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